



Uturn Prevention Program Questions and Answers

Q. **What is Uturn?**

- ✓ Divert at-risk youth from being recruited into gang involvement or significant association
- ✓ Impact the functioning of family units through comprehensive services
- ✓ Promote financial opportunities for the family
- ✓ Promote health and wellness

Q. **How does Uturn work?**

- ✓ After School Program
- ✓ Enhancing parental skills through parental training
- ✓ Developmental services that strengthen the family unit
- ✓ Indoor/outdoor activities, training, and mentorship
- ✓ Families must commit to participate in the program for a minimum of three years

Q. **How do families sign up to be a Uturn family?**

If you are interested in the Uturn Prevention Program, please contact the City of Victorville Public Works Department at (760) 955-8813, or you may contact your School Resource Officer and additional information will be provided to you.

Q. **Do you have partner agencies? If, so who are they?**

Yes, our partner and support agencies are:

- ✓ Elected Officials (city, state and federal)
- ✓ Community Agencies
- ✓ Universities
- ✓ Law Enforcement
- ✓ Businesses
- ✓ Chambers of Commerce
- ✓ Victorville Elementary School District
- ✓ Schools
- ✓ Churches
- ✓ Sports Leagues

Q. **How do I become a partner agency?**

Please contact the City of Victorville Public Works Department at (760) 955-8813, or Email at moharper@ci.victorville.ca.us. You will be requested to complete an application. After you return the completed application to our office, you will be contacted to schedule a meeting.

Q. Where and how will Uturn be run?

Uturn Prevention Program will operate as an after-school program and will target the city's 18 elementary schools. Uturn will start with up to three predetermined at-risk school sites in the upcoming 2008/2009 school year, with a continual progression of additional school sites each year, as funds become available.

Q. What is the criteria/selection process?

The Uturn Prevention Program Selection Committee will review applications of at-risk youth and families to determine if they will proceed to the next phase of the program. Each application will be screened by the committee and approved by the Board of Directors/Steering Committee. Agreements from the parents and youth must be signed and submitted for acceptance into the program, with a minimum three-year commitment, and a maximum ten-year commitment.

Q. Does Uturn have a board of directors or committee meetings?

Yes, there is a Uturn Prevention Program Board of Directors, comprised of selected individuals appointed by the councilmember/ chair of Uturn. The Board meets **on an as-scheduled basis**. Uturn also has a Steering Committee comprised of support and partner agencies.

If you are interested in the Uturn Steering Committee, please contact the City of Victorville Public Works Department at (760) 955-5203.

Q. What is our target population?

- ✓ Elementary-aged at-risk youths and their families
- ✓ Family consists of at least one parent or legal guardian
- ✓ Target youth must be maintained in the home and be considered to be "at-risk"

Q. How do you get referred or become Uturn participants?

- ✓ Truant and Resource Officers, Principals, Teachers, School Counselors, Uturn Steering Committee and Implementation Sub-Committee, After School Programs, Curriculum
- ✓ The City of Victorville – Uturn Program/Public Works Department/Community Services Department
- ✓ Youth Programs, After School Program, Park and Recreation Activities

Q. What do you consider at-risk? Here are some examples (but not limited to):

- ✓ truancy/frequent absences
- ✓ multiple suspensions
- ✓ negative attitude toward school authority
- ✓ not following school or classroom rules
- ✓ low academic scores
- ✓ association with delinquent or aggressive peers

Q. How long is the program?

Families must commit to participate in the program for a minimum of three years. Uturn is a ten-year development/improvement based program.

Q. If my child is on an inter-district transfer to the one of the school sites participating in the Uturn Prevention Program, will he/she be able to participate in the program?

If the youth attends one of the schools designated and/the family meets eligibility requirements they will be able to participate.

Q. What workshops or programs will be offered?

Uturn will offer a wide variety of leadership, healthier life style, and empowerment workshops and programs to youth and their families (not limited to and may change).

- ✓ Parenting Skills
- ✓ Anger Management
- ✓ Career Counseling
- ✓ Continuing Education
- ✓ English as a Second Language
- ✓ Domestic Violence
- ✓ Drug and Alcohol Abuse
- ✓ Boundaries
- ✓ Health and Wellness