

New OJJDP Funding for Group Violence Intervention in Minneapolis

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Minneapolis Origins in Youth Violence Prevention

- ❑ In 2008, Minneapolis began its targeted work on the issue of youth violence prevention by releasing the Minneapolis Blueprint for Action to Prevent Youth Violence (the Blueprint).
- ❑ The Blueprint gained national attention for its public health approach to addressing youth violence and soon became a national model for youth violence prevention planning.

Minneapolis's history with Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Programs(OJJDP)

In 2012, Minneapolis was the tenth city invited to join OJJDP's National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention (the Forum). The Cities participation in the Forum is led by the Minneapolis Health Department (MHD). The Forum brings together city leaders, federal agencies and national experts to elevate, enhance and sustain youth violence prevention efforts.

OJJDP Funding on Youth Violence Prevention

OJJDP currently supports three frameworks focused on youth violence prevention at the city or state level

The National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention

- Provides funding to address and prevent youth violence through
- strategic planning,
- capacity building,
- increased Multidisciplinary partnerships
- Data and evidence-driven strategies.

The Defending Childhood Initiative

- Provides funding to address, reduce & more fully understand childhood exposure to violence through:
- Research
- Community outreach
- Training for professionals

Community Based Violence Intervention Programs

- Provides funding to partnerships to replicate proven multi-disciplinary, community-based strategies that's reduce violence such as
- Group Violence Intervention
- Cease Fire
- Boston Gun Program

New OJJDP Funding Opportunity

- ❑ In May of 2016, OJJDP issued an RFP for a new funding stream titled: FY 16 Safe and Thriving Communities: Uniting and Enhancing Community-Based Violence Prevention, Defending Childhood, and National Forum Approaches(Safe and Thriving Communities)
- ❑ Cities participating in a current youth violence prevention frameworks were asked to enhance their work through using a practice from a different framework.

New OJJDP Funding Opportunity

- ❑ The Minneapolis Health Department applied for the Safe and Thriving Communities solicitation.
- ❑ The application requested funding to use current National Forum efforts such as, the Blueprint and community engagement strategies and added GVI from the Community Based Violence Intervention Framework

New OJJDP Funding Opportunity

- ❑ On September 15th, 2016 OJJDP announced that Minneapolis was selected for the Safe and Thriving Communities grant award
- ❑ Minneapolis was awarded a total award of \$325,000 to be used over 2 years to develop and implement GVI and to sustain some prior Youth Violence Prevention efforts.

Group Violence Intervention

- Formal research and field experience demonstrate that when communities implement GVI with fidelity, they can achieve reductions in citywide homicide on the order of 35 to 60 percent and reduce nonfatal shootings significantly.

Group Violence Intervention

- ❑ GVI is a Best Practice Program by the Federal Department of Justice (DOJ).
- ❑ It is a proven approach in which law enforcement, communities, and offenders can work together; reset relationships; and recognize and expand upon common norms, interests, and goals.
- ❑ It is Built on the schools of thought and practice known as “focused deterrence” and “procedural justice,” the strategy brings together communities and law enforcement.

Group Violence Intervention

How does it work?

- GVI relies heavily on a partnership between three critical groups

Law Enforcement

- Coordinated law enforcement action against members of a violent group will be performed by the law enforcement operational team (i.e., local, state, and federal agencies) of the GVI partnership.

Social Service Agencies

- Offer a wide range of services and support to identified group members who are ready to change their lives .

Community, also known as Moral Voice

- Will articulate the community's standards, aspirations, frustrations, and expectations and who, by the virtue of their life experiences, have the respect of group members.

Group Violence Intervention

How does it work?

- Data Analysis is used to identify the following:

1. Which group/s are causing the most significant acts of violence in the city

2. Who among them is most likely to be the next victim or perpetrator of gun violence.

Group Violence Intervention

How does it work?

- Once identified communication with group members happens through one of two methods

1. Custom notification, Group members thought to be a particularly high risk for violence are contacted by Outreach Workers and/or Law Enforcement agents.

2. Call in, A meeting at which City leaders, Law Enforcement, Outreach Workers, Social Services and Community Members speak with group members about violence.

Group Violence Intervention

How does it work?

- ❑ Both communication strategies convey the same message clearly to the group members and, through them, back to the entire groups with which they are associated. During the call-in, the law enforcement-community partnership clearly communicates three points:
 1. A community moral message against violence
 2. A credible law enforcement message about the consequences of further violence
 3. A genuine offer of help for those who want it

Minneapolis GVI

- ❑ Through the National Initiative for Community Trust and Justice, the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) began exploring Group Violence Intervention (GVI) as a violence reductions strategy in 2015.
- ❑ MPD organized an initial GVI training for key staff and other local law enforcement agencies in summer of 2016.

Minneapolis GVI

The Safe and Thriving Communities funding will allow MHD and MPD to begin the process of developing and implementing a beginning phases of GVI in Minneapolis.

GVI Minneapolis

□ Funds will be used for the following:

1. Social Service Agencies
2. GVI project manager
3. Outreach workers
4. Community education

Thank You

Thank You Please Contact Sasha Cotton,
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