



## PEER RESOURCE PROGRAM (A Partner of SHPD)

### FACT SHEET

...”Peer Resources develops young people into leaders who serve their peers, schools, and communities”.

**Historical Background:** Peer Resources is a program created in partnership between the San Francisco Unified School District’s Pupil Services Department and the San Francisco Education Fund. Peer Resource staff provide an innovative, exciting learning environment for students. Peer Resources is found in both high schools and middle schools, in addition to special projects in some elementary schools and at Beacon Centers.

#### **What is the Peer Resource Program?**

Peer Resources develops young people into leaders who serve their peers, schools, and communities. Peer Resources staff at schools and community centers recruit and train young people, and support them in their projects.

- Peer Resources projects includes: Education; Tutoring; Conflict Mediation; Advocacy; Support Groups; and other special projects in the areas of arts, music, dance performances; parent workshops; mural projects; overnight retreats and camping trips; community service projects like neighborhood cleanups and serving the homeless.

Based on outside research and evaluations, the work peer helpers do changes their lives and changes the lives of the other youth they serve. Research has verified that a majority of youth involved in Peer Resources improve their grades, stay in school, stay out of gangs, stay drug free, get involved in positive activities, and build skills essential to their future success (Evaluations available on file).

#### **Activities with SFUSD and SHPD that support Peer Resources:**

- *Gang Risk Intervention and Prevention (GRIP)* Program at some middle schools.
- *Student Assistance Program*
- *Safe Schools/Healthy Student Initiative*
- *Change Makers Project*— School and community projects focusing student leadership on important issues such as; sexual harassment, building alliances across race, class, and cultural differences; media awareness.

**For further information contact:**

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