

H. FABIAN MONTES

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Home Office Phone: (213) 820-5984

Email: fabianmontes@yahoo.com

Curriculum Vitae as Urban Gang Expert

Personal: 1973, born in El Paso, Texas. Currently resides in Los Angeles, California

Education: 1996-1999: East Los Angeles College; Associate of Arts degree, Liberal Arts (Majored in Philosophy), University of California, Irvine (Summer Scholars Transfer Institute), Certificate; Summer 2000, California State University, Fullerton; Major: Philosophy 2005-2006 (degree pending).

H. Fabian Montes was born in El Paso, Texas and was raised in the Pico-Union area of Los Angeles, CA and Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico in La Colonia Chavena, where poverty is a way of life. He joined a gang at the early age of 12; was shot at 16 and was again shot and stabbed at 18. He was on Probation from 12 to 18 years old and was in and out of L.A. County Jail from 18 to 24. At the age of 25, he began to redirect his life and enrolled in East Los Angeles Community College. He graduated from ELAC, receiving his A.A. degree in Liberal Arts, though majoring in Philosophy. There, he met Fr. Greg Boyle, Executive Director of Homeboy Industries, during his last semester, when he enrolled in a class called "Gangs in California", taught by Fr. Boyle. A friendship between the two began here, and Fr. Boyle then invited Fabian to be a part of his organization.

Fabian Co-Created Ollin Law, with Salomon Zavala Esq, Ollin Law Is a law and policy organization that seeks to improve systems of justice for all. Ollin Law incorporates healing in addressing legal issues and seeks meaningful, measurable change in improving the lives and conditions of marginalized communities, especially disenfranchised youth. The organization is comprised of attorneys, experts and consultants who have a wide range of knowledge, experience and expertise, and take a holistic approach to legal issues and violence prevention strategies. Ollin Law aims to address the root cause of violence, such as the impacts of trauma, so people transform their lives and make long term positive impacts in their community.

Fabian is a judicial expert for criminal gang cases, he has worked with numerous criminal attorneys who consultant with him for trial cases in LA County and throughout the United States. As a gang expert he provides a keen perspective in defense criminal cases.

Fabian was employed for ten years, at Homeboy Industries. He began as a Job Developer, referring former gang members, parolees and others to jobs; he was a Supervisor; and then promoted to a Sr. Pre-Release Case Manager, providing after-care services to new parolees from state prison and two female juvenile camps (Scott and Scudder). In addition, he goes to juvenile halls, camps and prisons, as well as universities, to speak about Homeboy Industries' mission. He is also called on to testify as a gang expert for Los Angeles Criminal Courts.

Fabian is a member of Shade Tree Multicultural Foundation, which is a unique organization rooted in indigenous wisdom and practices, applied through contemporary methods to mentor the human potential and create intentional communities. Shade Tree draws on the ancient practice of Indaba, a Zulu tradition of "deep talk", through which conversation returns to its old meaning of soulful communication where essential, but hidden aspects of the individual and community are revealed. He is also a poet, and has taught creative writing classes at juvenile correctional facilities, non-profit organizations, middle and high schools, in East Los Angeles and the Greater Los Angeles County and throughout USA and internationally. He uses poetry as a tool to help youth find their voice and begin a healing process.

Trainer, Teacher, Facilitator: Los Angeles; Mentor for the Mosaic and Shade Tree Multicultural Foundation projects (Voices of Youth, Voices of Communities). Los Angeles; Teacher for Los Angeles Violence Intervention Training Academy Advancement Project Organization. Trained staff and worked with youth in 3 facilities in the Pacific Northwest. All 3 programs provide services for undocumented gang youth who are in federal custody under the Office of Refugee Resettlement. Friends of Youth (Renton, WA), Morrison Center (Portland, OR and Selma Carson Home (Tacoma, WA)

Fabian created an Art Class for the youth at Camp Gonzalez and the part-time workers at Homeboy Industries. In which He was instrumental in bringing to Homeboy a creative writing/poetry program called "Voices of Youth", that was originated by renowned Author/Poet, Luis J. Rodriguez, Storyteller/Mythologist, Michael Meade, and Community Activist, Orland Bishop. He also created a class at Homeboy, called Healing Circle that he teaches, in which he uses spiritual practices from ancient indigenous cultures throughout the world to inspire homeboy/girls to begin a deeper connection with themselves and begin a healing process. He has also participated in facilitating retreats with former gang members and at-risk youth, and maintains long-term mentor relationships with numerous youth. Fabian, Father Greg Boyle and Pascual Torres created the very first Homeboy Industries Retreat in 2006.

In October/2006 and May/2007, Fabian and co-worker/activist, Pascual Torres and Author/Poet, Luis J. Rodriguez traveled to Guatemala & El Salvador, to carry the message of Homeboy Industries to law enforcement and governmental agencies, as well as gang-impacted youth in those areas. They visited two Guatemalan prisons: *Centro Preventivo Para Hombres, Zona 18, Sector 11 (a maximum security men's prison with over 1,000 inmates)* and *Centro Preventivo Para Mujeres, Zona 18, Santa Teresa (a maximum security women's prison with 160 inmates)*. They also spoke to the Psychology faculty and students at the University of Marroquin, Fabian provides consultation and workshops for Central American CBO's, as needed.

Media Appearances on gang/urban peace efforts: KTLA Leila Feinstein Live “Black and Brown Gangs”; Univision, Ch 34 Primer Edicion Spanish language TV; Pacifica Radio; KPCC 89.3 w/ Frank Stoltze “On police chief Bratton”, Divine Forces Radio, KTNQ “New Generation”, Power 106, KPFC 90.7 “Voices of Youth” and more.

News Interviews in: La Opinion (USA), LA TIMES Hoy Spanish issue (USA), Santa Maria Times (USA), Nicoletti Marco (Italy), El Diario de Hoy (El Salvador), Prensa Libre (Guatemala), El Mundo (Spain), Bigga Then Ben (London) The Foremost Newspaper (Japan), TV GAZETA (BR) Televisa (Mex) and more.

Speaker/Lecturer: UCLA, LMU, Harvard Kennedy School (Panelist on Prison Re-entry), California State University Fullerton, University of California Irvine School of Medicine, USC School of Social Work, CSULA School of Social Work, University of Marroquin (Guatemala), Bosco Tecnologico (El Salvador), Tehachapi Prison, Camps David Gonzalez (male), Camp Scott and Scudder (female), Eastlake Juvenile Hall and Sylmar Juvenile Hall. Los Prietos Boys Camp; Santa Barbara Ca, Violence & Suicide Prevention Panelist Santa Barbara Ca,

INTERNATIONAL WORK :

IRELAND ; Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland Empowering Marginalized Youth Program November 12-19, 2011
MEXICO CITY, TJ: Embassy of USA, “Life after Gangs” Program; Talks, Presentations,
MEXICO LEON GTO, UNI HUMANI MUNDIAL Symposium on Criminology 03/14
MEXICO Cd Juarez “Creando Comunidad en Tiempos Violentos”- Summer 2014
EL SALVADOR/GUATEMALA: Meetings with Public Officials, NGO’s, Trainings
SWEDEN, Jarnia: Rudolf Steiner Seminary/YIP “Shift & Transformation”
Lecturer/Classroom Trainings/Presentations. April 15- 23 2014