

GANG AWARENESS FOR PARENTS AND OUR COMMUNITY



STREAMWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMBERS

STREAMWOOD POLICE
DEPARTMENT

630-736-3700

STREAMWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT
TIP LINE

630-736-3719

COMMANDER OF THE SPECIAL
OPERATION UNIT

630-736-3748

SERGEANT OF INVESTIGATIONS

630-736-3766

SOCIAL WORKERS

630-736-3721

630-736-3744

Definition of a Gang

A gang is an organized group with an identifiable leader. The group shows unity and loyalty, especially in conflict situations. The group exhibits disrespect for established authority, independence and often a lack of conventional morality.

Members of a gang are involved in criminal and anti-social behavior. They band together to keep control over their neighborhood by marking up the area with their gang graffiti.

Frequently Asked Questions

At what age are kids recruited into gangs?

Recruitment can take place at any age. Children with low self esteem and lack of parental guidance are the most vulnerable to fall victim to gang recruitment.

Is there a connection between Chicago gangs and Streamwood gangs?

It has been determined that the Streamwood gangs sometimes have strong ties to Chicago gangs. Chicago gang members that relocate to Streamwood help establish those relationships and ties.

Why should we be concerned?

Gang members have shown a propensity for violence including shooting opposing gang members. Their ties to the gang become stronger than to their own family, friends and community.

What are some of the warning signs of gang involvement?

- Lack of interest in school / grades dropping and lack of attendance
- Disciplinary problems / lack of self-control propensity for violence
- Graffiti in school books / notebooks
- Always wearing the same color clothing
- Using slang language (including using nicknames)
- Refusing to account for their time spent away from home and who they are with

What can Parents and our Community do?

- Show an interest in your children's everyday activities (school/friends)
- Know the parents of your children's friends (names, phone numbers, addresses)
- Encourage membership in athletics and school activities
- Establish and enforce a family curfew
- Discuss with your child his or her social life away from home
- Come and visit the Streamwood Police Departments DARE Officers and obtain more information
- Know what your child keeps in his or her room
- Teach values such as honesty, self-reliance and responsibility to one's family and community
- Seek counseling if advice is needed (contact the Streamwood DARE unit or our department's Social Worker)