

## Office of Violence Prevention

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The City of Stockton Office of Violence Prevention works to significantly reduce violence in Stockton through data-driven, partnership-based, violence prevention and reduction programs, and strategies rooted in best practices.

The Office of Violence Prevention coordinates partnerships with community leaders, clergy, gang outreach programs, public and community service providers, and other stakeholders committed to reducing violence.

The Office of Violence Prevention has two areas of concentration for combating crime – prevention and intervention. In addition, the Office of Violence Prevention provides services and opportunities for youth and young adults to change their behavior and make positive life choices.

**For Girls...**Beyond Role Models and other services targeted to at-risk young men, the Office of Violence Prevention offers specialized programs and services to address some of the unique needs facing girls in juvenile justice facilities, schools, and in the community, including empowerment circles, group life coaching, and other services specifically for girls. Programs and services are provided through partnerships with Stockton Unified School District (SUSD), San Joaquin County Juvenile Detention Center, and San Joaquin County Office of Education. Providers receive training and technical assistance to better meet the needs of girls.

## Our Peace Partners

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The Office of Violence Prevention partners with organizations and community members at all levels. Our Peace Partners include civic organizations, schools, law enforcement, the judiciary, local government, faith communities, businesses, community leaders, parents and youth. Their participation and input in the decision-making process is provided through our Community Engagement Coalition.

With our Peace Partners, quality initiatives are designed to prevent young people from engaging in behaviors and activities that lead to entry into the criminal justice system.

**Violence Prevention** and early intervention for youth showing at-risk behaviors is the first step toward a safer community and preventing violence. In addition to providing direct services, the Office of Violence Prevention provides a number of service referrals to partner organizations with programs designed to prevent youth from entering the juvenile justice system, such as after-school tutoring and life skills programs.

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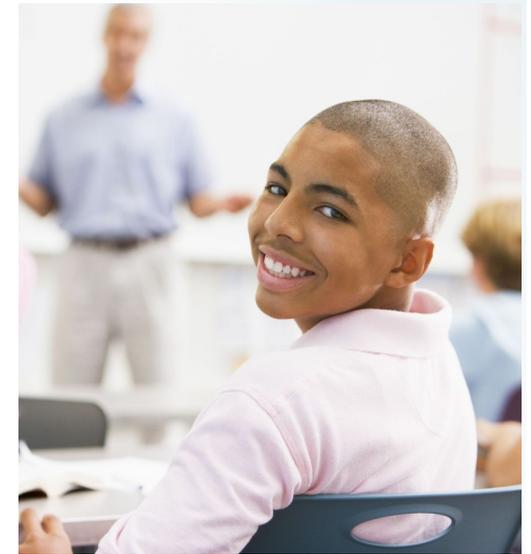
T. Denise Manning, Certified Life Coach  
Community Engagement Coordinator  
(209) 937-7198

Denise.Manning@StocktonCA.gov  
[WWW.STOCKTONCA.GOV/ROLEMODELS](http://WWW.STOCKTONCA.GOV/ROLEMODELS)

## City of Stockton Office of Violence Prevention

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### Role Models



**Help Create Change...**

**Become a  
Role Model  
Coach Today!**

## Role Model Program

The **mission and purpose** of the Office of Violence Prevention Role Model Program:

- to guide young men and women in Stockton through a transformative, self-awareness process;
- increase their self-esteem, commitment to education, and responsibility to community;
- engage our at-risk population to empower and evoke change; and
- help reduce conflict and prevent violence by uniting the community.

**Role Models** will serve as **life coaches** who hold individuals accountable, while pushing them to reach their potential. Role Models will guide, advise and provide hope, through their actions and by providing direction that allows individual young men and women to access needed resources.

Young men and women in need of Role Models are referred by the community, courts, probation, law enforcement, or by individual request. However, any young person can participate in the Role Model Program; referrals are not required.

## Role Model Coaches

**Role Model Coaches** are volunteers who serve as mentors, role models, and coaches for young men and women in our community. Volunteer Role Model Coaches receive training from the Office of Violence Prevention Community Engagement Coordinator, who is a certified Life Coach. Role Model Coaches offer the young people they mentor advice on education, job preparation, employment opportunities, and much more.

The primary role of a Role Model Coach is to help a young person define individual goals and find ways to achieve them. Since the expectations of each young person will vary, Role Models encourage the development of a flexible relationship that responds to the needs of both the Role Model and the young person they are mentoring.

Role Model Coaches accelerate the progress of the youth they mentor by providing greater attention and awareness of possibilities, which leads to more effective choices. Role Model Coaches follow strict policies that protect the Coach and the young person they mentor. In addition to the rewarding experience of being a Role Model, Coaches also gain experience in the fields of juvenile justice, social work, and child and family services by working with program and service providers.

Role Models are not meant to replace a parent, guardian or teacher and will not act as a disciplinarian or decision maker. A Role Model echoes the positive values and cultural heritage parents and guardians are teaching as part of a team of caring adults.

# Role Models

## Role Model Coach Commitment

A Role Model is a caring, adult who devotes time to a young person. Although mentors can fill any number of different roles, all mentors have the same goal in common: to help young people achieve their potential and discover their strengths.

A person who is willing to provide youth with a positive outlook on life – and the future – and to serve as a Life Coach. Through experimental learning and service, a Role Model Coach provides mentorship, coaching, and leadership training to youth involved with the courts, juvenile justice system, or by referral from either entity.

Role Model Coaches create experiences and opportunities for personal growth, service, and civic action, as youth develop new skills in decision making, cultural appreciation, and ethical acumen.

By sharing fun activities and exposing a young person to new experiences, a Role Model encourages positive choices and promotes high self-esteem.

