



The Skillman Foundation Presents

YAKTIVITIES FOR HELPING KIDS

Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation Helping Kids and the Community Make Positive Choices

The Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation got its start in 1997 in the living room of Angela G. Reyes.

And it was for the most important reason of all: "Because I was tired of burying children," she said.

At the time, Reyes' Southwest Detroit neighborhood was caught in the grip of gang violence. So in an attempt to reduce the violence, Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation's first program forged a truce between the leaders of rival gangs, and encouraged gang members to "retire" in return for jobs in local Hispanic-owned manufacturing companies.

Since its founding, DHDC has grown to include a wide range of bilingual services that reach more than 10,000 youth, adults and families each year.

DHDC's programs have received national recognition for helping hard-to-serve populations and reaching out to people that many others don't: gang members, ex-offenders, new immigrants and people struggling with addiction.

DHDC is also considered the leading organization in the regional Latino community in gang prevention/intervention and provides a variety of services to high-risk youth.

Programs for Kids

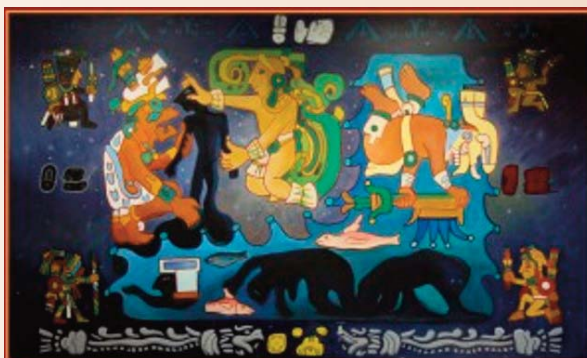
DHDC today provides quality, culturally appropriate programs and services in partnership with education, business and community groups in order to help people overcome barriers to employment, education and healthy lifestyles.

In the view of DHDC, the thing that makes the biggest difference in young people's lives is "caring adults who believe in them."

Through its youth services, DHDC believes that by helping youth to recognize their own strengths and skills "they are able to make

life-changing choices and transform their lives, as well as their communities."

The goal is to raise the resources necessary to keep kids safe, give them opportunities to choose productive lifestyles and expand programs and services to meet



Mural by local artist Steven Martinez, at the Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation

the changing needs of Southwest Detroit.

Donations to DHDC are used to provide snacks for kids ages 6-18, art supplies and sports equipment, DVDs to use in video projects, software for high-school entrepreneurs to create business plans and transportation from school to the youth center to home,

Here are some of the DHDC programs for

children, teens and youth:

The Urban Arts Program is a hands-on program that teaches entrepreneurial skills to 150 adolescents per year and provides tools helping them develop for-profit ventures such as silk-screening, T-shirt production, graffiti art, music and video production. This interactive program incorporates music, art, dance and digital artistry as well as video production in its approach.

The Community Technology Hub opened in late 2008 to provide the Southwest Detroit community with computer, Internet and digital resources. The Tech Hub includes 3 rooms: a Distance Learning Room with 24 PCs and Interactive White Board, a Video Conferencing Room and a Classroom with Interactive White Board and phone conferencing.

The DHDC Summer Youth Program operates several weeks during the summer for youths ages 11-18. Youth ages 14-18 are able to gain work experience and training while earning minimum wage.

To learn more about the Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation, to explore the programs it offers or offer financial or volunteer support, visit www.dhdc1.org or call 313.967.4880.

Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation
1211 Trumbull
Detroit, Michigan 48216

THINK ABOUT YOUTH PROGRAMS

Through its youth services, the Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation seeks to help kids and teens recognize their own strengths and skills so "they are able to make life-changing choices and transform their lives." With family or friends, talk about programs, activities or opportunities that would give teens and pre-teens positive experiences that would help them achieve success in school or life. Discuss ways community volunteers could help provide these opportunities.