

**TOM DALE
MAYOR**



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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

April 18, 2007

Idaho Juvenile Justice Commission
Department of Juvenile Corrections
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0285

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this Letter of Support for the work of Original Gangster's Basic Academy of Delinquency (OG's BAD). Thank you for the opportunity being provided by your agency for possible funding of OG's BAD's necessary, but challenging work with high-risk youth in our community.

The City of Nampa has supported the concept of a smaller learning community for at-risk youth in the district since the inception of OG's BAD under the auspices of the Boys & Girls Club of Nampa in October, 2002. The City has been involved in the funding of this project under Community Development Block Grant funding, as well as Urban Renewal support. We were part of the original task force founded by Judge Sergio Gutierrez to look into gang activity, its causes and solutions in our community. The Canyon County Valuing Youth Initiative included members of the Nampa School District as well as Vallivue School District, Caldwell School District, the Nampa Police Department, Canyon County Juvenile Probation, Canyon County Adult Probation and Parole, and the Boys & Girls Club of Nampa. The concept for a school and job placement initiative was born out of those original discussions. We are pleased to say we have been advocates of this alternative center of education for our most high-risk teens for the two years it was run by the Boys and Girls Club, and for the continuing efforts OG's BAD has shown for these youth.

I support the application OG's BAD is submitting for funds from the Balanced and Restorative Justice Grant. Mr. Torrano's program uses competency development, accountability, and community protection to successfully address gang issues in our community. Without this outreach, most of the youth OG's deals with would drop out of school and be at-risk for gang involvement on our community's streets.

I am excited about the prospect of a new partnership with the Department of Juvenile Correction in this unique endeavor with OG's BAD. Thank you again for your consideration of this application on behalf of our kids.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Dale".

Tom Dale
Mayor
City of Nampa