Call to Order and Roll Call
The meeting was called to order and self-introductions were offered.

Work Group Committee Discussion
1. Discussed the surveys and looked briefly at those brought in by Ken from probation.
2. Asked if people had particular interest in this group and were looking for particular programs. Lisa stated her interest in mentoring programs.
3. Discussed mentoring programs. Friday Night Live has a program already happening, but we don’t know much about it or it’s capacity. We will invite them to come to talk to us about what they are already doing. (I have invited FNL – someone will be there at our next meeting).
4. Also talked about Big Brothers, Big Sisters. Apparently there is a successful program in Nevada County and Jennifer thought they had expressed some interest in expanding into our counties. She said the issue might be money to get them started here. She will contact them and find out more about what it might take to bring them here and report at next meeting.
5. Discussed All Stars – It is a program for character building and has been associated with reductions in drug use and early sexual behavior as well as reductions in violence. It is primarily school-based, and this is a problem for schools since they have so much pressure already to cover curriculum. We suggested that All Stars might be effective if used in after school programs, or church-based groups or at FNL.

6. Discussed Strengthening Families – it is already going to be available through Mental Health, but we might use some money to get others in the community trained – churches, schools, etc. so that we could increase the capacity to serve families in our communities.

7. Culturally relevant parenting programs did not seem to be an area that people felt would be our best use of the money.

8. Bill suggested we look into how we can target gang prevention.

9. Peter Kirkup talked about Families and Schools Together which was a parent support program and worked to reduce stress and social isolation for the Hmong population in particular in Sacramento. He will bring more information about it next time.

10. We wondered about how to target younger kids for gang activity prevention – before the 3rd grade. Discussed elements we think we need in a gang prevention program: parent awareness/education, involvement of law enforcement, parents who are able to spend time with the children. Identified an EBP on our list: Gang Resistance is Paramount. Will explore other EBPs for younger kids.

11. Discussed how a strong anti-bullying program could impact gang involvement as this is often how it starts – kids get intimidated and seek protection from gangs. They often also develop a truancy problem to avoid school bullies.

12. Suggested we need an alternative to suspending kids for truancy. Then kids get identified as a bad kid, get sent to an alternative program, not a regular school and this is a set up to get into problems with law enforcement.

13. Also, learning problems that go unidentified cause truancy and the above problems as well.

14. Another strong predictor of future justice involvement is early violent behavior.

15. We discussed that we should choose what outcome we are looking for – what do we want, then find what we can do to get there.

16. We felt a need to have parenting, school and peer components to any program we come up with.

17. Discussed Student Assistance Programs. Training is free. Grace will investigate.
18. Advised of a previous idea of a community team that is made up of several partners that would get invited to specific schools to do an evaluation with the school of what would be the best prevention activity for that particular site. Rather than a “one size fits all” approach, it would be more tailored to the school culture. The team would not necessarily provide all of the intervention, but would provide information to the school site of what was available and help them to decide on an approach that might work best.

Thanks again for your input. I will put together an agenda for the next meeting so we can develop some specific goals and find programs or methods to reach our goals.

**Next Meeting**
Next meeting is scheduled on May 14, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. Location will be the Four Rivers Conference Room at Sutter-Yuba Mental Health.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Stanfill  
Work Group Committee Chair