Community, Family & Youth Resilience
St. Lucia, St. Kitts & Nevis and Guyana
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Overview
Many youth in the Caribbean are at risk for crime and violence. Often, they are economically and socially marginalized as a result of unemployment, lack of educational opportunities or an unstable family structure.

Funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Community, Family and Youth Resilience project supports family networks, communities and government agencies to reduce crime and violence and increase opportunities for youth in St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis and Guyana. A consortium of organizations will implement the project, led by Creative Associates International with support from PADF, the University of Southern California and YouthBuild International.

Objectives
The program will target youth in crime-affected areas, youth at high risk for violence and youth in conflict with the law. A sustainable network of trained family counselors will work in close partnership with the families of high-risk youth to establish positive relationships and behaviors that lower risk factors. Small grants will support local initiatives that improve community safety and expand opportunities for young people. Field staff will work to connect the community to the police and other agencies to support at-risk youth, and build links with the private sector to support youth employment.
Activities

The program will reach 40,000 families in 15 communities with a holistic approach to crime and violence prevention. Activities include:

• Providing counseling to 650 at-risk youth to lower risk factors contributing to violence
• Improving the job skills and opportunities of 800 youth
• Connecting youth with positive role models
• Assisting youth to develop new skills
• Positive recreational activities that build social and leadership skills
• Building community resilience
• Promote positive interactions between youth and police
• Challenge gender norms that contribute to violence
• Provides targeted support to youth leaving the juvenile justice system to reduce recidivism

About PADF

The Pan American Development Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, brings together many stakeholders to improve livelihoods, empower communities, strengthen civil society, support human rights, protect the environment and respond to natural disasters in Latin America and the Caribbean. Established by the Organization of American States in 1962, PADF has worked in every country in the region. In the last decade, PADF has reached more than 92 million people, investing more than $600 million in development resources throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

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