



RON "COOK" BARRETT

SME: GANG PREVENTION & INTERVENTION

"Cook," as he is known, has been a catalyst in youth development for over 30 years. He is a certified Gang Specialist involved in a number of prevention, intervention and suppression efforts.

He is a dynamic speaker who provides numerous seminars locally, nationally and internationally, educating communities and law enforcement agencies on identifying and preventing gangs and their effects on the community.

He has presented for numerous Gang Investigator Association's including New York, New Jersey, Northwest, Ontario, Colorado STING, Northern California, Midwest, Arizona, New Mexico, Kansas, Virginia, Utah, International Latino and others. He has trained over 25,000 law enforcement officers and has also presented to over 50,000 youth.

He has coordinated a Gang Prevention Teen Night with the YMCA that has been operating for over 23 years and the program has been the blueprint for other youth agencies to run similar programming.

He is a certified Workforce Development Specialist focusing on assisting inmate re-entry and a certified Thinking for a Change Specialist (T4C) and Decision Point's specialist-training clients with transitional services.

He was presented with the 2001 FBI Director's Community Leadership Award, given by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the New York State Governor's Dr. King Leadership Award for 2004, the 2008 New Jersey Gang Investigators Association award for his Outstanding Prevention and Intervention efforts, the 2009 New York State Department of Health Community Service and Leadership Award, the 2010 Lasallian Service Award for his outstanding contribution through community service, the 2015 Frank Chapman Memorial Institute's, Capital Districts Men of Valor Award, the 2013 and 2019 Y Black and Latino Adult Achiever's Award and the 2023 Albany Law Enforcement Resolution Team (ALERT) Community Bridge Builders Award.

