

Funding Opportunity: Capacity Building and Seed Grants for Violence Prevention Organizations

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Overview

Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot is committed to reducing violence in Chicago. One strategy identified in the City’s comprehensive violence reduction strategy, “Our City, Our Safety” is to build capacity and provide seed grants to growing organizations conducting community-based violence reduction activities. This RFP seeks to fund up to two lead organizations to administer seed grants and provide capacity building support for emerging organizations to conduct violence prevention activities on an ongoing basis. Each lead organization will administer capacity building services and funds geographically, with one lead serving organizations located on the South side and one serving organizations located on the West side.

The goal of this funding opportunity is to empower small organizations, defined as having a budget less than \$750,000 per year and demonstrated by annual budget statements, to support their communities and to build their organizational capabilities. As such, the City expects that this funding opportunity will increase the quality and availability of violence prevention programming and build robust and collaborative organizations that prioritize community safety.

Who should apply

This funding opportunity is open to established organizations with experience in grant administration and capacity building supports.

Available funding

Up to \$4,000,000 will be available through this RFP as follows:

- Up to \$1,000,000 (\$500,000 per awardee) will be available to the applicant agencies to fund administrative costs (grant administration, program monitoring, and capacity building supports)
- Up to \$3,000,000 (\$1,500,000 per awardee) will be available to support violence and crime prevention activities conducted by small organizations

Timeline

RFP released	Bidders’ Conference	Deadline for questions	Responses due:
5/18/2021	5/25/2021, 12pm Join Zoom meeting Meeting ID: 860 8724 2835 Passcode: 409734 Dial in: 1-312-626-6799	6/11/2021, 4pm	6/18/2021

Scope of Services

The successful respondent will perform the following services:

- Conduct an application process to select organizations, agencies, or groups to receive capacity building supports and seed grants
- Provide tailored capacity-building services, technical assistance, and training to support selected organizations
- Administer grants to the small organizations to support activities outlined in the above-mentioned proposal
- Provide fiscal/financial sponsorship for agencies without 501(c)3 status and for other agencies as appropriate
- Monitor agencies during grant period, including collecting data on agency activities, tracking expenses, and ensuring agency accountability
- Provide ongoing development, support, and/or cohort-building opportunities as organizations execute their violence prevention activity or program.
- Provide evaluation and feedback of the organization’s performance at the conclusion of the contract term.