

## **Santa Paula**

# **Tattoo Removal Program**

**WHAT:** A tattoo removal program has been established in Santa Paula to provide tattoo removal services to individuals who are attempting to make important lifestyle changes such as leaving a gang and seeking employment.

The program is offered free of charge. However, attendance at an orientation meeting, a medical prescreening and documented community service are required prior to removal of the tattoo. Participation in an approved self-help program may be accepted in lieu of community service.

Local physicians, nurses, and other individuals are being solicited to volunteer their time to this program.

**WHY:** Tattoos often create problems and many people regret having gotten them. Tattoos can make it difficult to leave the gang lifestyle, find a job or have a lasting relationship. Having a tattoo removed can be the start of a new, productive life.

**WHEN:** The tattoo removal clinic is held once a month on a Saturday at the Santa Paula Medical Clinic, 1334 E. Main St. Several sessions are usually required to remove one tattoo.

**WHO:** Individuals from the Santa Clara River Valley, Ojai, Ventura, Camarillo, Oxnard, Thousand Oaks, Moorpark, Simi Valley, & Pt. Hueneme are eligible to participate in the orientation and screening process to determine whether the individual is motivated to make positive lifestyle changes and willing to donate time to a local organization. Individuals must also pass a medical screening.

**CONTACT:** For more information about this program, dates for orientation meetings, or opportunities to volunteer at the clinic, please contact:

**The Santa Paula Medical Clinic**  
**933-1242**

**Sponsored by: County Supervisor Kathy Long, Ventura County Public Health, Santa Paula Family Care Clinic, Ventura County Sheriff's Department, Ventura County Probation, and CALWORKS.**