

## PLUS Legacy Report:

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Legacy report: Please also provide me with links to websites, PPTs/papers/articles etc...

This will be attached to your bio on the PLUS website.

Title: Erasing Trauma: Tattoo Removal as a Healing Intervention

Key words: Violence prevention, gang violence, tattoo removal, life transitions

Learning objectives

1. Understand the motivations of at-risk youth seeking tattoo removal at SFGH.
2. Develop a survey
3. Train and organize research assistants
4. Create a meaningful project

Project objectives

1. Improve Second Chance Tattoo Removal Program's service delivery by understanding the motivations and attitudes of high-risk youth seeking tattoo removal
2. Educate providers about our unique clinic population and the association between tattoo and other high-risk behaviors
3. Build on the established rapport between 6M and the community by engaging high-risk youth in the Second Chance Tattoo Removal Program in support services that enable them to pursue healthy futures.

Activities (Partly using objectives listed..) what did you do to reach your objectives?

- a) Survey development
- b) Research team recruitment and management
- c) Grant writing
- d) Data analysis
- e) Presentations: Regional APA, CTSI resident research forum
- f) Survey 40 youth

Outcome:

Lessons in Implementation (what did you learn in the process of your work?): The CHR process, how to create a survey, how to train and organize research assistants

Potential future projects: The results of the survey will hopefully build clinic capacity to address the needs of this population. I hope it will impact how we approach at risk adolescents in 6M. Our preliminary data (and national statistics) suggests tattoo'd adolescents participate in high risk behaviors. We hope to use tattoo as a marker for high risk behavior and target this population for needed

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services in 6M. Our model can be adopted to any other high risk markers. If we are able to actually offer services this population needs to make a new start in their life (ie leave a life of gang violence, start of family, start a career), we could also offer them more broadly to the 6M community. That is not our impact yet, since my project was the assessment phase. But we hope it is an outcome in the future. Other outputs include 40 people surveyed, 2 research team members, 2 mentors (one for the research and one for the clinic population), and then the CTSI presentation (although we were also accepted at the APA!).

Resources (include local individuals/contacts; key organizations - local and national; potential funding sources/grants): Pierre Marie-Rose, MD; SFGH Hearts and Heroes grant;

Links:

Article on the tattoo removal program: <http://potreroview.net/news10804.html>