1)      CIS of Los Angeles

a.       This office is located on Avenue of the Stars.

b.      The office serves 10 middle and high schools. There are no elementary schools served.

c.       The students are primarily Latino/Hispanic and African American, and 84% of the kids in L.A. schools qualify for free breakfast and lunch.

d.      It offers the awesome model of the site coordinator providing case managed services, and bringing in partners who can tutor, donate to clothes closets, etc.

2)      CIS of the San Fernando Valley/Greater Los Angeles

a.       This office is located in North Hills, which is 22 miles NNW of Los Angeles but considered part of the greater metro area.

b.      This office’s primary service objective is to reduce at-risk behaviors in youth and young adults.  It’s not yet clear how much of its work is with young children. I’ll find out.

c.       Besides the Executive Director and President (two separate positions), the main office staff includes the Director of the Tattoo Removal Program. The CEO created a peace program in 1990 following the death of his son due to gang violence. His program merged with CIS in 1994.

d.      The web site’s goals talk about gang intervention and being willing to engage at the street level.  From its web site, it seems the majority of youth and young adults served are Latino/Hispanic.

e.      It is not easy from its web page to find how many schools it serves.  On its partnership page, four schools are listed, but one is actually in Colorado. This sounds like an absolutely wonderful and important program.