

PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY
SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE

Violence Intervention & Prevention (VIP) and
Building Opportunities Through Out-of-School Time Competitive Grants
Project Summary and Analysis

Funding Announcements: FY 2025-26 VIP + BOOST Competitive Local Grants
FY 2025-26 Statewide BOOST Competitive Grants

Applications: 177 Applications

Project Start Date: March 1, 2026

Description and Recommendation:

On December 10, 2025, the School Safety and Security Committee adopted the FY 2025-26 Violence Intervention & Prevention (VIP) & Building Opportunities Through Out-of-School Time (BOOST) Grants Funding Framework. Solicitations were released on the same day, which announced the availability of approximately \$62.15 million¹ in state funding over an up-to-38-month period to support FY 2025-26 VIP and BOOST competitive grants and a Statewide BOOST funding announcement open to statewide youth-serving nonprofit organizations with a 501(c)(4) status.

The purpose of VIP funding is to provide grants to address community violence throughout the Commonwealth. For this funding announcement, ‘community violence’ is defined as intentional interpersonal violence (e.g., gun violence, group-related violence, domestic violence/intimate partner violence) in areas of Pennsylvania with high rates of firearm-related violent crime and/or firearm-related injury.

Per the FY 25-26 Fiscal Code, at least \$11.5 million in VIP funds is to be allocated specifically toward out-of-school time (OST) programming through the BOOST program. The goal of BOOST funding is to expand OST structured programming opportunities for at-risk school-age youth. For this funding announcement, “at risk youth” is defined as school-age youth who are at an educational disadvantage because of limited English proficiency, poverty, economic disadvantage, homelessness, housing instability, foster care, and/or academic difficulties. PCCD defines school-age youth to mean 5 years of age until 18 years of age. Funding was eligible to support structured programs or activities with engaged mentors and evidence-based/informed practices provided to school-age youth before school, after school, or during the summer.

Community-based organizations, institutions of higher education, municipalities, counties, and district attorneys were eligible to apply for VIP funding. Eligible program areas included: Prevention – Youth Focused (including OST programming), Prevention – Other, Intervention, Reentry/Aftercare, Healing, and Systems Transformation and Innovation. School districts, area career and technical centers (CTCs), libraries and community-based organizations were eligible to apply only under the “Prevention – Youth Focused” funding under this solicitation to support OST programs. As the eligible applicant pool and activities were similar under both grant programs, a single solicitation was released to facilitate the application process.

Under the FY 2025-26 Statewide BOOST solicitation, only statewide youth-serving nonprofit organizations with a 501(c)(4) status were eligible to apply to support upstream prevention and mentoring OST initiatives focused on school-age youth who are at risk.

¹ Utilizing unspent, unencumbered state VIP funding from previous years, PCCD was able to supplement appropriated funding under this funding announcement, allowing for a recommendation of more than \$65 million in awards.

As of the January 26, 2026 deadline, PCCD received 464 eligible applications under the VIP + BOOST funding announcement and one (1) eligible application under the Statewide BOOST funding announcement. Formal scoring and review of applications occurred during February and March 2026.

Staff are recommending approval of a total of 177 applications, including 28 local BOOST projects and one statewide BOOST project (i.e., \$11,553,134), for a total not to exceed \$65,267,808 in state Violence Intervention and Prevention funding, pending the resolution of any programmatic or fiscal concerns.²

FY 2025-26 BOOST Statewide

<p>Pennsylvania State Alliance of YMCA's</p> <p>Allegheny, Blair, Bradford, Clarion, Lebanon, Philadelphia, Venango Counties</p> <p>Amount: \$900,000</p>	<p>The Pennsylvania State Alliance of YMCA's is requesting \$900,000 on behalf of six local YMCA Associations to provide safe, supervised and structured programming for over 3700 at-risk youth. The local YMCAs employ a variety of evidence-based afterschool and summer programming that inspires learning, provides enriching activities, and meets specialized needs. These funds also give many YMCAs the opportunity to reinstate programming that lost funding during the pandemic. By funding this project, YMCA programs will reduce juvenile crime, boost academics, improve behavior, and lead to healthier decisions and habits.</p> <p>Funds will be used for each location's specific needs. Funds will be used to support staff time and benefits; travel and training in specific EBP curriculums and other professional development trainings; costs associated with transportation and field trips for participants; office supplies and program supplies including program-specific educational materials and technology equipment; marketing costs; prizes and incentives; meals; consultants for specific content areas; operational expenses; youth membership fees and scholarships; and administrative and grants management services.</p>
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FY 2025-26 BOOST Local

<p>Duquesne City School District</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Duquesne City School District is requesting BOOST funding to expand the Duquesne AI Scholars initiative, a year-round, out-of-school-time academic enrichment program serving approximately 150 students annually in grades 3–8 within Allegheny County. Designed to counter academic disengagement, learning loss, and limited access to high-quality OST options in a high-poverty, high-violence-risk community, the program integrates standards-aligned math and literacy instruction with developmentally appropriate AI literacy, digital storytelling, maker-space activities, and community-connected service-learning. Through summer and after-school mini-camps, students use AI as a structured cognitive tool to deepen academic skills, engage in hands-on problem-solving, build future-oriented competencies, and contribute to community-identified projects such as food-justice initiatives. The initiative will be implemented in partnership with Living In Fulfilled Excellence (LIFE) and Divine Restoration Outreach Ministries (DROM), leveraging district facilities, technology access, and cross-sector collaboration to strengthen protective factors and reduce vulnerabilities associated with academic failure and unsupervised time.</p>
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² The summaries contained in this document were generated with the assistance of Microsoft Copilot and verified by PCCD staff. Should any inconsistencies between the summary and the original application be discovered, the original application will serve as the governing document.

	<p>Funds will support salaries for the following positions: Content Instructors, Classroom Aides, Program Coordinator, and Family Engagement Coordinator. Funds will also be used for instructional materials, office and technology supplies, software subscriptions, digital safety tools, enrichment activity facilitation, technology platforms, staff professional development, student transportation, meals/snacks for program days, printing, and administrative functions needed for grant compliance, data management, and safe program delivery. Funding is conditioned upon a more detailed explanation of any portion of the activities that occur during school hours.</p>
<p>Penn Hills Library Allegheny County Amount: \$282,000</p>	<p>Penn Hills Library is requesting BOOST funding to expand and enhance its out-of-school-time (OST) programming for school-age youth in Penn Hills and the broader Allegheny County region. As a free, accessible community hub serving diverse and economically disadvantaged youth, the library aims to respond to rising local concerns related to community violence, lack of safe and inclusive youth spaces, and gaps in youth services following reductions in school-based prevention programs. The proposed project strengthens upstream violence-prevention efforts by expanding STEAM, engineering, digital media, culinary, art, tutoring, mentoring, and youth-voice-centered programming. Through expanded summer reading programs, youth circles, maker spaces, career pathways workshops, and improved co-working and collaborative youth areas, the library intends to foster belonging, skill development, positive peer engagement, and relationships with supportive adults. The initiative emphasizes inclusive programming, restorative practices, civic engagement, and opportunities for youth leadership—aligned with both community-expressed needs and countywide violence-prevention priorities. The Project will also allow the library to expand the number and frequency of OST programs, improve youth-centered spaces, and increase collaboration with local schools, community partners, and career-readiness organizations. With these resources, Penn Hills Library plans to serve approximately 6,000 youth annually, providing safe, high-quality OST environments that strengthen protective factors, reduce barriers to access, and build long-term community resilience in an area experiencing persistent concerns around safety and youth well-being.</p> <p>Funds will support personnel for dedicated youth-services staffing; professional development and travel for training in trauma-informed, culturally responsive, and high-quality OST practices; and operating and supply costs associated with STEAM equipment, maker tools, digital media devices, and creative materials, and youth-engagement supports such as snacks and program resources.</p>
<p>Pittsburgh Community Science Workshop Allegheny County Amount: \$33,500</p>	<p>Pittsburgh Community Services Workshop (PCSW) is seeking funding to expand its free, walk-in, after-school science and engineering programs for K–8 youth in two high-need communities: Pittsburgh’s California-Kirkbride neighborhood and McKees Rocks. PCSW operates welcoming, project-based learning spaces where children explore electronics, mechanics, biology, art, woodworking, chemistry, and more in a youth-driven format supported by caring educators. The program functions as a critical safety net, offering consistent supervision, social-emotional support, hands-on STEM enrichment, and a positive third space for youth facing systemic inequities, community trauma, and academic challenges. PCSW anticipates serving approximately 1,500 youth over the project period.</p> <p>The funding requested will partially support the salary and benefits of two part-time Site Coordinator/Science Teachers and partial support for the Program Director, as well as supplies and operating expenses for consumable project materials needed for student-driven STEM activities.</p>

<p>The Dragon's Den</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$333,911</p>	<p>The Dragon's Den is requesting funding to expand its out-of-school-time violence-prevention model in Homestead (15120), an area with high poverty, chronic disinvestment, and elevated youth risk factors. The organization serves predominantly Black youth ages 6–18, many of whom experience food insecurity, trauma, disabilities, school discipline histories, or exclusion from other programs. The proposed project strengthens protective factors by extending after-school hours, adding a therapeutic support track for up to 15 children with significant behavioral needs using evidence-based approaches such as the MindfulChoice System and Mindful Young Minds, and launching a structured teen program (Learning Beyond Boundaries) to prevent youth from “aging out” into risk during adolescence. The initiative will serve approximately 200 youth annually through expanded daily supervision, structured SEL supports, leadership development, academic help, and career exposure experiences delivered both on-site and across Allegheny County. The project responds directly to community conditions including high caregiver burden, limited free youth programs within walking distance, and rising intensity of behavioral and violence-related incidents among children.</p> <p>Funding will be used to support the salary and benefits of a Teen Pathways Program Manager, Lead Teacher, Support Teacher, and Behavior Specialists. Funding will also be used to support travel and training for crisis management/de-escalation certification, limited supplies for teen workforce-readiness programming, consultant costs for specialized enrichment during the pilot year for the teen cohort, and transportation for off-site learning experiences.</p>
<p>Aliquippa School District</p> <p>Beaver County</p> <p>Amount: \$296,305</p>	<p>Aliquippa School District is requesting funding under the BOOST Youth-Focused Prevention program to launch Healthy Minds Club, a new after-school initiative serving approximately 180 elementary students in grades 1–6. Designed to address academic challenges, chronic absenteeism, social-emotional needs, and barriers such as poverty, housing instability, disabilities, and limited English proficiency, the program provides structured academic support alongside weekly physical and mental wellness activities. Operating two days per week across a 30-week school year, Healthy Minds Club offers homework help, skill-building in reading and math, small-group social-emotional learning, physical wellness sessions, and enrichment supported by community partners including The Prevention Network, B.F. Jones Memorial Library, the Aliquippa Clubhouse, CDG Sports Events, and other guest facilitators. These activities aim to strengthen protective factors, promote positive routines, improve school attendance and engagement, and provide safe, supervised enrichment during high-risk after-school hours in a community experiencing elevated violent-crime trends.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits of the Project Manager, Lead Teacher, and 12 Certified Teachers, transportation costs, program materials/supplies, and student engagement incentives. Additionally, funding will be used for consultant services for guest facilitators who lead physical and mental wellness sessions and program events.</p>
<p>Muhlenberg School District</p> <p>Berks County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Muhlenberg School District is requesting funding under the BOOST Youth-Focused Prevention program to expand its comprehensive K–12 Summer Bridge initiative, designed to counter the district's significant academic proficiency gaps and the effects of high poverty on student learning. Serving approximately 1,500 students annually, the program provides four weeks of targeted, building-specific academic intervention in literacy, math, and Keystone exam subjects, combined with enrichment opportunities that foster school engagement and belonging. The initiative integrates early-elementary literacy development, intermediate math reinforcement, and secondary-level intervention to support graduation readiness, while “Discovery Sessions” introduce students to athletics, performing arts, and extracurricular activities. A district-wide Learn to Swim program is incorporated to promote safety, equity, and physical development, guided by a dedicated Youth Aquatics & Athletics Director. The program</p>

	<p>aims to address academic regression, support English learners and students with disabilities, reduce summer food insecurity, and provide safe, structured environments during out-of-school months.</p> <p>Requested funds will support salaries for summer intervention staff and a full-time Aquatics Director; participant transportation and meal services to remove participation barriers; supplies and operating costs such as curriculum materials, instructional resources, aquatics equipment, safety items, and progress-tracking software; and other program-related operational needs required to deliver the academic and enrichment components.</p>
<p>Claysburg-Kimmel School District</p> <p>Blair County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Claysburg-Kimmel School District (CKSD) is requesting BOOST funding to launch the Pathways Mentorship Academy, a new out-of-school time initiative that provides year-round mentoring, a structured 12-day Summer STEM Academy, and consistent recreational and enrichment opportunities for at-risk youth in grades 5–12. CKSD intends to use school buildings as the central hub for mentoring, hands-on STEM activities, SEL skill-building, and supervised group events. The project aims to strengthen school connectedness, reduce academic disengagement, build coping and problem-solving skills, and provide consistent adult support for youth who lack access to structured activities outside of school. CKSD expects to serve approximately 80 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the following staff: Program Coordinator, Administrative Support, Mentoring Staff, and summer STEM Instructors. Funding will also be used to support supplies and operating expenses, such as STEM materials, field-trip transportation, food, participant materials, software for attendance and data tracking, and evaluation tools; and training stipends.</p>
<p>Bristol Borough School District</p> <p>Bucks County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Bristol Borough School District is requesting funding under the BOOST Youth-Focused Prevention program to launch a new, comprehensive out-of-school time (OST) initiative serving youth ages 12–18. The project aims to reduce risk factors tied to academic underperformance, absenteeism, social-emotional challenges, and exposure to unsafe community conditions by operating structured after-school, evening, weekend, and summer programming at multiple school and community sites, including the Bristol Borough Middle/High School, St. Mark's Middle School, and the Bristol Borough Fire Association. The initiative targets approximately 170 youth each year disproportionately impacted by poverty, housing instability, disability, limited English proficiency, chronic absenteeism, and gang/drug-related recruitment pressures. Core activities include academic tutoring, homework help, STEM/STEAM enrichment, career readiness programming, industry-aligned certification opportunities, mentoring, wellness activities, and specialized prevention programming. The project also includes a public-safety focused Junior and Youth Fire Cadet Program delivered in partnership with the Bristol Borough Fire Department, providing leadership development, civic engagement, and supervised skill-building during high-risk hours.</p> <p>Funds will support partial salaries and benefits for six Certified Teachers, two Site Coordinators, a Program Coordinator, and staff professional development. Additionally, funding will be utilized for general office supplies, program materials, and the following Consultant costs; Bucks County IU#22 (data analysis), Ivins Outreach Center (program implementation, grant oversight), Village Arts (social-emotional learning and creative expression programming), Stark Solutions (social-emotional learning, mentoring, physical activity programming), Silver Lake Nature Center (STEM-based environmental education), and St. John's Driving School.</p>

<p>Bristol Township SD</p> <p>Bucks County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Bristol Township School District is requesting BOOST funding to launch a new districtwide after-school initiative that combines evidence-based literacy tutoring with prevention-focused enrichment, social-emotional learning, and structured supervision for students in grades K–12. The program will serve approximately 450 youth each year, responding to identified needs across the district, including persistent literacy gaps, rising behavioral and social-emotional concerns, limited access to safe after-school environments, and family-reported barriers to academic support outside the school day. Through partnerships with No Longer Bound, Bristol Cares Coalition, Heritage Conservancy, Silver Lake Nature Center, and the Bucks IU Fab Lab, the initiative will provide small-group tutoring, SEL-embedded prevention lessons, nature-based and hands-on STEM activities, mentoring, and prosocial enrichment clubs. At the high school level, the project expands access to interest-based, identity-affirming clubs and career-readiness supports that strengthen belonging, reduce disengagement, and offer supervised alternatives during high-risk after-school hours.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits of a Lead Instructor, 6-8 After-School Instructors, instructional supplies, curriculum materials, STEM kits, robotic equipment, student incentives, general office supplies, and food for program participants. Additionally, funding will be utilized for consultant costs to support project partners who will deliver specialized academic enrichment, prevention education, and STEM/STEAM learning experiences.</p>
<p>Bucks County Technical High School</p> <p>Bucks County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Bucks County Technical High School is requesting funding under the BOOST Youth-Focused Prevention category to expand its Exploratory Academy, a prevention-focused out-of-school time initiative serving students from Bucks County Technical High School and Conwell-Egan Catholic High School. As regional schools, students do not return to their sending districts for after-school or summer services, leaving a substantial supervision gap during high-risk hours associated with increased vulnerability to negative peer influence, disengagement, and exposure to community-level risk factors. The program aims to serve 130 youth each year and provide safe, structured after-school, evening, weekend, and summer programming that integrates academic tutoring, credit recovery, STEM/STEAM enrichment, workforce and certification pathways, mentoring, wellness activities, leadership development, and public safety career exposure. Through partnerships with Ivins Outreach Center, Silver Lake Nature Center, Village Arts, Stark Solutions, Embrace Tutoring, St. John’s Driving School, the Lower Bucks Chamber of Commerce, and the Bristol Township Fire Department Cadet Program, the initiative strengthens protective factors including school connectedness, adult mentorship, academic engagement, and career readiness while reducing risks linked to unsupervised time and disengagement.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits of a Program Coordinator, three Site Coordinators, six Certified Academic Teachers, Academy and Career-Technical Instructors, as well as staff professional development and training in violence prevention. Funding will also be utilized for student transportation for program-related activities, general offices supplies and instructional materials. and program-specific supplies, general operating expenses, and Consultant costs associated with project partners.</p>
<p>Butler Area School District</p> <p>Butler County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Butler Area School District is requesting funding under the BOOST Youth-Focused Prevention category to expand an evidence-based academic acceleration and mentoring initiative for students most affected by chronic absenteeism, academic gaps, and school disengagement. The project centers on Broad Street Elementary, where 86.4% of students experience economic disadvantage, and extends support to the Intermediate and Senior High Schools. The initiative builds on demonstrated success with the Morningside Model of Generative Instruction, which previously produced accelerated growth for students at Butler Area Senior</p>

	<p>High School who were multiple years behind grade level. Students transitioned from losing ground each year to making nearly two years of academic progress in less than one semester. In partnership with Moraine Trails Council, programming will be offered to approximately 1,720 students each year through a combination of high-dosage after-school tutoring, precision teaching, executive-function training, and character-based mentoring resulting in strengthened family engagement, increased academic fluency, improved school connectedness, reduced absenteeism, and stabilization of students' social-emotional well-being. The model is aligned with MTSS and PBIS frameworks and directly addresses barriers identified in local PAYS data, including depressive symptoms, low academic self-worth, limited engagement, and elevated threats of violence or school safety concerns.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits of six Instructors, program supplies, curriculum materials, assessment tools, and general operating expenses. Funding will also be utilized for consultant costs associated with Morningside Teachers' Academy, the primary instructional partner. Morningside Consultants will provide intensive training for staff, ongoing clinical coaching, and program assessment and evaluation.</p>
<p>Central Dauphin School District</p> <p>Dauphin County</p> <p>Amount: \$204,351</p>	<p>Central Dauphin School District (CDSD) is requesting funding to expand its structured Summer Academy for elementary students in grades K–4, with targeted recruitment from the district's highest-need schools. The overarching goal of the academy is to reduce summer learning loss, strengthen early academic skills, and enhance social-emotional development for students who are most at risk of falling behind academically due to economic disadvantage, academic challenges, and limited access to structured summer programming. Operating as a four-week, half-day program three days per week, the Summer Academy provides small-group instruction delivered by certified teachers, embedded social-emotional learning, and enrichment experiences coordinated in partnership with the local YMCA. CDSD expects to serve approximately 80 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the following staff: three Certified Teachers/Instructional Staff and a Project Director. Funding will also be used to support transportation costs, travel expenses for educational field trips; and supplies and operating expenses such as instructional materials, SEL resources, food, basic programming needs and evaluation efforts.</p>
<p>The Joshua Group</p> <p>Dauphin County</p> <p>Amount: \$495,420</p>	<p>The Joshua Group is requesting funding to expand its established, out-of-school time (OST) model serving highly disadvantaged youth in Harrisburg's most underserved neighborhoods. The organization provides a cradle-to-career continuum, but grant funds will support only after-school and summer programming for students in grades 1–12. The project targets youth experiencing concentrated poverty, academic failure, chronic trauma exposure, food insecurity, homelessness, and community violence. The expansion will double after-school access from two to four days per week and increase the intensity of academic tutoring, SEL supports, mentoring, and enrichment during the highest-risk afternoon hours. It will also strengthen the summer program by adding staff capacity and culturally responsive educational field trips. The initiative will serve approximately 200 youth annually, all of whom come from Harrisburg School District catchment areas where poverty, violent-crime exposure, and educational disparities—such as extremely low math and reading proficiency and high dropout and chronic absenteeism rates—drive elevated risk for delinquency and violence involvement.</p> <p>Funding will support four (4) After-School and Summer Liaisons, five (5) After-School and Summer Instructional Aides, eleven (11) After-School Aides, twelve (12) Summer Seasonal Aides, and five (5) After-School/Summer Student Tutors. Funding will also support food for</p>

	summer meals, consultant support for grant administration and reporting, and costs associated with transportation and admission for educational and cultural field trips.
The Salvation Army in Harrisburg Capital City Region Dauphin County Amount: \$217,456	<p>The Salvation Army in Harrisburg Capital City Region is requesting funding to support and expand the Roller Enrichment Academy (REA), a long-standing out-of-school-time (OST) program serving K–6 students in the Steelton-Highspire School District (SHSD). The project aims to provide daily after-school and summer programming that strengthens academic skills, improves social-emotional development, and reduces risk factors associated with future violence involvement. Students participate in daily literacy and math lessons, STEM activities, experiential learning, physical activity, nutrition education, and social-emotional skill-building supported by evidence-based curricula. The Salvation Army in Harrisburg Capital City Region expects to serve approximately 40 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the following staff: five part-time Instructional Staff, including a Lead Facilitator/Instructor and four Facilitators. Funding will also be used to support transportation costs; supplies and operating expenses such as teaching materials, curriculum subscriptions, food, software, cleaning supplies; and administrative support services.</p>
Young Men and Women In Charge Foundation, Inc. Delaware County Amount: \$498,629	<p>Young Men and Women In Charge Foundation, Inc. is requesting to expand its out-of-school-time Pre-College Program serving approximately 286 economically disadvantaged and historically underrepresented students in four high-need communities: Chester, Coatesville, Norristown, and the William Penn School District. The initiative seeks to strengthen protective factors and reduce youth exposure to community violence by providing academically focused, STEM-enriched programming; structured mentoring; leadership development; family engagement; and college and career readiness supports during after-school hours, evenings, and weekends. Through weekly tutoring and workshops, Saturday Special Interest Groups, science research projects, college and career exploration, supervised learning environments, and family-centered programming, YMWIC aims to enhance academic achievement, increase school engagement, build social-emotional competencies, and promote long-term educational and workforce success for youth navigating high-poverty, high-crime neighborhoods with documented academic inequities.</p> <p>Funds will partially support personnel for additional part-time Assistant Coordinators across the four chapters; employee benefits; equipment such as laptops or tablets; supplies and operating expenses including robotics kits, science materials, instructional supplies, and limited transportation support; consultant costs for specialized STEM educators; and other costs such as meals for program sessions and indirect administrative expenses necessary for fiscal management, compliance, and operational infrastructure.</p>
YMCA of Greater Erie Erie County Amount: \$493,286	<p>The YMCA of Greater Erie is requesting to expand and strengthen its after-school Teen Center programming for approximately 250 middle and high school youth in the Erie City School District. The project aims to address elevated risk factors identified through the Pennsylvania Youth Survey—such as low school commitment, weak neighborhood attachment, and exposure to community stressors—by providing a safe, structured environment during high-risk after-school hours. Programming will be delivered through five core focus areas: creative arts and expression; health and wellbeing; recreation and social groups; educational support; and personal and professional development. Activities include music and art workshops, podcasting, group exercise, sports clinics, tutoring, mentorship, financial literacy, job readiness sessions, and civic-leadership opportunities. In partnership with Penn State Behrend’s Susan Hirt Hagen Center (CORE), the YMCA will embed evidence-based practices and conduct a</p>

	<p>multi-year evaluation to strengthen protective factors such as connection, confidence, character, competence, and caring.</p> <p>Funds will support personnel for the Teen Center Director, part-time mentors, and an expanded leadership role; employee benefits; travel and staff training in trauma-informed practice and youth-development best practices; supplies and operating expenses including instructional materials, recreation equipment, technology, art and STEM materials, youth engagement incentives, meals, utilities, communications, and safety-related operating costs; consultant services provided by CORE for evaluation design, survey administration, analysis, and reporting; and indirect/administrative costs such as accounting, insurance, and compliance oversight.</p>
<p>East End United Community Center</p> <p>Fayette County</p> <p>Amount: \$210,000</p>	<p>East End United Community Center is requesting funding to launch the Youth Resilience & Peer Mentorship Initiative, a new out-of-school-time (OST) violence-prevention and social-emotional skill-building program for middle-school youth in Fayette County. The initiative responds to high rates of youth poverty, antisocial peer influence, low school commitment, and rising severity of juvenile-involved violent incidents by embedding an evidence-based curriculum (Too Good for Violence and Too Good for Drugs) within the organization’s existing out-of-school-time programs. Through bi-weekly small-group sessions, weekly one-to-one mentoring, and monthly conflict-resolution workshops led by trained, near-peer mentors, the project aims to strengthen protective factors, improve emotional regulation, reduce susceptibility to negative peer influence, and provide youth with consistent, relatable role models. Activities are delivered at EEUCC’s OST sites in partnership with local school districts and behavioral-health agencies, creating a coordinated support system for approximately 90 youth to be served each year.</p> <p>Funds will support salary and benefits for Peer Mentors. Funds will also be allocated to support evidence-based curriculum kits, consumable student workbooks, snacks, participation incentives, and background checks/clearances, as well as other allowable indirect/administrative expenses.</p>
<p>Forest Area School District</p> <p>Forest County</p> <p>Amount: \$102,298</p>	<p>Forest Area School District is requesting funding to restart two previously offered out-of-school programs: an elementary after-school enrichment program for grades 2–6 and a high school immersive educational experience for grades 9–12. The project aims to expand academic enrichment and hands-on learning opportunities for rural students who face high levels of poverty, geographic isolation, limited access to extracurricular activities, and low postsecondary attainment. Through structured after-school sessions, cross-curricular instruction, partnerships with community organizations such as 4H, and immersive trips aligned to academic content, the initiative is designed to strengthen student engagement, support social-emotional development, and reduce risk factors associated with economic hardship and limited exposure to enrichment experiences. Programming includes multi-week after-school sessions, project-based learning, and culminating field experiences that help students connect classroom learning to real-world environments.</p> <p>Funds will support salary and benefits for teachers and staff delivering the after-school and immersive programs; Funding will also be allocated for travel-related costs such as student transportation, lodging, meals, and entrance fees associated with field experiences; supplies and operating expenses including books, instructional materials, craft supplies, and administrative support for program coordination; and consultant costs to provide substitute teachers during required travel days.</p>

<p>Farrell Area School District</p> <p>Mercer County</p> <p>Amount: \$418,663</p>	<p>Farrell Area School District is requesting funding to launch Project COMPLETE (Community Opportunities for Mentoring, Prevention, Learning, and Engagement), a comprehensive K–12 out-of-school-time initiative designed to fill critical service gaps in a high-poverty, high-risk walking district where students face significant exposure to community violence and academic instability. While the district currently operates a successful middle-school OST program, elementary and high-school students remain unserved during the highest-risk hours for juvenile victimization. Project COMPLETE creates a year-round continuum of support that combines high-dosage tutoring for grades K–5, workforce development for grades 9–12, structured SEL and mentoring supports, and a K–12 Summer Bridge program that prevents learning loss and provides safe, supervised enrichment opportunities. Programming seeks to serve approximately 200 students annually, and is designed to address the district’s documented needs, including low proficiency rates, chronic absenteeism, lack of safe after-school supervision, and poverty-related instability, while partnering with behavioral-health providers, workforce agencies, and community organizations to deliver integrated supports.</p> <p>Funds will support partial salary and benefits for Certified Teachers and Support Staff; travel and transportation for educational field trips; supplies and operating expenses such as SEL curricula, credit-recovery software, family-engagement materials, and classroom resources. In addition, funds will support project evaluation, mental-health training, and workforce-readiness facilitation and other costs necessary to support the participating youth, such as nutrition supports, weekend food packs and academic-incentive materials.</p>
<p>Lakeview School District</p> <p>Mercer County</p> <p>Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>Lakeview School District is requesting BOOST funding to restart its previously successful out-of-school time (OST) programming, which ended when ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief) funds expired. The project will reestablish a comprehensive K–12 support model that includes after-school tutoring, mentoring, academic enrichment, wellness camps, and social-emotional learning activities. The initiative responds directly to significant needs identified through PAYS (Pennsylvania Youth Survey) data, BIMAS (Behavioral Intervention Monitoring Assessment) screenings, discipline trends, and community surveys—showing rising rates of depression, self-harm, substance experimentation, declining grades, and behavioral disruptions among students. The program aims to serve approximately 400 students, aged 5 through 18, annually, with daily participation of about 45 students during the school year and up to 100 during summer camps. Programming will occur at Oakview Elementary, Lakeview Middle-High School, and the district campus, with activities designed to build protective factors, close academic gaps, support at-risk special education students, and provide safe, structured alternatives during high-risk after-school hours. BOOST funding is essential, covering 95% of the project budget and enabling the district to reinstate evidence-based programming that previously improved report card grades, closed reading and math gaps for at-risk students, strengthened school engagement, and reduced disciplinary incidents.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the partial salary and benefits of the following: BOOST Learning Coordinator, teachers, paraprofessionals, nurses, therapists, and community specialists; travel including transportation for students to return home after programs; supplies and operating expenses such as snacks, art materials, and other program materials.</p>
<p>Shikellamy School District</p> <p>Northumberland County</p>	<p>Shikellamy School District requests funding to restart and enhance structured out-of-school-time services for kindergarten through second-grade students during the summer, and middle school students during the school year. The initiative aims to provide safe, supervised, and academically enriching environments that address local socioeconomic challenges, including elevated child poverty rates and community safety concerns. The K–2 summer program will</p>

<p>Amount: \$456,013</p>	<p>offer four weeks of STEAM-based learning, physical activity, arts, social-emotional skill building, and daily breakfast and lunch, with transportation provided to ensure equitable access. The middle school afterschool program will operate 30 weeks per year, delivering homework support, tutoring, enrichment activities, community partner presentations, and a daily hot dinner. Both programs are designed to reduce unsupervised time, strengthen protective factors, improve school engagement, and meet the needs of vulnerable student populations, including those experiencing poverty, homelessness, limited English proficiency, disabilities, or academic challenges.</p> <p>Funds will partially support the salary and benefits of a Site Coordinator, several certified teachers, and four support staff. A part-time Program Coordinator position will also be supported. Funding will be used to provide transportation for summer and after-school programming, as well as supplies and operating expenses such as STEAM materials, arts and physical education equipment, technology for enrichment activities, tabletop games, books, and health and safety items. Several community partners — including the Greater Susquehanna Valley YMCA, Rohrbach’s Farm, the PA Game Commission, T. Ross Brothers, the Penn State Engineering Ambassadors, and Geisinger — will receive funding to provide specialized enrichment, training, and real-world learning experiences.</p>
<p>HealthCorps, Inc. Philadelphia County Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>HealthCorps, Inc. is requesting BOOST funding to expand its evidence-based Teens Make Health Happen (TMHH) out-of-school-time program into ten high-priority Title I schools across Philadelphia and Allegheny Counties. The initiative aims to provide upstream, trauma-informed prevention supports for middle and high school students living in zip codes with the highest concentrations of firearm violence, chronic stress, and unmet mental-health needs. TMHH uses weekly wellness clubs, near-peer mentoring, and student-led health promotion activities to build social-emotional regulation, conflict-navigation skills, healthy decision-making, and positive peer and adult relationships during the high-risk after-school hours. HealthCorps anticipates reaching more than 7,500 students annually through structured club sessions, school-wide health activations, resource fairs, and ongoing partnerships with schools, universities, and community organizations.</p> <p>Funds will partially support salary and benefits for the following positions: Regional Programs Manager, Director, and Program Operations Personnel. Funds will also be allocated to support travel for site visits, mentor recruitment, and professional development; supplies and operating expenses such as curriculum materials, student club supplies, wellness event materials, mentor stipends, and administrative costs supporting organizational infrastructure, grant compliance, technology, and fiscal management.</p>
<p>Philadelphia Education Fund Philadelphia County Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>The Philadelphia Education Fund is seeking BOOST funding to expand and sustain Spark Philadelphia, its school-embedded, out-of-school-time career exploration and mentorship program for 7th and 8th grade students in under-resourced middle schools across North and West Philadelphia. The initiative provides structured afterschool workshops, workplace and college exposure visits, career-connected learning, and social-emotional development grounded in the CASEL5 framework. Designed to serve students who face academic challenges, economic hardship, and persistent exposure to community violence, Spark offers safe, supervised programming during high-risk hours while building protective factors such as positive adult relationships, school engagement, future planning, and increased awareness of career and postsecondary pathways. Approximately 160 youth will be served during each project year.</p>

	<p>Requested funds will partially support the salary and benefits of a Vice President of Programs, Manager for West Philadelphia Spark Programs, North Philadelphia Program Coordinator, and a Data Director. Funding will also be used to support transportation for workplace and college visits; supplies and operating expenses required for structured programming; and consultant costs for school-based Spark Liaisons who coordinate recruitment, communication, scheduling, and on-site support.</p>
<p>Students Run Philly Style</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Students Run Philly Style (SRPS) is requesting BOOST funding to expand its Extra Mile (EM) program, an upstream violence-prevention initiative for students in grades 6–12. SRPS pairs youth with trained adult mentors who run and train with them three times per week over 9-month seasons, culminating in milestone races such as the Broad Street Run and the Philadelphia Marathon. The EM program focuses on high-risk school communities in Philadelphia, addressing needs such as exposure to community violence, trauma, limited safe recreation options, and unmet mentoring gaps. The model integrates sustained physical activity, relationship-based mentorship, goal-setting, and trauma-responsive supports, including a partnership with Drexel University’s Healing Hurt People (HHP) program to provide a restorative, group-based intervention for students. The project will serve approximately 360 youth annually.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the Director of Programs, Associate Director of Youth Initiatives, Program Manager, and fully support the salary and benefits of an Extra Mile Program Manager. Funding will also be used to support limited local travel for site visits; a laptop purchase; and supplies and operating expenses including recruitment materials, race entry fees, running gear, snacks, and program software for mentor training. The budget also includes consultant costs for a third-party evaluator and indirect costs.</p>
<p>The Philadelphia Academies, Inc</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$492,102</p>	<p>The Philadelphia Academies, Inc. (PAI) is requesting funding to expand its middle-school programming by launching a technology-focused after-school initiative at Benjamin B. Comegys Elementary School in West Philadelphia. The project provides structured, supervised after-school programming for students in grades 6–8 who live in or adjacent to high-violence neighborhoods and exhibit academic, attendance, and behavioral risk factors. Operating five days per week during the high-risk after-school hours, the program aims to reduce youth exposure to violence by engaging students in hands-on STEM learning, career exploration, and project-based activities using Woz ED robotics, animation, engineering, and drone kits. PAI expects to serve approximately 60 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the following staff: Program Coordinator, Manager of School Programs and Senior Program Director and five Contractor Employees. Funding will also be used to support supplies and operating expenses including STEM curriculum kits, educator training, student incentives tied to attendance and participation, certification costs, food, technology needs, and recruitment-related materials. The budget also includes indirect costs necessary for administrative oversight and program management.</p>
<p>Schuylkill Technology Center</p> <p>Schuylkill County</p> <p>Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>Schuylkill Technology Center (STC), in partnership with Schuylkill Intermediate Unit 29, North Schuylkill School District, Saint Clair Area School District, Schuylkill Haven Area School District, and the Schuylkill County Drug & Alcohol Program, requests funding to expand out-of-school-time programming for middle school students across Schuylkill County. The project aims to reduce youth violence risk by providing structured afterschool and summer programming that integrates evidence-based prevention curricula, social-emotional learning, mentoring, and early career-connected experiences. Through hands-on career exploration at</p>

	<p>STC campuses, implementation of Too Good for Violence and Botvin LifeSkills Training, supplemental SEL and career-pathway sessions, family engagement events, and civic/college field experiences, the initiative seeks to strengthen protective factors, improve school engagement, and build students' future orientation during a high-risk developmental period. Activities are designed to serve more than 100 students annually in grades 5–8 who face academic, behavioral, economic, or social-emotional challenges.</p> <p>Funds will partially support a certified School Guidance Counselor and CTE instructors. Funding will also be used to support travel for transportation to program sites, field trips, and career-exploration activities; supplies and operating expenses such as instructional materials, technology, evidence-based curriculum kits, SEL resources, and program equipment; project management, social work and guidance supports, teacher stipends, and evidence-based curriculum facilitation; and other program needs such as meals, family-engagement event costs, and administrative expenses.</p>
<p>Eastern York School District</p> <p>York County</p> <p>Amount: \$124,200</p>	<p>Eastern York School District is requesting funding to launch “Changing the Narrative”, a new after-school mentoring and social-emotional skill-building program for middle-school students at Eastern York Middle School. Designed to address documented needs related to absenteeism, academic risk, behavioral incidents, economic disadvantage, and housing instability, the program will serve small cohorts through twice-weekly, one-hour sessions over an 18-week cycle, totaling approximately 25 students annually. Led by Tavon Parker Enterprises LLC, the program focuses on growth mindset, goal setting, decision-making, positive peer interaction, and self-regulation, using guided discussion, reflective journaling, structured workbook activities, and consistent connection to caring adults.</p> <p>Funds will support travel for student transportation and after-school program expenses such as workbooks, journals, snacks, and student incentives. Funds will support additional necessary supplies required to implement structured, evidence-informed activities.</p>
<p>Red Lion Area School District</p> <p>York County</p> <p>Amount: \$495,000</p>	<p>Red Lion Area School District is requesting BOOST funding to launch a new after-school initiative—the Red Lion Leadership & Innovation Hub—designed to support 100–150 at-risk students in grades 7–9 who experience a combination of rural isolation, poverty, and elevated involvement in the juvenile justice system. The district spans 140 square miles with no public transportation, leaving students—especially those in rural townships—stranded and unsupervised between 3:00 PM and 6:00 PM, the period identified as the “danger zone” for behavioral referrals and violent incidents. The Hub addresses these risks by providing identity-based mentorship through the Changing the Narrative curriculum, high-engagement team-building and problem-based learning activities, immediate access to mental-health services through Cartwheel Telehealth, and community-reconnection experiences in partnership with the Windsor Area Recreation Commission. The overall purpose is to reduce violence risk factors by increasing student connectedness, improving emotional regulation, and offering consistent after-school structure, transportation, and support.</p> <p>Requested funds will partially support the salary and benefits of the Hub Site Coordinator and several Innovation & Activity Facilitators. Funding will also be used to support student transportation costs and supplies and operating expenses including nutritional support, enrichment materials, and resources for parent safety workshops. Consultants include Tavon Parker who will assist in the administration of Changing the Narrative and Cartwheel Telehealth who will provide tele-mental health services.</p>

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<p>Amachi Pittsburgh</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Amachi Pittsburgh is requesting funding to expand its structured, trauma-informed mentoring model across multiple Allegheny County school partners serving youth exposed to community violence, concentrated poverty, and familial incarceration. The project aims to prevent youth involvement in violence by providing twice-weekly, small-group mentoring sessions during non-core instructional periods and out-of-school time. These sessions build emotional regulation, communication, conflict-resolution, and decision-making skills using the Sanctuary® Model framework and real-world scenarios youth encounter across school, home, and community settings. Through partnerships with Propel Homestead, Duquesne City School District, Linden PreK-5, and Urban Academy, the initiative targets students identified by school counselors and support teams as needing early, upstream intervention to navigate stress, peer conflict, and unsafe environments more effectively.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits of two program staff, travel costs associated with staff traveling between the different sites, attending various professional development trainings, as well as travel costs associated with program participants attending community events. Funding will also be utilized for various curriculum and activity materials/expenses, and for administrative costs related to effective programmatic, fiscal, and operational oversight over the three-year project period.</p>
<p>Best of the Batch Foundation</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$200,000</p>	<p>Best of the Batch Foundation is requesting funding to strengthen and expand its high-dosage, trauma-informed out-of-school time model serving youth across the Mon Valley region. Founded in 1999 and operating a 33,000-square-foot Clubhouse in Homestead/Munhall, the Foundation provides year-round programming for more than 4,000 youth annually, most of whom come from low-income households and communities with elevated exposure to violence, trauma, and economic hardship. The proposed project enhances an existing prevention framework that delivers approximately 800 hours of structured programming each year during peak-risk after-school hours, Monday through Friday from 2:30pm until 6pm, combining academic support, enrichment, mentorship, and youth leadership opportunities. Funding will allow the organization to embed licensed social-emotional learning, character development, and resilience training across programs; strengthen trauma-informed practices; expand caregiver engagement to reinforce emotional safety and skill-building at home; and transform the current calming space into a sensory regulation room that supports de-escalation and self-regulation. These enhancements are designed to reduce conflict, strengthen protective factors, and improve emotional regulation and decision-making skills among youth who face significant stressors and instability.</p> <p>Funds will support partial salaries and benefits for direct service staff to implement and supervise program activities, training costs for these staff for topics such as de-escalation strategies, youth engagement techniques, social-emotional learning implementation, and youth violence prevention best practice strategies. Funding will also be used to support the development of and maintenance of a sensory regulation space within the program facility, curriculum materials, general activity supplies, food and nutrition supplies, general operating expenses, and administrative support costs.</p>

<p>Bible Center Church – The Oasis Project</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$290,030</p>	<p>Bible Center Church – The Oasis Project is requesting funding to expand transportation access for approximately 400 children annually, ages 5–13, participating in The Maker’s Clubhouse out-of-school-time programs in Pittsburgh’s Homewood and surrounding east-end neighborhoods. The project addresses the most significant barrier to consistent program participation, lack of safe, reliable transportation, in communities with high poverty, high rates of gun violence, and limited family access to personal vehicles. By providing free, door-to-door transportation for after-school programs, summer camp, and STEAM enrichment days, the initiative ensures that students living in high-risk areas can safely reach evidence-based violence-prevention, academic enrichment, and social-emotional learning opportunities. Transportation also supports access to field trips, outdoor recreation, STEAM learning sites, and college campuses, all of which expose children to prosocial environments and reduce exposure to neighborhood violence during peak-risk hours.</p> <p>Funds will be used primarily for costs related to contracted transportation services through Oasis Transportation Services and indirect costs related to fiscal and contract management.</p>
<p>Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh, located in Allegheny County, is requesting funding to expand its Level Up school-based group mentoring initiative to the Sto-Rox School District. The project aims to reduce risk factors associated with youth violence by strengthening social-emotional skills, fostering positive peer relationships, and increasing students’ connection to caring adults during early adolescence. Level Up will serve approximately 120 seventh- and eighth-grade students annually in communities experiencing concentrated poverty, longstanding exposure to violence, and limited access to supportive adult networks. Through weekly in-school group mentoring sessions, trained professional staff will deliver structured SEL-focused programming on emotional regulation, conflict resolution, and prosocial behavior, prioritizing youth disproportionately affected by trauma, instability, and elevated local crime rates.</p> <p>Funds will support partial salaries and benefits for the following personnel: Chief Operating Officer, Chief Program Officer, Grants Coordinator, Database Manager, Quality Assurance Manager, Group Mentoring Program Manager, Mentoring Coordinator, and 2 Lead Mentors. Additionally, funding will be utilized for staff training and education, food and beverage, match activities, facility rental, laptops, insurance costs, general operating supplies/expenses, and consultant costs to provide fiscal and administrative support.</p>
<p>Boys & Girls Clubs of Western Pennsylvania</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$415,771</p>	<p>Boys & Girls Clubs of Western Pennsylvania (BGCWPA) is requesting funding to expand out-of-school time (OST) services for students in grades 5–8 at Pittsburgh Public Schools’ Arsenal Middle School. The proposed project aims to reduce risk factors associated with youth violence by providing consistent, structured after-school and summer programming to approximately 30 youth each year at the Estelle S. Campbell Clubhouse in Lawrenceville. Programming focuses on academic reinforcement, social-emotional learning, STEAM activities, physical activity, and leadership development, tailored to meet the needs of students facing significant academic underperformance, chronic absenteeism, high rates of poverty, and language-access challenges. Activities will serve youth residing in neighborhoods such as Northview Heights, Garfield, East Liberty, Bloomfield, and the Hill District, areas with elevated crime rates, concentrated economic disadvantage, and disproportionate exposure to community-level stressors. The initiative will also engage families and caregivers through outreach events and culturally responsive communication.</p>

	<p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits of a Senior Clubhouse Director and Program Manager, travel costs for program participants and staff, and staff training. Additionally, funding will be utilized for program supplies, food for program participants, and administrative costs associated with financial oversight and grant management.</p>
<p>Brothers and Sisters Emerging</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$258,000</p>	<p>Brothers and Sisters Emerging is requesting funding to expand its long-standing out-of-school time (OST) program serving economically disadvantaged, predominantly African American youth in Pittsburgh's Garfield and surrounding East End neighborhoods. Building on more than 30 years of community-rooted youth development, the expanded initiative integrates global learning, civic education, experiential field trips, structured academic support, and trauma-informed social-emotional programming. Approximately 80 youth will participate each year in age-aligned cohorts that explore civic processes, global cultures, and contemporary issues; engage in leadership and identity-building activities; and take part in field trips to Harrisburg, with potential expansion to Washington, D.C., as well as visits to universities and cultural organizations. The program also incorporates weekly restorative circles, mindfulness, therapeutic art, yoga, and conflict-resolution supports through an expanded partnership with Infinite Lifestyle Solutions. These components are designed to strengthen protective factors such as emotional regulation, school engagement, belonging, and positive adult relationships while addressing community-identified risks including exposure to violence, generational trauma, academic underperformance, and limited access to structured after-school supports.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits for the President/CEO, Fiscal and Development Manager, Program Manager, Assistant Program Manager, as well as travel costs associated with field trips to cultural enrichment venues and local and regional institutions of higher learning. Additionally, funding will be utilized for laptops for program participants, stipends, food, general office supplies, program materials, general operating expenses and utilities, Additional funds will support project partners including Assemble (STEM/STEAM activities, Garfield Community Farm, Infinite Solutions (mindfulness, violence prevention, yoga, meditation), Beta Builders (coding classes).</p>
<p>Carnegie Museums' Andy Warhol Museum</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$413,826</p>	<p>Carnegie Museums' Andy Warhol Museum is seeking funding to expand its suite of Out-of-School-Time (OST) programs serving at-risk school-age youth across Pittsburgh, particularly in neighborhoods experiencing persistent inequities and stagnant violent-crime rates. The project aims to increase access to high-quality arts learning, creative skill-building, and career-readiness opportunities that foster social-emotional development, leadership, and a sense of belonging. Through year-round OST activities, including leadership programs, drop-in studios, printmaking teams, women-focused empowerment programs, fashion workshops, DJ training, student assistant employment, and community-based art workshops, the museum seeks to address increased demand from educators as budgets for formal arts education continue to decline. Programming will be offered to approximately 550 youth each year and is designed to support underserved youth, including low-income students, immigrant youth, youth experiencing homelessness, LGBTQ+ youth, and students with disabilities.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits of a Youth Programs Manager, Artist & Community Coordinator, and four Student Assistants. Funding will also be utilized for transportation costs for program participants, program supplies and materials, stipends for program participants, and administrative costs.</p>
<p>Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO)</p>	<p>The Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO) is requesting VIP Reentry/Aftercare funding to relaunch two paid transitional work crews in partnership with the City of Pittsburgh, serving justice-impacted adults returning to communities with elevated violence risk. The project aims</p>

<p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>to stabilize individuals during the high-risk post-release period by providing immediate paid employment, daily structure, on-the-job supervision, individualized job coaching, and pathways to unsubsidized employment. Approximately 100 individuals will participate each year to engage in work that addresses local neighborhood needs, including litter abatement, illegal dumping removal, and beautification efforts, supporting both individual stabilization and community safety. The initiative responds to documented county-level needs related to concentrated poverty, unemployment among people returning from incarceration, and the disproportionate impact of violence on Black and Latinx residents. By restoring a previously operating but now unfunded intervention, CEO seeks to reduce recidivism risks, strengthen reentry outcomes, and contribute to environmental improvements in neighborhoods most affected by violent crime.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salary and benefits of the Orientation Instructor, 100% of the transitional work crew wages for program participants, and indirect administrative costs.</p>
<p>Center for Victims (CV)</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Center for Victims (CV) is seeking VIP Intervention funding to continue and expand its community-based violence intervention, crisis response, and youth engagement services across Allegheny County. Building on decades of victim-service experience and prior VIP-supported initiatives, the project aims to reduce the impact of gun and community violence by maintaining an ongoing presence in high-crime neighborhoods such as McKeesport, Wilkesburg, Penn Hills, and areas of Pittsburgh experiencing concentrated poverty and trauma exposure. CV's Community Outreach and Intervention/Prevention Team delivers trauma-informed crisis response immediately following violent incidents; provides individualized support to victims, witnesses, and families; and partners with local schools, including Woodland Hills and Penn Hills, to identify at-risk youth and offer afterschool programming that includes mentoring, homework assistance, structured activities, and resilience-building. These efforts focus on engaging youth during high-risk hours, improving coping skills and school connectedness, and addressing trauma symptoms linked to chronic exposure to community violence. CV will provide services to approximately 14,000 youth and adults through participation in group settings such as afterschool programs, workshops, and large assemblies.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits of the Chief Strategist for Youth & Community Violence Intervention & Prevention, two Community Outreach & Intervention Specialists, President/CEO, Vice-President/CPO, Chief Financial Officer, Director of Grants & Contracts, Fiscal Associate, Director of Human Resources, and Human Resources Assistant. Funding will also be utilized for staff mileage, program materials and supplies, food for program participants, and general administrative expenses.</p>
<p>Grounded Strategies</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$282,600</p>	<p>Grounded Strategies, in partnership with the Wilkesburg Sanctuary Project, is requesting funding to expand a short-term summer youth program into a structured, year-round violence-prevention initiative for high school-aged youth in Wilkesburg. The project aims to reach and serve 45 youth annually, and to reduce youths' risk of involvement in violence by strengthening protective factors such as consistent mentorship, paid pro-social engagement, workforce exposure, emotional regulation skills, and positive use of neighborhood spaces. Through paid community transformation projects, youth-led design and stewardship of underutilized spaces, mentoring, wellness and life-skills workshops, and CPTED-informed environmental learning, the program seeks to address both social and environmental risk factors associated with community violence.</p> <p>Funds will support partial salary and benefits for the Youth Engagement Project Manager and Executive Director. Funds are also allocated to support travel and training related to staff</p>

	<p>coordination, youth transportation, and professional development; supplies and operating expenses such as project materials, food, and outreach materials; consultant services for the Wilksburg Sanctuary Project and specialized practitioners including project facilitators, skilled trades instructors, and wellness professionals; and youth stipends that reduce financial barriers to participation and support consistent involvement.</p>
<p>Gwen's Girls Allegheny County Amount: \$499,995</p>	<p>Gwen's Girls is requesting funding to expand its trauma-informed, gender-responsive out-of-school time (OST) programming for girls ages 10–18 living in high-need communities across Allegheny County. The project aims to serve approximately 450 youth annually, by addressing growing mental health needs among adolescent girls who experience chronic stress, exposure to violence, and barriers to accessing traditional behavioral health services. By embedding mental health intervention directly within trusted OST settings—including school-connected and community-based programs in Wilksburg, Pittsburgh's North Side, Clairton, and Penn Hills—the initiative seeks to strengthen emotional regulation, coping skills, and resilience as upstream violence-prevention strategies.</p> <p>Funds will support salary and benefits for three part-time Clinicians, and partial salary/benefits for the Chief Program Officer/Clinical Director. Funds will also be allocated to support travel and training for staff development and participant transportation; supplies and operating expenses such as program materials, printing, office supplies, and activity resources; and other eligible costs including marketing, liability insurance, and rent for program space.</p>
<p>Helping Out Our People Allegheny County Amount: \$36,850</p>	<p>Helping Out Our People (H.O.O.P.) is requesting funding to launch a trauma-informed after-school intervention and support program for approximately 20–35 students annually in the Woodland Hills School District and surrounding Mon Valley communities. The proposed after-school program expands upon its existing school-based support/counseling work into the critical after-school hours—when students face higher risk of emotional distress and negative influences—by offering structured group sessions, healing circles, individual check-ins, expressive activities, coping-skills education, and safe peer connection.</p> <p>Funds will support the salary for the part-time position of Program Facilitator/Coordinator. Funds will also be allocated to support travel and training for staff to ensure proficiency in trauma-informed and violence-prevention best practices; equipment to support program delivery, such as a mobile technology cart and associated tools; supplies and operating expenses including curriculum materials, art and expressive resources, printing, digital tools, participant incentives, and snacks; consultant services for specialized training or technical assistance; and other costs such as facility use fees, background checks, liability coverage, and administrative expenses necessary for safe and consistent program operation. Funding is conditioned upon the applicant being able to proceed with the project (possibly with reduced scope) within the allowable maximum award.</p>
<p>Homewood Children's Village Allegheny County Amount: \$499,500</p>	<p>Homewood Children's Village is requesting funding to expand its Village Scholars Out-of-School Time (OST) program, a year-round academic, social-emotional, and workforce-readiness initiative serving students in grades 6–12 across Pittsburgh's Homewood and surrounding East End neighborhoods. Village Scholars provides daily academic enrichment, mentoring, project-based learning, career exposure, summer programming, leadership development, and family engagement—all designed to reduce disconnection, strengthen protective factors, and address systemic barriers linked to community violence. PCCD funding will enable HCV to increase its annual reach from roughly 100 to 150 youth by expanding staffing, enhancing program stability, and strengthening transportation supports.</p>

	<p>Funds will partially support the salary and benefits for the following positions: OST Program Manager, Assistant OST Program Manager, and additional AmeriCorps Members. Funds will also be allocated to support travel and transportation needed to ensure students can safely access after-school and summer programming, along with field trips for enrichment, college and career exploration, and community engagement; supplies and operating expenses such as academic materials, project-based learning supplies, and daily program needs; and other administrative or indirect costs required for program sustainability.</p>
<p>Infinite Lifestyle Solutions Allegheny County Amount: \$215,085</p>	<p>Infinite Lifestyle Solutions is requesting funding to continue its trauma-informed Saving Our Sons and Daughters (SOSAD) program for approximately 125 students annually in the Sto-Rox School District. The initiative provides year-round, school-embedded restorative circles, mindfulness sessions, therapeutic art, yoga, and individualized art-therapy services to support youth affected by community violence, chronic stress, and behavioral and academic challenges. Facilitated by licensed clinicians and trained outreach staff, SOSAD aims to reduce conflict, strengthen emotional regulation, improve school engagement, and promote healing for students who have experienced trauma. The program also includes case management for families, a Mental Health Ambassador track for youth leadership development, and summer programming delivered in partnership with Steel City Impact.</p> <p>Funds will partially support the salary for the following positions: Art Therapist, Program Coordinator, two Outreach Workers, Operations Manager, and a Case Manager position. Funds will also be allocated to support travel and training for staff to participate in trauma-informed clinical development; supplies and operating expenses such as art materials, laptops, software subscriptions, administrative supplies, and partial rent and utilities; consultant costs supporting data analysis and reporting; and other costs related to supervision, insurance, background checks, and administrative fees.</p>
<p>Kidcelerate Allegheny County Amount: \$142,500</p>	<p>Kidcelerate is requesting funding to sustain and strengthen its Learning Hub at Northview Heights, a high need public housing community, with an out-of-school time program serving K–8 students living in one of Allegheny County’s highest-need and highest-violence neighborhoods. The Learning Hub provides a daily safe haven, Monday thru Thursday, during the after-school hours most associated with juvenile victimization and community violence, and offers academic support, STEAM enrichment, meals, and trauma-informed mentoring for approximately 50 youth annually, aged 5 through 18. During the summer months, the Program operates Monday thru Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Following a 2025 fire that destroyed Kidcelerate’s primary facility, the program has continued operations through temporary spaces but faces significant funding gaps as its parent organization redirects resources to a multi-million-dollar rebuild. The proposed project maintains the Hub’s core protective functions—supervision, academic recovery, enrichment, and nutrition—in an area marked by deep poverty, food insecurity, geographic isolation, and high exposure to violence. The initiative stabilizes and strengthens a critical third-space for children who face academic, emotional, and safety barriers resulting from neighborhood violence, trauma and structural inequities.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the partial salary of the Learning Hub Director, two part-time program staff, and a youth staff member; supplies and operating expenses including STEAM materials, art and literacy tools, educational supplies, and other enrichment resources essential to maintaining program quality.</p>
<p>Latino Community Center</p>	<p>Latino Community Center is requesting Youth-Focused Prevention funding to expand and deepen its bilingual, culturally grounded out-of-school-time programming—SOY (Supporting</p>

<p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Our Youth) and SOMOS tutoring—for Latine school-age youth across Allegheny County. The project strengthens early, upstream prevention by providing safe, structured, relationship-based environments during critical after-school hours, addressing risk factors linked to poverty, academic disengagement, limited English proficiency, acculturation-related stress, and social isolation. LCC, a trusted community-anchored organization with more than 40 bilingual/bicultural staff, proposes to enhance daily academic support, enrichment, social-emotional learning, and consistent mentoring, while reinforcing cultural identity and family connection as protective factors. Programming includes homework help, literacy and math support, individualized tutoring, enrichment activities, and culturally affirming discussions that help youth navigate the challenges of being bilingual and bicultural in U.S. school systems. The initiative will serve approximately 80 youth each year, with a focus on children navigating economic hardship, language barriers, and elevated academic and emotional needs. Pittsburgh Public Schools is a key partner, providing space at Beechwood Elementary and facilitating communication between staff, teachers, and families. With the proposed investment, LCC will be able to maintain consistent, high-quality programming that improves academic engagement, supports emotional well-being, bolsters cultural identity, strengthens school and family connection, and reduces long-term risk factors associated with violence and disengagement for Latinx youth in Allegheny County.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support full-time and part-time salary and benefits for program staff dedicated to SOY implementation; supplies and operating expenses including food, snacks, field trips, and program materials; consultant costs for enrichment instructors specializing in movement, theater, cultural arts, and social-emotional learning; and indirect costs that support essential organizational infrastructure such as financial management, HR, IT, and grant compliance.</p>
<p>Light of Life, Inc.</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$499,947</p>	<p>Light of Life, Inc. is requesting VIP funding to expand and formalize its place-based violence intervention outreach for adults experiencing unsheltered homelessness in 13 encampments across 11 Pittsburgh neighborhoods with persistently high levels of gun violence. The organization, a long-standing emergency shelter and homelessness service provider founded in 1952, proposes to deploy dedicated Street Outreach Specialists, a licensed mental health provider, and contracted trauma-recovery supports to reach individuals living in tents, abandoned buildings, under bridges, and in other exposed public environments where risks of assault, robbery, and gun violence are highest. The initiative will conduct daily encampment engagement, violence-exposure screening, crisis de-escalation, rapid shelter connection, and trauma-informed stabilization. Approximately 150 individuals will be served annually, with interventions designed to reduce time spent in dangerous public settings, interrupt immediate risk, and transition participants into safe shelter and longer-term recovery supports. VIP funding fills a critical gap in Light of Life’s continuum of care by resourcing violence-specific outreach and crisis response functions not covered by existing homelessness, shelter, or capital funding streams. With the proposed investment, Light of Life will be able to maintain weekly coverage of all targeted encampments, increase placements into safe shelter, strengthen coordination with behavioral health and law enforcement partners, and provide integrated supports that address both immediate violence exposure and underlying mental health, substance use, and trauma. The project strengthens community safety and individual stabilization by reducing victimization risk, increasing rapid access to safer environments, and improving continuity of care for one of Allegheny County’s most vulnerable populations.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support two full-time Street Outreach Specialists and consultant services including a part-time licensed Mental Health Support Therapist. Funds will also be used to support structured physical fitness programming and expressive art therapy.</p>

<p>Maple Unified Student Academy-MUSA</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$385,636</p>	<p>Maple Unified Student Academy (MUSA) is requesting funding to expand and strengthen its out-of-school-time services for at-risk Pre-K through 8th-grade youth in the Steel Valley School District and surrounding Mon Valley communities. With roots dating back to 1908 and a long history of providing educational and enrichment programming, MUSA currently operates preschool, afterschool, and summer programs but faces persistent waitlists and unmet community demand. The proposed project will increase afterschool and summer programming capacity; extend services to middle school students newly co-located on a single campus; and implement research-informed curricula supporting social-emotional learning, conflict resolution, mindfulness, academic enrichment, and project-based learning. Expanded programming—including daily afterschool supports, full-day summer camps, SEL and conflict-resolution curricula (Breathe for Change, Adventures in Peacemaking), STEM and arts enrichment, mentorship, and the Leaders in Training (LIT) program—will address elevated needs in a region characterized by high poverty, low school proficiency rates, limited childcare access, and disproportionate exposure to firearm violence. MUSA anticipates serving 100 youth annually, providing structured, safe, developmentally appropriate environments during the high-risk afterschool hours when juvenile victimization and negative peer influences are most likely.</p> <p>Funds will be used for the partial salary and benefits for the Executive Director, Preschool Director, School Age Director, site-based leadership, afterschool and summer camp staff; travel and training for professional development and quality-improvement initiatives; supplies and operating expenses covering rent, utilities, insurance, IT, transportation for field trips, food, curriculum materials, software, administrative supports, and program supplies; and limited consultant costs for trauma-informed training and related supports.</p>
<p>Open Field</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$164,750</p>	<p>Open Field is requesting funding to expand Future Forward, a soccer-based youth development initiative serving immigrant, refugee, and other marginalized teenagers across Allegheny County. The program provides a physically and emotionally safe environment in which youth engage in soccer leagues, mentoring, social-emotional learning, and post-secondary readiness activities, including career exploration and college/trade school visits. Designed to address the intersecting challenges of youth poverty, trauma exposure, language barriers, and community violence, Future Forward embeds trained, culturally responsive coach-mentors who reflect participants' lived experiences and offer consistent guidance throughout the year. Through structured seasonal league play, after-school mentoring, and year-round skill-building sessions, the program aims to strengthen protective factors such as belonging, emotional regulation, positive adult relationships, and readiness for life after high school. Open Field will partner with Soccer Without Borders, an award-winning international organization, to provide trauma-informed, healing centered coaches training to all staff and volunteer coaches which further prepares them to create a safe space for all participants. The Program will serve approximately 120 school aged youth per year.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the partial salary and benefits of the Executive Director, Program Director, and the Post-Secondary Success Coordinator. Funds will also be used for supplies and operating expenses such as soccer equipment, apparel, refreshments, program materials, and participant supports; and other operating needs tied to program growth and multi-site delivery.</p>
<p>Outdoor Inclusion Coalition</p>	<p>Outdoor Inclusion Coalition is requesting funding to launch Thrive Outside After School Pathways, a new structured, outdoor-experiential, violence-prevention initiative for middle school youth in high-need Pittsburgh neighborhoods. The program aims to reduce risk during</p>

<p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$110,000</p>	<p>high-vulnerability after-school hours by providing supervised outdoor recreation, social-emotional skill-building, and consistent mentorship delivered through a coordinated network of partner organizations. Students participating in the program will engage in after-school and summer programs operated directly by Thrive Outside network providers. Each participating school will offer at least two after-school recreational opportunities per program week, allowing students to engage in activities aligned with their interests while expanding access to safe, structured programming. Youth will participate in activities such as biking, climbing, paddling, camping skills, environmental education, and seasonal outdoor recreation, with programming intentionally aligned to school-day experiential learning modules. By creating a seamless continuum from school-day exposure to after-school and summer engagement, the initiative fosters positive peer connection, emotional regulation, self-confidence, and sustained relationships with caring adults—protective factors shown to reduce violence involvement in communities with elevated crime and chronic underinvestment. Funding will allow the program to scale to reach approximately 1,500 youth annually and offer a stable, coordinated prevention pathway responsive to community-identified needs in neighborhoods with some of the region’s highest rates of violence and socioeconomic stress.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the partial salary and benefits for a Program Manager; participant transportation to off-site outdoor recreation locations; supplies and operating expenses including safety gear, program equipment, instructional materials, and technology systems for scheduling, waivers, and evaluation; consultant costs for partner organizations delivering specialized outdoor instruction; and administrative costs needed for insurance, background checks, compliance, and fiscal oversight.</p>
<p>Pittsburgh Hardball Academy Inc.</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$130,000</p>	<p>Pittsburgh Hardball Academy Inc. is requesting funding to expand its year-round, prevention-oriented out-of-school time programming for youth ages 8–18 across Pittsburgh. The project builds on an existing model that uses baseball and softball as engagement tools paired with academic enrichment, mentorship, leadership development, and postsecondary exposure through the organization’s FOCUS (Facilitating Opportunities for College and Universal Success) Program. Through FOCUS, youth receive support in goal setting, academic accountability, leadership skill development, and exploration of college and career pathways. As part of the proposed project, access to the FOCUS Program will be expanded beyond current participation levels to include more youth engaged through community-based satellite programming, ensuring that academic and developmental supports are not limited to facility-based participation. The applicant plans to serve approximately 500 participants each year.</p> <p>Funding will be used to partially support part-time student athlete development staff who will provide direct services to youth, a Community Engagement Coordinator, and a Youth Engagement Coordinator. Additional funding will be used to support staff travel between sites; portable baseball/softball equipment, training materials, snacks for youth participants, and administrative costs.</p>
<p>Project Destiny, Inc.</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Project Destiny, Inc. is requesting funding to expand its prevention-centered out-of-school-time (OST) programming for K–8 youth in Pittsburgh’s Northview Heights and surrounding Northside neighborhoods. The project aims to reduce youth exposure to high-risk environments during after-school and summer hours by strengthening structured supervision, academic support, social-emotional learning, and family–school engagement. The initiative will prioritize middle school students and children residing in Northview Heights, a community with high poverty rates, significant transportation barriers, and disproportionately high exposure to gun violence. Funding will allow Project Destiny to enhance staffing, integrate a behavioral specialist and dedicated family-school liaison, expand academic tutoring and mentoring, and provide reliable</p>

	<p>transportation, ensuring consistent access to safe, high-quality OST programming for approximately 160 youth annually. Programming will operate during peak risk hours and incorporate Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), SEL frameworks, predictable routines, and coordinated support with local schools to strengthen protective factors and reduce behavioral, academic, and safety risks.</p> <p>Funding will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of a Program Coordinator, a Behavior Specialist/SEL Facilitator, academic tutors, youth mentors, and van drivers. Funding will also support staff travel and training related to trauma-informed care, SEL, violence-prevention practices, and professional development. In addition, funds will be used to support academic materials, technology, food, and data-tracking systems. Consultant services will be engaged to expand transportation capacity, provide specialized STEAM education, offer arts and cultural enrichment, and support wellness programming that reinforces positive peer norms and engagement. Indirect costs will cover essential administrative, fiscal, and compliance functions</p>
<p>Rankin Christian Center Allegheny County Amount: \$450,000</p>	<p>Rankin Christian Center (RCC) is requesting funding to expand its after-school and summer programming for children ages 6–12 living in Rankin Borough and the surrounding Mon Valley, an area experiencing elevated violent crime, chronic stressors, and limited safe out-of-school options for youth. The expanded initiative aims to reduce youth exposure to violence during high-risk after-school hours by strengthening structured supervision, academic support, social-emotional learning, and trauma-informed behavioral interventions. Funding will allow RCC to serve approximately 90 students annually through an enhanced violence-prevention framework grounded in Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), restorative practices, and culturally responsive enrichment. The project includes weekly restorative circles, skill-building lessons in emotional regulation and conflict resolution, individualized behavior-specialist support, and enrichment activities such as arts, cultural identity programs, STEAM instruction, Taekwondo, and West African drumming—each designed to build protective factors associated with reduced violence involvement.</p> <p>Funds will partially support the salary and benefits of a Youth Services Director, an Out-of-School-Time (OST) Coordinator, and a Youth Services Support staff member. Funding will also support travel and training for staff in trauma-informed care, PBIS implementation, and violence-prevention best practices; supplies and operating expenses including field trips, educational materials, snacks, and craft supplies; and consultant services providing specialized violence-prevention instruction from behavioral and conflict-resolution experts, Taekwondo instructors, teaching artists, culturally focused arts organizations, and community muralists who promote prosocial development and conflict-resolution skill-building.</p>
<p>Ruth’s Way, Inc. Allegheny County Amount: \$92,692</p>	<p>Ruth’s Way, Inc. requests funding to expand its trauma-informed, family-centered out-of-school-time violence prevention programming for school-age youth—primarily adolescent girls—in high-need Allegheny County communities with persistent and elevated violent-crime rates. The organization, operating nearly 20 years, provides structured prevention programming that strengthens protective factors such as emotional regulation, communication, decision-making, conflict resolution, self-esteem, and family engagement. The project expands programming into additional high-violence zip codes and delivers programming including Life Skills Just for Girls, Smart Money Management & Financial Literacy, Employment & Job Readiness, and the Remarkable Readiness & Employment Summer Forum. Staff are credentialed Strengths-Based Family Workers trained in trauma-responsive, assessment-driven practices, enabling early risk identification through structured discussion, youth voice, and professional red-flag listening. The initiative also integrates coordinated family</p>

	<p>engagement and provides higher level supports through Ruth's Way's Consulting Services for Parents Who Want Their Daughters to Succeed, which offers individualized achievement consultation, violence-prevention planning, behavioral root-cause analysis, parent-child conflict support, trauma-informed family stabilization, and mental-health liaison services when needed. Ruth's Way plans to serve approximately 300 youth every year during the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of an Achievement Consultant Forum Facilitator responsible for delivering prevention curricula, conducting professional assessments, facilitating interactive out-of-school-time sessions, and documenting participation and outcomes.</p>
<p>SLB Radio Productions, Inc.</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$369,555</p>	<p>SLB Radio Productions, Inc. (SLB) is requesting funding to extend and expand its existing Summer Camp and Day Camp programming for teens. The project aims to provide accessible, media-based out-of-school programming for youth in grades 6–12 from under-resourced Pittsburgh communities, offering structured opportunities for self-expression, collaboration, skill-building, and relationship-development. Through a combination of multi-day summer camps and single-day thematic camps held during school holidays, the program seeks to strengthen protective factors among youth who face elevated risks due to community violence, poverty, isolation, and limited access to enrichment opportunities. Activities emphasize podcasting, broadcasting, live talk-show production, and other forms of youth-driven media designed to build communication, technical, interpersonal, and critical-thinking skills within a safe and supportive environment. The initiative is intended to complement SLB's school-year programming and provide continuity for teens who rely on structured, engaging spaces during out-of-school periods. SLB expects to serve approximately 132 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the following full-time staff: Executive Director, Director of Operations, Technical Director, Director of Programs, Youth Media Center Manager, four Staff Educators, Technical Associate, and a Community Engagement Coordinator. Funding will also be used to support training-related travel; and supplies and operating expenses such as outreach/marketing materials, food, transportation assistance for youth, and facility use. The budget also includes stipends for older youth mentors who assist with camp delivery.</p>
<p>STEM Coding Lab</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$499,904</p>	<p>STEM Coding Lab (SCL) is requesting funding to continue and expand its Out-of-School Time (OST) and summer computer science, AI, and STEM programming for K–8 students in Allegheny County's highest-need neighborhoods. SCL provides high-frequency, experiential learning that integrates executive-function skill development with hands-on robotics, coding, and game design. The project specifically targets Title I schools and community sites located in violence-impacted "micro-geographies," including Homewood, the Hill District, Wilksburg, McKees Rocks, the North Side, Duquesne, and Clairton. Programming is designed to intervene during the highest-risk hours for youth violence (3pm–8pm) and during summer months by providing supervised, SEL-integrated STEM environments that develop impulse control, problem-solving, and pro-social behavior. The initiative aims to serve approximately 585 students annually through afterschool sessions and intensive summer camps.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the salary and benefits of nine (9) full-time and one (1) part-time instructor(s) and partially support the salary and benefits of a Director of Curriculum Development, Program Operations Assistant, Vice President of Operations, an Executive Administrative Assistant, and a Development Manager. Funding will also be used to support</p>

	supplies and operating expenses such as classroom materials, student project kits, technology tools, partial rental costs for storage and office space, and financial services.
The Citizen Science Lab Allegheny County Amount: \$498,000	<p>The Citizen Science Lab (TCSL) is requesting funding to expand its out-of-school time (OST) STEM pipeline programming, including at its new Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Scientific Excellence in Pittsburgh’s Hill District. The project targets school-age youth ages 5–18 from under-resourced neighborhoods with high rates of community violence, academic barriers, economic hardship, and limited access to safe, structured enrichment. Through sequenced, year-round programming—including SeaPerch Wave Voyagers (aquatic robotics), ICE-T (environmental science), Molecules to Medicine (drug discovery), and full-day summer camps—TCSL provides hands-on STEM learning, mentorship, and career-connected experiences during the highest-risk hours for youth. The initiative aims to serve approximately 500 youth annually across school-year and summer sessions. Programming is designed to address immediate safety and engagement needs while strengthening long-term protective factors such as academic confidence, teamwork, critical thinking, and exposure to STEM career pathways.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of a Program Director, Lead Instructor/Research Mentor, and Program Coordinator/Educator. Funds will also be used to support travel for educational site visits to STEM industry labs, postsecondary institutions, and research environments; equipment including a portable inflatable planetarium; supplies and operating expenses such as molecular modeling software, laboratory materials, and afterschool meals; and administrative costs.</p>
The Kingsley Association Allegheny County Amount: \$379,863	<p>The Kingsley Association is requesting funding to launch Tween L.E.A.D. (Leadership, Education, Assistance, and Development), a new prevention-focused out-of-school time (OST) initiative serving middle school youth ages 11–14 across Pittsburgh’s East End neighborhoods, including Larimer, Garfield, and East Liberty. These communities experience concentrated poverty, elevated exposure to community violence, school disengagement, and limited access to structured OST opportunities. The program fills a current service gap between existing elementary supports and Kingsley’s long-standing Teen L.E.A.D. high school program. Tween L.E.A.D. is designed to reduce youth involvement in violence by strengthening protective factors early—through social-emotional learning (SEL), conflict resolution, trauma-responsive supports, leadership development, mentoring, academic encouragement, and safe, supervised after-school and summer sessions. Program activities include weekly SEL and violence-prevention workshops, leadership skill-building, near-peer mentorship, academic check-ins, hands-on group projects, and youth showcases. Approximately 45 youth will be served annually. Recruitment and curriculum delivery will be supported by partners such as Environmental Charter School, Pittsburgh Public Schools, Youth Enrichment Services, and Dr. Staci Ford, who will provide trauma-informed and violence-prevention expertise.</p> <p>Funding will partially support the salary and benefits of the Executive Director, Teen L.E.A.D. Coordinator, Teen L.E.A.D. Assistant Coordinator, and a Teen L.E.A.D. Data Analysis Coordinator. Funding will also support travel for youth who are unable to access the center; supplies and operating expenses such as food, program materials, basic-needs items, incentives, and field trip costs; and indirect costs.</p>
This Generation Connect Allegheny County	<p>This Generation Connect (TGC) is requesting to support the expansion of its Community Leader Program, a 24-week after-school youth development and violence-prevention initiative serving approximately 150 teens and young adults in East Pittsburgh, Wilmerding, and surrounding Mon Valley communities. The program is designed to address persistent</p>

<p>Amount: \$44,195</p>	<p>challenges in these neighborhoods, including high poverty, food insecurity, declining graduation rates, limited mental-health support, and elevated exposure to community violence. Guided by positive youth development, racial-justice education, and social-emotional learning principles, the Community Leader Program provides structured sessions that build identity awareness, emotional regulation, healthy relationship skills, conflict-resolution abilities, and upstander strategies. Youth participate in leadership development, workforce readiness training, and a capstone community project that enables them to apply new skills to real-world issues. Funding will allow TGC to enhance and expand the program into a multi-day, after-school program held several times per week, and support the expansion of the program into Wilmerding, where TGC has opened a new location.</p> <p>Funds will support the salary and benefits of program coordinators and facilitators; transportation and travel associated with field trips, staff training, and youth mobility needs; equipment such as computers, tablets, and program technology; and supplies and operating expenses including curriculum materials, program supplies, printing, snacks, and venue-related costs. Additional funding will support curriculum specialists, guest facilitators, and evaluation support. Funding is conditioned upon the applicant being able to proceed with the project (possibly with reduced scope) within the allowable maximum award.</p>
<p>Three Rivers Rowing Association</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$300,000</p>	<p>Three Rivers Rowing Association (TRRA) is requesting to expand First Row 2.0, a year-round violence-prevention and youth development pathway for at-risk youth ages 12–18 in Allegheny County. Building on TRRA’s introductory First Row summer camps, the project enables approximately 14 selected youth from high-violence neighborhoods—including the Hill District, North Side, and nearby communities served by Sarah Heinz House and the University of Pittsburgh’s Hill District Community Engagement Center—to transition into Three Rivers Youth Rowing (TRYR), the organization’s competitive rowing program. The initiative addresses community needs related to concentrated violent crime, economic hardship, and lack of safe, structured out-of-school programming by providing ongoing mentorship from certified coaches, prosocial peer environments, consistent after-school and weekend training, and exposure to college pathways through competitive rowing. The project specifically targets youth who face poverty, academic challenges, and limited access to athletics that are typically inaccessible due to high costs, with the goal of reducing risk factors associated with violence and strengthening protective factors such as adult connection, team belonging, and structured engagement.</p> <p>Funding will support up to 75% of annual programming costs – including seasonal dues, regatta travel, equipment, uniforms, and transportation, along with program coordination, communication with community partners, participant recruitment, and program development.</p>
<p>Trade Institute of Pittsburgh</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>The Trade Institute of Pittsburgh (TIP) is requesting funding to expand its established vocational training and reentry-support model for approximately 265 adults at high risk of violence involvement, including individuals returning from incarceration, those experiencing homelessness, people with substance use disorder, and residents of communities with elevated violent-crime rates such as Homewood, East Pittsburgh, the Hill District, and Wilksburg. TIP provides an 11-week masonry program with the option to continue into a 7-week carpentry program, supported by extensive wraparound services that address the systemic barriers typically faced by participants—housing instability, transportation, childcare, financial insecurity, trauma exposure, and limited educational attainment. The program incorporates daily trauma-informed “Circle” sessions, case management, life coaching, counseling, math and financial literacy instruction, drug and alcohol education, and job readiness preparation. Additional supports include workforce housing for participants experiencing homelessness and TIP’s “License to Thrive” initiative, which helps participants</p>

	<p>obtain driver’s licenses and access reliable transportation—both critical prerequisites for securing sustained employment in the trades.</p> <p>Funds will support four full-time instructors to provide proper masonry and carpentry training, three case managers to provide support services, and two life coaches along with associated employee benefits, travel costs for employees attending training, meetings with job developers to ensure potential employment opportunities, classroom and material supplies, drug testing and graduation supplies, student tracking software, supportive services for students, and associated indirect costs.</p>
<p>Will Allen Foundation</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$291,500</p>	<p>The Will Allen Foundation is requesting to strengthen and expand its prevention-focused after-school and summer programming for approximately 130 elementary and middle school youth in the Clairton City School District, a high-need community experiencing persistent poverty, trauma exposure, chronic absenteeism, and limited access to structured out-of-school opportunities. WAF provides relationship-centered, trauma-informed programming designed to keep young people safe, supported, and engaged during high-risk hours through a mix of supervised academic support, STEM enrichment, hands-on creative activities, wellness programming, movement-based sessions, social-emotional skill-building, and restorative practices. Summer programming extends these supports through full-day, five-day-per-week structured enrichment across 4–6 weeks, reducing supervision gaps when youth are most vulnerable to isolation, disengagement, and exposure to community violence. Family engagement is intentionally integrated through ongoing caregiver communication, shared meals, family nights, and opportunities to build trust and connection with staff and school partners.</p> <p>Funds will support the salary and benefits of daily program staff, and instructional roles; supplies and operating expenses including snacks and meals, program materials, translation supports, incentives, printing, and software; consultant costs for instructional staff, summer programming staff, evaluation support, and communications support; and other allowable costs related to compliance, reporting, and program oversight.</p>
<p>Young Black Motivated Kings & Queens</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Young Black Motivated Kings & Queens is requesting to expand its year-round, culturally responsive out-of-school-time and summer programming for approximately 125 youth in the 15235 ZIP code of Penn Hills, a community experiencing persistent poverty, trauma exposure, and elevated risk of violence. The project aims to provide safe, structured environments during high-risk after-school hours through daily academic support, tutoring, small-group instruction, enrichment activities such as podcast creation, coding, digital media, STEAM projects, entrepreneurship, and leadership development. The program integrates trauma-informed mental health supports—including therapeutic mentoring, group sessions, and restorative practices—led by a licensed clinical professional to address grief, instability, and chronic stress experienced by many participants. Through consistent supervision, engaging enrichment, identity-affirming practices, and trusted adult connections, the project seeks to strengthen protective factors, reduce exposure to unsafe environments, and improve academic and social-emotional outcomes for youth most impacted by community violence and economic hardship.</p> <p>Funds will partially support salary and benefits for core program staff including youth engagement specialists, the Director of Programs, a social worker, the Chief Impact Officer, and a project manager; travel and training for professional development in trauma-informed practice, youth mental health, and OST program quality. Funding will also be used for equipment such as Chromebooks, tablets, charging stations, and other instructional</p>

	<p>technology, curriculum materials, art and STEAM supplies, software subscriptions, printing, and food for students; and other essential operational costs to maintain safe, high-quality OST and summer service.</p>
<p>Youth Enrichment Services</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$499,591</p>	<p>Youth Enrichment Services is requesting to expand its youth-led, prevention-focused violence-reduction initiatives serving approximately 900 young people ages 12–24 across Pittsburgh and Allegheny County. Building on its Teen Council, Youth Justice Advisory Board (YJAB), violence-prevention symposiums, and long-standing diversion programming, the project seeks to strengthen protective factors and reduce youth gun-violence involvement through expanded youth leadership pathways, restorative practices training, and targeted supports for youth at highest risk. Proposed enhancements include adding a second YJAB cohort with a statewide exchange component, delivering the new Restorative Leaders Institute (RLI) to address trauma and strengthen community healing skills, and scaling Extended Diversion Services (EDS) to provide structured mentoring, conflict-resolution skill-building, and aftercare for youth facing increased exposure to community violence. These initiatives respond to youth-identified needs for safe spaces, trauma-informed supports, expanded coping-skills development, and meaningful leadership opportunities connected to wider community-safety efforts.</p> <p>Funds will support personnel for program facilitation, operations, and intervention staff; employee benefits; travel for youth participants, conferences, and statewide exchange activities; supplies and operating expenses such as meals, program materials, curriculum supplies, and award items; and other direct program costs including youth stipends for participation in YJAB, RLI, EDS, and the annual symposium.</p>
<p>Youth Places, Incorporated</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>YouthPlaces, Incorporated is requesting to sustain and strengthen its Hobbies to Opportunities (H2O) model, a comprehensive, prevention-focused out-of-school time initiative serving approximately 600 youth ages 12–18 across six site locations in Allegheny County, including various neighborhoods of Pittsburgh, McKeesport, Homewood and McKees Rocks. The project aims to reduce youth exposure to community violence by increasing access to safe, supervised environments during high-risk hours and embedding trauma-informed supports through its foundational YP SELF mental-wellness framework. Programming includes daily drop-in triage support, social-emotional learning, academic assistance, workforce readiness, creative and technology-based activities, recreation, leadership development, and mentoring, all designed to meet the needs of youth facing poverty, housing instability, academic barriers, and chronic exposure to violence. By maintaining consistent presence in neighborhoods with elevated violent-crime indicators, the initiative seeks to strengthen protective factors, increase positive peer and adult relationships, and expand structured engagement for approximately 600 young people annually.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support site-based youth development staff, behavioral health and program leadership, evaluation and data tracking, and fiscal oversight; employee benefits; travel and training for staff; operating expenses such as rent, utilities, and site facilities; supplies and technology services; consultant costs for IT support; and administrative expenses.</p>
<p>Community Health Challenge of Southwestern Pennsylvania DBA Keystone Wellness Programs</p>	<p>Keystone Wellness Programs (KWP), in partnership with Aliquippa Impact, is requesting funding to expand the Drug Free Aliquippa Youth Coalition, strengthen Aliquippa Impact’s after-school and summer programs, and launch a new cross-age mentoring initiative connecting high school coalition leaders with elementary students. By integrating KWP’s evidence-informed prevention frameworks with Aliquippa Impact’s relationship-centered youth development model, the initiative aims to strengthen protective factors, reduce risk behaviors,</p>

<p>Beaver County</p> <p>Amount: \$446,627</p>	<p>and build coordinated pathways from elementary to high school. Activities include structured after-school and summer programming, SEL groups, individualized SEL coaching, career-readiness support, community talking circles, peer-to-peer education, youth coalition leadership training, and the launch of a new mentoring program pairing older youth with younger participants. KWP expects to serve approximately 400 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the following staff: the Executive Director, Office Administrator, Youth Coordinator, and Program Staff. Funding will also be used to support staff mileage; supplies and operating expenses such as youth mentor stipends, participant incentives, food, outreach materials, social-media campaigns, printed materials, office supplies, IT services, utilities, rent, and a laptop. The budget also includes consultant costs to engage Aliquippa Impact as a project partner delivering out-of-school programming, mentoring, and structured youth-development activities, as well as indirect and administrative costs.</p>
<p>Olivet Boys & Girls Club</p> <p>Berks County</p> <p>Amount: \$499,984</p>	<p>Olivet Boys & Girls Club of Reading and Berks County is requesting funding to launch EMPOWER Resilience, a new, structured violence-prevention initiative serving youth ages 5–18 in Reading, particularly those residing in neighborhoods with concentrated poverty, trauma exposure, school disengagement, and elevated risk factors. Implemented across six club sites, the program integrates trauma-informed social-emotional learning, consistent mentoring, structured enrichment, positive peer engagement, family support, and age-specific interventions that increase supervision and stability during high-risk after-school and summer hours. EMPOWER Resilience emphasizes place-based service delivery, prioritizing youth from high-risk census tracts and Reading School District feeder areas and incorporates workforce-readiness and leadership pathways for older youth through structured Junior Counselor and Peer Mentor roles. The initiative is designed to strengthen protective factors, reduce behavioral escalation, enhance emotional regulation, and improve long-term youth outcomes through a coordinated, developmentally responsive prevention model. With this funding, EMPOWER Resilience would scale to serve approximately 1,000 youth annually, strengthening community-based prevention capacity and aligning out-of-school-time supports with the needs of Reading’s highest-risk neighborhoods. The program will operate during critical after-school and summer hours.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salary and benefits of a Program Director, Site Directors, and Site Coordinators. Funds will also support transportation to supervised activities and training; supplies and operating expenses such as evidence-informed curricula, SEL materials, enrichment activities, program incentives, family-engagement supports, sports and recreation materials, and youth leadership stipends; and indirect costs necessary for fiscal oversight, data management, and administrative infrastructure.</p>
<p>The Pennsylvania State University</p> <p>Berks County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>The Pennsylvania State University is requesting VIP funding to continue <i>Not One More: A Peace and Justice Project</i>, a community-centered youth violence intervention and prevention initiative serving Berks County. The program operates through Penn State Berks in partnership with the Reading School District, Tower Health Reading Hospital, the Reading Housing Authority, and The Village of Reading, and focuses on youth ages 12–24 who are at high risk of involvement in or exposure to violence. Through strategies rooted in the Cure Violence public-health model, the program combines high-risk case management, hospital-based response, individualized violence-reduction planning, mentoring by trained credible messengers (“Peacemakers”), structured after-school and summer programming, and safe-passage supports before and after school. Additional prevention activities include</p>

	<p>supervised teen programming, conflict-reduction presence in parks, and community events that strengthen prosocial norms and elevate non-violent community leadership. The Pennsylvania State University expects to serve approximately 2500 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the following staff: Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice, Program Administrator/Project Assistant, Outreach Worker, Undergraduate Research Assistant and Undergraduate Staff Assistant. Funding will also be used to support local travel; and supplies and operating expenses such as counseling, basic supports, incentives, housing stabilization assistance, staff apparel, program materials, and public-event costs. The budget also includes consultant services and indirect costs.</p>
<p>No Longer Bound</p> <p>Bucks County</p> <p>Amount: \$81,276</p>	<p>No Longer Bound is requesting funding to sustain and enhance its structured out-of-school time services for elementary and high school youth in Bristol Township and Levittown. The project aims to provide safe, supportive, and academically aligned programming during critical after school and summer hours for students attending Title I schools, many of whom face significant economic hardship, academic barriers, and social-emotional challenges. The initiative includes daily afterschool services for K–6 students—featuring homework help, curriculum-aligned enrichment led by certified teachers, social-emotional learning activities, and partner-delivered arts and environmental programming—as well as two Saturday-only prevention cohorts for high school students using the evidence-based “Too Good for Drugs” curriculum. Through consistent supervision, positive adult mentorship, and engaging enrichment opportunities, the project seeks to strengthen school engagement, reduce youth vulnerability to risk, and promote long-term academic and developmental success. The investment will enable No Longer Bound to maintain safe staffing ratios, continue evidence-based enrichment and prevention activities, operate summer and school-year programming without interruption, and sustain structured youth services that would otherwise end with the expiration of ARPA funding. Funding will ensure stable, high-quality, prevention-focused programming for approximately 75 youth annually in a high-need community with limited access to safe, affordable out-of-school time opportunities.</p> <p>Requested funds will support the salary and benefits of program staff, certified teachers and a program coordinator; supplies and operating expenses such as consumable learning materials, enrichment supplies, space usage, utilities, and facility operations; and indirect administrative costs essential for fiscal oversight, compliance, and organizational capacity. Funding is conditioned upon the applicant being able to proceed with the project (possibly with reduced scope) within the allowable maximum award.</p>
<p>Flood City Youth Fitness Academy</p> <p>Cambria County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Flood City Youth Fitness Academy is requesting funding to expand its Youth Mentorship and Apprenticeship Program, a multi-stage initiative serving youth ages 11–18 in Cambria County. The project is designed to address rising violent-crime rates, persistent poverty, and significant skills gaps in the region by providing year-round mentoring, STEAM education, and structured career-pathway training in fields such as HVAC, electrical work, welding, carpentry, plumbing, and culinary arts. Through virtual-reality instruction, classroom learning, and supervised field apprenticeships, the program seeks to strengthen protective factors, improve academic and behavioral outcomes, and equip youth with employable skills that contribute to long-term economic stability and reduced risk of violence. Activities occur Monday through Friday, serving up to 100 students per year.</p>

	<p>Funds will support salaries for ten Mentors/Instructors. Funds will also be allocated for travel and training for staff; supplies and operating expenses including virtual-reality training tools, desktop computers, trade-skills training systems, and STEAM learning materials; consultant services to guide program implementation and mentor training; and other essential costs such as transportation support and necessary student equipment.</p>
<p>The Greater Johnstown Community YMCA</p> <p>Cambria County</p> <p>Amount: \$499,368</p>	<p>The Greater Johnstown Community YMCA is requesting funding to expand its <i>Safe Spaces</i> prevention initiative, a multi-partner, community-based effort serving at-risk youth across Cambria and Somerset Counties, with a concentrated focus on the City of Johnstown. The project responds to persistent conditions in the region, including elevated violent crime rates, school safety disruptions, economic hardship, food insecurity, and limited access to structured out-of-school programming during high-risk evening, weekend, and summer hours. Led by the YMCA as the administrative and fiscal agent, the initiative integrates programming from partners such as Flood City Youth Fitness Academy, New Day, Big Shotz, Coaches 4 Kids, the United Way of the Southern Alleghenies, and the Windber Area School District. <i>Safe Spaces</i> delivers supervised recreation, mentoring, SEL, academic support, meals, and family engagement across multiple sites and is designed to serve at least 1,000 youth weekly. The project targets children and adolescents experiencing poverty, trauma, academic challenges, housing instability, disabilities, and exposure to violence, offering consistent adult relationships, safe environments, and protective factors aligned with PCCD prevention priorities.</p> <p>Funds will support salaries of personnel across project partners including the YMCA, Flood City Youth Fitness Academy, New Day, Big Shotz, Coaches 4 Kids, the United Way of the Southern Alleghenies, and the Windber Area School District. Funding will also be used to support participant transportation, supplies such as snacks, student scholarships, curriculum materials, technology and program supplies, and operating expenses for partner-delivered programming. A playground rental fee and YMCA administration fee will also be supported.</p>
<p>Jana Marie Foundation</p> <p>Centre County</p> <p>Amount: \$300,000</p>	<p>Jana Marie Foundation is requesting funding to continue and expand its year-round, prevention-centered youth programming in Centre County, including free summer camps and after-school clubs that promote resilience, emotional wellness, positive peer connection, and safe, structured engagement for children and adolescents. The proposed project will serve approximately 500 youth annually and will support eight weeks of summer camp programming and multiple after-school clubs for upper-elementary through high-school youth, emphasizing mindfulness, coping skills, creative expression, movement, team-building, and social-emotional learning.</p> <p>Funds will support salary and benefits for the following positions: Grant Manager (partial salary/benefits), eight Summer Camp Staff, and two After-School Program Staff. Funds will also be allocated to support travel and training for staff in trauma-informed practices, adolescent development, suicide-prevention strategies, and team-building facilitation; supplies and operating expenses including art and creative-expression materials, wellness resources, mindfulness tools, program activity supplies, postage, software, and equipment for movement-based activities; and other costs such as marketing to support program awareness and participant recruitment.</p>
<p>Chester County Commissioners</p> <p>Chester County</p>	<p>The Chester County Commissioners are requesting funding to launch a new, county-wide violence-reduction initiative involving the Chester County Detectives and the Adult Probation, Parole and Pretrial Services Department. The project seeks to enhance the County's capacity to prevent, investigate, and respond to firearm-related violence. Activities will focus on the</p>

<p>Amount: \$477,256</p>	<p>following: collecting, organizing, and analyzing firearm-related to support detectives in identifying patterns and multi-case linkages in gun-related investigations and working directly with individuals convicted of violent or firearm-related offenses, beginning pre-release at the county prison and continuing through reentry, providing needs assessments, case planning, service referrals, and consistent follow-up to reduce recidivism and improve community safety. Chester County Commissioners expects to serve approximately 150 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the following full-time staff: one Probation Officer as well as one contracted Investigative Analyst. Funding will also be used to support travel and training costs supporting investigative coordination and mentoring-program; and supplies and operating expenses such as transportation assistance, equipment such as laptops and cell phones and gift cards for those engaged in services.</p>
<p>Coatesville Youth Initiative (CYI)</p> <p>Chester County</p> <p>Amount: \$278,294</p>	<p>Coatesville Youth Initiative (CYI) is requesting funding to expand its Youth-Led Community Violence Prevention Initiative, an upstream prevention model serving youth ages 14–17 across the Greater Coatesville Area. The program uses a two-cohort structure each year: an intensive summer training cohort focused on emotional regulation, conflict de-escalation, bystander intervention, coping skills, and civic engagement; followed by a leadership cohort that receives advanced facilitation training and designs youth-led community prevention projects. The initiative aims to strengthen protective factors, reshape peer norms, and increase community access to violence-prevention, behavioral health, and support services. CYI expects to serve approximately 240 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the following staff: Project Coordinator, Evaluation/Data Assistant, and a Community Outreach and Event Assistant. Funding will also be used to support staff travel and youth transportation; and supplies and operating expenses such as curriculum materials, training supplies, mural and peace-walk materials, event equipment, food, technology for program management, and evaluation supplies. The budget also includes consultant services for accounting and other costs such as youth stipends for leadership-cohort participants.</p>
<p>Medard's House (dba The Link 4 Youth)</p> <p>Cumberland County</p> <p>Amount: \$302,400</p>	<p>The Link 4 Youth is requesting funding to expand its evidence-informed out-of-school-time programming for at-risk youth across Cumberland and York Counties, with additional reach into Dauphin County through partnership with the Youth Advocate Project (YAP). Established in 2008, the organization provides a safe, structured, trauma-informed OST environment for youth experiencing poverty, disability, housing instability, exposure to violence, and other risk factors. The proposed project expands daily afterschool and summer programming to serve 70+ youth per day; strengthens mentoring, social-emotional learning, life skills, nutrition, and Garden-to-Table activities; deepens collaboration with the West Shore School District Social Work team to support homeless and housing-unstable youth; and launches a new, year-round OST opportunity for 10+ high-risk youth weekly through YAP. The initiative adds capacity during high-risk afterschool hours (3–7 p.m.) and addresses persistent regional needs related to transportation barriers, basic needs insecurity, school engagement challenges, rising youth vaping, youth mental health stressors, and limited safe, no-cost OST options. Approximately 100 youth will be served annually through expanded programming designed to reduce delinquency risk, strengthen protective factors, and improve social, academic, and emotional outcomes. In addition to after school programming, the Program will offer a 6-week summer program that will operate Monday thru Friday, from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.</p>

	<p>Funds will be used to support an Executive Director, Program Director, and full-time Program Administrator; supplies and operating expenses including utilities, meals, and basic-needs items for homeless or housing-unstable youth (clothing, hygiene); and consultant support for grants administration.</p>
<p>YWCA Carlisle & Cumberland County</p> <p>Cumberland County</p> <p>Amount: \$450,000</p>	<p>YWCA Carlisle & Cumberland County is requesting to expand its trauma-informed intervention and prevention services for approximately 3,000 children and youth affected by sexual assault, sexual abuse, and human trafficking across Cumberland and Adams Counties. The project seeks to strengthen protective factors and reduce victimization through a coordinated continuum of crisis response, counseling, legal and medical advocacy, and evidence-based school-based prevention education. Services include accompaniment during forensic interviews and medical exams, support groups that are age appropriate, and classroom lessons on body safety, digital safety, healthy boundaries, and recognizing and reporting abuse. The initiative responds to elevated regional risk factors identified through youth surveys, child welfare data, and community partners, and aims to serve thousands of students annually while providing direct support to child survivors and their families.</p> <p>Funds will support the salaries of prevention educators, advocacy staff, fiscal management, and program leadership; employee benefits; travel for school-based instruction, medical accompaniments, and court advocacy; supplies and operating expenses such as insurance, printing, curriculum materials, office supplies, telephone and internet, and educational handouts; and limited consultant costs for payroll and information-technology services.</p>
<p>Boys & Girls Club of Harrisburg</p> <p>Dauphin County</p> <p>Amount: \$400,000</p>	<p>The Boys & Girls Club of Harrisburg is requesting funding to expand prevention-focused programming for youth ages 6–18 living in Harrisburg and the Steelton-Highspire community. The project aims to reduce risk factors associated with youth violence, academic disengagement, and exposure to trauma by providing safe, structured, and supervised out-of-school environments during critical after-school and summer hours. Through evidence-informed programming, including Power Hour: Academic Success, Triple Play: Healthy Lifestyles, social-emotional learning supports, and positive adult mentoring, the initiative strengthens protective factors such as school engagement, emotional regulation, healthy decision-making, and positive peer and adult relationships. Approximately 750 youth will be served each year, with a prioritization on youth disproportionately impacted by poverty, community violence, unstable housing, academic underperformance, and limited access to supportive resources.</p> <p>Funds will support partial salaries and benefits of the Program Director and Youth Development Professionals/Program Staff, staff professional development, staff mileage, and travel costs associated with attending programming in the community. Additionally, funds will be used for educational supplies/program materials, software for data-tracking tools, general operating expenses, and indirect costs related to fiscal management and administrative oversight.</p>
<p>Scholars Inc dba Thrive Housing Services</p> <p>Dauphin County</p> <p>Amount: \$375,000</p>	<p>Thrive Housing Services requests funding to expand its existing Youth Life Skills Program into a full-time, out-of-school-time initiative serving at-risk youth and young adults in Harrisburg. Operating from its community center, the project will offer daily programming focused on safety, academic stability, mentorship, and workforce readiness for youth experiencing homelessness, housing instability, or other vulnerabilities associated with elevated risk of violence. The expanded model includes structured after-school hours, trade-skills training, crisis stabilization supports, evidence-based group mentoring, STEM and pre-trade exploration for younger adolescents, and coordinated outreach to identify and assist “couch-surfing” or unsafely</p>

	<p>housed youth. Activities are designed to reduce exposure to violence during peak evening hours, strengthen protective factors, and improve educational and economic outcomes for participants. Thrive Housing Services plans to serve approximately 200 youth during the project period.</p> <p>The funds requested will support a full-time Lead Violence Prevention Mentor and a Life Skills & Gender-Responsive Coach; travel and training for required certifications; equipment for vocational and STEM activities; supplies and operating expenses such as meals, hygiene items, and instructional materials; consultant costs for trade instructors and evaluation; and other administrative and indirect expenses needed for compliance and facility operations.</p>
<p>Chester Education Foundation</p> <p>Delaware County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Chester Education Foundation (CEF) is requesting funding to expand its existing out-of-school-time programming into middle-school grades. The project will extend the evidence-based Botvin LifeSkills Training program—currently offered to high school students—downward to middle school youth, while adding structured academic support, enrichment activities, digital-skills development, cultural excursions, and opportunities for youth voice through a Middle School Youth Council. The overarching goals are to reduce violence risk factors, improve academic performance and school engagement, build protective skills, and create a continuous pathway of support from middle school through graduation. CEF and its partners will jointly recruit participants, host programming on school and community sites, and provide safe afterschool and summer environments for students with high academic, social-emotional, and economic needs. CEF expects to serve approximately 75 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of a Site Manager and part-time teachers. Funding will also be used to support supplies and operating expenses such as food, enrichment materials, digital-literacy resources, and transportation for afterschool shuttles and enrichment field trips; and consultant costs for contracted financial management services. The budget also includes incentives (e.g., gift cards) for those engaged in services.</p>
<p>Delaware County District Attorney's Office</p> <p>Delaware County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>The Delaware County District Attorney's Office is requesting funding to launch a county-led coordination initiative designed to strengthen violence-prevention and intervention systems for medium- to high-risk youth and young adults in the City of Chester. The project aims to reduce fragmentation across public safety, behavioral health, education, workforce development, and community-based supports by establishing shared planning, centralized referral pathways, and consistent follow-up for court-involved youth and others at elevated risk of violence involvement or victimization. Through a structured intake and assessment process housed at the Chester Education Foundation's Community Resource Hub, the initiative will connect participants to trauma-informed care, credible-messenger mentoring, safe-passage supports, educational and workforce services, and other wrap-around resources delivered by established providers. Activities include system planning, piloting a coordinated referral function, and institutionalizing cross-sector practices to ensure durable, countywide alignment. The Delaware County District Attorney's Office expects to serve approximately 150 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary for a part-time Project Coordinator. Funding will also be used to support consultant-delivered services across partner organizations; and a fee-for-service structure that covers therapy, mentoring and violence-interruption services, youth development activities, safety-advocate supports, and vocational training.</p>

<p>Foundations, Inc.</p> <p>Delaware County</p> <p>Amount: \$387,902</p>	<p>Foundations, Inc. is requesting funding to implement the Safe Time Project at Walnut Street Elementary School in the William Penn School District. The initiative aims to serve approximately 100 youth, and will provide structured, supervised, and developmentally appropriate out-of-school-time programming for K–6 students who face economic disadvantage, academic challenges, and exposure to community stressors. The project introduces a three-tier OST model that offers broad enrichment, targeted supports, and intensive mentoring aligned with Positive Youth Development and Routine Activities Theory to reduce unstructured time associated with delinquency risk. Through rotating activities such as STEM/STEAM enrichment, arts, wellness, academic support, leadership workshops, conflict-management circles, and early-exposure career and technical education, the Safe Time Project seeks to strengthen protective factors, improve social-emotional skills, and increase student engagement during high-risk after-school and summer hours.</p> <p>Funds will partially support the salary and benefits for the following positions: Project Coordinator, Project Manager, Subject Matter Experts & Mentors, School Coordinator, Administration Staff, Project Evaluator, Specialized Instructors/Interventionists, and Special Education Aids. Funds are also allocated for supplies and operating expenses including curriculum materials, educational kits, hands-on learning tools, art supplies, printing materials and other necessary costs such as field trips, cultural and museum visits, family engagement activities, student snacks and meals.</p>
<p>Making a Change Group (MACG)</p> <p>Delaware County</p> <p>Amount: \$499,365</p>	<p>Making a Change Group (MACG) is requesting funding to expand its long-standing Team MAC program, an after-school and summer initiative serving youth ages 8–17 in Chester and surrounding areas of Delaware County. The program, rooted in the 40 Developmental Assets framework, provides structured mentorship, social-emotional skill-building, life-skills instruction, academic support, career exploration, case management, family engagement, recreational experiences, and service-learning opportunities. This proposed project focuses on lower-risk, younger youth to prevent escalation into higher-risk behaviors, particularly during the high-vulnerability after-school hours of 3–6 p.m. The need is driven by Chester’s persistently high violent crime rates, significant youth-reported needs for mentoring and life-skills support, reductions in available after-school providers, and increased exposure of younger youth to harmful influences. The initiative aims to serve 100 youth annually, providing consistent, structured, and relationship-based programming designed to increase protective factors such as school engagement, positive peer relationships, and strong connections to caring adults. The funding will allow MACG to scale Team MAC’s capacity, restore programming reduced due to the loss of temporary federal funding, expand services beyond the Connected Families caseload, and sustain a robust summer program.</p> <p>Funds will be used for the partial salary and benefits for an Operations Director, Program Director, Activities Coordinator, Youth and Family Specialists, and a team of mentors. Funds will also be used for transportation costs tied to an organization-owned van; supplies and operating expenses including meals, field trips, youth incentives, and program materials; consultant costs for specialized training in developmental assets, trauma-informed care, behavioral supports, conflict resolution, workforce readiness, and evaluation; The budget also includes funds to support administrative needs.</p>
<p>Erie County District Attorney’s Office</p> <p>Erie County</p>	<p>The Erie County District Attorney’s Office is requesting funding to continue and strengthen two established violence-reduction initiatives: the multi-agency Gun Control Working Group and the countywide Lethality Assessment Program for domestic-violence response. The project targets individuals at high risk of violence involvement in Erie County, where violent crime—particularly gun violence—remains concentrated in the City of Erie. Through coordinated enforcement,</p>

<p>Amount: \$499,700</p>	<p>data-driven intelligence sharing, focused patrols, investigative operations, and firearm-related interventions across local, county, state, and federal partners, the Working Group aims to interrupt illegal gun possession, improve firearm tracing, and reduce shootings and other violent offenses, while planning to serve approximately 600 individuals annually.</p> <p>Funds will support overtime and specialized support for partner law-enforcement agencies, domestic-violence advocates, crime analysts, digital forensics specialists, and research/evaluation partners. Funds will also be used to support other administrative costs tied to project administration and grant management.</p>
<p>Housing Authority of the City of Erie</p> <p>Erie County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>The Housing Authority of the City of Erie is requesting funding to expand the Erie Police Athletic League (PAL) into a new, dedicated out-of-school time program site for at-risk youth living in HACE's affordable and public housing communities. This initiative aims to provide tutoring, mentoring, recreation, team building, and character-development activities for children in grades 3–12, beginning with a pilot of 40 elementary-aged students and expanding to 80 in year two and 120 in year three. Delivered in partnership with the Erie Police Department's Quebec Unit, Erie PAL, the Eagle's Nest Leadership Corporation, Erie County Probation, and the Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority, the program seeks to build positive relationships between youth and law enforcement, improve academic performance and attendance, reduce negative behaviors, and increase safety within communities that have experienced high levels of violence, poverty, and social vulnerability. In addition to weekly after-school programming, children will have access to summer camps, enrichment clinics, a bike rodeo and safety initiative, and other recreational and educational opportunities supported by PAL.</p> <p>Funds will support a full-time PAL Program Coordinator and to also support police officer overtime. Funds will also be allocated to support supplies and operating expenses including bicycles, helmets, e-bikes for community policing, food for program days, t-shirts, and activity materials; and indirect/administrative costs needed to support program operations, facility use, and organizational infrastructure.</p>
<p>United Way of Erie County</p> <p>Erie County</p> <p>Amount: \$49,996</p>	<p>United Way of Erie County requests funding to launch <i>Intro to Sports</i>, a new after-school recreation and skill-building program delivered in partnership with the YMCA of Greater Erie to serve approximately 280 elementary students in grades 1–5 across 10 Erie Public Schools. The program responds to documented needs identified through PAYS data and community assessment. The initiative aims to reduce early risk factors for future violence by providing consistent, structured, school-based sports programming that develops physical skills, emotional regulation, teamwork, school connectedness, and positive peer relationships. Sessions will be held once weekly in six-week cycles aligned with school quarters, and the program will scale over three years—from a pilot in four schools to full implementation across all ten. Approximately 280 students will be served annually.</p> <p>Funds will support traveling instructors and program directors, subcontracted school staff for onsite support, employee benefits, sports equipment for each school (basketballs, soccer balls, cones, flags, kickballs, goals, first-aid kits, storage equipment), and indirect/administrative costs for both United Way and the YMCA.</p>
<p>Shippensburg University</p> <p>Franklin County</p>	<p>Shippensburg University, through its Shippensburg Community Resource Coalition (SCRC), requests funding to expand the Youth Resilience Project, which strengthens a coordinated set of prevention programs serving school-aged youth in the Shippensburg Area School District. The project will enhance upstream violence-prevention efforts by increasing staff capacity to</p>

<p>Amount: \$303,342</p>	<p>support the Communities That Care (CTC) coalition, the evidence-based Blues Program (locally “Grey Matter”), the Summer Learning Program, the Youth Advisory Council, and related pro-social youth initiatives. These programs address risk factors identified through Pennsylvania Youth Survey data—including elevated depressive symptoms, parental attitudes favorable to antisocial behavior, and food insecurity—while promoting protective factors such as positive peer relationships, supportive adults, healthy decision-making, and youth leadership opportunities. Activities include cognitive-behavioral group interventions for middle and high school students, structured summer programming for youth in grades 1–12, leadership development, coalition-driven prevention initiatives, and ongoing community engagement. The project will serve approximately 210 youth per year.</p> <p>Requested funds will partially support the salary and benefits of a SCRC Coordinator, Youth Mobilizer, and summer program staff. Funding will also be used to support supplies and operating expenses such as program materials, incentives for Blues Program participants, trauma-informed training, first-aid training, food and activity supplies; consultant costs for facilitator training and stipends; and indirect/administrative costs.</p>
<p>Juniata County Juniata County Amount: \$221,836</p>	<p>Juniata County is requesting funding to expand the out-of-school-time programming offered at the Paul W. Delauter Youth Center, a long-standing community resource providing supervised evening activities for students in grades 3–8. The project responds to elevated local needs identified through crime data, community surveys, and Pennsylvania Youth Survey results, including increasing youth substance use, limited structured youth programs, high poverty rates, and disproportionate juvenile justice involvement among minority youth. Current programming is operated almost entirely by volunteers, with limited hours and reduced capacity due to declining staffing. The proposed project will support the hiring of a part-time Director to strengthen daily operations, expand program offerings, introduce evidence-based drug and alcohol prevention curricula, coordinate volunteers, engage families, and conduct community outreach. By enhancing structured after-school and summer activities, providing meals and snacks, and incorporating drug- and alcohol-prevention programming, the initiative aims to reduce risk factors associated with delinquency while improving protective factors such as prosocial involvement, moral development, and family engagement. The project will serve 200 individuals per year.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the salary and benefits of a part-time Director and full-time grant management; training and travel necessary for implementing evidence-based prevention curricula; equipment such as a laptop and printer for program administration; and supplies and operating expenses including curriculum materials, software, printing, utilities, food, and activity supplies.</p>
<p>Advoz: Mediation & Restorative Practices Lancaster County Amount: \$244,850</p>	<p>Advoz: Mediation & Restorative Practices is requesting funding to expand its Restorative School Program at J.P. McCaskey High School in Lancaster City. The initiative aims to provide consistent, school-embedded restorative supports that address student conflict before it escalates and strengthen overall school climate in a large, diverse high school serving youth with high rates of poverty, exposure to community violence, and significant language and academic needs. Through peer mediation, restorative circles, classroom conflict-skills lessons, and ongoing practitioner support, the program offers structured processes for students to communicate, repair harm, and develop skills in problem-solving, emotional regulation, and constructive dialogue. The project is designed to support approximately 750 students annually and complements the district’s focus on improving belonging, attendance, and graduation outcomes.</p>

	<p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits of the Executive Director, Director of Training, and Restorative Schools Practitioner. Additionally, funding will be utilized for advertising and marketing expenses, rent, laptop, general operating expenses, and information technology support.</p>
<p>Bench Mark Program</p> <p>Lancaster County</p> <p>Amount: \$499,000</p>	<p>Bench Mark Program is requesting funding to expand its “Back to School” initiative, a prevention-focused mentoring model designed to interrupt the progression from chronic absenteeism to school disengagement, juvenile justice involvement, and community violence among high-risk adolescents in Lancaster City. The project targets approximately 180 students each year, ages 13–18, who are truant or trending toward chronic absenteeism and are referred by McCaskey High School or Magisterial District Court at the early stages of school withdrawal. Through a structured Safe Corridor pathway from school or court identification into Bench Mark’s Open Gym environment, participating youth are paired with dedicated mentors who provide intensive one-to-one support, daily check-ins, family engagement, barrier-reduction problem solving, and cognitive-behavioral skill-building rooted in evidence-informed practices. The initiative also connects youth to a broader continuum of structured, pro-social supports, including physical fitness, leadership development, workforce exposure, creative projects, and peer networks, aimed at stabilizing attendance, strengthening protective factors, and reducing exposure to high-risk environments during critical after-school hours.</p> <p>Funds will support three full-time Prevention Mentors/Attendance Intervention Specialists as well as training costs for personnel to attend ROCA ReWire Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and staff travel costs</p>
<p>Touchstone Foundation</p> <p>Lancaster County</p> <p>Amount: \$255,766</p>	<p>Touchstone Foundation is requesting funding to expand and strengthen Rise Above, a youth mental-wellness initiative serving approximately 1,120 students and young adults ages 12–26 across Lancaster County. Rise Above provides safe, structured spaces for middle-schoolers, high-school students, and young adults to learn about mental health, practice coping skills, build social-emotional competencies, and connect with trained adult mentors known as Safe Space Facilitators. The program responds directly to community needs documented in the 2023 Pennsylvania Youth Survey and the Foundation’s 2023 Needs Assessment, which shows high rates of depression, suicidal ideation, bullying, exclusion, and barriers to mental-health access among Lancaster County youth. Through partnerships with local school districts, mental-health professionals, and community organizations, the program blends mental-health education, creative self-expression, youth leadership development, and mentorship to address gaps in early identification, access to support, and trusted adult relationships.</p> <p>Funds will support a partial amount of the current Program Manager’s time, a Program Assistant, and an Operations Manager and Accountant, along with employee benefits and travel to school districts within Lancaster County. Funding will also be used to support program evaluation led by Millersville University’s Dr. Carrie Smith; and communications-related costs such as photography and video documentation.</p>
<p>The Sexual Assault Resource & Counseling Center (SARCC)</p> <p>Lebanon County</p> <p>Amount: \$398,012</p>	<p>The Sexual Assault Resource & Counseling Center (SARCC) is requesting funding to expand its HEALS (Housing, Economic Stability, Advocacy, and Life Skills) initiative, specifically the Healing at Home permanent supportive housing program for sexual assault, abuse, and trafficking survivors in Lebanon and Schuylkill Counties. The project aims to provide transitional and permanent supported housing, trauma-informed advocacy, and comprehensive case management. HEALS integrates subsidized housing, medical and legal accompaniment, crisis intervention, and evidence-based trauma therapy (TF-CBT, EMDR), helping survivors stabilize</p>

	<p>their basic needs so they can fully engage in long-term healing and reduce vulnerability to further victimization. SARCC expects to serve approximately 150 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the following staff: Vice President/Director of Advocacy Services, Trauma Therapists, Sexual Assault Advocacy Coordinator, and the Executive Director. Funding will also be used to support local travel for staff providing mobile services; and supplies and operating expenses such as building maintenance, rent, utilities, insurance, software, printing, client emergency supplies, and costs associated with supported housing such as rental assistance. The budget also includes consultant services and stipends for advisory board participants.</p>
<p>Fine Feather Foundation Inc.</p> <p>Lehigh County</p> <p>Amount: \$119,000</p>	<p>Fine Feather Foundation Inc. is requesting funding to expand its Excelsior Program into Sheridan and Washington Elementary Schools, serving at-risk youth in Allentown’s 18102 zip code. The project strengthens the organization’s existing out-of-school-time continuum by providing a safe, trauma-informed environment during the high-risk after-school and summer hours when youth in this community face elevated exposure to violence, poverty, and instability. Hoping to expand and serve 200 youth, the expanded model integrates arts-based therapeutic programming—music production, film, dance, theater, digital media—with structured literacy instruction grounded in the science of reading. It also incorporates twice-weekly counseling, daily mindfulness practices, gender-specific mentorship through the SHE Program and Far From Fatherless, and year-round supervision via after-school sessions and an 8-week summer session.</p> <p>Funds will partially support salary for the Grant and Program Manager. Funds will also be allocated to support rental space for summer programming, art and technology materials, curriculum resources, and essential software. Funds will support consultant services including creative arts instructors, literacy interventionists, mental-health specialists, and technical production partners.</p>
<p>KidsPeace</p> <p>Lehigh County</p> <p>Amount: \$489,200</p>	<p>KidsPeace is requesting funding to expand and integrate its school-based mental health services and violence-intervention programming for students in the Allentown School District. The project builds on two existing PCCD-funded initiatives by merging KidsPeace’s outpatient Violence Intervention Program with its established in-school therapy model, enabling clinicians to provide trauma-informed mental health services, safety planning, and coping-skills development directly within elementary, middle, and high schools. The initiative will address significant needs identified through youth survey data, including high rates of depression, self-harm, suicidal ideation, bullying, and violence exposure among Lehigh County students. The project also incorporates new after-school programming that offers structured group activities focused on social-emotional learning, conflict resolution, and positive peer engagement during unstructured hours when youth are at elevated risk. Additionally, KidsPeace will deliver monthly trainings to teachers, school staff, parents, and caregivers on adolescent mental health, crisis recognition, violence-prevention strategies, and evidence-based interventions, while implementing Comfort Carts/Rooms and at-home Comfort Kits to support de-escalation and emotional regulation for students. The grant will allow KidsPeace to serve approximately 450 individuals annually.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the salary and benefits of therapists, case managers, clinical supervisors, after-school facilitators, and prescribers; travel and training costs including external workshops and annual certification for Parent-Child Interaction Therapy; supplies and</p>

	operating expenses such as office materials, therapeutic tools, Comfort Cart/Room resources, and program materials; and other indirect costs necessary for administration and compliance.
United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley Lehigh County Amount: \$499,909	<p>United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley requests funding to sustain and deepen a multi-partner, school-based violence-prevention and trauma-informed initiative at Francis D. Raub Middle School in Allentown serving up to 1,350 students. Building on a current VIP-funded project, the initiative integrates daily mentoring and conflict mediation through Promise Neighborhoods of the Lehigh Valley, mindfulness-based social-emotional supports through the Shanthi Project, expanded after-school coordination through St. Luke’s University Health Network, and school-embedded trauma-responsive practices aligned with Allentown School District priorities. The program addresses persistent needs identified through local crime data, school indicators, and a recent mid-program evaluation: high exposure to community violence, ongoing gang recruitment pressures, significant trauma, chronic absenteeism, behavioral escalation, and academic underperformance. The project aims to increase safety, strengthen protective factors, reinforce non-violent norms, interrupt conflict before escalation, and ensure consistent access to trusted adults in a high-need school community.</p> <p>Funds will support partial salaries and benefits for UWGLV leadership and data staff and a part-time program coordinator; travel between program sites; and substantial consultant costs funding the project’s core partners: mentoring staff and violence interrupters through PNLV, after-school coordination through St. Luke’s, mindfulness training and youth sessions through the Shanthi Project, associated administrative costs.</p>
Pocono Services for Families and Children Monroe County Amount: \$391,561	<p>Pocono Services for Families and Children (PSFC) is requesting funding to expand its structured before/after-school and summer programming for at-risk children ages 5–12 in Monroe County. The project strengthens protective factors for youth experiencing poverty, food insecurity, academic challenges, mental health needs, disabilities, or unstable housing by providing year-round, supervised out-of-school time environments. Through daily homework support, SEL-based enrichment, STEM and literacy activities, wellness and nutrition services, recreation, creative arts, and culturally responsive behavioral supports, the program aims to reduce risks associated with academic disengagement, behavioral concerns, and social-emotional difficulties. The expansion will allow PSFC to open an additional classroom, extend services through summer camp, and increase enrollment capacity to serve approximately 40 children each year.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support new assistant teachers and partially support existing teaching staff; employee benefits; travel and training costs for required certifications such as CPR, trauma-informed care, and active supervision; and supplies and operating expenses including classroom furnishings, STEAM learning materials, and year-round nutrition for participating youth. Additionally, funding will be used support indirect/administrative costs.</p>
ACLAMO Montgomery County Amount: \$150,000	<p>ACLAMO is requesting funding to continue and strengthen its comprehensive, culturally responsive youth-development and violence-prevention services for low- to moderate-income Latino and immigrant youth in Norristown. ACLAMO provides a coordinated network of academic support, mentoring, social services, and case management designed to stabilize families and reduce risk factors associated with community violence, economic insecurity, language barriers, immigration-related stress, and limited access to structured after-school opportunities. The proposed project supports the continuation of three core prevention initiatives: the Out-of-School Time (OST) Mentoring Program for grades 1–8, the ADELANTE college and career readiness program for middle and high school students, and the Summer Bridge/Teen Club Program operating during high-risk summer months. These programs will</p>

	<p>deliver supervised, relationship-centered academic support, bilingual mentoring, STEAM enrichment, leadership development, and long-term future planning to approximately 300 youth. Services are anchored by ACLAMO's Senior Case Manager, who conducts intake, risk screening, crisis intervention, and coordinated referrals to ensure early identification and targeted support for youth experiencing instability, behavioral challenges, or exposure to violence.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits for the following personnel: Executive Director, Educational Advisor, Student Success Coach, Community Education Liaison, and Senior Case Manager. Additionally, funding will be utilized for travel costs to attend local public service programs, food for program participants, general office supplies, educational materials, and operating expenses.</p>
<p>Eastern University Montgomery County Amount: \$499,677</p>	<p>Eastern University is requesting funding to expand its school-based mental-health counselor program, in partnership with the Norristown Area School District (NASD) and The Lincoln Center for Family and Youth (TLC). Building on a prior PCCD-supported initiative, the project places supervised, graduate-level mental health programming students, from Eastern University, into NASD schools to address students' exposure to community and school violence, trauma, and associated mental-health and behavioral challenges. Through individual and group counseling, crisis response, consultation with teachers and families, and trauma-informed prevention, intervention, and healing activities, interns will increase the district's capacity to provide accessible, evidence-based support to youth in a high-poverty, high-need community. This project estimates serving approximately 200 students/families annually.</p> <p>Funds will partially support salary and benefits for the Principal Investigator and Co-Principal Investigator. Funds will also support travel for interns to reach multiple school sites, including training curricula, outreach materials, and office supplies. In addition, funds will be used to support consultant services provided by TLC for on-site supervision and project management.</p>
<p>Laurel House Montgomery County Amount: \$170,210</p>	<p>Laurel House is requesting VIP funding to expand its Community Education Program by adding a third full-time Community Educator to meet growing demand for domestic and dating violence prevention programming across Montgomery County. Laurel House, a long-standing domestic violence agency founded in 1980, provides crisis intervention, shelter, counseling, legal advocacy, and extensive prevention education. The proposed project will significantly increase the organization's ability to deliver trauma-informed, age-appropriate education in schools, youth-serving programs, colleges, workplaces, and community settings. Programming focuses on healthy relationships, consent, boundaries, bystander intervention, recognizing early warning signs of abuse, and improving system-level response. With this expansion, Laurel House estimates it will deliver approximately 50 additional trainings each year, reaching an additional 3,500 individuals and bringing total program reach to approximately 11,000 participants annually. The project directly addresses documented needs related to high local demand for prevention education, underserved school districts, rising disclosures of abuse, and persistent gaps in awareness, early identification, and system preparedness. This investment expands organizational capacity rather than replacing existing funding and enables Laurel House to reduce waitlists, increase geographic coverage, enhance professional training for educators and frontline responders, and strengthen community-wide prevention and early intervention efforts. Without VIP support, Laurel House would be unable to add this staff position and would continue to face unmet requests for programming, limiting opportunities for early identification of abuse and reducing access to prevention education for youth, adults, and professionals across Montgomery County.</p>

	<p>Funds will be used to support the salary of one full-time Community Educator; employee benefits; travel and training for staff to reach schools and community partners and maintain professional competency; supplies and operating expenses including a laptop, printed curricula, educational materials, outreach items, and software.</p>
<p>Resilience Resource Center</p> <p>Montgomery County</p> <p>Amount: \$40,000</p>	<p>The Resilience Resource Center (RRC) is requesting funding to expand its existing LGBTQIA+ youth programming into a five-days-per-week out-of-school-time model serving youth ages 11–18 across Montgomery County and adjacent Philadelphia zip codes. The project aims to address limited access to safe, affirming after-school environments, elevated social isolation, and heightened risks associated with harassment, stigma, and unsupervised after-school hours. Funding will transform RRC’s current once-weekly youth program into a consistent, supervised, relationship-based evening program operating from 3:00–8:00 PM year-round, providing structured academic support, technology access, resilience-building activities, peer connection, and early career-readiness experiences. The program is designed as an upstream prevention initiative, strengthening protective factors such as belonging, emotional regulation, trusted adult relationships, and future orientation for LGBTQIA+ youth—including transgender and gender-diverse youth who experience compounded risk and limited access to affirming spaces. RRC expects to serve approximately 45 youth during the project period.</p> <p>Requested funds will support a part-time Youth Access Monitor/Coordinator to supervise all program hours; supplies and operating expenses including space rental, food, program materials, technology accessories, and administrative tools; and consultant services for specialized group facilitation in resilience-building, mental-health, and career exploration. Indirect costs will also be supported.</p>
<p>Trellis for Tomorrow</p> <p>Montgomery County</p> <p>Amount: \$460,451</p>	<p>Trellis for Tomorrow requests funding to launch Project THRIVE, an expansion of its existing Garden Club at Pottstown School District (PSD) into a structured, prevention-focused after-school program serving approximately 30 middle and high school students annually. The program responds to significant needs in PSD, a high-poverty, high-crime district where students report high rates of school-based and community violence exposure, low feelings of safety, and elevated rates of depression, self-harm, and substance use. Project THRIVE provides twice-weekly after-school programming integrating experiential gardening education, social-emotional learning (SEL), mentoring, leadership training, and micro-internships aligned with PSD’s MTSS referral process for at-risk students. The project also includes expansion of the high school garden and installation of hydroponic grow towers at the middle school, creating pathways for real-world learning and cross-school leadership roles.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support a part-time Agricultural Education Manager; employee benefits; travel for field-based learning at Trellis garden sites; and equipment needed for garden expansion, grow towers, and safe tool usage. Supplies and operating expenses include seeds, soil inputs, tools, protective gear, student handbooks, t-shirts, SEL and leadership materials, take-home assignments, and program food and drinks. Funds will also be used to support project partners including a full-time Program Counselor from The Lincoln Center for Family and Youth, responsible for SEL facilitation, case management, student assessments, mentoring oversight, and program-school coordination, along with PSD faculty sponsors for after-school sessions.</p>
<p>Coalition of African Communities (AFRICOM)</p>	<p>The Coalition of African Communities (AFRICOM) is requesting funding to expand its Immigrants’ Response to Violence – Phase 2 initiative, a community-centered violence-prevention strategy serving African and Caribbean immigrants in Philadelphia and</p>

<p>Multiple counties</p> <p>Amount: \$63,460</p>	<p>Delaware counties, with additional reach into other nearby counties where these populations are growing. Through culturally responsive forums, workshops, community dialogues, soccer tournaments, health fairs, support groups, and case-management referrals, the project seeks to increase safety awareness, elevate immigrant leadership, strengthen community networks, and connect survivors to essential services. AFRICOM expects to serve approximately 5000 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the following staff: Project Director and Grant Manager. Funding will also be used to support travel and training for staff development; supplies and operating expenses such as outreach materials, event supplies, health-fair equipment, transportation assistance, laptops/tablets, insurance, software subscriptions, incentives, field and room rentals, QuickBooks, and sound equipment. The budget also includes consultants including speakers, community radio programming, and an accountant; and other expenses covering indirect costs. Funding is conditioned upon the applicant being able to proceed with the project (possibly with reduced scope) within the allowable maximum award.</p>
<p>Communities In Schools of Eastern Pennsylvania (CISEPA)</p> <p>Multiple counties</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Communities In Schools of Eastern Pennsylvania (CISEPA) is requesting funding for its Integrated Student Supports (ISS) model across five schools in Lehigh, Northampton, and Berks counties. The project continues existing school-based prevention services. Through embedded Site Coordinators, CIS provides individualized case management, goal setting, attendance and behavior interventions, mental-health and social-service referrals, and school-wide prevention activities aligned with positive climate, engagement, and safety goals. The overall purpose of the project is to reduce early warning indicators before they escalate into more serious safety concerns. CISEPA expects to serve approximately 5800 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the following staff: Site Coordinators and the Director of Programs. Funding will also be used to support supplies and operating expenses such as program materials, incentives, food, sensory items, and student engagement tools; and other costs consisting of indirect and administrative costs.</p>
<p>Marley's Mission</p> <p>Multiple counties</p> <p>Amount: \$200,000</p>	<p>Marley's Mission is requesting funding to continue and expand its trauma-informed equine-assisted psychotherapy program for children and adolescents ages 5–18 across Northeastern Pennsylvania. Established in 2010 and serving youth from 17 counties, including Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Wayne, Pike, and surrounding communities, the organization provides clinically driven, evidence-informed mental health treatment for children who have experienced domestic violence, community violence, sexual or physical abuse, traumatic loss, foster care instability, and other adverse experiences. Located on a 63-acre therapeutic farm, Marley's Mission is the region's only equine-assisted psychotherapy provider that operates with a licensed clinical team and trained equine specialists who jointly deliver structured, experiential trauma treatment. The project aims to stabilize youth impacted by violence, reduce long-term risks such as school disengagement, behavioral crises, and potential justice-system involvement, and increase access for uninsured or underinsured families who currently face significant barriers to care. Approximately 150 children will be served annually through intake assessments, ongoing therapy sessions, and quarterly clinical evaluations that monitor symptom reduction, emotional regulation, and overall recovery.</p> <p>Funds will be used for the partial salary for 1-2 Clinicians and 1-2 Equine Specialists. Funds will also be used for supplies and operating expenses including horse care, therapy materials, clinical tools, facility utilities, software systems, and administrative supports.</p>

<p>Pennsylvania CASA Association, Inc.</p> <p>Multiple counties</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Pennsylvania CASA Association seeks funding to expand Safe Transitions for Court-Involved Youth, a youth-focused prevention initiative designed to reduce future violence risk among court involved youth who have been exposed to domestic or community violence and reside in counties with elevated violent crime rates. The project strengthens and enhances the existing CASA advocacy model by adding structured violence-exposure documentation, individualized advocacy planning, trauma-informed engagement, and increased advocacy intensity during high-risk transition periods such as placement changes, reunification, aging out of care, and case closure. PA CASA will coordinate statewide implementation across five local CASA programs—Philadelphia, Dauphin, McKean, Mercer, and Delaware Counties—providing training, technical assistance, data oversight, and project management. Local CASA programs will deliver enhanced, relationship-based advocacy to stabilize youth, improve continuity of services, strengthen protective factors, and reduce long-term risk of revictimization or justice-system involvement. The Project will serve at least 33 youth per year.</p> <p>Funds will support personnel responsible for statewide leadership, program oversight, data management, fiscal administration, and local implementation; employee benefits; travel for monitoring, technical assistance, and in-person support; supplies and operating costs including office materials, printing, postage, and shared systems; and consultant allocations to local CASA programs that will implement the enhanced advocacy activities.</p>
<p>Rising Hope For Change Inc.</p> <p>Multiple counties</p> <p>Amount: \$118,992</p>	<p>Rising Hope For Change Inc. (RHFC) is requesting funding to restart and expand a previously implemented violence-prevention initiative, <i>Community United: Violence Prevention and Youth Empowerment Initiative</i>, serving youth ages 10–24 and families across Southwest Philadelphia and Eastern Delaware County. The project seeks to reduce violence and strengthen protective factors in neighborhoods experiencing chronic exposure to gun violence, poverty, racial inequity, and trauma. The initiative combines youth development workshops, trauma-informed healing circles, art-based expression, community block-level engagement, street outreach, case management, and cross-county resource connection to address the multilevel drivers of violence. Programming is delivered in trusted community spaces through partner sites such as End Time Reminder Ministries, Freedom Worship Center, immigrant community organizations, mental health and social service providers, and local schools/educational institutions, among others. The initiative aims to serve up to 10,000 individuals annually, with 150–250 receiving intensive direct services.</p> <p>Funding will be used to partially support a Project Manager, Program Officer, and a Community Outreach Worker/Case Specialist. Funding will also be utilized for program materials, art supplies, technology, event materials, beautification tools, and outreach items; consultants for accounting, trauma-informed training, and specialized facilitation; and other costs including event-space rental, office/administrative expenses, software, and communications.</p>
<p>Southern Tier Alternative Therapies, Inc.</p> <p>Multiple counties</p> <p>Amount: \$125,000</p>	<p>Southern Tier Alternative Therapies, Inc. (STAT) is seeking funding to expand its M.U.S.T.A.N.G. (Movement, Understanding, Shifts, Trust, Adaptability, Nourishment, Growth) program as a youth-focused violence-prevention strategy. The project aims to engage high-risk youth—particularly those with trauma histories, involvement in the juvenile justice or child welfare systems, foster care placements, or elevated substance-use risk—through structured, ground-based equine-assisted learning that strengthens emotional regulation, safer decision-making, relational trust, and prosocial behavior. The project aims to serve 125 individuals annually in Allegheny, Fayette, Indiana, Armstrong, Somerset, Westmoreland and Cambria counties. The initiative also includes experiential workshops for youth-serving professionals across juvenile justice, probation, child welfare, foster care, and residential programs. These professionals will experience firsthand how trauma-informed equine-assisted</p>

	<p>learning supports regulation, accountability, and behavioral change in youth. A key component of the project is the use of structured four-week M.U.S.T.A.N.G. pilot blocks for new sites, including group homes, residential treatment programs, and detention centers in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Funds will support consultants and personnel who deliver equine-assisted programming. Funding will also cover travel expenses required for multi-site program delivery; equipment necessary for safe equine-assisted sessions; and operating expenses such as program-related insurance, facility and arena use, equine care, and session materials.</p>
<p>The Lincoln Center for Family and Youth</p> <p>Multiple counties</p> <p>Amount: \$499,215</p>	<p>The Lincoln Center for Family and Youth (TLC) is requesting funding to continue its hospital-based violence intervention program (HVIP), developed in partnership with Trinity Health Mid-Atlantic and implemented across Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital, Nazareth Hospital, and St. Mary Medical Center. The program serves victims of violence in Bucks, Delaware, Montgomery, and Northeast Philadelphia Counties, providing immediate bedside crisis response, trauma-informed therapy, case management, and victim advocacy. Built on the evidence-based Helping Hurt People model, the program aims to meet both the immediate and long-term needs of individuals exposed to violence, reduce traumatic stress, and interrupt cycles of retaliatory harm. Services include assertive outreach within hours of hospital arrival, long-term trauma-focused counseling, navigation of legal and healthcare systems, and coordinated referrals for continued care. TLC expects to serve approximately 115 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the following staff: Violence Intervention Clinician, Violence Intervention Case Manager, and the Clinical Supervisor as well as consultant services to maintain coordination across hospital departments.</p>
<p>YWCA Tri-County Area</p> <p>Multiple counties</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>YWCA Tri-County Area is requesting funding to expand its Youth Community Building and Empowerment initiative, a prevention-centered out-of-school-time program serving approximately 200 middle school youth across Montgomery, Berks, and Chester counties in the Pottstown, Pottsgrove and Owen J. Roberts school districts. The project aims to strengthen protective factors for students who face elevated risks related to poverty, trauma exposure, academic challenges, and community violence by providing social-emotional learning, youth-led advocacy, community engagement, and expanded recreation opportunities. Programming will be based at the Pottstown Integrated Wellness Complex and will connect youth from multiple districts through bi-monthly Empowerment Sundays, evidence-based curricula, mentoring, and structured recreational activities. The initiative also includes collaboration with grassroots organizations to recruit youth, provide culturally responsive programming, and elevate youth voice in violence-prevention efforts across the region.</p> <p>Funds will partially support a Director and Manager of Youth Education & Prevention, and a Director of Recreation; employee benefits; travel for transporting youth from target counties to program sites; supplies and operating expenses such as clearances, outreach materials, program supplies, food, incentives, curriculum materials, and field trip costs; and indirect/administrative costs for fiscal management, compliance, operations, and organizational support.</p>
<p>Community Bike Works</p> <p>Northampton County</p>	<p>Community Bike Works is requesting funding to expand the Easton Bike Club, a bike-based mentoring and violence-prevention initiative serving high-risk Easton Area High School students ages 14–18. The program uses bicycles as an engagement tool to connect teens—particularly boys of color from low-income neighborhoods in Easton’s West Ward and South</p>

<p>Amount: \$494,800</p>	<p>Side—with caring adult mentors in a structured environment. Through a 48-hour Earn a Bike curriculum, daily afterschool and summer cycling activities, one-on-one mentoring, youth apprenticeships, and a new “Bike Bus” commuter support model, the project aims to build protective factors. Teen participants spend time each week with mentors, learning bike mechanics, safe riding, communication skills, and healthy coping strategies, while also gaining access to safe recreational outlets, transportation support, and meaningful leadership opportunities. Community Bike Works expects to serve approximately 60 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the following staff: a Project Manager, a Program Director, two part-time Adult Staff, and paid Youth Apprentices. Funding will also be used to support travel, including transportation of youth, staff mileage, training, participation in youth-focused conferences; supplies and operating expenses, such as helmets, lights, locks, pumps, mini-repair kits, bike parts, recreational activity fees, and food. The budget also includes indirect/administrative costs.</p>
<p>Greater Easton Development Partnership</p> <p>Northampton County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Greater Easton Development Partnership is requesting funding to continue its Safe Routes to School program, a community-based safety and prevention initiative serving school-age youth in Easton’s West Ward neighborhood. The program deploys trained Easton Ambassadors along key pedestrian routes surrounding Paxinosa Elementary School to reduce risks associated with traffic hazards, unsupervised time, and exposure to neighborhood-level safety concerns during school arrival and dismissal. By providing crossing support, visibility, informal mentorship, and real-time coordination with school and municipal partners, the initiative aims to strengthen protective factors for approximately 600 students annually.</p> <p>Funds will support salary and benefits for four Easton Ambassadors and partial salary/benefits for a Program Manager. Funds will also be allocated to support indirect/administrative costs required for oversight, coordination, and reporting.</p>
<p>St. Anthony Youth Center of Easton, Pa., Inc</p> <p>Northampton County</p> <p>Amount: \$232,820</p>	<p>St. Anthony Youth Center of Easton, Pa., Inc., doing business as the Easton Area Community Center (EACC), is requesting funding to expand its long-standing organized competitive sports and athletic programs serving underserved youth in Easton’s West Ward. The EACC currently provides after-school programming, a full-day summer camp, and rapidly growing competitive sports offerings including basketball, wrestling, cheerleading, and a piloted soccer program. The proposed project aims to enhance administrative capacity, strengthen existing sports programs, and expand offerings to include larger-scale soccer programming and additional sports such as pickleball, tennis, golf, and softball. Organized sports are intended to support positive youth development, reduce exposure to gangs and negative peer influences, build social and emotional skills, and provide consistent supervision during high-risk after-school hours. EACC anticipates serving 250 youth throughout the project period.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary of a Director and a Grant Specialist. Funding will also support supplies and operating expenses such as uniforms, sports equipment, league fees, referee and security fees, facility rentals, and team banquets. Coaching services will also be supported by VIP funding.</p>
<p>Valley Youth House Committee Inc.</p> <p>Northampton County</p>	<p>Valley Youth House Committee Inc. requests funding to expand its school-based violence-prevention and mental-health services into the Easton Area and Bethlehem Area School Districts, serving approximately 700 students annually across four secondary schools. The project responds to elevated trauma exposure, behavioral disruptions, unmet mental-health needs, poverty-related stress, and school-based conflict documented through</p>

<p>Amount: \$412,986</p>	<p>local PAYS data, district discipline reports, and county-level violence trends. The initiative provides a coordinated continuum of supports that include trauma-informed, school-based counseling; Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Trauma in Schools (CBITS); the Too Good for Violence (TGFV) evidence-based curriculum; risk and trauma screening; mindfulness instruction for students and staff; crisis intervention; family and collateral engagement; and ongoing participation in Student Assistance Program (SAP) processes. The program aims to reduce violence risk, strengthen protective factors, improve emotional regulation and coping skills, and increase school engagement for youth at risk for involvement in violence but not yet exhibiting chronic violent behavior.</p> <p>Funds will support salary and benefits for school-based counselors, a program supervisor, administrative support, and a portion of the director's time; minimal travel for counselor mobility across schools; supplies and operating expenses including curriculum materials, student supplies, technology access, client-tracking systems, insurance, occupancy, IT services, and training; and administrative costs.</p>
<p>Wilson Area LINC Family Center Inc.</p> <p>Northampton County</p> <p>Amount: \$79,000</p>	<p>Wilson Area LINC Family Center, Inc. is requesting to launch the Skills Training and Recognition (STAR) Program, a new evidence-based after-school prevention initiative for approximately 200 intermediate-aged youth in the Wilson Area School District. The program responds to elevated community risk factors identified through the Communities That Care (CTC) planning process, including low neighborhood attachment, depressive symptoms among youth, normalization of substance use, and limited access to structured prosocial opportunities. STAR will provide three annual cycles of supervised, skill-building sessions delivered after school, with instruction provided by trained community partners and volunteers. Guided by the Social Development Strategy, the program will strengthen protective factors through hands-on skills training, positive adult mentorship, opportunities for prosocial involvement, recognition of youth contributions, and structured enrichment activities.</p> <p>Funds will partially support a full-time STAR Coordinator; employee benefits; travel for training, partner coordination, and site visits; equipment necessary for program management; supplies and operating expenses such as instructional materials, snacks, software, printing, and minor operating costs; consultant support for Communities That Care training and technical assistance; and other allowable costs including background checks, insurance, transportation assistance, and facility-related expenses.</p>
<p>12 Plus</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>12 Plus is requesting funding to expand its College & Career Readiness (CCR) model across five high-need public high schools in Philadelphia. The project aims to reduce youth disconnection and strengthen long-term protective factors for approximately 2,750 students annually by embedding full-time advising teams directly within schools located in neighborhoods facing persistent poverty, high rates of violence, and limited access to postsecondary pathways. Through grade-specific programming, individualized mentorship, career exploration, financial aid support, and transition guidance from 9th grade through two years post-graduation, the initiative provides sustained, relationship-based support designed to increase school engagement, improve graduation and postsecondary matriculation rates, and reduce risk factors associated with economic instability and exposure to violence.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits for the following 3 staff positions to be located in each of the 5 schools; Site Director, College & Career Coordinator, and Fellow (direct-service practitioner). Additionally, funding will be used for various staff training opportunities, travel stipends for program attendees, essential supplies and operating needs</p>

	<p>such as student materials, technology, printing, and event resources, and modest consultant services to support student engagement and event activities.</p>
<p>Achieve Now Philadelphia County Amount: \$383,037</p>	<p>Achieve Now is requesting funding to expand its early-literacy intervention model serving K–2 students in under-resourced Philadelphia schools. The project aims to disrupt the profound link between early reading struggles, long-term academic disengagement, and exposure to violence by providing three consecutive years of structured, evidence-based phonics instruction. Through small-group instruction in kindergarten and first grade and an individualized tutoring model in second grade, Achieve Now programming occurs during the school day and incorporates trauma-informed, culturally responsive, and data-driven practices that address the needs of students facing concentrated poverty, limited early language exposure, and historic disinvestment. By embedding trained literacy instructors in partner schools and coordinating closely with teachers and administrators, the initiative seeks to ensure early reading success for approximately 450 students per year.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits of a Program Director, a Literary Instructor for each of the six classrooms, as well as essential educational equipment/instructional tools and basic printing costs.</p>
<p>Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture Philadelphia County Amount: \$390,000</p>	<p>Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture is requesting funding to launch Juthoor: Roots Growing Voices, a new after-school arts and culture initiative serving approximately 60 middle and high-school students each year in two schools within Northeast Philadelphia. The program aims to strengthen protective factors for Arab, immigrant, refugee, and other culturally diverse youth who experience elevated exposure to community violence, trauma, discrimination, and social isolation. Through twice-weekly sessions in visual arts, poetry and creative writing, and songwriting led by professional teaching artists and supported by trained mentors, the project seeks to enhance emotional regulation, cultural identity, peer connection, and school engagement. Activities center on Arab artistic traditions while intentionally welcoming students of all backgrounds to foster inclusion, cross-cultural understanding, and improved school climate in communities disproportionately impacted by violent crime.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits of the following personnel: Executive Director, Education Manager, Education Coordinator, Site Supervisor, Site Coordinator, and four Teaching Artist Mentors. Funding will also be utilized for staff travel between the different sites for program implementation and coordination, travel costs associated with field trips for program participants, general office and art supplies, and various technological equipment such as digital cameras, sound equipment, and iPads.</p>
<p>Ardella’s House Inc. Philadelphia County Amount: \$158,811</p>	<p>Ardella’s House Inc. is requesting funding under the VIP Reentry/Aftercare program to expand ReACTION, a trauma-informed reentry and aftercare initiative serving approximately 60 adjudicated and justice-involved girls, ages 13–21, each year across Philadelphia. The program addresses the significant unmet needs of girls experiencing chronic trauma, instability, poverty, school disruption, and system involvement, many of whom are referred directly by the Philadelphia District Attorney’s Office. Through flexible, relationship-based engagement, ReACTION provides mentoring, therapeutic group sessions, life-skills development, court-navigation support, and enrichment activities such as college and career exposure. Designed to address safety risks and reduce recidivism, the program focuses on emotional regulation, conflict resolution, decision-making, and overall stability during a critical reentry window when participants are managing probation requirements and navigating unsafe environments.</p>

	<p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits of two Facilitators, transportation costs for program participants, travel costs associated with attending enrichment and exposure activities each year, program and outreach materials, consultant costs for data tracking and evaluation services, and administrative costs. Funding is conditioned upon the applicant being able to proceed with the project (possibly with reduced scope) within the allowable maximum award.</p>
<p>Azzim Dukes Initiative Philadelphia County Amount: \$49,000</p>	<p>The Azzim Dukes Initiative (ADI) is requesting funding to continue its Contenders Program, a structured boxing-based youth development model serving school-age youth across Philadelphia. ADI provides high-frequency after-school and weekend programming that integrates physical training, emotional-regulation coaching, credible-messenger mentorship, and free meals within a safe, structured environment. The program operates out of two gym sites in neighborhoods disproportionately affected by gun violence, poverty, and systemic disinvestment, offering youth a consistent alternative to high-risk environments during critical after-school hours. Through level-based cohorts, Junior, Rising, and Elite Contenders, approximately 100 participants each year will receive progressive instruction in body mechanics, technical skill application, and supervised sparring, all designed to strengthen discipline, self-control, and problem-solving under pressure. Embedded mentorship, including relationship-building with coaches who share lived experiences, provides additional support around emotional regulation, resilience, and navigating neighborhood-based stressors.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the partial salaries and benefits of the Program Coordinator, two Head Coaches, and one Junior Coach as well as boxing-related and instructional materials.</p>
<p>Big Brothers Big Sisters Independence Philadelphia County Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Big Brothers Big Sisters Independence is requesting funding to sustain POWER Up, an embedded in-school mentoring initiative serving youth in three middle schools located in North and West Philadelphia. The project aims to strengthen protective factors for youth disproportionately impacted by community violence, poverty, trauma exposure, and academic challenges, by placing full-time professional mentors directly in partner public schools. Through weekly one-to-one and small-group mentoring sessions focused on social-emotional learning, emotional regulation, communication, positive decision-making, and school connectedness, POWER Up provides consistent relationship-based support to youth in neighborhoods that experience some of the highest violent-crime rates in the state. The program anticipates serving approximately 400 students each year,</p> <p>Funds will partially support salaries and benefits for a Program Director, three Program Managers, and eight Lead Mentors during a two-year project period. Additionally, funds will be used for classroom and mentoring supplies, technology costs, rent, and administrative costs.</p>
<p>Big Picture Philadelphia Philadelphia County Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Big Picture Philadelphia is requesting funding under the VIP Intervention category to expand its mentorship-based career development programming for Opportunity Youth and high-school students ages 16–24 in Kensington and Sharswood, neighborhoods experiencing some of the highest gun-violence rates in Philadelphia. The project will serve approximately 80 youth annually by strengthening in-school certification pathways at El Centro de Estudiantes and Vaux Big Picture High School as well as launching a new Workforce Development Center offering evening workforce training in allied healthcare, culinary arts, construction trades, and creative entrepreneurship. Through real-world learning, hands-on technical instruction, and integrated social-emotional supports, the initiative aims to address barriers driven by chronic absenteeism, trauma, poverty, and limited access to career-track opportunities. Participants will receive individualized mentoring, case management, mental and emotional health counseling, and job-placement support, with wraparound services designed to stabilize engagement and prepare youth for living-wage employment.</p>

	<p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits of the Real World Learning (RWL) Director, El Centro RWL Coordinator, Vaux RWL Coordinator, and Workforce Development Coordinator as well as a stipend for a Resilience Specialist to provide counseling services and case management one night a week. Funds will also be used to purchase a mobile culinary station, workforce development center supplies (Allied Healthcare Suite, Culinary Classroom, Innovation & Design Studio, and Skilled Trades Incubator), professional attire for Workforce Development Center graduates to use for interviews and professional networking opportunities, and costs associated with Condensed Curriculum International (CCI), The Academy of Industrial Arts, and Unite Here to provide trainings to program participants.</p>
<p>Boys & Girls Clubs of Philadelphia</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$499,930</p>	<p>Boys & Girls Clubs of Philadelphia is requesting funding to expand free after-school and summer programming for youth ages 6–12 at its Shane Victorino Nicetown Club and Ralph J. Roberts Germantown Club. The project aims to serve approximately 80 youth each year, focusing on reducing risk factors associated with youth violence, academic failure, chronic absenteeism, and community trauma by providing structured, evidence-informed out-of-school programming in neighborhoods that experience high poverty rates, elevated gun violence, and limited academic supports. Using Boys & Girls Clubs of America’s Project Learn framework, integrating literacy instruction, STEM enrichment, homework help, social-emotional learning, and recreation, the initiative seeks to strengthen protective factors such as academic engagement, emotional regulation, positive decision-making, and supportive peer and adult relationships.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits of two unit directors, six program assistants, and bus rental expenses for field trips. Additionally, funds will be used for program materials/supplies, field trip costs, utilities, and indirect costs related to payroll and administrative oversight.</p>
<p>Build Our Lives Together (BOLT)</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$240,000</p>	<p>Build Our Lives Together (BOLT) is requesting funding under the VIP Prevention category to expand its BOLT School for Grassroots Leadership (SGL), an intensive leadership and organizational-capacity program supporting adult violence-prevention practitioners living in Philadelphia’s neighborhoods with the highest rates of gun violence. The initiative strengthens frontline leaders, credible messengers, local advocates, and community-rooted practitioners, who already de-escalate conflict, mentor youth, and provide direct support to families but often operate without stable funding or organizational infrastructure. Through an 8-month cohort model, approximately 30 participants will receive structured leadership training, executive coaching, school-based engagement opportunities, and skill development in governance, fundraising, systems navigation, and nonprofit management. The project embeds these trained leaders into neighborhood public high schools, where they serve as mentors and Project Guides for youth, enabling consistent, trauma-informed support and early intervention in high-risk settings. The overall goal is to build a coordinated, intergenerational violence-prevention ecosystem by stabilizing trusted adults while increasing youth access to credible, neighborhood-rooted mentors.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salary of the Executive Director, consultant costs for financial management services, participant stipends for community-based violence prevention leaders participating in the BOLT school, and post-program seed investments in the leaders.</p>
<p>BuildaBridge International</p>	<p>BuildaBridge International is requesting funding to expand its trauma-informed arts-based Safe Spaces programming across additional Philadelphia recreation centers located in neighborhoods with some of the city’s highest rates of youth violence. For 28 years,</p>

<p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$77,031</p>	<p>BuildaBridge has delivered healing-centered, culturally responsive arts programs designed for youth facing significant trauma, poverty, displacement, and systemic inequities. The proposed expansion will offer year-round after-school arts programming to approximately 750 youth each year at four recreation center sites (Lonnie Young, Granahan, Penrose, and Winchester). Programming will include intensive Vacation Arts sessions during school breaks, Arts of Self-Care workshops, a Youth Advisory Council, and a teaching-artist apprenticeship for young adults. These initiatives are grounded in BuildaBridge’s established Safe Spaces Model, trauma-responsive arts practices, and informed by Hope Theory, Polyvagal Theory, and the Capabilities Approach. The project aims to build protective factors such as hope, self-efficacy, emotional regulation, community connection, and positive identity development among Philadelphia youth, particularly African American, refugee, immigrant, and low-income participants, during peak violence hours after school and throughout the summer.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salaries of Lead Teaching Artists, Assistant Teaching Artists, a Program Coordinator, as well as stipends for Teaching Artist Apprentices and Youth Advisory Council participants. Funding will also be utilized for staff training, staff mileage, participant incentives/snacks, program materials, and indirect costs related to financial management and grant administration duties. Funding is conditioned upon the applicant being able to proceed with the project (possibly with reduced scope) within the allowable maximum award.</p>
<p>Career & Academic Development Institute (CADI)</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$499,032</p>	<p>The Career & Academic Development Institute (CADI) is requesting funding for the CMTEED initiative, a comprehensive after-school and weekend program serving approximately 50 youth each year, ages 16–21, across Philadelphia, primarily in high-need neighborhoods such as North Philadelphia, West Philadelphia, and Kensington. The project aims to reduce risk factors associated with violence involvement, educational disconnection, and poverty by offering twice-weekly after-school sessions, monthly Saturday programming, youth-led service projects, financial literacy, social-emotional learning, conflict-resolution instruction, college and career exploration, and counseling supports. Activities are designed to provide safe, structured environments during high-risk hours, strengthen protective factors, address trauma, and build pathways to long-term academic and economic stability for youth disproportionately affected by gun violence, chronic poverty, and limited access to positive developmental opportunities.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits of the Program Coordinator, Principal/Assistant, Director, and Data Entry Specialist. Funding will also be utilized for food offered during programming, stipends for program participants, and indirect costs related to program implementation and grant management.</p>
<p>Center for the Treatment and Study of Anxiety (CTSA)</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$497,021</p>	<p>The Center for the Treatment and Study of Anxiety (CTSA) at the University of Pennsylvania is seeking VIP Healing-focused funding to continue the PEACE Project, a citywide initiative that trains Philadelphia clinicians to deliver Prolonged Exposure (PE) therapy, an evidence-based treatment for PTSD, to individuals affected by community and gun violence. Building on two years of successful implementation, the project aims to maintain and expand a sustainable coalition of PE-trained Clinicians serving neighborhoods with the highest levels of violence, trauma exposure, and unmet mental-health needs. The initiative proposes training approximately 100 Clinicians and includes intensive workshops in PTSD assessment and PE therapy, followed by year-long consultation leading to clinician certification. It also trains a subset of this group of Clinicians to become PE Consultants, strengthening long-term local capacity by creating a self-sustaining supervisory infrastructure. The project directly responds to the city’s shortage of providers trained in gold-standard trauma treatment and addresses the deep gap between high levels of community trauma and limited access to specialized care.</p>

	<p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits of the Project Director, expert PE consultants, and a Psychology Technician as well as continuing education credits and stipends for program participants. Funding will also be utilized for indirect costs related administrative oversight and grant management.</p>
<p>Child Guidance Resource Center (CGRC)</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$429,864</p>	<p>Child Guidance Resource Center (CGRC) is requesting funding to expand its United for Safety: Strong Minds, Safe Communities initiative, a trauma-informed, family-centered violence-prevention program designed for youth ages 9–14 and their caregivers in high-need neighborhoods of West and Southwest Philadelphia. CGRC plans to deliver annual cohorts of the evidence-based Guiding Good Choices model, offering parallel youth and caregiver sessions that build emotional regulation, conflict-resolution skills, safe decision-making, and stronger family communication. The initiative seeks to intervene early—before youth enter higher-risk adolescent years—by equipping individuals and their families with practical tools to prevent violence involvement and strengthen protective factors that reduce reliance on crisis systems.</p> <p>CGRC expects to serve approximately 300 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the following full-time staff: Program Director, Program Supervisor, and group leaders. Funding will also be used to support supplies and operating expenses such as participant materials, curriculum support (e.g. art supplies); transportation assistance, food, and office supplies. The budget also includes consultant costs for specialized presenters for group sessions and incentives (e.g., gift cards) for those engaged in services.</p>
<p>City Year Philadelphia</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>City Year Philadelphia is requesting funding to significantly expand its out-of-school time (OST) programming across 13 partner schools in Philadelphia and Norristown—communities facing disproportionately high rates of gun violence, chronic absenteeism, low academic proficiency, and limited access to safe afterschool spaces. Building on its Whole School Whole Child model, the initiative will add dedicated OST staff, increase program days, start programming earlier in the year, and broaden curricular offerings to include STEAM, civic engagement, youth leadership, trauma-informed care, mindfulness, physical activity, and test preparation. City Year’s AmeriCorps Student Success Coaches will help deliver these structured afterschool sessions. The goal is to provide consistent adult support, skill-building, academic reinforcement, and safe enrichment opportunities during peak hours for youth victimization and offending.</p> <p>City Year Philadelphia expects to serve approximately 355 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the following staff: one OST manager and two OST coordinators. Funding will also be used to support supplies and operating expenses such as curricula, instructional materials, STEAM resources, mindfulness and test-prep tools, food, and student and group-based incentives for those engaged in services. The budget also includes administrative costs.</p>
<p>Community Behavioral Health (CBH)</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$499,687</p>	<p>Community Behavioral Health (CBH) is requesting funding to expand access to trauma-focused, evidence-based treatments for children and adolescents living in neighborhoods most impacted by gun violence. This project will train clinicians in three evidence-based modalities by partnering with provider agencies in high-need zip codes, as well as with school-based mental health programs through the STEP initiative. CBH will also build referral pathways by working with grassroots and faith-based organizations that frequently</p>

	<p>serve families affected by violence but are disconnected from traditional mental health systems. CBH expects to serve approximately 275 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the following staff: Grant Manager, Child Trauma Operations Specialist, and a Community Engagement Specialist. Funding will also be used to support travel to support in-person training sessions for trainers; supplies and operating expenses such as training manuals, bilateral EMDR stimulators, therapeutic books and toys, and gift cards for those engaged in services. The budget also includes consultant costs for trainers and indirect costs required for administrative support.</p>
<p>Community of Compassion Inc.</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Community of Compassion Inc. is requesting funding for Conflict to Career, a new violence-prevention initiative that integrates trauma-informed workforce development, paid apprenticeship opportunities, individualized case management, and career-readiness training for high-risk youth and young adults in West and Southwest Philadelphia. In partnership with The Community Grocer (TCG) and Invert Strategies, the initiative will offer structured daily engagement, soft-skill and technical-skill training, industry-recognized credentials, and pathways to sustainable employment. TCG will operate a registered culinary apprenticeship program combining paid, on-the-job training with classroom instruction, while Invert Strategies will deliver career-readiness modules for participants pursuing non-culinary pathways. The overall goal is to reduce violence risk by addressing economic instability, lack of opportunity, and unaddressed trauma—key drivers of violence in the service area. Community of Compassion expects to serve approximately 48 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the following staff: Certified Kitchen Manager, a Workforce Development/Operations team from Invert Strategies, and a Resource/Services Coordinator. Funding will also be used to support consultant costs for TCG’s apprenticeship programming; supplies and operating expenses such as software for program tracking, curriculum materials, technology accessories, office supplies, and participant career-readiness kits.</p>
<p>Diamond Beauty Academy</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$72,097</p>	<p>Diamond Beauty Academy is requesting funding to expand its STEM-to-Skin program, an out-of-school-time workforce and violence-prevention initiative serving high-risk young women and non-binary youth ages 14–24 in North and West Philadelphia. The project aims to strengthen protective factors by providing structured after-school learning, case management, mental-health support, and pathways into STEM-aligned beauty and cosmetic-science careers. Through hands-on labs, industry-recognized safety and workforce credentials, entrepreneurship training, and paid work-based learning opportunities, the program offers a safe, culturally responsive environment that fosters academic engagement, professional skill-building, positive relationships, and alternatives to high-risk activities. Activities occur several days per week and are coordinated with school partners, workforce organizations, and community-based service providers to reduce youth exposure to violence during peak hours and advance long-term economic stability. Diamond Beauty Academy expects to serve approximately 225 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used for travel and training to support outreach, case management, partner coordination, and staff development; supplies and operating expenses such as instructional and lab materials, software, printing, and facility and utilities costs; consultant services for specialized instruction, trauma-informed facilitation, credential delivery, entrepreneurship training, and workforce preparation; and indirect/other costs necessary for financial management, compliance, insurance, data tracking, and program administration.</p>

<p>Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site is requesting funding to continue and strengthen the LEAD Fellowship program, a 16-week reentry and workforce-development initiative for adults returning from incarceration in Philadelphia. The program, which will serve more than 30 participants annually, provides Fellows with paid on-site employment, structured job-readiness training, digital literacy instruction, trauma-informed support, and exposure to museum and cultural-sector career pathways. Participants also receive access to wrap-around supports, including housing assistance, financial literacy, legal services, and behavioral-health resources, reducing barriers that commonly contribute to recidivism. Through partnerships with credible-messenger practitioners, reentry cooperatives, cultural institutions, and evaluation experts, the initiative addresses the city’s documented needs related to concentrated poverty, reentry instability, and elevated risks of violence among justice-impacted residents.</p> <p>Funds will support partial salary and benefits for the Director of Workforce Development. Funds will also be used to support travel for employer engagement and civic learning experiences, curriculum materials, transportation stipends, and graduation supports. In addition, funds will support consultant services for training, trauma-resilience coaching, legal navigation, and workforce development. Other items supported include Fellow wages, stipends for alumni engagement, and indirect administrative support required for program coordination and compliance.</p>
<p>Education Plus Health</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$492,801</p>	<p>Education Plus Health is requesting funding to expand a comprehensive school-based wellness model at the newly opened Early College Charter School of Philadelphia. Building on its long-standing work operating school-based health centers in high-poverty neighborhoods, the organization will implement a dual-generation mental and behavioral health program serving both students and staff in a school community that prioritizes enrollment from Philadelphia’s lowest-income zip codes and neighborhoods with high exposure to violence, trauma, and chronic stress. The initiative seeks to serve nearly 800 individuals and includes universal screening for mental-health and suicide risk, trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy and dyadic counseling for students and families, and structured wellness programming, professional development, and one-to-one support for educators.</p> <p>Funds will support full and partial salary and benefits for the following positions: Staff Wellness Coordinator/Licensed Provider and a Behavioral Health Counselor. Funds will also be allocated for travel and training for program staff and additional supplies including office equipment, screening tools, program materials, and wellness-promotion resources. Funds will support program development, implementation, evaluation, and model-building; and other eligible costs such as professional development for school staff.</p>
<p>Hand2Paw Foundation</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$193,673</p>	<p>Hand2Paw Foundation is requesting funding to expand its violence-prevention, workforce-development, and healing-centered programming for young adults ages 17–24 in Philadelphia. The project builds on Hand2Paw’s existing paid internship models—Pawspurr and Unleashing Opportunities—which combine hands-on animal care, trauma-informed social-emotional learning, humane education, and career-readiness training. Designed for youth experiencing homelessness, foster care involvement, justice-system exposure, and community violence, the initiative, which seeks to serve approximately 22 youth annually, aims to strengthen protective factors by providing living-wage employment opportunities, structured supervision, mentorship, case management, and real-world job experiences in animal welfare settings. The proposed expansion includes a Fall Pawspurr cohort and a six-month Unleashing Opportunities internship, along with individualized case management and continued alumni support to help youth stabilize, reduce risk factors, and transition successfully into employment or education.</p>

	<p>Funds will partially support the salary and benefits for the following positions: Executive Director, Program Manager, Program Facilitator, part-time Case Manager, and paid Interns. Funds will also be allocated to support travel costs, such as transportation passes needed for reliable program attendance; supplies and operating expenses including payroll administration software and related administrative tools; and other direct costs required to support program delivery.</p>
<p>Harlem Lacrosse - Philadelphia</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>Harlem Lacrosse – Philadelphia is requesting funding to sustain its school-embedded, year-round academic, athletic, and social-emotional development programming for approximately 210 students in grades 6–12 across three schools in the Olney section of North Philadelphia. The initiative embeds full-time Program Directors within each partner school to provide daily academic coaching, behavioral interventions, lacrosse instruction, mentoring, enrichment experiences, and long-term college and career planning. Designed to address barriers such as chronic absenteeism, low academic performance, and exposure to community violence, the program offers consistent, relationship-based support that keeps students engaged, improves school attendance, builds resilience, and strengthens pathways toward high school graduation and post-secondary success.</p> <p>Funds will support a portion of salaries and benefits for two Program Directors. Funds will also be allocated to support supplies and operating expenses, such as athletic league and tournament fees, transportation for participants, and meals needed during extended programming hours.</p>
<p>Health Promotion Council of Southeastern Pennsylvania, Inc.</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$499,902</p>	<p>Health Promotion Council of Southeastern Pennsylvania is requesting funding to expand its Advocacy Institute’s (Ai) Philly Peace Ambassadors program, a public-health-grounded, youth-led violence-prevention initiative annually serving approximately 33 adolescents ages 13–18 in Philadelphia. The project will enhance the existing 10-week advocacy and gun-violence-prevention curriculum by adding a formalized intake and needs-assessment process, a part-time Care Coordinator, four trained Peer Coaches per cohort, and a coordinated network of wraparound services. The program will prioritize youth living in four zip codes disproportionately impacted by gun violence and will provide structured opportunities to build leadership, critical consciousness, restorative-justice skills, and public-health advocacy competencies. Through three Ai PPA cohorts delivered over three years, participants will engage in curriculum-based learning, peer-led education, community mapping, and youth-designed civic action projects while receiving individualized support addressing housing instability, food insecurity, and behavioral-health needs.</p> <p>Funds will partially support salary and benefits for the following positions: Director of PASHI and Interim Director of the Advocacy Institute, Assistant Director of the Advocacy Institute, Senior Coordinator, Fun Violence Prevention Coordinator, Operations Coordinator, and a part-time Care Coordinator. Funds will also be used to support travel and training for community engagement, recruitment, and restorative-justice instruction; supplies and operating expenses such as curriculum materials, planning and meeting costs, participant incentives, branded materials, and food supports; consultant services (Collective Climb and PHMC’s Research and Evaluation Group) for peer-coach training and external evaluation; and administrative costs necessary for program oversight, data management, partnership coordination, and organizational infrastructure.</p>
<p>Hopeworks</p>	<p>Hopeworks is requesting funding to expand its continuously operating stabilization-to-employment model for justice-involved and system-impacted young adults ages</p>

<p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>17–26 living in Philadelphia’s highest-violence neighborhoods, particularly Kensington (19134) and adjacent high-risk ZIP codes. The program seeks to reach 275 participants annually, while providing a structured pathway that begins with onboarding, paid foundational training, and trauma-informed coaching; continues with paid work experience inside Hopeworks’ social-enterprise technology businesses; and leads to placement in full-time external employment with strong wage and retention outcomes. Participants receive daily structure, consistent adult support, income stability, and real-world skill development—factors that directly reduce risks associated with violence exposure, reentry instability, and unemployment.</p> <p>Funds will support the salaries of two full-time Career Readiness Coaches. Funds will also be allocated to support participant training stipends; and other essential costs required to sustain daily engagement, onboarding, and stabilization activities.</p>
<p>It Takes A Village To Feed One Child (ITAVTFOC)</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>It Takes A Village To Feed One Child is requesting funding to launch a new, integrated youth-enrichment initiative serving approximately 80 children annually across high-violence, high-poverty neighborhoods in Philadelphia. The program brings together three partners—ITAVTFOC, Mighty Writers, and Cycle Breakers—to provide a coordinated, trauma-informed, prevention-focused intervention for school-age youth during the after-school and summer hours when they are at greatest risk of exposure to violence. Mighty Writers will operate its After-School Academy for students in grades 3–8 and a free, full-day Summer Camp for ages 8–14, blending literacy instruction with embedded social-emotional learning, structured play, mindfulness, and creative enrichment. Cycle Breakers will deliver a five-module curriculum for youth ages 12–18 focused on mindset development, emotional regulation, conflict resolution, and future planning, designed to interrupt cycles of trauma and strengthen protective factors. ITAVTFOC will coordinate all partners, manage family engagement, oversee site operations at the new Leiper Street location, and ensure alignment with violence-prevention goals across all components.</p> <p>Funds will support the salary and benefits for the following positions: Program Manager, part-time Support Staff, and two Program Staff Members. Funds will also be allocated to support travel and training for staff in trauma-informed practice, youth safety, de-escalation, and partnership coordination; supplies and operating expenses including literacy materials, art and SEL supplies, technology, storage, printing, and evaluation tools; and other costs such as rent, utilities, insurance, administrative support, and data systems needed to operate the new site and manage a multi-partner public-safety initiative.</p>
<p>JEVS Human Services</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>JEVS Human Services is requesting funding to expand its Career Connected Learning Philadelphia (C2L-PHL) initiative, a citywide, out-of-school-time work-based learning model serving youth ages 13–18 who are connected, or at high risk of connection, to the child welfare, juvenile justice, and foster care systems. The proposed expansion will add 150 new program slots for youth living in high-violence neighborhoods across North, West, and Southwest Philadelphia. C2L-PHL provides paid internships, service-learning projects, and project-based learning experiences, along with structured skill-building in career exploration, financial literacy, and professional development. The program is delivered in partnership with the City of Philadelphia, Philadelphia Works, Inc., and the School District of Philadelphia, and includes robust recruitment and application support, mentoring, case management, and assistance with obtaining vital documents.</p> <p>Funds will support the salary and benefits of the Program Director (partial salary/benefits), and three Compliance Assistants. Funds will also be allocated to support supplies and operating expenses, including laptops, software, background checks, insurance, communication tools,</p>

	<p>survey systems, and operating costs for subcontracted providers; and other costs such as youth stipends, indirect administrative support, and systems required to manage participant payments.</p>
<p>Men Who Care of Germantown, Inc</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$300,000</p>	<p>Men Who Care of Germantown, Inc. is requesting funding under to sustain and expand Real Talk, a school-embedded mentorship and violence-prevention initiative serving youth ages 8–19 across Germantown and Northwest Philadelphia. The project aims to strengthen protective factors for students disproportionately affected by community violence, poverty, trauma exposure, and academic challenges by providing relationship-based mentoring, social-emotional skill-building, and restorative-practice workshops during the school day. Real Talk delivers weekly sessions in partner high schools and expanded weekly sessions in elementary and middle schools, supported by mentors with lived experience who facilitate discussions on conflict resolution, emotional regulation, accountability, peer relationships, and positive decision-making. The program also integrates enrichment such as field trips, gaming-based nonviolence activities, and culturally responsive learning opportunities to foster engagement, school connectedness, and alternatives to harmful behaviors. The Project will serve 200 youth per year.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salaries for an Administrative Director, 2 Program Managers, and an accountant. Funds will also support travel for youth enrichment and staff training; equipment and technology used for curriculum delivery and outcome tracking; supplies and operating costs such as food, activity materials, program supplies, and gaming-based prevention activities; consultant services for restorative practice training and evaluation; and indirect expenses including facility costs, insurance, and youth engagement incentives.</p>
<p>Mt. Airy USA (dba Mt. Airy CDC)</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Mt. Airy CDC is requesting funding under the VIP Prevention program to restart Safe Steps Northwest, a place-based violence-prevention initiative that delivers weekly residential block cleaning in Germantown, East Germantown, and Mt. Airy. The project aims to reduce environmental risk factors associated with violent crime by providing consistent litter abatement on approximately 175 residential blocks with documented histories of shootings or proximity to recent gun-violence incidents. Building on outcomes from a prior implementation period—in which treated blocks experienced significantly greater reductions in gun violence compared to similar neighborhoods—the project will maintain sustained environmental care, community engagement, and data-informed block selection to improve safety and neighborhood conditions. Services will be delivered in partnership with a competitively procured contractor experienced in large-scale block cleaning, with Mt. Airy CDC providing oversight, community coordination, and grant administration. The resources will enable the reestablishment of weekly block-level maintenance, strengthen coordination with City partners, and support data analysis conducted with specialized research partners to assess impact. Funding will allow Mt. Airy CDC to restore a high-frequency environmental-maintenance model shown to contribute to reduced gun-violence risk, benefiting more than 25,000 residents annually by improving neighborhood cleanliness, visibility, and perceptions of safety.</p> <p>Requested funds will support supplies and operating expenses such as outreach materials, cleaning equipment, and community-engagement needs; consultant costs for the cleaning contractor responsible for staffing, service delivery, and data tracking; and indirect/administrative costs for project oversight, financial management, and communications.</p>
<p>Musicopia, Inc</p>	<p>Musicopia, Inc. is requesting funding to expand and strengthen Musicopia Drumlines, a culturally responsive after-school percussion initiative serving school-age youth across</p>

<p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Philadelphia. The project aims to provide safe, structured, and engaging out-of-school programming in neighborhoods experiencing some of the highest concentrations of gun violence, overdose, and community trauma in the city. Musicopia Drumlines offers two to three weekly rehearsals, mentorship from community-rooted teaching artists and drill-team coaches, ensemble-based social-emotional learning, community performances, leadership development, and exposure to college and career pathways. The program’s design is supported by a six-month independent evaluation conducted by Drexel University’s Justice-oriented Youth Lab, which confirmed strong outcomes in student belonging, confidence, resilience, and perceived safety. With demand from schools and families continuing to rise, the proposed expansion includes adding three new Drumlines sites, increasing access for youth in high-need ZIP codes, and establishing a dedicated full-time Drumlines Manager to support grant compliance and multi-site coordination. The Program will serve 1,300 youth annually, ages 5-18.</p> <p>Requested funds will support partial salaries and benefits for the Senior Director of Programming, Program Manager, Director of Student Development, and Senior Director of Operations, Program Coordinator, and the new Drumlines Manager; supplies and operating expenses such as instruments for new sites, software for data and attendance tracking, and transportation; consultant costs for teaching artists, community drill-team coaches, and professional development; and indirect costs necessary for administrative oversight and project sustainability.</p>
<p>Northern Children’s Services</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Northern Children’s Services is requesting funding to sustain its Summer Wellness Program, an eight-week, full-day therapeutic out-of-school-time initiative for children ages 6–12 with active behavioral health diagnoses. The program provides structured, trauma-informed group sessions, emotional-regulation skill-building, supervised recreation, wellness and nutrition activities, academic reinforcement, and consistent daily routines for children who often cannot safely participate in traditional summer programs due to the level of support they require. Operating on Northern’s Philadelphia campus, the program is designed to maintain continuity of care when school-based services are unavailable, reduce behavioral regression during summer months, strengthen protective factors such as positive adult relationships and emotional regulation, and support caregivers through workshops and ongoing communication. Activities are delivered in small groups with licensed clinical oversight and low staff-to-participant ratios, reinforcing safety, stability, and therapeutic progress for youth who are disproportionately exposed to community violence, poverty, and limited access to appropriate summer supports. The project will serve 53 youth annually.</p> <p>Funds will be used for the partial salary and benefits for the Senior Director of Behavioral Health and the Director of Volunteerism and Recreation, and for the full-time salary and benefits for the Assistant Director of Wellness and Resiliency, a Wellness Clinician, Lifeguard, Wellness Chef, and 9 Summer Behavioral Health Technicians. Funds will also be used for staff training and limited travel for enrichment activities; supplies and operating expenses including curriculum materials, therapeutic activity supplies, meals and snacks, program materials, and prorated facility and utility costs; consultants to support IT and data functions; and indirect costs necessary for fiscal management, compliance, and administrative oversight.</p>
<p>Northwest Victim Services</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$182,400</p>	<p>Northwest Victim Services is requesting funding under the VIP program to expand its victim-advocacy and gun-violence-prevention work serving individuals across Northwest Philadelphia. The project aims to strengthen trauma-informed support for gunshot survivors, co-homicide survivors, and victims of other violent crimes by embedding culturally responsive Advocates in key locations, including partner trauma hospitals and police districts. Through direct outreach, bedside engagement, crisis counseling, systems advocacy, safety planning,</p>

	<p>and coordinated referrals, the initiative seeks to reduce revictimization and address barriers related to safety, mental health access, and economic instability. Activities will occur in collaboration with Jefferson Einstein Hospital, Temple University Hospital, local police districts, and community partners, and will include engagement with youth, survivors, and the NVS Youth Advisory Collective to elevate community voices in violence-prevention strategies. The project will serve 600 individuals annually. This project will increase NVS's staffing capacity, expand mental health referral pathways through a partnering healing-arts provider, improve access to victim services for marginalized community members, and help sustain intensive outreach to gunshot survivors. The funding will enable the organization to reach more victims, strengthen trauma-responsive service delivery, and enhance prevention efforts in neighborhoods experiencing persistently high levels of gun violence.</p> <p>Funds will be used to hire full-time and part-time Cultural and Trauma-Informed Care Advocates; employee benefits; equipment such as computers and phones to ensure confidential service delivery; consultant services for financial management and grant reporting; and other administrative supports required for data collection, program coordination, and organizational compliance.</p>
<p>Open Door Abuse Awareness Prevention</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$159,699</p>	<p>Open Door Abuse Awareness Prevention is requesting funding to expand Beyond the Game, a trauma-informed, sports-based violence-prevention initiative operating within youth football and related sports across Philadelphia and surrounding communities. The project equips coaches—often the most consistent adults in young athletes' lives—with trauma-informed skills, emotional-regulation strategies, and relationship-centered approaches that help them respond effectively to youth who are navigating grief, exposure to violence, and high levels of stress. Through weekly or bi-weekly team engagement sessions, peer-leadership opportunities, and ongoing coach support during the athletic season, the initiative aims to strengthen protective factors such as positive adult mentorship, healthy communication, conflict resolution skills, and team-based accountability. Designed to reach youth where they naturally gather, Beyond the Game integrates prevention practices into existing sports structures, allowing for consistent engagement throughout the season and across multiple years of participation. This funding will enable ODAAP to increase capacity, expand to additional teams, maintain trauma-informed coaching cohorts, provide structured youth programming throughout the season, and strengthen data collection and evaluation through tools such as Hello Insight. Funding will support a scalable prevention model that stabilizes team environments, supports coaches' well-being, and reinforces consistent, trauma-informed mentorship for approximately 350 youth and adults each year.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support part-time staffing and a portion of the Executive Director's time; supplies and operating expenses such as office space to facilitate family resource connections, team equipment, training materials, and program supplies; consultant services for bookkeeping and financial management; and other costs including stipends for coaches participating in the trauma-informed training model.</p>
<p>Oxford Circle Christian Community Development Association</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Oxford Circle Christian Community Development Association (OCCDA) is requesting funding to expand the Carnell Family Resource Center (FRC), a long-standing school-embedded initiative providing social-emotional learning, trauma-informed mental-health services, and family supports to students and caregivers at Carnell Elementary in Northeast Philadelphia. The proposed project includes three key service activities: SEL instruction, trauma-focused therapy, and family assistance. Each activity is designed to strengthen student well-being, build protective factors, and reduce risk factors associated with trauma and community violence. FRC activities will take place from September to June each year, serving approximately 250</p>

	<p>students and caregivers. Therapy will be available year-round. The project aims to reduce risk factors for violence by strengthening children’s emotional regulation, coping skills, conflict-resolution abilities, and access to culturally responsive behavioral-health services. Activities include weekly classroom-based SEL instruction using The Leadership Program curriculum, small-group lunch-based SEL sessions, individualized Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy delivered through the Joseph J. Peters Institute, and resource coordination for families, including multilingual navigation and quarterly Parent Cafés. By expanding early, school-based prevention and intervention supports in a high-need catchment area with documented exposure to trauma, poverty, academic challenges, and community violence, the FRC seeks to build a safer, more resilient school climate and strengthen protective factors for children and their families. These resources will enable OCCCDA and JJPI to increase therapy availability, deliver consistent SEL programming across grades, provide culturally responsive family engagement opportunities, track outcomes through established data systems, and sustain a coordinated, evidence-based school–community prevention model.</p> <p>Funds will be used for the partial salary and benefits of a Program Director, FRC Coordinator, Lead Coach, Clinician, Clinical Supervisor, and Intake and Projects Manager. Funds will also be used for travel and training costs; supplies and operating expenses including curriculum materials, technology, software, case-management, insurance, laptops, marketing materials, printed resources, and therapeutic supplies; consultant costs such as technology support, SEL assessment tools, and coaching/training from The Leadership Program; and indirect/administrative costs associated with managing the grant.</p>
<p>PB&J of CultureTrust Greater Philadelphia</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$60,000</p>	<p>PB&J of CultureTrust Greater Philadelphia is requesting funding to expand its Cook, Eat, Connect, and Get Paid trauma-informed after-school program serving youth ages 12–19 in the Kensington neighborhood—one of Philadelphia’s highest-violence areas. The program provides consistent, structured sessions that use food-based activities to support nervous-system regulation, emotional stabilization, and peer connection, grounded in the Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics. Each session leads youth through a progression from hands-on cooking (regulation), to shared meals (belonging), to youth-responsive topics and resource access (connection), paired with modest stipends (stability). PB&J’s approach is intentionally low-barrier, relationship-centered, and designed to engage highly disconnected youth—those experiencing poverty, trauma, justice involvement, foster care, housing instability, disabilities, and other risk factors for violence. With strong community trust, consistent attendance, and sustained engagement already demonstrated, the project aims to reduce violence exposure, strengthen protective relationships, improve emotional regulation, and provide safe alternatives during high-risk hours. This Project will allow PB&J to offer additional programming days, deepen leadership-development pathways, maintain feeding and stipend components, strengthen evaluation systems, and increase program capacity to serve approximately 250 youth annually. The expansion is intended to create safer, stable, and predictable environments during after-school and weekend hours, reinforcing PB&J’s role as a place-based violence-prevention strategy in a neighborhood with persistent exposure to trauma and community violence.</p> <p>Funds will support staffing to sustain and grow program delivery; benefits for staff positions; kitchen and program equipment replacement; supplies and operating costs such as rent, utilities, food, stipends, and materials; and fiscal-sponsorship administrative fees that ensure financial oversight and compliance through CultureTrust.</p>
<p>Pennsylvania Horticultural Society</p>	<p>The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society is seeking funding to support Seeds of Change, a new violence-prevention workforce-development initiative for justice-involved and violence-exposed</p>

<p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$499,194</p>	<p>young adults ages 18–25 living in Philadelphia’s highest-risk zip codes. The program combines hands-on landscaping and horticulture training, cognitive-behavioral skill building, and community-based greening projects rooted in restorative-justice principles. Participants receive structured weekly instruction in horticulture, equipment safety, environmental stewardship, and 21st-century workforce skills, along with a supportive learning environment, referrals to wraparound services, and paid opportunities to improve neighborhood conditions through trash removal, tree and garden installation, and vacant-lot cleanup. By engaging trainees in beautification efforts within the same neighborhoods where they have experienced or contributed to violence, Seeds of Change aims to strengthen social connections, increase economic stability, and reduce recidivism trajectories. The applicant plans to serve approximately 30 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funding will partially support the salary and benefits of a Workforce lead Instructor, Director of Workforce Development, and a Workforce Development Specialist. Funding will also be used to support supplies and operating costs such as work gear, safety equipment, tools, instructional materials, OSHA certification, CPR/First Aid training, transportation supports, participant stipends, and indirect costs. The Reawakening Agency will also be supported to provide <i>Thinking for a Change</i>.</p>
<p>Philadelphia District Attorney’s Office</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>The Philadelphia District Attorney’s Office (DAO) requests funding to expand and strengthen its citywide pre-petition diversion continuum of care for justice-involved youth ages 10–18. Rather than creating a new direct-service program, the project focuses on systems transformation—coordinating planning, communication, data sharing, and family-centered engagement across a large, diverse network of community-based partners delivering prevention, diversion, intervention, and aftercare support. Youth will then be matched to early intervention services based on assessed needs through coordinated, network-wide resource sharing, recognizing that no single program can address the full range of challenges associated with adverse childhood experiences, adolescent neurodevelopment, and the social determinants of health. As part of this approach, families will be invited to engage other eligible youth in the household in prevention and aftercare programming, recognizing that addressing the broader family environment is critical in disrupting cycles of justice involvement. Approximately 500 youth will be served during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of continuum of care/aftercare staff, planning staff, and a Data Analyst/Project Manager. Funding will also be used to support project-related transportation and training activities, costs supporting the Youth Justice Advisory Board and Guardian Engagement League, and travel for youth and caregivers to participate in advisory-related activities. Consultants will be hired to support specialized data, technology, systems integration, and evaluation services.</p>
<p>Philadelphia Youth Basketball</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Philadelphia Youth Basketball (PYB) seeks funding to expand Teen Rec / I Am Because We Are (IABWA), an enhanced afterschool and early-evening mentorship and enrichment program for Philadelphia youth ages 13–18. The program provides a safe and structured “third space” during the highest-risk hours for youth gun violence, offering supervised recreation, culturally reliable coach-mentor relationships, trauma-responsive supports, leadership development, and skill-building aligned with teen interests such as STEAM, multimedia, financial literacy, and career readiness. Designed to reach youth experiencing systemic inequities, exposure to community violence, or involvement in the justice system, Teen Rec/IABWA strengthens protective factors including supportive adult connections, SEL development, positive peer engagement, and pathways to opportunity. The program also acts as a stabilization and aftercare resource for youth referred through the Philadelphia District Attorney’s Diversion</p>

	<p>network, ensuring continuity of supports beyond diversion completion. Approximately 90 youth will be served during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support a Manager of Program Operations and a Program Operations Coordinator; youth travel supports enabling safe transportation to the facility; equipment and supplies such as apparel, materials for workshops and recreation, and resources for field trips; operating expenses associated with structured experiential learning; and indirect costs.</p>
<p>Philadelphia Youth Network</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$481,266</p>	<p>Philadelphia Youth Network is seeking funding to support a new afterschool initiative serving 120 high school students at Martin Luther King High School and Mastery Charter School at Simon Gratz. The program combines workforce readiness training, social-emotional learning, and targeted behavioral-health supports to reduce youth violence risk and improve long-term career outcomes. Through four 12-week afterschool cohorts, students will participate in the Empower Your Future career-development curriculum, weekly Positive Action SEL sessions, guest speaker and career-panel engagement, workplace exposure opportunities, and a spring break community service project. The initiative specifically targets youth living in high-violence zip codes (19138 and 19140) who experience persistent structural barriers, chronic stress, and community violence exposure. The project also introduces a partnership with Drexel University researchers to pilot CALM-T, a trauma-responsive cognitive-processing-informed mental-health intervention, providing individualized or small-group support to teens experiencing stress, negative thinking patterns, or trauma-related barriers.</p> <p>The funding requested will be used to support the salary and benefits of a full-time Program Manager, Program Coordinator, and partially support a Corporate Partnerships manager. Funds will also be used to support local travel for staff and student transportation to worksite visits; supplies and operating costs including computers, software licenses, program materials, printing, incentives, and curriculum licensing; consultant fees for program evaluation by Drexel University; and other costs including data-system fees and indirect expenses such as facilities, technology, insurance, and administrative supports.</p>
<p>PHILLY TRUCE FOUNDATION</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$257,000</p>	<p>The Philly Truce Foundation seeks funding to implement the Peace Patrol Academy, an enhancement of its existing community-led visible deterrence model. Building on the organization’s prior violence-prevention work, the Academy provides a structured, year-long cohort experience for justice-impacted adults and young adults at elevated risk of violence involvement. Participants engage in paid Peace Patrol deployment in high-risk public spaces identified through violence-data analysis; complete foundational learning modules focused on emotional regulation, conflict de-escalation, and communication; and select one of three advancement pathways—peer-support certification, entrepreneurship preparation, or skilled-trades exposure. The program also requires preventive mentorship and community-service contributions, reinforcing accountability and fostering community trust. Through structured learning, individualized case management, and data-informed deployment, the Academy aims to convert short-term violence-prevention engagement into long-term stability, economic mobility, and sustained community leadership. Ten (10) justice-involved participants will be served during each year of the project.</p> <p>The requested funding will partially support the Executive Director, a Program Coordinator, and limited administrative support. Funding will also be used to support local travel for staff and participants, participant stipends, uniforms, safety equipment, training materials, insurance, and curriculum and credential-preparation resources; and consultant services for specialized instruction across the Academy’s advancement pathways.</p>

<p>Power of Paint Art Academy & Management</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$144,988</p>	<p>Power of Paint Art Academy & Management is requesting funding to continue and strengthen its Paint Greater Than Initiative, a year-round, trauma-informed violence-prevention and early-intervention program serving youth ages 7–24 across Philadelphia neighborhoods most impacted by gun violence, chronic trauma, and systemic disadvantage. The initiative provides expressive-arts-based therapeutic groups, violence-prevention workshops, mentorship, youth leadership development, and community healing activities during high-risk after-school, evening, and summer hours. The program is designed to reduce emotional dysregulation, strengthen coping and conflict-resolution skills, build positive peer and adult relationships, and provide safe, structured environments accessible through satellite locations in schools, recreation centers, community organizations, and mobile settings. Youth and caregivers receive culturally responsive, trauma-informed support intended to interrupt pathways to violence, increase resiliency, and promote long-term safety and pro-social development. The applicant expects to serve approximately 2,500 throughout the grant period.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of a Program Coordinator, Youth Enrichment Specialists/Teaching Artists, and clinical oversight staff. Funding will also support staff travel and training, youth transportation, participation in trauma-informed training, and supplies and operating expenses such as art materials, take-home kits, program supplies, evaluation tools, software, indirect costs, and youth supports including meals and incentives. Guest teaching artists, trauma-informed facilitators, and evaluation/data support consultants will also be funded.</p>
<p>PowerCorpsPHL</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>PowerCorpsPHL is requesting VIP funding to expand its trauma-informed, workforce-focused model for out-of-school and out-of-work young adults ages 18–30 who are disproportionately impacted by gun violence, poverty, and justice-system involvement. The project strengthens the TRUST initiative, a healing-centered, paid transitional program designed to stabilize justice-involved young adults, build emotional regulation and future-focused mindsets, and prepare them for longer-term job training in clean energy, green infrastructure, urban forestry, skilled trades, and community-based careers. Through case management, mental-health supports, court navigation, career counseling, and paid work-readiness experiences, the program aims to reduce recidivism, increase workforce engagement, and enhance safety in Philadelphia neighborhoods most affected by gun violence. By extending TRUST engagement duration, increasing weekly hours, and providing continued supportive services as participants progress into career training, PowerCorpsPHL seeks to strengthen protective factors and reduce risk during a critical transitional period for vulnerable young adults. The funding will allow PowerCorpsPHL to sustain consistent, relationship-centered supports for approximately 72 participants over two years.</p> <p>The funds requested will partially support two Service Advisors and a full-time Data Manager and Work Experience Manager. Indirect costs will also be supported.</p>
<p>Progressive Change Community Development Corporation</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$73,000</p>	<p>Progressive Change Community Development Corporation is requesting funding to continue its “Art Heals” program, delivered in partnership with the Uplift Center for Grieving Children, the West Philadelphia Corridor Collaborative, and The Apologues. The initiative provides a ten-week trauma-informed art-therapy program for families who have recently lost loved ones to gun violence or survived violent incidents, with cohorts recruited from the city’s highest-violence zip codes. Participants are paired with an artist, therapist, and clinician to process grief through storytelling and the creation of a personalized memorial portrait. The program aims to promote healing, reduce the risk of retaliatory violence, and strengthen connections to grief counseling, basic-needs assistance, and victim-support services.</p>

	<p>Funds will support the salary and benefits of clinicians and administrative staff from the Uplift Center for Grieving Children; supplies and operating expenses including portrait creation costs and event costs for community unveiling ceremonies. Additional consultant support will capture participant testimonials and photography for program documentation. Funding is conditioned upon the applicant being able to proceed with the project after budget was reduced to reflect the removal of funeral reimbursement costs and the provision of a letter of support from the local victim service provider.</p>
<p>Reading Allowed Philadelphia County Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Reading Allowed is requesting funding to expand its Structured Literacy Tutoring program, a high-intensity intervention for struggling readers across Philadelphia. The program targets school-age youth—particularly low-income students, English language learners, students with disabilities, and those attending under-resourced schools—who face disproportional barriers to reading proficiency and long-term academic success. Reading Allowed provides explicit, research-based structured literacy instruction delivered by certified tutors, using programs such as the Wilson Reading System® and other systematic approaches proven to improve reading outcomes for students at risk of school disengagement and later justice involvement. The expansion aims to increase the number of students served year-round, extend services to more older students (grades 4+), support students not affiliated with partner schools, deepen partnerships with district schools and community organizations, and launch a new Family and Caregiver Engagement initiative that strengthens home-school connections and long-term protective factors for youth. Reading Allowed will serve approximately 500 students annually, expand summer and school-year tutoring, maintain progress monitoring every two weeks, offer individualized and small-group instruction, and ensure continuity of services for older students who no longer qualify for EITC-funded programming.</p> <p>Funding will partially support the salary and benefits of a Program Manager, a Data Collection Manager, and a Staff Development Coach. Funding will also be used to support assessment software and instructional materials, as well as consultant costs for structured literacy instructors who deliver tutoring sessions, administer assessments, and adjust instruction based on ongoing data. Funding will also support the recruitment and training of additional tutors, including scholarships to increase the number of tutors of color reflective of the communities served, along with enhancements to performance-measurement tools and family-engagement platforms.</p>
<p>Rock to the Future Philadelphia County Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Rock to the Future requests funding to expand its free, trauma-informed, music-based youth development programs serving school-age youth across high-violence Philadelphia neighborhoods, including Kensington, Germantown, Hunting Park, and West Philadelphia. The organization integrates modern music instruction, songwriting, performance, mentoring, conflict-resolution skill building, and restorative practices into after-school, in-school, community-based, and juvenile-justice settings. Programs—including MusiCore, MusiCommunity, MobileMusic, and the Lyric Lab restorative-songwriting series—provide consistent out-of-school-time engagement, social-emotional learning, individualized academic and resource support, and pathways to postsecondary education and paid workforce training. The initiative targets youth ages 11–20, including justice-involved youth in diversion, incarceration, or re-entry, as well as youth experiencing poverty, trauma, housing instability, or multiple ACEs. Through structured creative outlets, mentoring, and social-emotional supports, the project aims to reduce violence risk factors, deepen protective factors, and strengthen community connection through youth-led performances and collaborative programming. Rock to the Future is proposing to serve approximately 700 young people annually.</p>

	<p>Requested funds will support four full-time roles dedicated entirely to VIP-funded programs: the Senior Program Manager, Youth Justice Specialist, Music Instructor, and Youth Engagement Specialist. These positions deliver program coordination, restorative culture, individualized resource navigation, trauma-informed instruction, and direct supports across school, community, and justice-system locations. The budget also includes consultant funding for professional and community workshops on anti-violence, trauma-informed care, restorative justice, conflict resolution, and coping strategies.</p>
<p>Shoot Basketballs NOT People Philadelphia County Amount: \$117,883</p>	<p>Shoot Basketballs NOT People (SBNP) requests funding to expand its trauma-informed, basketball-centered violence-prevention initiative for high-risk youth ages 14–18 in Philadelphia’s Nicetown-Tioga neighborhood. The program uses structured basketball leagues, mentoring, conflict-resolution sessions, emotional-regulation coaching, and leadership workshops to provide a safe alternative to neighborhood violence while strengthening protective factors such as school engagement, connection to caring adults, prosocial peer relationships, and nonviolent problem-solving skills. SBNP’s model is community-rooted, utilizing credible messengers and culturally responsive engagement to reach youth heavily affected by concentrated poverty, repeated violence exposure, and limited out-of-school supports. The project also expands the organization’s capacity to systematically monitor outcomes through enhanced data infrastructure, including improved attendance tracking, pre/post surveys, risk-indicator monitoring, and real-time performance dashboards. SBNP anticipates serving 100 youth per year.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the salary and benefits of a Program Implementer, Site Director, and two Credible Messenger Coaches, and to partially support a Financial Manager. Funding will also be used to support staff travel; supplies and operating expenses such as uniforms, basketball equipment, and curriculum materials; and consultant services to configure and maintain data-management systems.</p>
<p>The Common Place Philadelphia County Amount: \$350,000</p>	<p>The Common Place is requesting funding to restart and expand its arts-based violence-prevention initiative, The Common Place Arts Academy, serving K–8 youth in Southwest Philadelphia. The organization seeks to address community violence, chronic trauma exposure, poverty, food insecurity, and academic inequities affecting children across ZIP code 19143 and surrounding areas. The Academy will function as a culturally responsive “Third Space,” offering year-round, high-dosage youth programming centered on the Black Aesthetic, including music, lyricism, spoken word, digital media, and visual arts. Youth will participate in after-school sessions three days per week, summer programming four days per week, and seasonal performances designed to foster SEL growth, academic engagement, confidence, emotional regulation, and healthy peer and adult relationships. The program anticipates serving approximately 80 students annually.</p> <p>Funding will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of a Program Director, several teaching artists, and peer mentors. Funding will also support Trauma-Informed Practice certification, restorative-justice training, and travel to youth performances. Supplies and operating expenses—such as musical instruments, digital media equipment, visual art materials, and lyricism/poetry resources will also be supported. Funds will also be used to support administrative functions required for successful project management.</p>
<p>The Defender Association of Philadelphia</p>	<p>The Defender Association of Philadelphia is requesting funding to launch <i>Fresh Start for Youth</i>, a new reentry program designed for justice-involved youth ages 15–18 who have experienced long-term detention, significant trauma histories, and serious charges related to gun or group violence. The program will support approximately 45 youth annually from Philadelphia’s</p>

<p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>highest-violence, highest-poverty neighborhoods, providing individualized pre-release planning, intensive post-release case management, trauma-informed skill-building workshops, and coordinated connections to mental health treatment, educational advocacy, housing supports, and violence-intervention partners. Youth will be referred directly by delinquency attorneys and engaged by specialized social workers who begin relationship-building while youth are still in detention or placement. The initiative aims to interrupt cycles of trauma, chronic instability, and recidivism, addressing pressing needs such as untreated mental health conditions, disrupted education, housing insecurity, and lack of positive adult support.</p> <p>Funding will be used to support the salary and benefits of one full-time and one half-time social worker and partially support the Director of Social Services. Funding will also be used to support travel for youth and staff, supplies and operating expenses including participant incentives and workshop programming, limited equipment (laptops), and indirect costs for administrative infrastructure.</p>
<p>The Lighthouse Inc.</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>The Lighthouse Inc. seeks funding to expand its Recreation Over Violence (ROV) initiative, a trauma-informed, recreation-based violence-prevention program serving high-risk youth and families in Philadelphia’s Kensington neighborhoods. The organization serves predominantly Latino and African American residents facing concentrated poverty, elevated gun violence, severe overdose rates, systemic neglect, and immigration-related trauma. The expanded project aims to serve 250 youth annually through a holistic model integrating sports (soccer, boxing), arts-based healing (including the “Poetry in Motion” martial arts program with Project Bluebird), mentorship, community-building events, and trauma-responsive SEL supports. The program’s framework emphasizes structured recreation, conflict-resolution skills, emotional regulation, and leadership development, while incorporating mental-health-focused training and healing groups delivered by partner clinician Dr. Kavin Mistry. Services are designed to be culturally responsive, accessible, and grounded in evidence-based approaches such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Line Up, Live Up model, trauma-informed care, and sport-based youth development.</p> <p>Funding will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the Executive Director, Deputy Director, Director of Soccer, and Director of Compliance. Funding will also support transportation costs for local and regional tournaments; equipment purchases such as uniforms, goals, field supplies, and cameras; and trash pickup for events. Consultant support will include coaching staff, referees, a groundskeeper/security contractor, trauma-healing specialists, and Project Bluebird’s martial arts instructors. Indirect costs, as well as league, registration, and tournament fees, will also be supported.</p>
<p>The Penn Injury Science Center</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$498,850</p>	<p>The Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania, through the Penn Injury Science Center (PISC) and in partnership with the School District of Philadelphia’s Office of School Safety, is requesting funding to expand the District’s Safe Path to School program by piloting morning-arrival monitoring at six high-need schools. The project builds on prior Safe Path work and aims to increase student safety, improve school engagement, and generate evidence about how best to prioritize and implement morning monitoring. Core activities include selecting intervention and matched control schools; deploying trained Safe Path Monitors; coordinating with school and community partners; and collecting mixed-methods feasibility, acceptability, and outcome data to assess impacts on perceived safety, attendance, and arrival-time incidents. The project is designed to strengthen community-based, non-police safety supports in areas disproportionately burdened by gun violence, poverty, and environmental safety challenges.</p> <p>PISC expects to serve approximately 3800 individuals during each year of the project.</p>

	<p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of the following staff: Project Director, Data/Evaluator Director, Business Administrator/Grants Management, Research Assistant and temporary Student worker. Funding will also be used to support travel for dissemination of findings; and supplies and operating expenses such as software, transcription services, participant incentives, and food for focus-groups. The budget also includes consultant services as well as indirect and administrative costs.</p>
<p>The Reawakening Agency (TRA) Philadelphia County Amount: \$71,249</p>	<p>The Reawakening Agency (TRA) is requesting funding to expand its reentry and aftercare program supporting adults in Philadelphia who are returning from incarceration, under community supervision, or otherwise at elevated risk of violence involvement. The initiative aims to reduce violence risk by stabilizing individuals during high-risk transition periods through immediate income opportunities, structured daily activity, and coordinated reentry supports. TRA provides Same Day Work, Same Day Pay workforce engagement, neighborhood-based cleanup and beautification projects, and individualized reentry assistance connecting participants to employment services, housing resources, legal support, and behavioral health or recovery care. Operating in South and Southwest Philadelphia neighborhoods with persistent violent-crime rates and high reentry concentration, the program prioritizes adults facing barriers such as limited work history, economic instability, and trauma exposure. TRA expects to serve approximately 150 individuals during each year of the project.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary of the Program Director/Coordinator. Funding will also support supplies and operating expenses such as materials for community-based work sites, outreach and office needs, and software for tracking participation; consultant services for program facilitation, technical assistance, and supplemental workforce engagement capacity; and indirect/administrative costs.</p>
<p>Turning Points for Children Philadelphia County Amount: \$325,000</p>	<p>Turning Points for children is requesting funding to implement and expand the aftercare component of its ReUp215 Diversion Program for individuals ages 13-18 who are referred by the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office. Emphasizing accountability and healing, ReUp215 relies on restorative justice principles to guide the resolution of conflicts and harm caused by criminal behavior. Participants engage in active reflection, take responsibility for their actions, and work towards making amends to repair harm done through completion of community service. With a goal to serve more than 125 youth annually, ReUp215 offers community support and mentoring, family support and engagement and skill development, employment opportunities and aftercare to referred youth.</p> <p>Funding will be used to support the salaries and benefits for an aftercare coordinator and ReUp supervisor; travel costs for both employees and participants to attend youth circle and mental health workshops, office equipment for the aftercare coordinator, program supplies, and stipends for families to attend circles. Additional funds will be used to support data collection, grants management, tutoring for youth and educational supplies.</p>
<p>U.S. Dream Academy Philadelphia County Amount: \$494,636</p>	<p>U.S. Dream Academy, Inc. requests funding to expand its existing in-school mentoring model at Global Leadership Academy Southwest (GLA) in West Philadelphia (19143) into a comprehensive after-school program serving approximately 45 students in grades 3–8. The project responds to significant community needs in the Cobbs Creek neighborhood, which experiences concentrated poverty, elevated community violence, and low academic proficiency rates. GLA students face multiple barriers—academic underperformance, chronic absenteeism, exposure to trauma, and limited access to high-quality after-school support. The proposed expansion introduces four-day-per-week after-school programming combining daily homework</p>

	<p>help and tutoring, twice-weekly literacy intervention using the IXL platform, weekly Dream Journey mentoring based on the Search Institute’s developmental relationships framework, weekly hands-on STEM-in-a-Box enrichment, five annual college/career-exposure field trips, and 2 family engagement events. Leveraged collaborations with Drexel University, Temple University and Villanova provide direct service and administrative support, as well as volunteers for homework help and STEM support.</p> <p>Funds will support key staff including a full-time Outreach & Engagement Manager, two part-time Program Assistants, and partial support for the National Mentor Program Director and Senior Accountant. In addition, funds will support student field-trip transportation, and limited staff travel for outreach. Supplies and operating expenses including STEM-in-a-Box kits, Chromebooks, software subscriptions, background checks and volunteer engagement costs, snacks, student incentives, program furniture, and branded shirts for safety and cohesion during activities, along with indirect costs.</p>
<p>University Community Collaborative</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$210,453</p>	<p>The University Community Collaborative requests funding to continue its after-school and summer youth leadership, media production, and civic engagement programs for approximately 110 high school students ages 14–18 across Philadelphia. Operating on Temple University’s North Philadelphia campus—an area marked by high poverty, unemployment, and violent crime—the programs (VOICES, POWER, and POPPIN) use project-based learning to build communication, conflict resolution, social-emotional development, and media-based advocacy skills. The initiative serves many from neighborhoods with concentrated poverty and exposure to violence, and provides a safe, structured after-school “third space” where youth receive mentorship from trained college student facilitators. Program cycles include skill-building, media production, winter and spring showcases, a six-week summer program, and school-based screenings and dialogues. The project aims to increase self-efficacy, leadership skills, and college/career readiness while reducing risk factors linked to community violence by offering supervised, meaningful engagement during high-risk out-of-school hours.</p> <p>Funds will support costs for full-time program coordination and compensation for the Leader Corps facilitators; employee benefits; travel expenses to provide SEPTA passes ensuring student access to programming; supplies and operating expenses including snacks and food for showcases; and indirect costs. Funding is conditioned upon the applicant being able to proceed with the project (possibly with reduced scope) within the allowable maximum award.</p>
<p>Uplift Center for Grieving Children</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Uplift Center for Grieving Children requests VIP funding to continue its free, trauma-responsive grief and mental-health programming for approximately 266 youth across Philadelphia, minimizing the negative effects of violence on families in some of the least-resourced communities in the city. particularly in neighborhoods with high rates of poverty, violence, and traumatic loss. The project supports in-school therapeutic grief groups in Philadelphia schools, evening and family-model grief groups, acute-loss interventions for school and community crises, specialized groups for Spanish-speaking, LGBTQIA+, and justice-involved youth, and the Philly HopeLine - a clinician-staffed helpline providing immediate emotional support, referrals, and group registration. The initiative responds to persistent community need amid Philadelphia’s high violent-crime rate and the “trauma tail” of recent years, with many youths experiencing multiple losses, homicide-related grief, and compounding inequities.</p> <p>Funding will support personnel costs for master’s-level clinicians and outreach staff; travel and training for clinical team participation in national grief-support symposia; supplies and operating expenses including laptops, software, and materials for grief-group facilitation; consultant</p>

	<p>services for clinical supervision and professional development through Hindsight Consulting; and licensure-related costs for clinical staff.</p>
<p>Urban Affairs Coalition on behalf of One Day At A Time</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>One Day At A Time (ODAAT) requests funding to expand its youth-centered prevention program in partnership with the Urban Affairs Coalition (UAC), who will provide the fiduciary and compliance backbone. The program will serve approximately 183 predominantly Black and Brown youth ages 7–21 in North Philadelphia/Kensington (zip codes 19132, 19121, 19125). The initiative addresses chronic exposure to gun violence, poverty, trauma, and limited access to safe spaces by integrating after-school and weekend mentorship, structured sports-based conflict-resolution programming, evidence-based behavioral-health interventions, and paid workforce development pathways. Core components include Saturday Camp Miracles and Summer Camp Miracles (mentorship and enrichment for ages 7–16); YFM Sports (flag football and basketball integrating ODAAT-led conflict-resolution training); Youth Recovery Mode (CBT-informed early-intervention cycles using Teen Intervene and COPE2Thrive); and the Dēz Kids Construction Education Program (industry-recognized certifications, stipends, and direct employment placement).</p> <p>The budget supports personnel for Youth & Family Mode leadership and coordinators; employee benefits; supplies and operating expenses for insurance coverage across youth programming, workforce training, athletics, and residential camp environments. In addition, funds will support various partners including UAC for fiduciary management; CliftonLarsonAllen for audit compliance, Dēz Kids for paid construction workforce cohorts and Hope for Kids to provide year-round paid mentors supporting camp programming. Finally, funds will support safety certifications and jobsite training.</p>
<p>Victim/Witness Services of South Philadelphia, Inc.</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$414,098</p>	<p>Victim/Witness Services of South Philadelphia, Inc. is requesting funding to expand its citywide, multilingual restorative justice and victim-services programming for approximately 70 youth and their families, with a focus on immigrant, limited-English-proficient, and high-risk youth who experience or commit harm. The project responds to elevated rates of gun violence, youth victimization, trauma exposure, and disparities in access to culturally competent justice pathways. VWSSP seeks to continue and grow its Youth Training Cohort—a multilingual group of youth ages 14–19 who learn restorative justice principles, build leadership skills, and support community awareness of diversion opportunities—and to expand restorative justice diversion capacity so that more youth referred by the District Attorney’s Office can access accountability-based alternatives to incarceration. The project also strengthens direct victim services, including crisis counseling, safety planning, VCAP assistance, court accompaniment, medical and mental-health referrals, relocation support, and linguistically accessible advocacy. Restorative justice programming will bring together victims, responsible youth, and families through structured case management, preparation sessions, and restorative circles aimed at accountability, healing, and community repair. Approximately 70 individuals will be served annually.</p> <p>Funds will support a full-time project coordinator, partial salary and benefits for 6 victim advocates and organizational leadership; travel and training for restorative justice staff, including participation in national restorative justice conferences; supplies and operating expenses such as office needs, rent, utilities, interpretation/translation, materials for youth training sessions, and general administrative costs; consultant services including YASP’s Healing Futures team for curriculum development, youth cohort co-facilitation, ongoing staff mentorship, as well as Asian Americans United, Juntos, and VietLEAD for youth recruitment. Funds will also support language access and other program costs including youth stipends,</p>

	<p>transportation, meals, and expenses associated with restorative processes (transportation, food, and completion-celebration costs).</p>
<p>we REIGN Inc. Philadelphia County Amount: \$75,000</p>	<p>We REIGN Inc. is requesting funding to expand its prevention-focused 12-week mentoring and leadership program to serve approximately 100 Black girls and gender-expansive youth in grades 5–12 living in Philadelphia ZIP codes with high concentrations of violence, poverty, and gendered trauma. The program addresses documented by providing weekly healing-centered circles, social-emotional skill-building, healthy-relationship and consent education, digital safety guidance, identity development, and civic engagement opportunities. Participants co-design sessions and complete a capstone advocacy project, creating public artifacts such as testimony, campaign one-pagers, or community presentations. Programming is grounded in critical mentorship, restorative practices, community cultural wealth, trauma-responsive strategies, and culturally responsive pedagogy, with the overarching goal of strengthening protective factors—voice, belonging, emotional regulation, healthy relationship skills, and civic agency—while reducing the likelihood of both victimization and harm.</p> <p>Funds will support a part-time program manager and trained facilitators; travel and training for staff; supplies and operating expenses including participant journals, printed curriculum materials, art and sensory tools, hygiene kits, culturally relevant reading materials, outreach materials, and showcase supplies; consultant-led workshops in conflict resolution through improv and creative arts therapy; and other essential supports such as participant stipends, transportation, and meals, which directly reduce participation barriers and increase retention.</p>
<p>Work to Ride Philadelphia County Amount: \$474,634</p>	<p>Work to Ride is requesting funding to expand its Sundays at the Stables violence-prevention initiative for approximately 240 youth ages 7–18 from West Philadelphia and other underserved neighborhoods disproportionately affected by gun violence, poverty, and unstable housing. The program offers structured, research-based activities rooted in horsemanship, barn work, equine science, and Equine Assisted Learning. Through six 8-week cycles per year, each serving 20 youth per session, participants learn horse care, riding skills, teamwork, de-escalation, conflict-resolution strategies, and life skills associated with discipline, empathy, and safe decision-making. Integrated tutoring, mentoring, and exposure to career pathways in science and equestrian-related fields address academic deficits and limited school-based guidance. The program aims to reduce youth involvement in or exposure to violence by providing a safe physical environment, trauma-informed supports, and immersive experiences that foster emotional regulation, resilience, and belonging.</p> <p>Funds will support partial salary and benefits for program leadership, program management, barn operations, riding instruction, and horse caregiving; supplies and operating expenses including office materials, horse feed, hay, bedding, veterinary care, farrier services, and participant food; consultant costs for a certified Equine Assisted Learning instructor and an external program evaluator; and indirect expenses needed for operational infrastructure.</p>
<p>Xiente Philadelphia County Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Xiente is requesting funding to expand its Youth Take Action (YTA) violence-prevention workforce development initiative for approximately 95 high-risk Hispanic and Black youth ages 14–19 in North and Northeast Philadelphia—communities experiencing concentrated poverty, trauma exposure, and high rates of violence. The project will integrate HBI's PACT Green Construction curriculum into YTA's existing workforce programming, adding structured, performance-based green building training that strengthens employability, environmental literacy, and entry-level trade skills. Youth will participate in sequenced cohorts that include intake, orientation, approximately 50 hours of green construction instruction, hands-on demonstrations, pre/post assessments, career awareness activities, and credential attainment.</p>

	<p>Parallel career-readiness services will support additional youth with job search skills, resumes, mock interviews, individualized job-readiness plans, and placement preparation. The goal is to reduce violence risk by replacing unsafe, informal labor or street-based economies with viable employment pathways, reinforced by consistent adult support and trauma-informed guidance.</p> <p>Funds will support partial salary and benefits for the Workforce Director, Workforce Case Manager, and Job Placement Coordinator; training-related travel; supplies and operating expenses such as tools, curriculum materials, PPE, consumable construction materials, participant onboarding supports, emergency barrier-reduction supports, rent, utilities, insurance, program activity costs and participant stipends tied to attendance and completion milestones. Funds will also support consultant instructional services for PACT training delivery and financial review; and administrative costs.</p>
<p>Youth Sentencing & Reentry Project</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$488,111</p>	<p>The Youth Sentencing & Reentry Project (YSRP), in partnership with Philly Truce, is seeking funding to expand its holistic case advocacy and reentry support model for approximately 100 young people impacted by incarceration, community violence, and trauma in several high-violence Philadelphia neighborhoods. The initiative strengthens long-term stability and healing by integrating individualized reentry planning, trauma-responsive support, and leadership development with the Intergenerational Healing Circle (IGHC), a healing-centered, cohort-based model designed by leaders with lived experience. Through regular group sessions, case management, and community-based mentoring, the project aims to help youth process trauma, build trusted relationships, deepen social-emotional skills, and increase their capacity to navigate conflict and lead positive changes. Embedded collaboration with Philly Truce will connect participants to community-level violence-prevention pathways, including Peace Patrol roles and peer-specialist development, while supporting adaptation of the IGHC for community implementation.</p> <p>Funds will support partial salary and benefits for reentry coordinators, and administrative staff; software and operating expenses such as case-management systems and other essential operating tools; consultant costs to support Philly Truce’s role in training, facilitation, and implementation of IGHC; and indirect costs needed for financial management, compliance, and organizational infrastructure.</p>
<p>Schuylkill Community Action</p> <p>Schuylkill County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>Schuylkill Community Action requests funding under the VIP Reentry/Aftercare program to launch the 2nd Chance Schuylkill Reentry Housing Pilot Program, a new initiative designed to support adults exiting incarceration who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness. The project aims to reduce recidivism and promote long-term stability by providing rapid placement into safe housing, graduated rental assistance, intensive case management, and coordinated referrals to behavioral health, substance use treatment, employment services, and public benefits. Through partnerships with probation, treatment courts, workforce agencies, and behavioral health providers, the program addresses barriers such as lack of identification, limited income, poor credit, and service gaps that impede successful reentry in Schuylkill County. The pilot model focuses on stabilizing individuals during the highest-risk post-release period and strengthening their capacity to transition to independent living. Up to 10 participants will be served by the project each year during the project.</p> <p>Funding will support the salary and benefits of a full-time Case Manager and partially support the Director of Case Management. Funding will also be used for costs related to travel and training for staff development; supplies and operating expenses such as communication tools, data systems, and program materials; and other project activities, including rental assistance,</p>

	security deposits, stabilization funds for essential needs, and administrative/indirect costs required for fiscal management and program monitoring.
Somerset County Commissioners Somerset County Amount: \$384,795	<p>Somerset County Commissioners are requesting funding to continue and strengthen the Somerset County Jail Reentry Program, a coordinated initiative serving justice-involved adults with mental health, substance use, and co-occurring behavioral health needs. The project aims to reduce recidivism and mitigate violence risk factors by providing early reentry planning during incarceration, timely access to mental health services, individualized transition planning, and ongoing post-release support. The initiative responds to documented community needs, including high rates of behavioral health concerns among incarcerated individuals, lengthy wait times for community treatment, housing instability, and persistent violent-crime trends in the county. Through collaboration with the Somerset County Jail, behavioral health providers, probation and parole, and the county’s Criminal Justice Advisory Board and Reentry Coalition, the project seeks to improve continuity of care, stabilize participants during high-risk periods, and strengthen long-term reintegration outcomes. The applicant anticipates serving approximately 40 individuals during each year of the project period.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the salary and benefits of a full-time Reentry Coordinator; supplies and operating expenses such as office materials, technology, participant documentation (e.g. birth certificates, identification cards), housing vouchers, and a cell phone and laptop for the Coordinator; and consultant services, including internal and external behavioral health providers delivering in-facility and community-based treatment.</p>
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Laurel Region Westmoreland County Amount: \$249,912	<p>Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Laurel Region, located in Westmoreland County, is requesting funding to expand its in-School Mentoring (Level Up Derry) initiative serving middle and high school students in the Derry Area School District. The project aims to reduce risk factors associated with youth violence by embedding a full-time professional mentor directly onsite to provide individualized and group mentoring for approximately 30 students each year who are experiencing poverty, trauma, ACEs, academic struggles, and other vulnerabilities. Through weekly mentoring sessions, SEL-focused curriculum, case management, and continuous collaboration with school staff, the program targets youth most at risk for violence involvement and disconnection, addressing rising needs in a rural community experiencing increases in firearm injuries and limited access to consistent adult support.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits of the Program Manager and Mentoring Coordinator, the full-time salary of the in-School Mentor, and indirect costs.</p>
Mosaic Community Development Center Westmoreland County Amount: \$74,957	<p>Mosaic Community Development Center is requesting funding to sustain and strengthen its prevention-focused out-of-school time (OST) services for at-risk youth in Jeannette, Pennsylvania. As the city’s only consistent after-school provider, MCDC delivers structured programming for children in grades K–8, with early-engagement activities for younger students and leadership and workforce development roles for high-school-age youth. The project aims to reduce unstructured time during high-risk after-school and summer hours by offering academic support, social-emotional learning, mentoring, enrichment, transportation, and meals—critical supports in a community experiencing elevated exposure to violence, concentrated poverty, food insecurity, and limited access to supervised youth programming. Programming is designed to build protective factors such as emotional regulation, coping skills, connectedness, and positive decision-making, supported through partnerships with the school district, local professionals, universities, community organizations, and mentors from business and civic sectors. The project offers programming 4 days per week, for 3 hours per day during the school year, and 5 hours per day during the summer. Funding will stabilize existing</p>

	<p>services, increase the organization’s capacity to meet high community demand, and ensure continuity of prevention programming for approximately 80 youth annually in a community with no other after-school provider.</p> <p>Requested funds will support part-time program staff; travel for transportation needs and staff training; supplies and operating expenses including activity materials, curriculum supplies, safety items, and program software; limited consultant services for trauma-informed training and safety preparedness; and indirect/administrative costs tied to fiscal oversight, compliance, and program management.</p>
<p>Southwestern Pennsylvania Human Services, Inc.</p> <p>Westmoreland County</p> <p>Amount: \$204,499</p>	<p>Southwestern Pennsylvania Human Services, Inc. is seeking funding to launch a new evidence-based violence-prevention initiative in Monessen through implementation of the SNAP® (Stop Now And Plan) program. This structured, 13-week intervention serves children ages 6–11 who exhibit early signs of aggression, disruptive behavior, or police contact, and includes parallel programming for caregivers to strengthen family functioning, emotional regulation, problem-solving, and non-violent decision-making. The project responds to Monessen’s significantly elevated violent-crime rates and documented youth behavioral concerns, aiming to prevent escalation toward delinquency through early, skills-based intervention delivered in partnership with schools, community agencies, and the established Monessen Communities That Care (CTC) collaborative. The applicant anticipates serving approximately 60 youth annually.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of a Director, a Mobilizer Supervisor, and three facilitator positions. Funding will also support travel; SNAP and Child Development Institute (CDI) training; supplies and operating expenses such as program materials, refreshments, participant incentives, and printing; technical assistance and fidelity-monitoring services provided by SNAP and CDI; and indirect/administrative costs.</p>
<p>Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Harrisburg</p> <p>York County</p> <p>Amount: \$405,119</p>	<p>Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Harrisburg is requesting VIP Healing-focused funding to expand its Domestic Violence Services Expansion Project, which strengthens the York Intensive Family Services (York IFS) program’s capacity to support adult survivors of domestic violence in York County. The initiative builds on the program’s pilot Intensive Survivors Support (ISS) groups and will provide services to approximately 80 individuals each year by offering up to 8 support groups each year serving 8-10 participants in weekly, 1-2 hour sessions, for a period of 26 weeks. These groups provide trauma-informed counseling, peer support, safety planning, and skill-building using Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) techniques and a survivor-specific curriculum. Participants are referred through municipal agencies, nonprofits, and other partners, with the project addressing significant regional gaps in survivor-centered resources that have worsened following local provider closures and increased referrals involving domestic violence. The project aims to provide consistent, safe, confidential spaces for survivors to heal, develop coping strategies, manage trauma, build healthy boundaries, and strengthen long-term emotional and relational stability.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits of Family Therapists and Family Advocates as well as costs associated with three staff attending an annual professional development conference and costs associated with 12 staff participating in various trainings. Funding will also be utilized for program materials and supplies, general office supplies and equipment, general operating expenses, emergency supplies for program participants, and consultant costs for a one-time session with Jennifer Foxworthy of Inspirationally Speaking, LLC.</p>

