

Gang of One

In an age when gang activity is increasing, a community movement has started that will diminish the influence of gangs. Together, we can accomplish anything.

As a **Gang of One**, our community has

the resources to fight gang pressure, provide alternatives to the gang lifestyle,



and positively influence the lives of our children and youth. Every child has the right to pursue their dreams and become a productive member of our community.

Gang of One will direct a network of community resources to meet the individual and group needs of our youth. Together, we will provide youth with caring adults, safe places, a healthy start, marketable skills, and opportunities to serve.

**Standing Together with Youth
against Gang Pressure.**

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Gang of One

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What is Gang of One?

Gang of One is part of the Police Department's strategy to address the emerging trends of gang activity in Charlotte.

Gang of One is a partnership between police and law-abiding citizens to create permanent solutions to problems that lead to criminal gang activity.

Gang of One, a community-based initiative, will provide a network of local resources to prevent youth from joining a gang, support youth who are being pressured to join a gang, and assist youth who need help getting out of a gang.

Gang Of One will reduce youth gang crime and violence through a comprehensive strategy of the best practices in prevention, intervention and education.

Gang of One is the community standing together against gang violence and standing up with our youth against gang pressure.

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Why Do Youth Join Gangs?

1. For respect and self-identity.
2. For protection and a sense of belonging, to counter peer intimidation.
3. To replace a dysfunctional family.
4. A lack of economic opportunity.
5. A desire for excitement.
6. A lack of positive alternative activities, in and out of school.
7. Acceptance of gangs in Pop Culture.

Signals That Can Indicate Gang Membership

1. Change in style of clothing usually worn or wearing one particular color.
2. Withdrawing from one's family.
3. Declining grades and poor school attendance.
4. Unexplained money or possessions.
5. Tattoos, nicknames, or graffiti on personal items affiliated with a group.
6. Contacts with local police.

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What Can You Do?

Don't think that because your child or neighbor's child is on the threshold of joining a gang or is already a gang member, that it is too late to establish positive alternatives! You have help!

Gang of One has a 24/7/365 phone hotline available to you. For questions, concerns, and information about gangs and community resources call **704.432.GANG (4264)**.

To report acts of graffiti vandalism, call **704.336.7600**. Your information will assist police in identifying gang related graffiti and mapping out areas where specific gangs operate. Do not attempt to remove the graffiti.

Most importantly, support your community's **Gang of One** programs and events.

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