

# Funding Opportunity: Expanding Capacity for Street Outreach and Violence Interruption Services

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**Overview**

Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot is committed to addressing violence in the city of Chicago. Street outreach and violence interruption is a key piece of the city’s violence reduction strategy and the City has prioritized the communities facing high levels of violence for this intervention. This opportunity is designed to identify up to ten Chicago-based organizations to contribute toward street outreach efforts in twelve high priority community areas.

**We define “Street Outreach” as:** actively working in “the streets” to engage individuals who are at immediate and high risk of being either victims or perpetrators of violence. Street Outreach staff engage with these individuals in a variety of settings, including parks, homes, street corners, community centers, schools, hospitals, or any place these individuals frequent. Street Outreach staff are focused on building relationships with persons at high-risk so that they can promote peace by mediating potential and existing conflicts. The staff also serve as connectors to services and as a support to both the individuals and their families. Street Outreach efforts are typically conducted in the afternoons/evenings and late at night when violence is most prevalent.

**Who should apply**

This funding opportunity is open to community-based organizations who provide violence prevention services in communities in Chicago facing high levels of violence.

**Available funding**

A total of \$5,000,000 will be available through this RFP. It is anticipated that ten contracts will be awarded through this RFP at approximately \$500,000 each.

**Timeline**

RFP released	Bidders’ Conference	Deadline for questions	Responses due:
5/18/2021	5/25/2021, 1pm <a href="#">Join Zoom meeting</a> Meeting ID: 861 3236 8251 Passcode: 458744	6/11/2021, 4pm	6/18/2021

**Scope of Services**

- Engage and support individuals and groups at high risk of violence
- Reclaim public spaces for safe activities for the entire community
- Respond to critical incidents such as shootings and homicides to de-escalate tension and rumor control
- Support victims and their families through connections with the City’s existing victim services network
- Conduct proactive peace building activities
- Mediate and resolve conflicts between street groups
- Initiate and navigate referrals for services and support
- Participate in convenings and cohort-building opportunities convened by other providers in Chicago’s street outreach network,
- Partner with community organizations and justice institutions to identify, recruit, and engage the intended population. Relevant agencies will partner with law enforcement and criminal justice institutions to support participants and effectively reduce violence dynamics.