

DISCREET MODELS ARE THE UNDERPINNINGS FOR ALL CURRICULUM AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

*All programs and activities of Council for Unity
confront the following very complex and
challenging issues –*

violence, racial tensions, isolation, and safety

ANTI-GANG & VIOLENCE REDUCTION MODELS

When a community is faced with violence, Council for Unity provides its anti-gang, violence reduction models to schools and community centers. The child's need for family, safety, self-esteem and responsibility are met through the application of our customized curriculum, obviating the tendency to join anti-social peer groups. By empowering alienated youth to address the problems that plague them, by teaching them values and democratic approaches to solving problems, their sense of impotency dissipates. They become part of the solutions to the issues that beset them and, in turn, become productive citizens.

UNITY MODEL

When a community is confronted with racial or ethnic tension, Council for Unity applies its unity model to bring conflicting groups together. Agendas are established that focus on attacking problems rather than individuals. Participants are then directed to seek a common good that benefits all parties. In addition, the Council's *Bridges Program* reaches out to recently arrived immigrant youth helping them to feel safe and included in their new communities.

ISOLATION MODEL

Many youth feel helpless, alone and alienated. Council for Unity provides a support system for life that gives much needed predictability to youngsters who feel lost. By providing social,

cultural and educational opportunities, by including parents, educators and mentors as care givers, these children become confident and reconnected to society.

SAFETY MODEL

Council for Unity's Public Safety Curriculum is designed to integrate CFU police officers into Council's culture. By shifting the emphasis from law enforcement to public safety, this curriculum conjoins police officers with CFU high school participants in a classroom environment to promote quality relationships. The syllabus introduces CFU students to laws governing police protocols and CFU law enforcement officers learn the nuances of the many cultures that constitute the community. Role playing exercises, media portrayals of police and youth, exploring new strategies where police officers and youth together promote the safety that both groups seek are real experiences generated by this curriculum. Annual safety plans are created by participants with the Council's Adult and Family Partnership joining the process. The end result is an innovative strategy where public safety becomes a shared responsibility of law enforcement, students and community members. The "us" versus "them" mentality that plagues police relationships in many communities is eliminated.