

## WE CAN HELP!

SALT LAKE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT HAS A PROMISING YOUTH PROJECT, A GANG PREVENTION PROGRAM THAT SERVES THE COMMUNITY AND ITS FAMILIES.

### ▶ COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL OUTREACH:

The promising youth project is run by civilian gang prevention specialists serving gang-affiliated or gang-involved youth, who want to change their lives for the better and learn how to move away from gang life. The advocates work with youth and their family to teach them skills to make positive decisions, find resources, and learn ways to create a better future.

### ▶ TRAININGS:

The promising youth project offers trainings and presentations to schools and the community on gang awareness, gang knowledge, and local gang trends.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL:

Salt Lake City Police Department  
Gang Prevention Advocate:  
**(801) 799-3365**



#### Emergency | Non-Emergency:

911 | 801-799-3000

#### Tipsoft Crime Tips:

Call 801-799-INFO (4636)  
or text 274637

#### File a Police Report:

<http://slcpd.com/online-report/>

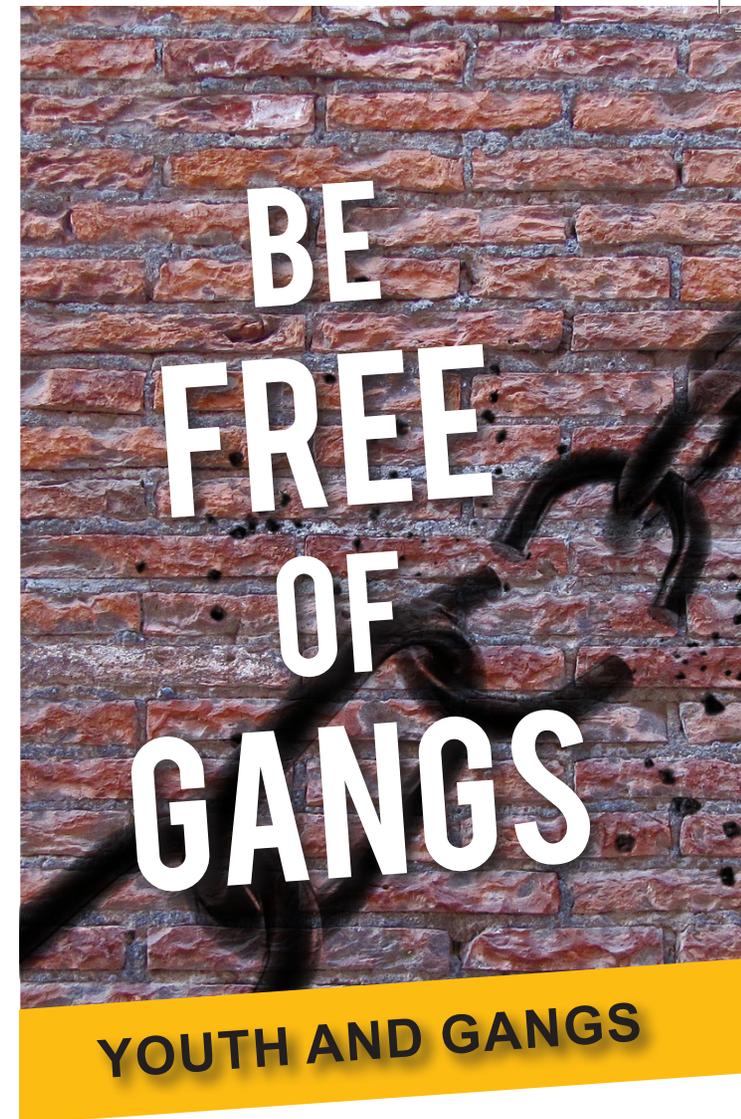
475 South 300 East

#### Mailing Address:

PO Box 145497  
SLC, Utah 84114-5497

[www.slcpd.com](http://www.slcpd.com)  
[@slcpd](https://twitter.com/slcpd)

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If you have questions about gangs, resources, how to receive help, or about graffiti removal, our gang prevention advocates can help with that as well.



**Promising Youth Project**

*"Unlocking Promising Potential"*

## ▶ THINKING OF JOINING A GANG?

Joining a gang is a decision that will effect your life in a big and negative way.

Belonging to a gang means that you will be asked to join in on violent and often times illegal acts that put both you and your family in harm's way.

Gangs require their members to get "jumped in," which is being beat by several members to prove you are down for the cause.

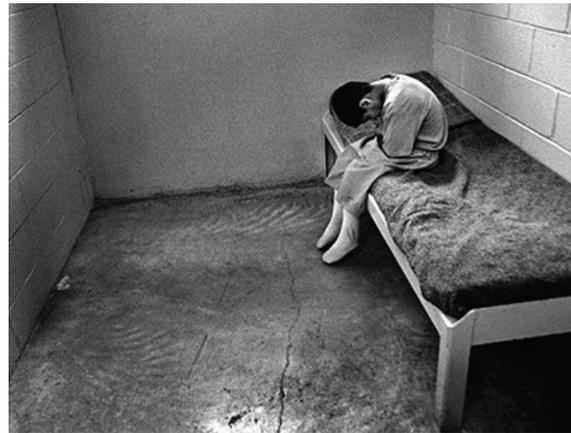
Gangs require their members to "put in work," which means fighting, stealing, and even shooting people.

## THE FUTURE FOR A GANG MEMBER.

- Gang membership can severely hurt you and your future.
- Gang members commit illegal acts that lead to lengthy jail and prison time.
- Members often use alcohol and drugs and can lead to addiction and medical problems.
- Many members put themselves in violent situations that can lead to being killed.

## ▶ WHAT ARE YOUR CHOICES?

1. Once you join a gang, it is hard to leave, but there are ways to avoid gangs.
2. If you are approached by a gang, stay calm, try not to be scared, and politely decline.
3. If you are threatened by gang members, state you don't want any problems.
4. If the threats continue, tell your parents, school officials, and the police.
5. Hang out with peers who are not in gangs and don't want to be.
6. Get involved in positive activities such as after school programs, sports, clubs, faith groups, volunteering, or even get an after school job.



**BE YOU. BE FREE.**

## ▶ IF YOU ARE IN A GANG AND WANT TO LEAVE.

**IT CAN BE HARD TO LEAVE A GANG, BUT LEAVING A GANG CAN BE DONE.**

**Believe in yourself and stay strong in your decision.** You deserve better and by making this decision you will have a better future.

**Identify people, specifically adults, who will help and support you leaving the gang.** They will be glad to help.

**Do not tell your gang you want out.** Your gang may then threaten you.

**Start occupying your time with positive activities that keep you away from your gang and gang peers.** Get a job, join a sports team, start working out at the recreational center.

**Start making up excuses.** You can't hang out because your parents need you to be home to babysit. Adults can help you find excuses, but the best thing you can do is decline calls, have your parents say you aren't home, and get off social media.

**Stop dressing and talking like a gang member.** This may be hard, but know that you are still a strong person regardless of how you dress or how you talk. There are many neutral colored clothes and many words to choose from. Take this chance to become who you want.