

PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY

School Safety and Security Committee Meeting

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

AGENDA

- **Call to Order and Adoption of Minutes**
- **FY24-25 Building Opportunity Through Out-of-School Time (BOOST) Grant Program Recommendations**
 - Action Item: Adoption of BOOST Grants
- **NORC Presentation on Violence Intervention & Prevention (VIP) Outcomes**
- **FY24-25 VIP Grant Program Recommendations**
 - Action Item: Adoption of VIP/CCVI Grants
- **Act 55 Training Survey Presentation by RSM & General Training Update**
- **General Updates¹**
- **Member Updates**
- **Public Comment**
- **Adjournment**
 - Next Meeting Dates:
 - March 19, 2025, 1-2 PM

¹ NOTE: The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be January 16, 2025; there is no update this meeting.

PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY
SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE

Building Opportunity through Out-Of-School Time (BOOST) Grant Program
Project Summary and Analysis

Funding Announcement: FY2024-25 BOOST Funding

Applications: 46 Applications

Project Period: February 1, 2025 to January 31, 2027

Description and Recommendation:

On September 9, 2024, PCCD announced the availability of \$11.5 million in state Violence Intervention and Prevention (VIP) funding to support the FY2024-25 Building Opportunity through Out-of-School Time (BOOST) grant program.

The goal of BOOST funding is to expand out-of-school-time (OST) structured programming opportunities for at-risk school-age youth, which are school-age youth who are at an educational disadvantage because of limited English proficiency, poverty, homelessness, foster care, housing instability, academic difficulties, or economic disadvantage. 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.

School districts, area career and technical schools, libraries, statewide youth-serving nonprofit organizations, and community-based nonprofit organizations were eligible to apply to support projects for an up-to-24-month period. Eligible applicants could submit one proposal under a Local BOOST track or a Statewide BOOST track. Maximum budget amounts were limited to no more than 50% of an organization's actual operating expenditures, up to \$250,000 for the local track, and up to \$1,500,000 to for the statewide track.

To initially solicit interest, PCCD utilized a SurveyMonkey initial request process with a required proposal narrative and budget template for each track. PCCD received 296 request forms and related application materials via SurveyMonkey as of the October 31, 2024 deadline. After conducting an initial review to verify applicant eligibility, 289 applicants were moved forward for review. Formal scoring and review of applications occurred during November and December 2024, with reconciliation meetings conducted in mid- to late December. The VIP Workgroup met on January 8, 2025 for consideration of recommended applications.

Staff and the VIP Workgroup are recommending approval of 44 local applications and 2 statewide applications, totaling 46 applications, not to exceed \$11,599,483 in state VIP funding, pending the resolution of any outstanding programmatic or fiscal concerns.¹

¹ These 46 projects requested a total of \$11,599,483. PCCD anticipates final budget totals will adjust slightly for BOOST and VIP projects following completion of staff fiscal reviews to determine final award amounts.

FY 2024-25 BOOST - Local

<p>Allegheny Youth Development</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$139,520</p>	<p>Allegheny Youth Development (AYD) is requesting \$139,520 to expand its SEL programming and overall service capacity to improve the lives of children in Pittsburgh. AYD collaborates with several key partners, including the Pittsburgh Public Schools' Office of Out-of-School Time, Neighborhood Learning Alliance, and various community organizations.</p> <p>By increasing weekly program hours, enrolling additional students, and enhancing staff training in SEL curricula, AYD seeks to address the social and emotional needs of its students. The program's objectives include increasing student attendance, academic performance, and overall engagement. Specific goals include enrolling at least 115 students over the next two years, achieving a minimum of 75% attendance, and ensuring that 75% of students with low GPAs show academic improvement.</p> <p>Funding will be used to support additional staff hourly wages and benefits for SEL enrichment, including direct program time and training and professional development; student transportation costs; SEL curriculum; afterschool student participation incentives; training costs; and indirect costs.</p>
<p>Arts Holding Hands and Hearts Inc (AHHAH)</p> <p>Chester County</p> <p>Amount: \$141,000</p>	<p>Arts Holding Hands and Hearts (AHHAH) is requesting \$141,000 to expand trauma-informed Restorative Justice programming for 630 at-risk school-age youth involved in, impacted by, or at risk of entering the juvenile justice system in Chester County. By funding this project, disadvantaged youth located in Coatesville and surrounding areas will learn techniques to calm minds, improve self-control, and focus attention while discovering they have an impactful and unique voice and agency through artistic instruction, expression, and mindfulness practices.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary of the part-time program director providing the restorative justice programming and partially support the executive director's salary; filmmaking equipment; art and project supplies; trauma-informed teaching artists; and space rental costs.</p>
<p>ASAP/After School Activities Partnerships</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>The ASAP/After School Activities Partnerships is requesting \$250,000 to provide ASAP's four citywide enrichment programs – chess, debate, drama, Scrabble – to 5,000 youth grades (K-12) across the City of Philadelphia through the recruitment, training, equipping, and supporting of dozens of caring adults in partnership with more than 200 schools, libraries, and community and recreation centers to lead its programs. ASAP places special emphasis to place its programs in the following high-priority locations: (1) neighborhood public schools and (2) communities with the highest rates of gun violence (as determined by the City Office of the Controller). By funding this project, ASAP will work to achieve the following outcomes: 70% of all programs will take place in aforementioned high priority locations; 70% of youth served will be from priority locations; 80% of youth surveyed will be on track for graduation or college/career readiness; 90% of club leaders and school principals will report positive impacts on school culture and climate.</p>

	<p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary of the chess, debate, Scrabble and drama managers, the chess coordinator, the operations manager, and the executive director; student transportation; and drama teaching artists.</p>
<p>Boys & Girls Club of Lancaster Lancaster County Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>Boys & Girls Club of Lancaster is requesting \$250,000 to provide structured after-school programming opportunities for 2,000 more at-risk students within four Club locations in the Lancaster community. Funding will be used to provide various afterschool activities five days a week, including Homework Help, Enrichment Activities (including arts and crafts, sports, and STEM activities), Supper Club (hot, nutritious meal), and Life Skills programming (workshops focused on leadership, financial literacy, and social skills, helping them build confidence and prepare for the future). Students also receive 30-60 minutes of gym time, promoting fitness and teamwork, as well as mentorship and guidance. Progress of programming will be measured by monitoring the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average daily attendance at each Clubhouse site; • Number of hours spent in high yield learning activities; • Number of hours spent in homework help and tutoring; and • Retention rate throughout the 2024-2025 academic year. <p>Funds will be used to partially support the salary and benefits of four additional staff at each of the four after-school Clubhouse sites.</p>
<p>Casa Guadalupe Center Lehigh County Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>Casa Guadalupe Center (Casa) is requesting \$250,000 to support its comprehensive, culturally appropriate, bilingual evidence-based out-of-school-time education program. The program will serve 200 K-12 youth and their families during the school year and summer. Casa requests BOOST funds to enhance the programs in vital ways such as increasing the number of youth to be served, employing more STEAM educators, engaging the critically needed services of a local mental health professional, integrating a wider range of diverse evidenced-based curricula, and expanding our community engagement and evaluation strategies. The goal is to enhance our environment so more students can thrive. Casa will recruit approximately 25% more students. Moreover, all program participants will have access to an expanded curriculum as well as a 50% increase in services that focus on mental health and holistic wellness among students and their families. The revised model of program evaluation will reflect a 50% increase in input from multiple diverse stakeholders such as students, families, and community collaborators.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the hourly wages and benefits of two new teachers and two teacher assistants; equipment costs, including laptops and Chromebooks; classroom activity supplies, including arts and crafts, STEM materials, books, printing materials, and other items related to student events and parent engagement activities; outside contractors and community partners providing programming (including Fruitful Seeds Counseling, DaVinci Science Center; Mindful Child Initiative; Baum School of Art; Firorini & Associates, Casa Guadalupe Center, and Young Adult Art</p>

	<p>researchers) and evaluation (Sandpiper Evaluation); and indirect costs.</p>
<p>Chester County Economic Development Foundation</p> <p>Chester County</p> <p>Amount: \$218,135</p>	<p>The RISE (Readiness Increases Skills & Employability) project developed by the Chester County Economic Development Council seeks \$218,135 in funding to create a structured out-of-school program aimed at enhancing career readiness for over 1,600 underserved students at Coatesville Area High School. This initiative involves a series of activities, including a Career Interest Survey, a Career Fair, After School Mini-camps, and Work-based Learning opportunities, designed to empower students with the skills and experiences necessary for future employment.</p> <p>Funding will support the salaries and benefits of project staff; mileage for travel to the mini-camp locations and employer site visits; project supplies, including materials for a Career Fair, snacks, participation incentives, and mini-camp supplies; Career Interest Survey software; site coordinators for the mini-camps; and indirect costs.</p>
<p>Chester Education Foundation</p> <p>Delaware County</p> <p>Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>Chester Education Foundation (CEF) is requesting \$250,000 to support additional activities for structured, out-of-school-time, evidence-based prevention, workforce development, and academic and enrichment programs for 120 at-risk, 11th-12th grade high school students in the Chester Upland School District community and to add 100 9th and 10th graders to this programming. The overall goal of CEF's BOOST Program is to decrease involvement in gun and other violence and to increase school engagement, academic achievement, positive peer and family relationships, and on-time graduation and readiness for post-secondary training and careers. The BOOST Program will help participants achieve competency in the skills that are not only key to success but also have been found to reduce and prevent substance use and violence. BOOST funded activities will be added to CEF's existing, fully funded, workforce development and prevention programs for 16-18-year-old, at-risk students of the community in the Chester Upland School District.</p> <p>Funding will support the salary and benefits for one new program site coordinator; afterschool program and college and cultural trip transportation costs for participants; participant incentives for program component completion; and program supplies.</p>
<p>Downingtown Community Education Foundation</p> <p>Chester County</p> <p>Amount: \$100,000</p>	<p>The Downingtown Community Education Foundation is requesting \$100,000 to launch an afterschool and summer program in the Downingtown Area School District at the four Title 1 schools and schools identified for school improvement. The program aims to support academic success, student engagement and parent involvement to support learning.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support teacher time; bus transportation for students; supplies and operating expenses including art and activity supplies, games, snacks, meals; field trips; and grant administration and reporting costs.</p>
<p>Early Excellence Project</p>	<p>The Early Excellence Project is requesting \$235,446 to expand High Impact Tutoring Program to out-of-school time (OST) settings in the</p>

<p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$235,446</p>	<p>Southside of Pittsburgh. Funds will support staffing, equipment, training, and program implementation to provide high-dosage literacy tutoring for 80 at-risk kindergarten, first and second grade students. This funding will enable us to extend our culturally responsive, evidence-based tutoring model into community-based summer camps, ensuring continuous academic support for vulnerable students outside of regular school hours. By funding this project, PCCD will help improve early literacy skills among 80 at-risk students, enhance school engagement, and reduce the likelihood of academic regression during the summer. These outcomes are expected to contribute to long-term reductions in dropout rates and engagement in the criminal justice system, aligning with our commitment to early intervention as a strategy to prevent future delinquency.</p> <p>Funding will support the salaries and benefits of four Youth Engagement Specialists (tutors), and partially support the salary and benefits of the Executive Director and Program Director; staff training and transportation costs; twenty iPads and related equipment; engagement supplies (e.g., snacks, rewards), software licenses, printing, school supplies and books; training consultants; and evaluation support.</p>
<p>Erie Police Athletic League (PAL)</p> <p>Erie County</p> <p>Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>The Erie Police Athletic League is requesting \$250,000 to partially fund salaries of three full-time PAL youth officers, who will support the executive director to coordinate daily after-school tutoring/mentoring, four different summer camps, educational field trips, athletics, recreational, and career exploration opportunities for 1,700 students in 24 locations across the City of Erie. By funding this community policing initiative, PAL can retain the current number of participants and locations and look to sustainably expand the program to reach more of Erie's youth, building community, establishing cop-kid relationships to set students up for success, and preventing/reducing community violence.</p> <p>Funding will partially support the salaries of three officers to assist in providing the after-school activities.</p>
<p>ESF Dream Camp Foundation</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>The ESF Dream Camp Foundation is requesting \$250,000 to expand after-school and summer violence prevention programs, which address violence prevention and conflict resolution and offer mentorship, leadership training, academic support, and artistic and athletic enrichment. This year-round program is tailored for at-risk youth in Philadelphia's high-crime areas, focusing on fostering emotional intelligence and building safer communities. By funding this project, funds will be allocated to hire specialized directors trained to engage effectively with 175 at-risk youth. It will also cover transportation costs for students to attend the summer camp in Center City Philadelphia, providing them with a much-needed escape from their challenging environments. Additionally, the funding will allow for an extra week of camp.</p> <p>Funding will support the hourly wages for three safety and prevention and emotional support directors, two advanced degree college student-interns, and camp staff for the extra week of camp;</p>

	<p>training for all staff; bus transportation costs for all campers; camp materials and supplies; and indirect costs.</p>
<p>Fine Feather Foundation Inc Lehigh County Amount: \$97,074</p>	<p>The Fine Feather Foundation is seeking a grant of \$97,074 to facilitate the expansion of the Excelsior After-School Program to two additional schools: Harrison Morton Middle School and South Mountain Middle School. This initiative is designed specifically for middle school students aged 11-14 from low-income families and intends to work with 50 additional at-risk students. The Fine Feather Excelsior Program emphasizes educational and innovative creative arts-based initiatives that promote a healthy lifestyle for children while addressing mental health awareness. The program offers a variety of classes, including Contemporary and Hip-hop dance, Film Production, Theater, Visual Art, Podcasting, Music Production, Songwriting, and Modern Media. All classes and workshops are conducted by instructors who are professionally trained and qualified in their respective fields. It also provides peer counseling, behavioral therapy, counseling sessions, and music therapy for students with autism.</p> <p>Funding will support the hourly wages of a project manager, two program coordinators, art and dance instructors, a music production contractor, a visual art instructor and other consultants; dance and film production supplies; and operating expenses.</p>
<p>Firetree Place Lycoming County Amount: \$175,474</p>	<p>The Firetree Place is requesting \$175,474 to implement and expand new youth recreation programs in Williamsport during out-of-school time hours including a "Speed to Win" Training Program, Basketball Camp, Soccer Camp, Youth Pickleball Lessons, and Fundamental and Competitive Cheerleading. By funding this project, Firetree Place will be able to provide close to 400 at-risk youth a year with safe enrichment activities during out-of-school hours that will engage and promote a healthy lifestyle – all run by caring and trained coaches and staff who will provide mentorship for youth.</p> <p>Funding will support the expansion of these programs and will include new equipment, staff salaries, independent contractors and consultants, supplies for the youth, and operating expenses.</p>
<p>Forest Hills School District Cambria County Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>The Forest Hills School District is requesting \$250,000 to implement career cluster programs in collaboration with the South Fork Historical Society and South Fork Public Library. Funds will support the development of career pathways in high-demand occupations for the local region, including Technology, Teaching, Environmental Science, Engineering, Trades, Agriculture, and the Service Industry, along with community service projects related to each cluster. These funds will be allocated for curriculum development, industry partnerships, materials, and staff to manage work-based learning opportunities. By funding this project, the District anticipates providing 300 students (150 at-risk) with real-world exposure to various career paths, enhancing their career readiness, and addressing the region's workforce needs, particularly in South Fork, a high-poverty area.</p> <p>Funding will be used to support salary and benefits for educators, librarian personnel, and a program coordinator; stipends for STEAM,</p>

	<p>CADD and Robotics facilitators; staff training; travel expenses for student visits to partner work sites; equipment for CADD and robotics, including software and other resources; equipment and supplies for the local library to support literacy initiatives, digital learning, and recreational programming; equipment and supplies to support the South Fork Historical Society archival efforts; and a career readiness consultant.</p>
<p>Girls First Montgomery County Amount: \$216,920</p>	<p>Girls First is requesting \$216,920 to enhance out-of-school time (OST) programming for 40 at-risk school-age girls in grades 1 through 4 (ages 5-9) in Norristown. Funds will support a structured after-school program, using the artsee© curriculum—an innovative, trauma-informed approach that combines arts, social-emotional learning, and empowerment-based activities. This program capitalizes on the inherent protective factors of art-making, which creates a perfect environment for trauma-informed programming, and, because when researchers look at how arts and culture impact students, the same results are found consistently that at-risk students who have access to the arts tend to have better academic results, better workforce opportunities, and more civic engagement, as well as other positive outcomes associated with high levels of arts exposure.</p> <p>Funding will support the salary and benefits of the Norristown After-School Program Director and partially support the safety and benefits of the parttime program assistant; program supplies, including art supplies and theatre props; teaching artists stipends; technology (software upgrades); staff training; and indirect costs.</p>
<p>Girls on the Run Philadelphia Philadelphia County Amount: \$150,000</p>	<p>Girls on the Run Philadelphia (GOTRP) is requesting \$150,000 to bring its sports-based youth development program to 1,050 third through eighth grade girls from economically disadvantaged families in Philadelphia County. Program participants served through this grant will come from families with an annual income of less than \$29,000. The 10-week, 20-lesson curriculum, delivered by trained coaches, offers a research-based social-emotional learning program partnered with running as a platform to cultivate life skills that promote physical and mental well-being.</p> <p>Funds will support program expenses including coach guides, coach training, t-shirts, water bottles, program staff hours, registration and evaluation technology, insurance, and curriculum licensing fees.</p>
<p>Governor Mifflin Education Foundation Berks County Amount: \$97,060</p>	<p>The Governor Mifflin Education Foundation is requesting \$97,060 to enhance after-school programs that support at-risk students in K-12 in developing critical social-emotional and career-readiness skills.</p> <p>By implementing evidence-based strategies for conflict resolution, positive behavior reinforcement, and safe decision-making, students will be empowered to thrive. Through this project, Governor Mifflin Education Foundation anticipates enhanced interpersonal relationships, reduced negative behaviors, and a strengthened sense of community that supports the educational journey of all students.</p>

	<p>Funding will be used to support staff time; transportation costs for participants; supplies such as program-specific supplies, recreation equipment, and art supplies, snacks and meals, and incentives; marketing materials; and costs associated with community engagement and guest speakers.</p>
<p>Harrisburg School District Dauphin County Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>The Harrisburg School District is requesting \$250,000 to implement summer school programs for K-2 and 5-8th grade students. These programs aim to address academic gaps and provide enrichment opportunities during the summer break.</p> <p>Anticipated outcomes of this project include improved literacy and math skills for K-2 students, enhanced readiness for the upcoming school year, and reduced summer learning loss. For 5-8th grade students, the program will foster academic growth, increase engagement in STEM and enrichment activities, and strengthen transitions to higher grade levels. Additionally, the summer program is expected to enhance social-emotional development, leading to better attendance and reduced disciplinary incidents in the following school year.</p> <p>Funding will be used to support partial teacher salaries and benefits and transportation costs for participants.</p>
<p>Highway Mission Tabernacle Philadelphia County Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>Highway Mission Tabernacle is requesting \$250,000 to expand its Performing Arts OST program for youth, ages 6-18, in the Tioga-Nicotown neighborhood of North Philadelphia.</p> <p>Highway Mission Tabernacle has recently piloted a summer OST model and continues to offer weekly workshops but would like to expand to a 5-day program during the school year and a six-week daily program in the summer for 50 youth yearly. By funding this project, under-served and at-risk youth will experience a safe and trauma-responsive program, have access to mentoring and life skills training, expand learning and access to the arts, develop performing talents and skills, receive academic support, develop healthy social and emotional skills, and serve their community well.</p> <p>Funding will be used to support partial salaries and benefits of staff; professional development for staff; supplies including program-specific supplies including musical instruments and equipment, educational materials and curriculum, recreation equipment, and performing arts supplies; workshop-specific consultants; youth stipends; and indirect costs.</p>
<p>Hopebound Ministries, Inc. (dba Mooncrest Neighborhood Programs) Allegheny County Amount: \$79,000</p>	<p>Hopebound Ministries, Inc. (dba Mooncrest Neighborhood Programs) is requesting \$79,000 over two years to support a free 10-week summer camp program and a free after-school program serving children in an underserved neighborhood located in an isolated section of Moon Twp., with no public transportation.</p> <p>Through this program, a minimum of 100 children annually, in grades K-8, will be safe and supervised after school, receive daily nutrition, complete homework assignments, receive additional ELL and math support as needed, and experience more art and social enrichment activities to balance the stress of a full school day of learning. Academic achievement through homework completion,</p>

	<p>exploring nature through gardening, challenging STEAM activity, relaxing daily reading, mindful career exploration, team building through sports, fresh air fun, and social well-being opportunities serve to build consideration, kindness, and respect among Mooncrest neighborhood children, fostering character growth to reduce negative behavior and build a vibrant community. In summer, a minimum of 65% of participants will attend regularly, will maintain or advance in grade level learning, and will thoughtfully manage or improve in attitude and tolerance. School year impact will continue with a minimum of 65% of participants attending each day.</p> <p>Funding will be used to support two additional part-time staff; bus transportation for field trips; and consultants providing art instruction and soccer instruction.</p>
<p>Keystone SMILES Community Learning Center, Inc.</p> <p>Clarion County</p> <p>Amount: \$214,873</p>	<p>The Keystone SMILES Community Learning Center, Inc. is requesting \$214,873 to enhance and expand afterschool and summer programming in Clarion, Venango, and Mercer Counties, PA, while resuming services in Jefferson County.</p> <p>These OST programs aim to improve academic engagement among at-risk students by establishing safe havens that provide tutoring, homework help, STEM and service-learning activities, and nutritious meals at community sites. By funding this project, Keystone SMILES Community Learning Center intends to expand its reach by 30%, serving approximately 1,200 students and aims for 80% of participants to show improved academic engagement and improved motivation, leadership, attitude, organization, and behavior.</p> <p>Funding will be used to support the partial salaries and benefits of 3 program coordinators and time for 6 AmeriCorps members; mileage for travel between sites; supplies including STEM and educational supplies, office supplies, art supplies, and building usage costs.</p>
<p>Kid's Innovation Playground</p> <p>Butler County</p> <p>Amount: \$13,360</p>	<p>Kid's Innovation Playground is requesting \$13,360 to create a Lego Robotics Team of 8 youth in grades 6th, 7th, and 8th to engage in weekly meetings and compete in the First Lego League challenges in Pittsburgh in the 2025 and 2026 seasons.</p> <p>By funding this project, marginalized youth in rural western Pennsylvania will be able to explore their talents and potential career paths as they enjoy a much-needed place to belong with like-minded students and mentors.</p> <p>Funding will be used to support a professional educator as facilitator and assistant; student transportation; First Lego League curriculum and supplies; and competition fees.</p>
<p>Learning Disabilities Association of Pennsylvania</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$60,000</p>	<p>The Learning Disabilities Association of Pennsylvania is requesting \$60,000 to provide high-quality reading instruction to at-risk youth within communities with higher needs.</p> <p>Learning Disabilities Association of Pennsylvania aims to support over 100 at-risk students across seven locations in Pittsburgh who struggle with reading because they are more likely to face incarceration and school problems compared to those who read at grade level. By funding this project, the Learning Disabilities</p>

	<p>Association of Pennsylvania will enhance the reading skills of at-risk students who are struggling in school. Additionally, this funding will provide training for local community members to become reading tutors. This community connection will help tutors relate better to the students, leading to improved reading proficiency. Tutoring will be prioritized in locations with high or extreme Community Need Indexes including Pittsburgh Public Schools, local non-profit organizations, and a housing complex in underprivileged areas.</p> <p>Funding will be used to support the partial salaries and benefits of a Program Manager, tutors, and reading interventionists; program supplies including early literary and reading intervention materials; and indirect costs.</p>
<p>Lemoyne Community Center Washington County Amount: \$249,782</p>	<p>The Lemoyne Community Center is requesting \$249,782 to support its after-school Homework and More program. The funding requested will allow us to expand and serve over 250 youth in this program, an increase of 100%.</p> <p>This Homework and More program is a free program that operates during the school year and currently serves approximately 125 youth in grades K-12 from various local school districts in Washington County. In addition to helping with schoolwork, Lemoyne Community Center offers a variety of enrichment classes to further supplement student education. Enrichment classes may include book clubs, African Drumming, life skills, STEAM sessions, Girl Scouts, cooking classes, sports, Spanish, recreation, photography, and much more. Students receive a nutritious dinner and a snack every day and transportation is available to and from the Homework & More program.</p> <p>Funding will be used to support partial salaries and benefits; costs associated with participant transportation; and seasonal teacher and tutor costs.</p>
<p>Medard's House (dba The Link 4 Youth) Cumberland County Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>The Link 4 Youth is requesting \$250,000 to expand and enhance afterschool and summer programming to at-risk youth in Cumberland, York, and Dauphin counties.</p> <p>The project will provide comprehensive afterschool and summer services to youth at risk for poor educational outcomes due to economic disadvantage, disability, homelessness, housing insecurity, discrimination, living in foster care, and more. The project will provide daily, zero-cost OST services during the school year and in summer, including academic support and enrichment; health and wellness programming; career exploration and guidance; support for greater family economic stability; life skills groups; health and nutrition programming; opportunities for Social Emotional Learning; and age-appropriate physical activity. By funding this project, at-risk youth will increase their protective factors; improve their social and emotional well-being through positive social engagement; improve their academic readiness and performance; increase their college and career readiness; enhance their personal safety; reduce their risk of engaging in negative and self-defeating behaviors; experience improved food security; and reduce their risk of juvenile delinquency, teen pregnancy, and substance abuse.</p>

	<p>Funding will be used to support salaries and benefits; transportation for participants; program supplies including food, garden supplies, educational materials, outreach materials, and recreation equipment; and consultant costs for a Nutritionist for programming.</p>
<p>Melting Pot Ministries Allegheny County Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>Melting Pot Ministries (MPM) is requesting \$250,000 to provide OST services to at-risk youth. MPM's OST programming focuses on providing safe, enriching environments for students during outside of school hours, including after-school and summer breaks. The program provides academic support, arts and music, sports, and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math), and mentorship programs in a trauma-informed, social-emotional learning environment. MPM aims to increase academic performance, improve social skills, and foster positive behaviors among participants. By funding this project, MPM will be able to expand our impact and reduce barriers for the most underserved students in our community.</p> <p>Funding will be used to support partial salaries of staff; costs associated with transportation for participants; and program supplies including food and other program-specific supplies.</p>
<p>Neighbors Helping Neighbors on the Main Line Montgomery County Amount: \$130,930</p>	<p>Neighbors Helping Neighbors on the Main Line is requesting \$130,930 to provide high-quality out-of-school learning opportunities to underrepresented K-12 youth in Lower Merion Township, PA through year-long Education Empowerment programming. This includes one-on-one tutoring, homework club, mentoring programs with field trips, and therapeutic sessions, and an empowerment camp. The funding will support increased OST offerings to meet ever-rising needs, staffing structure enhancements, and an impact evaluation. By funding this project, Neighbors Helping Neighbors on the Main Line hopes to close the achievement gap in Lower Merion and, in turn, positively impact the cultural climate, its at-risk youth, and the Lower Merion Township community as a whole.</p> <p>Funds will be used to hire a full-time Program Coordinator and support other staff time and benefits; direct program supplies; an impact evaluation; and software for program management.</p>
<p>North Hills Affordable Housing (dba HEARTH) Allegheny County Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>HEARTH is requesting \$250,000 to expand its on-site out-of-school time programming for children and youth in its transitional housing program, all of whom have experienced homelessness and domestic violence. The current OST program will expand from one to three days per week and to include youth ages 6 to 18. The OST programming consists of a range of academic, recreational, and therapeutic activities, including tutoring, homework assistance, hands-on learning opportunities, creative arts and cultural enrichment, mental health support, and mindfulness activities. These activities will be delivered in partnership with the Homeless Children's Education Fund, ABK Learning Center, Allegheny Health Network, and Shaler Area School District, among other partners.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the partial salaries and benefits of HEARTH's Program Manager and Program Director; staff time for project partners; equipment such as tablets and robotics; program</p>

	supplies including curriculum supplies, food and snacks, art supplies, and an SEL training curriculum.
<p>North Penn Valley Boys & Girls Club</p> <p>Montgomery County</p> <p>Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>The North Penn Valley Boys & Girls Club is requesting \$250,000 to help fund its free daily afterschool program, Project Learn. Project Learn is a supervised afternoon program that serves children ages 6-13 each day from 3:45 pm for a one-hour homework session. After homework completion, students participate in character-building, STEM enrichment, and recreational activities until parents pick them up. Project Learn is offered at three different locations, including Lansdale, Souderton, and Ambler, PA. The program’s objectives are to further academic achievement among their diverse population of financially under-resourced children. Specific measurable outcomes for this project include children attending at least 75 percent of days from September through June each academic year; homework completion at the Boys & Girls Club; a measurable improvement in benchmark test scores, as measured by the North Penn, Souderton Area, and Wissahickon School Districts. Building a sense of belonging and confidence are key goals of the afterschool program, alongside positive academic outcomes.</p> <p>Funds will be used for staff at each location and benefits; staff training; supplies and operating expenses including occupancy, insurance, maintenance and repairs, cleaning supplies, program supplies, snacks, and classroom supplies; and a consultant for outcome evaluation.</p>
<p>Paul W. Delauter Youth Center</p> <p>Juniata County</p> <p>Amount: \$20,000</p>	<p>The Paul W. Delauter Youth Center (Center) is requesting \$20,000 to increase capacity for its out-of-school time tutoring program. The Center partners with the Retired Teachers Association and the Juniata County School District to implement this program. The Retired Teachers Association provides volunteer, retired teachers who work one-on-one with students to increase their academic success, while the Juniata County School District identifies at-risk students in need of additional academic support. The program consists of academic support, physical activities, healthy snacks and mentorship. The Center's goal is to show outcomes of increased academic success, higher test scores, and less problems at school.</p> <p>Funds will support transportation to and from the program; program supplies such as furniture, tablets, a printer, school supplies, snacks, incentives for students and volunteers; and indirect costs.</p>
<p>Philadelphia Education Fund</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>Philadelphia Education Fund is requesting \$250,000 to expand its Spark Philadelphia OST program for 7th and 8th graders from currently serving four schools to three new middle schools during the two-year grant period. The overall goal of the program is to narrow the “opportunity gap” for low-income middle graders through early college and career exposure. By funding this project, Philadelphia Education Fund can increase the number of youths served by 120 during the grant period.</p> <p>Funds will support the partial salaries and benefits of three full-time staff and benefits; bus rentals for student field trips; program supplies including paper, student program materials, copying costs, snacks, and refreshments for students; and stipends to teacher</p>

	leads for supporting student recruitment, chaperoning trips, securing meeting space and completing surveys.
Pittsburgh Area Community Schools Beaver County Amount: \$250,000	<p>Pittsburgh Area Community Schools is requesting \$250,000 to create a new after-school program at Aliquippa Elementary School. Aliquippa Elementary School does not currently have any formal clubs or after-school programming. This program will serve 80-100 students annually, in a four day-a-week after school initiative that will create opportunities for enrichment through the arts, technology, and more, inspiring students to attend school and stay on a path to success.</p> <p>Funds will be used for salaries and benefits of staff; transportation of students to and from the program; program supplies; contractor costs for program implementation; and indirect costs.</p>
Regional Engagement Center Snyder County Amount: \$167,000	<p>The Regional Engagement Center (REC) is requesting \$167,000 to expand and improve its free drop-in program for youth in grades 3-12 that serves the greater Selinsgrove area. The funds will support the expansion of the program with increased hours, becoming a year-round program, including the summer months and academic year school breaks. By funding this project, REC will be able to support the local community and school districts by providing age-appropriate positive youth development programming, mental health resources, and food security that benefits the whole family.</p> <p>Funds will support additional staff; program supplies including food, art supplies, recreation equipment, and workshop supplies; and indirect costs.</p>
School District of Borough of Morrisville Bucks County Amount: \$250,000	<p>The School District of Borough of Morrisville is requesting \$250,000 to provide a new out-of-school time program at Morrisville Middle and High School. The program will consist of homework help, tutoring, credit recovery, STEAM activities, career-readiness, and other enrichment activities. Additionally, they plan to recruit a dedicated pool of college student volunteers to provide small-group tutoring, fostering personalized support and mentorship for participating students. The goals for the program include improved academic performance, increased attendance, and enhanced engagement in school. This initiative hopes to empower students to thrive academically, build critical skills, and create a pathway to long-term success.</p> <p>Funds will be used for teacher, tutor, coordinator, and aide time and benefits; costs associated with transportation to and from programming; supplies including laptops, curriculum and books, and snacks; consultants for specific enrichment activities; and indirect costs.</p>
SLB Radio Productions Inc Allegheny County Amount: \$192,410	<p>SLB Radio Productions is requesting \$192,410 to provide a full day, 5 days/week, 6-week OST program for at-risk teens at its Youth Media Center located in Pittsburgh's Northside during Summer 2025 and Summer 2026. This would be an expansion of its existing, successful OST program that currently operates during the school year. Activities include creating podcasts, commentaries, interviews, and other media features, allowing participants to learn more about</p>

	<p>the world around them while also sharpening 21st century skills such as reading, writing, speaking, active listening, working as part of a team, and time management.</p> <p>Funds will be used for staff time and benefits; staff training expenses including mileage, parking, and meals; equipment usage costs of digital recorders, microphones, computers, and other relevant gear; program supplies such as office supplies, food, snacks, and event supplies; a consultant fee for program evaluation; and bus passes and stipends for student participants.</p>
<p>St Anthony Youth Center of Easton, Pa Inc (dba Easton Area Community Center)</p> <p>Northampton County</p> <p>Amount: \$182,206</p>	<p>Easton Area Community Center is requesting \$182,206 to support the enhancement and expansion of its OST programs, which includes the after school and summer camp programs. The Easton Area Community Center will be able to provide transportation and increase its capacity, add new programs and collaborations with an expanded set of community partners/ contractors / instructors, and expand the utilization of current evidence-based and evidence-informed programs and practices with proven partners/collaborators to drive positive youth development.</p> <p>Funds will be used for the partial salaries of the Program Director, Program Coordinator, and transportation staff person; program supplies including classroom chairs, cushions, and desks; consultant costs associated with a new SEL and mindfulness curriculum, arts program, and dance and yoga instruction; and indirect costs.</p>
<p>Steel City Squash, Inc.</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>Steel City Squash is requesting \$250,000 to expand its out-of-school time programming that utilizes education, athletics, and mentorship to empower under-resourced youth to achieve academic, athletic, and personal success. Funding would allow for increased capacity for more youth served and year-round programming. By combining academic support, squash instruction, and life skills training, Steel City Squash provides a holistic approach to development, creating pathways to high school graduation, college enrollment, and career readiness.</p> <p>Funds will be used for staff time and benefits; staff training; transportation for students; program supplies including all squash equipment, snacks, and academic materials; field trips; participant rewards and incentives; and indirect costs.</p>

<p>The Niche Clinic Philadelphia County Amount: \$248,000</p>	<p>The Niche Clinic is requesting \$248,000 to expand and enhance its OST programming by doubling the amounts of diverted youth who engage in internships to 200 per year and doubling the number of school partners to 4. The program’s components include paid work placements, the structured use of financial products and accounts, and the Niche Clinic’s PA State Economic Education Standards-aligned curriculum. They serve individuals—primarily youth aged 13-18—from low-income backgrounds in Philadelphia. Roughly one-third are involved with the justice system.</p> <p>By funding this project, the Niche Clinic will seek to ensure the successful graduation and matriculation of 2,000 high school seniors into a full-time job or post-secondary educational institution.</p> <p>Funds will be used for additional staff time and for the new hire of a Finance Coach; rental costs; consultants to provide trauma-informed programming; and indirect costs.</p>
<p>The Parkesburg Point Youth Center, Inc Chester County Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>The Parkesburg Point Youth Center, Inc. is requesting \$250,000 to enhance and expand its out-of-school time (OST) program by increasing the organization’s capacity to accommodate increased participation. The OST program focuses on improving social, emotional, academic, and career readiness outcomes for 1,000 at-risk/low-income youth in their community. Program activities include academic enrichment, health and nutrition, sports and recreation, mentorship, art, leadership development, career readiness, outreach, and crisis support.</p> <p>Funds will be used to hire a full-time Program Coordinator and two part-time Program Associates, and provide wage increases for 10 part-time staff.</p>
<p>Tioga County Partnership for Community Health Tioga County Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>The Tioga County Partnership for Community Health is requesting \$250,000 to expand its after-school programs under the Community Care Initiative to two additional school districts in Tioga County, serving an additional 120 youth in grades K through 6th over the next two years. By funding this project, program participants will realize a gain in academic scores, have improved school attendance, and learn beneficial emotional and physical self-regulation skills.</p> <p>Funds will be used for the salary and benefits of a Program Coordinator for project oversight of two sites; mileage reimbursement; supplies and operating expenses such as a laptop and printer, art supplies, recreation items, snacks/beverages, insurance, and curriculum and other program supplies; stipends for coordinators and aides; and specific-workshop consultants.</p>
<p>Tree House Books Philadelphia County Amount: \$125,000</p>	<p>Tree House Books is requesting \$125,000 to increase services of its After School Studio and Summer Studio OST program to serve more youth and raise literacy levels in North Central Philadelphia. By funding this project, students will be reading on or above grade level, finding accomplishment in reading skills, developing a love of books, and finding their place within community.</p>

	<p>Funds will be used to partially support the salaries and benefits of the Program Director, Assistant Teachers, and Managing Director; field trips; supplies such as books, educational materials, and food; consultants for artists teachers and outside trainers; and insurance.</p>
<p>University City Science Center</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$249,884</p>	<p>The University City Science Center is requesting \$249,884 to provide out-of-school time (OST) programming through its FirstHand program in West Philadelphia. The OST program is centered on STEM career exposure in an afterschool and summer program, with comprehensive evidence-based supports and mentorship for at-risk high school students. By funding this project, UCSC will reach 200 at-risk youth during the grant period in high-quality OST programming with the potential to positively change the career and educational trajectories of at-risk youth.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support partial salaries and benefits of 5 staff positions; program supplies; consultants for program evaluation; participant supports including wage stipends and transit passes; and indirect costs.</p>
<p>Volunteers of America of Pennsylvania</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$208,184</p>	<p>Volunteers of America of Pennsylvania is requesting \$208,184 to enhance its OST program, The Youth Empowerment Program, in Sharpsburg, PA. The Youth Empowerment Program is dedicated to supporting underserved and underrepresented youth in a trauma-informed, safe space that fosters connections and positive development. By funding this project, 100 at-risk youth will regularly and consistently choose to attend YEP's no-cost OST programming, ultimately empowering them with the skills and confidence needed for future success.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support a part-time STEAM Coordinator and student staff; the partial salaries and benefits of 2 staff persons; travel costs including maintenance, mileage, and training fees; supplies and operating expenses including office supplies, STEAM kits, a STEAM curriculum, membership fees, food, incentives, utilities, and rent; consultants for specific programming; and indirect costs.</p>
<p>Youth Opportunities Development</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$138,225</p>	<p>Youth Opportunities Development is requesting \$138,225 to provide daily, year-round afterschool and summer programming for underserved youth in Clairton, PA. The focus of this initiative is on mentoring, education, and recreation. This includes weekly educational lessons covering topics such as world cultures, current events, history, financial literacy, and character development as well as at least six educational field trips for each student annually.</p> <p>The program aims to achieve several impact goals: 80% satisfaction from both participants and parents, 80% of youth achieving a GPA of 2.5 or higher, 70% experiencing one or fewer out-of-school suspensions, and 70% having fewer than eight unexcused absences from school each year.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support partial salaries and benefits of 3 staff persons; travel costs associated with field trips and transportation costs for participants; supplies including meals and snacks, program</p>

	materials, computers, games, and recreation items; and indirect costs.
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FY 2024-25 BOOST - Statewide

<p>Pennsylvania Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs</p> <p>Counties: Allegheny, Berks, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Elk, Erie, Franklin, Lackawanna, Northampton, and Philadelphia</p> <p>Amount: \$1,500,000</p>	<p>The Pennsylvania Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs is requesting \$1,500,000 to expand statewide OST services for school-aged at-risk youth. Funds will support sub-grants to 12 affiliated Boys & Girls Clubs that currently offer OST programs and represent low-income urban, rural and suburban communities across the state. Clubs will reduce barriers to participation in the free or low-cost OST programs through trauma-informed, culturally competent, conveniently located programs. Each club is experienced in providing successful OST programs that result in proven outcomes, including improved social emotional learning, improved academic skills, and school attendance; engagement in career-based programs; reduction in negative behaviors; and provision of safe OST environments. The Alliance will oversee grant management for the participating clubs and will support the Clubs in program implementation in an advisory and consultative capacity.</p> <p>Annually, Pennsylvania Boys & Girls Clubs serve over 43,600 youth with OST programs. Of these youth, 68% are 12 and younger and 32% are teens; 56% identify as male and 40% as female; 77% come from minority races/ethnicities; 83% qualify for free or reduced lunch; and 43% live in single-parent households. By funding this project, the PA Alliance will remove barriers thereby increasing youth participation in robust, trauma-informed, evidence-based, OST programming throughout the state.</p> <p>Funds will be used for each location's specific needs. Funds will support staff time and benefits; transportation and associated costs for participants, field trips, and staff training; office supplies and program supplies including program-specific supplies, recreation and game equipment, tablets, food, and incentives; free membership fees for participants; outreach materials; operational expenses; professional development and uniforms for staff; consultants for specific content areas; and indirect costs.</p>
<p>Pennsylvania State Alliance of YMCAs</p> <p>Counties: Allegheny, Berks, Butler, Cambria, Chester, Crawford, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Erie, Fayette, Franklin, Indiana, Jefferson, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Luzerne, Lycoming, Montgomery, Philadelphia, Somerset, Westmoreland, and York</p> <p>Amount: \$1,500,000</p>	<p>The Pennsylvania State Alliance of YMCAs is requesting \$1,500,000 on behalf of 14 Pennsylvania YMCA Associations to provide safe, supervised and structured programming for over 15,800 at-risk youth throughout the Commonwealth. 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; field trips and training in specific EBP curriculums and other professional development trainings; costs associated with transportation for participants; office</p>

	supplies and program supplies including program-specific educational materials, technology equipment, and gaming systems; marketing costs; league memberships; t-shirts; prizes and incentives; meals; consultants for specific content areas; operational expenses; youth membership fees; and indirect costs.
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PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY
SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE

Violence Intervention & Prevention (VIP) Competitive Grants
Project Summary and Analysis

Funding Announcement: FY 2024-25 Violence Intervention & Prevention Competitive Grants

Applications: 67 Applications

Project Start Date: March 1, 2025

Description and Recommendation:

On September 9, 2024, PCCD announced the availability of \$45 million in state funding over an up-to-36-month period to support FY 2024-25 Violence Intervention and Prevention (VIP) Competitive Grants and Collaborative Community Violence Intervention (CCVI) Strategies Grants.

The purpose of VIP funding is to provide grants and technical assistance to address community violence throughout the Commonwealth. For the purpose of 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.

Community-based organizations, institutions of higher education, municipalities, counties, and district attorneys were eligible to apply. Eligible applicants could submit one proposal under the following 'tracks':

Solicitation	Application Track Type	Maximum Grant Amount	Project Duration (Months)
VIP	Track 1: Expansion, Enhancement, or Continuation of Established Programs	Up to \$950,000	36
VIP	Track 2: VIP Start-up Grants	Up to \$100,000	18
CCVI	Track 1: CCVI Planning	Up to \$75,000	18
CCVI	Track 2: CCVI Implementation	Up to \$2,000,000	36

Under the VIP Grants solicitation, PCCD utilized a SurveyMonkey initial request process with a required proposal narrative and budget template for each track. The CCVI Strategies Grants solicitation utilized PCCD's Egrants System to accept applications under both tracks.

PCCD received 176 request forms and related application materials via SurveyMonkey as of the October 31, 2024 deadline. PCCD received 13 applications in Egrants for the CCVI Strategies Grant Program.

After conducting an eligibility review, 13 applicants under CCVI and 176 under VIP, totaling 189, were moved forward for the formal scoring and review process, which occurred during November and December 2024. The VIP Workgroup met on January 8, 2025 for consideration of recommended applications.

Staff and the VIP Workgroup are recommending approval of 1 CCVI application and 66 VIP applications, totaling 67 applications, not to exceed \$44,945,473 in state VIP funding, pending the resolution of any outstanding programmatic or fiscal concerns.¹

¹ A total of \$45,000,000 is available for FY2024-25 VIP Grants. PCCD is recommending to use the remaining \$54,527 'balance' to support an additional project through the Building Opportunities Through Out-of-School Time (BOOST) Grant Program. PCCD anticipates final budget totals will adjust slightly for BOOST and VIP projects following completion of staff fiscal reviews to determine final award amounts.

FY 2024-25 CCVI Grant – Planning

<p>Lancaster City</p> <p>Lancaster County</p> <p>Amount: \$75,000</p> <p>Grant ID# 45866</p>	<p>Lancaster City is requesting \$75,000 to support the planning of an effective, system-wide, cross-sector collaborative intervention strategy to reduce gun and group-related violence. Throughout the planning grant, Lancaster City will convene system and cross-sector community partners through a series planning sessions; review current data trends including conducting focus groups and stakeholder interviews; complete a system-wide needs assessment, gap analysis, and asset map; and research best practices, including the utilization of a Violence Reduction Council.</p> <p>Funds will be used for a consultant to lead the initiative; costs associated with in-person planning meetings; and stakeholder stipends for participation in focus groups and interviews.</p>
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VIP Grants – Start-up

<p>DayOneNotDayTwo</p> <p>Delaware County</p> <p>Amount: \$100,000</p>	<p>DayOneNotDayTwo is requesting \$100,000 to support the Transforming Justice project, a restorative justice program for youth facing charges in Delaware County. The program is a youth-led, community-centered diversion program for youth who have committed serious offenses. Referrals come from police, probation, and the district attorney’s office. Once referred, youth participate in a Restorative Community Conference. The Restorative Community Conference involves all parties involved, focusing on self-reflection, accountability, and healing, to co-create a plan for the youth. As part of the program, youth also receive emotional intelligence education to build conflict resolution skills, financial assistance for program participation including transportation and educational materials, and program supplies tied to the youth’s interests for future career goals.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the salary of one Restorative Justice Practitioner; costs associated with restorative justice training sessions including local travel and a restorative justice expert; and partial costs for the financial assistance to participants. This grant is expected to improve youth’s conflict resolution skills and divert youth from the justice system.</p>
<p>The MasterMind Cooperative</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$100,000</p>	<p>The MasterMind Cooperative is requesting \$100,000 to implement Project Phoenix, an innovative approach to recovery from personal trauma, reducing violence, and increasing economic stability among young adults ages 18-25. This program provides therapeutic and economic interventions to help participants recover from past traumas and over exposure to violence, while also providing personal finance, entrepreneurial training and small business start-up coaching needed for at-risk young adults to achieve economic independence and to build brighter futures for themselves, their families and their communities. Through collaborative efforts with licensed therapists, trauma-informed wellness practitioners, entrepreneurial trainers, personal finance resources and coaches, community partners and community resources, a robust curriculum has been created, and a network has been established to help participants recover and heal from trauma, reduce violence,</p>

	<p>increase personal growth, and to build business and personal financial skills to participate and thrive in the growing economy.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the partial salaries and benefits of staff that facilitate the program; staff travel and training and participant transportation; supplies and operating expenses including laptops and other technology and educational resources needed for workshops, rent, office supplies, and outreach costs; and consultants including licensed therapists, financial and accounting management, and other expert trainers.</p>
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VIP Grants – Expansion

<p>1Hood Media</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$620,000</p>	<p>1Hood Media is requesting \$620,000 to expand and enhance their We Keep Us Safe (WKUS) media literacy and violence prevention program for young adults ages 16-26 impacted by community violence. WKUS promotes healthy and informed social media use, arts education engagement and sports activities, as well as safe, fun community service gatherings for youth through “Fridays on Deck” events.</p> <p>Funds will be used to enhance and expand the WKUS program, including doubling the number of participants in the current program, promoting program and video content more widely, and recruiting participants to join a WKUS cohort. Specifically, funding will provide for costs associated with current and new personnel, as well as training for staff and cohort members, equipment, stipends for cohort members, and consultant costs associated with production and videography. This grant is expected to increase youth participation in the program and potential impacts of violence in their respective Pittsburgh neighborhoods.</p>
<p>A Woman’s Place</p> <p>Bucks County</p> <p>Amount: \$635,955</p>	<p>A Woman’s Place is requesting \$635,955 expand its supportive services to survivors of domestic violence who have experienced severe trauma.</p> <p>Funds will be used to retain their Children’s Advocate and add a trauma therapist (to provide evidence-based therapy to victims) and crisis intervention specialist (to engage with and provide training to law enforcement). This grant is expected to increase the number of victims connected with trauma-informed services in Bucks County.</p>
<p>AMANDLA, Inc.</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$307,500</p>	<p>AMANDLA (Safe-Hub) is requesting \$307,500 to enhance its soccer-based youth and community development program, EduSoccer, to middle school and high school students in Kensington.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support staff costs, supplies and materials, transportation, and training costs to engage young people ages 13-18 through sport, mentorship, and community leadership. This grant is expected to reach 100 young people vulnerable to violence in the Kensington community of Philadelphia.</p>
<p>Anti-Violence Partnership of Philadelphia</p>	<p>Anti-Violence Partnership (AVP) of Philadelphia is requesting \$949,519 to enhance its Pathways to Resilience Initiative,</p>

<p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$949,519</p>	<p>expanding AVP’s capacity to collaborate with community partners and engage clients in trauma-informed and resilience-building practices through events, workshops, and interventions rooted in evidence-based Community Violence Intervention (CVI) strategies.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support personnel-related costs for new and existing staff, including Youth and Trauma Therapists, a Conflict Resolution and Mediation Specialist, and Trauma Specialist, as well as members of organizational leadership who will supervise project activities and related services (e.g., Community Engagement Manager, Victim Services Program Manager, etc.). This grant is expected to reduce wait times and improve access to mental health support, as well as increase capacity and reduce barriers to access for youth, families, and individuals affected by trauma through both direct services and community partnerships. As part of grant-funded activities, AVP will also work to improve data collection and program evaluation, as well as establish a new programmatic advisory board with community representation.</p>
<p>ArtWell Collaborative, Inc.</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$397,650</p>	<p>ArtWell is requesting \$397,650 to enhance their therapeutic and trauma-informed arts education to Philadelphia youth. Grants funds will be used to support three in-school programs (We the Poets, The Art of Growing Leaders, and EcoArts), as well as an additional program called MasterPeace.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support a portion of the salaries/benefits, artist stipends, travel costs, art supplies, and installation materials. This grant is expected to improve social-emotional skills, resolution skills, and academic and community engagement among participants.</p>
<p>Beyond the Bars</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$285,000</p>	<p>Beyond the Bars is requesting \$250,000 to expand their Ecosystem of Support programming across 56 music labs in Philadelphia, providing youth in shelters, trauma clinics, foster care, diversion programs, schools, community hubs, and immigrant and refugee locations with music and support services.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support trauma-informed programming that empowers youth through self-expression, music, and leadership development; funds will go toward costs for educational resources, musical equipment, staffing, and operational expenses necessary to facilitate sessions and workshops. This grant is expected to reach more than 1,200 young people each year through skills- and confidence-building, as well as foster a mentorship cycle that prepares participants to teach subsequent cohorts.</p>
<p>Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$900,000</p>	<p>Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh (BBBSPGH) is requesting \$900,000 to provide evidence-based youth mentoring programs at five schools in East Pittsburgh—Woodland Hills High School, Dickson Preparatory STEAM Academy, and Propel Schools Braddock Hills Elementary, Middle, and High Schools—that share an area critically affected by gun violence. The expansion includes the implementation of the mentor2.0 program at Woodland Hills High School, the Level Up group mentoring program at Dickson STEAM Preparatory Academy, and the near-peer mentoring ecosystem at Propel Braddock Hills. This will allow for an increase in the number</p>

	<p>of youths served, improving academic outcomes, fostering emotional resilience, and enhancing social skills among participants.</p> <p>Funds will support the salaries and benefits of staff; mileage, transportation costs for student trips, and professional development for staff; supplies and operating expenses including laptops, background checks/clearances, dues/subscriptions, insurance, marketing, food, rent, MatchForce costs, office supplies, postage, printed materials, and telephone/internet; consultant costs for audits, IT, payroll, accounting, and other needed services. This grant is expected to help new students build resilience, raise academic and personal aspirations, and gain connections and life skills necessary to become successful.</p>
<p>Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Laurel Region</p> <p>Westmoreland County</p> <p>Amount: \$249,981</p>	<p>Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Laurel Region is requesting \$249,989 to support the continuation, expansion, and enhancement of their community-based violence prevention program. The program pairs professional caseworkers to screen, train, and support volunteer mentors who meet with at-risk youth individually, as well as provide referrals to services and wraparound supports for youth and families.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support personnel, case management, and programming costs. This grant is expected to increase the quality of programming and services, including mental health supports, offered to youth and families, as well as increase the number of individuals reached and served.</p>
<p>Black Brain Campaign Association</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$300,000</p>	<p>The Black Brain Campaign is requesting \$300,000 to increase access to mental health support for youth affected by violence.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support hiring of additional clinicians to manage increased demand for crisis mobilization and therapy services, development of materials for restorative justice and healing circles, resources for therapy sessions, outreach strategies, and support a dedicated individual for data collection and evaluation to track program effectiveness. This grant is expected to increase the number of individuals served to approximately 750 annually, with a focus on engaging more youth from high-violence areas.</p>
<p>Boys & Girls Clubs of Philadelphia</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$949,603</p>	<p>The Boys & Girls Clubs of Philadelphia is requesting \$949,603 to continue and enhance its Expanded Opportunities for At-Risk Teens programming with the addition of targeted case management and college and career counseling services. The program engages teens living in some of Philadelphia’s most violent police districts through a variety of targeted programs focused on social-emotional health, violence prevention, and increasing postsecondary readiness.</p> <p>Funds will support the salaries of direct service staff, including Teen Directors, Athletic Directors, Youth and Family Service Counselors, and Literacy Supervisors. Participants will engage in prevention programming, college and career readiness programming, and recreational activities facilitated by trauma-informed staff. This grant is expected to serve 3,100 teens annually, with 50 receiving targeted case management services, and all high school juniors and seniors receiving individualized college and career counseling services.</p>

<p>Boys & Girls Clubs of Western Pennsylvania</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$950,000</p>	<p>Boys & Girls Clubs of Western Pennsylvania is requesting \$950,000 to provide no-cost, virtual and in-person mental healthcare, and counseling services.</p> <p>Funds will be used to provide these services alongside implementation of their evidence-informed mentoring and career development program at five locations in Allegheny County. This grant is expected to serve over 100 teens annually from communities that are most at risk of gun violence, addressing barriers to mental health services and high quality after-school programming for teens.</p>
<p>Breaking The Chainz, Inc.</p> <p>Dauphin County</p> <p>Amount: \$187,017</p>	<p>Breaking The Chainz, Inc. is requesting \$187,017 to provide a social/emotional/cognitive development leadership program to educate at-risk youth and provide life skills.</p> <p>Funds will be used for hiring staff, providing trainings, purchasing learning materials and meals, and transportation for participants. This grant is expected to create a safe space for youth and their families, improve academic outcomes, and reduce community gun violence.</p>
<p>Butler County District Attorney's Office</p> <p>Butler County</p> <p>Amount: \$892,694</p>	<p>The Butler County District Attorney's Office is requesting \$892,694 to continue and enhance the current Butler County Gun Investigation Program.</p> <p>Funds will be used to hire staff and upgrade equipment utilized by the Butler County Emergency Services Unit (ESU) team. The ESU team responds to high-intensity critical incidents, such as active shooters, barricaded persons, dignitary protection and the execution of high-risk search/arrest warrants, all of which commonly involve firearms. The ESU team will expand their Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT) and Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate (ALICE) trainings to local law enforcement, schools, businesses, and community-based organizations. This grant is expected to reduce community violence by training the community to respond to active threat scenarios.</p>
<p>Café Momentum Pittsburgh</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$914,300</p>	<p>Café Momentum Pittsburgh is requesting \$914,300 to provide justice-impacted youth with paid, comprehensive workforce development internships. Founded in 2020, Café Momentum offers a unique programming model where youth complete a comprehensive, paid restaurant internship, earning an industry-recognized credential and high school diploma, and gain skills and confidence to improve their long-term success.</p> <p>Funds will support staffing of a mental health professional, intern support, and restaurant training coordinator, as well as trauma-informed and restorative justice trainings. This grant is expected to serve 75 justice-impacted youth per year with goals of increasing academic engagement, improve employability, improve interpersonal skills, and exit the justice system.</p>
<p>Caring People Alliance</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p>	<p>Caring People Alliance is requesting \$706,500 to expand and enhance the Teens on Target program, which currently serves an average of 30 at-risk youth per month in West Philadelphia.</p>

<p>Amount: \$706,500</p>	<p>Funds will support personnel-related costs, including salary and benefits as well as professional development and staff training. This grant is expected to help transition program staff to full-time positions, open the waitlist to serve 45 youth monthly, extend program hours, and address safety needs.</p>
<p>Carnegie Library of Homestead</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$582,666</p>	<p>The Carnegie Library of Homestead is requesting \$582,666 to expand and enhance their Youth Development and Restorative Justice Program.</p> <p>Funds will be used to engage at-risk youth by providing restorative justice circles, educational workshops, and recreational activities to reduce violence and promote positive youth development. Funds will support staffing, consultants, and expenses related to STEM, art, educational, and athletic programming and field trips. This grant is expected to reduce youth violence, improve school engagement, and foster community relationships for at-risk youth.</p>
<p>Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO)</p> <p>Dauphin, Allegheny, and Philadelphia Counties</p> <p>Amount: \$950,000</p>	<p>Center for Employment Opportunities is requesting \$950,000 to support Group Violence Intervention (GVI) programming in Harrisburg, continue coaching services in Philadelphia, and incorporate supportive services at their Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, and Philadelphia sites.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support personnel costs, as well as a social services fund that will support participants with rent, furniture, emergency housing, utilities, cell phones/WiFi, childcare, transportation, clothing, and other needs. This grant is expected to connect justice-impacted individuals with gun-related offenses to transitional paid employment, peer support, and community resources, with an overall goal of reducing recidivism.</p>
<p>Center for Families and Relationships</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$950,000</p>	<p>Center for Families and Relationships is requesting \$950,000 to continue its existing Together Through Trauma (TTT) initiative. Launched in 2021, TTT provides therapy, community workshops, and staff trainings to communities impacted by trauma resulting from gun violence through a partnership with the Philadelphia Parks & Recreation department to embed programming in recreation centers located in high violence zip codes.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support project personnel, including the TTT Program Director; two full-time Trauma Therapists; one full-time Program Coordinator; two part-time Workshop Consultants/Trauma Therapists; Outreach Consultant; and a portion of costs for CFAR's staff to oversee program outreach and communications efforts and manage grant-related requirements. Funds will also support training and travel-related costs, as well as supplies and operating expenses (e.g., technology equipment, workshop supplies, food for clients, etc.). This grant is expected to further engage children, teens, adults, families and staff through the TTT program, with the goal of decreasing the incidence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) symptoms to those directly or indirectly impacted by gun violence and working to break the cycle of intergenerational trauma.</p>

<p>Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP)</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$936,352</p>	<p>The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) is requesting \$936,352 to sustain intensive case management services for youth and families living in Philadelphia communities that have experienced violence. Intensive case management includes providing psychoeducation, emotional support, trauma-focused therapy, system navigation and advocacy, and connection to community resources. The goals of the project include refining and improving current practices for youth impacted by gun violence, increasing access to concrete resources for youth and families, enhancing access to mental health support and address an increase in suicidality, and enhancing evaluation efforts to continue to provide trauma-informed services.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support personnel providing case management, mental health services, supervision, and data collection and analysis. This grant is expected to expand intervention services, reduce risk for future violence and injury, and provide positive outcomes for youth and their families.</p>
<p>City of Erie</p> <p>Erie County</p> <p>Amount: \$950,000</p>	<p>The City of Erie is requesting \$950,000 to support five officers in the Juvenile Unit and Crisis Car of the Erie Police Department. These units respond to incidents of mental/behavioral health issues, substance use disorders, homelessness, gun violence, and domestic violence. The Juvenile Unit works with at-risk youth to connect them to diversionary programs, services, and resources. Key partnerships include Erie’s public schools and Juvenile Probation to redirect youth behaviors, provide them with support, and prevent them from entering the justice system.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support three existing positions and would add two new officers to each unit. This grant is expected to support community policing and crisis intervention, connect vulnerable at-risk populations to services, and build relationships with Erie’s youth, with the ultimate goal of diverting individuals from the justice system.</p>
<p>CORA Services</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$725,570</p>	<p>CORA Services’ Good Shepherd Mediation - Restorative Justice Department is requesting \$725,570 to operate and enhance their Transforming Justice Hub at George Washington High School.</p> <p>Funds will be used to increase the number of hubs offered at the school, provide training to school staff, add a Youth Advisory component to their Community Advisory Council, and support graduates in serving as youth mentors. This grant is expected to incorporate restorative practices in school interventions, increase the number of youth served, and decrease violent incidents within the school and community.</p>
<p>Drexel University - Center for Nonviolence and Social Justice</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$950,000</p>	<p>The Center for Nonviolence and Social Justice (CNSJ) at Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health is requesting \$950,000 to enhance and expand its Community Outreach Team (COT) program, part of the Center’s Healing Hurt People program.</p> <p>Funds will be used to enhance COT’s efforts to provide violence prevention and intervention services to youth aged 14 - 24 who are exposed to ongoing community violence and subsequent trauma, alongside a number of community partners. This grant is expected to</p>

	<p>provide violence prevention services to Philadelphia neighborhoods and communities that have been historically and disproportionately affected by disinvestment, violence, and poverty, and to create a safe space for youth and their families.</p>
<p>Education Plus Health Philadelphia County Amount: \$942,315</p>	<p>Education Plus Health is requesting \$942,315 to provide universal mental health screenings to more than 1,500 students in grades 6-12 in Philadelphia and support clinical interventions and services to those identified with trauma and/or mental health distress.</p> <p>Funds will be used to hire three Clinicians to provide services and linkage to care. This grant is expected to identify and serve at least 675 youth at high risk for violence exposure and trauma.</p>
<p>First Person Arts Philadelphia County Amount: \$529,089</p>	<p>First Person Arts is requesting \$529,089 to mentor middle and high school students in a trauma-informed environment as they learn how to tell their personal violence story in a way that empowers them, externalizes their trauma, and reduces the power trauma has over them.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support teaching artists, school outreach, Moments of Sharing in community and program management, oversight, and data reporting. This grant is expected to reach 220 students and improve their ability to identify, process, and communicate issues that are impactful to them, including those related to gun violence.</p>
<p>Foundation of HOPE Allegheny County Amount: \$949,253</p>	<p>Foundation of HOPE is requesting \$949,253 to expand their reentry program and their collaboration with the Greater Pittsburgh Area MAD DADS initiative to enable returning citizens to be financially compensated for participating in street outreach and violence prevention programs.</p> <p>Funds will be used to provide support toward basic needs (e.g., transportation, ID services, clothing, food, housing, employment support), staffing (intake specialist and three caseworkers), and program materials. This grant is expected to provide supportive services for over 2,000 new reentry participants, resulting in employment, stable housing, and reduced recidivism.</p>
<p>Girls Inc. of Greater Philadelphia & Southern New Jersey Philadelphia County Amount: \$799,813</p>	<p>Girls Inc. of Greater Philadelphia & Southern New Jersey is requesting \$799,813 to expand its Bold Futures program, an intensive violence prevention mentoring program for high-risk girls with both individual and community risk factors between the ages 9 to 14, who reside in Philadelphia. The expansion would add two additional schools to the program, making a total of eight sites in Philadelphia. The program meets twice each week during the school year, with one day dedicated to academic enrichment and the second dedicated to mentoring. The program also provides a four-week camp in the summer.</p> <p>Funds will be used to provide intensive mentoring and support, address the social-emotional learning of participants, work with school administration to ensure constructive disciplinary methods, and engage parents and teachers. Participants receive comprehensive violence prevention education, develop personal</p>

	<p>safety plans, practice effective communication strategies, learn conflict resolution techniques, and receive exposure to career and academic opportunities. This grant is expected to serve 200 participants annually, 25 per site.</p>
<p>Greater Scranton YMCA Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties Amount: \$940,500</p>	<p>The Greater Scranton YMCA is requesting \$940,500 to provide high-quality, supportive programs for at-risk children and teens through the enhancement of the YMCA's Wellbeing Initiative. The Greater Scranton YMCA partners with the Greater Carbondale YMCA and the Greater Wyoming Valley YMCA to implement the YMCA Wellbeing Initiative. The Wellbeing Initiative integrates mentoring programs, yoga, mindfulness, and social-emotional learning activities and curriculums.</p> <p>Funds be used to support staff development and program materials to support youth mentoring, mindfulness practices, and social-emotional learning, with an overall goal of addressing and preventing community violence, mental health, and substance use disorders. This grant is expected to decrease youth violence, improve mental health outcomes, and increase program accessibility for underserved communities.</p>
<p>Harrisburg Area YMCA Dauphin County Amount: \$250,000</p>	<p>The Harrisburg Area YMCA is requesting \$250,000 to expand their Youth and Teen Programs, with a focus on reducing youth violence, increasing engagement, and fostering family involvement.</p> <p>Funds will be used to hire a dedicated Youth and Teen Director, as well as pay for transportation services, nutritious meals, and incentives for parent and teen participation, with the overall goal of creating safe spaces and positive experiences for at-risk youth. This grant is expected to help reduce youth violence and delinquency, improve school attendance, and establish a supportive community environment that empowers at-risk youth to make positive life choices.</p>
<p>HIAS and Council Migration Service of Philadelphia dba HIAS Pennsylvania Philadelphia County Amount: \$950,000</p>	<p>HIAS PA is requesting \$950,000 to provide immigration legal services, case management, and support services to low-income immigrant youth and their families who are eligible for (but have not yet obtained) legal status and are therefore vulnerable to exploitation and abuse.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support legal staff, a Case Manager, and Youth Advocates to support at-risk youth. This grant is expected to stabilize youth, assist in providing legal status, and enable access to healthcare, work authorization, educational support, and independence.</p>
<p>Homewood Children's Village Allegheny County Amount: \$950,000</p>	<p>Homewood Children's Village is requesting \$950,000 to support its Holistic Anti-Violence Education Network (HAVEN) program, which embeds violence prevention in community schools, trains parents and family members in anti-violence techniques, provides youth mentorship, and expands access to therapeutic services.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support current and new personnel, including a Senior Director of Programs, three full-time Site Managers, two part-time Student Advocates, and administrative staff to support</p>

	<p>grants management functions. Funds will also support travel and training, program and outreach supplies and operating expenses, consultants providing group therapy sessions, evaluation, and trainings/workshops. This grant is expected to help programming and resources reach an additional 200 youth and parents/guardians per year, as well as expand training offerings through new staff and train-the-trainer approaches.</p>
<p>HopePHL (formerly People's Emergency Center) Philadelphia County Amount: \$570,710</p>	<p>HopePHL is requesting \$570,710 to provide Trauma-Focused Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) and violence prevention curricula to high school-aged students in Philadelphia. TF-CBT is a conjoint parent-child treatment that uses cognitive-behavioral principles and exposure techniques to prevent and treat posttraumatic stress, depression, and disruptive behaviors; TF-CBT has been proven effective in teaching youth and caregivers how to challenge invasive thoughts of guilt and fear.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support personnel (two full-time therapists) and travel/equipment expenses. This grant is expected to introduce youth and their caregivers to coping skills that will help them respond to stressful situations.</p>
<p>JEVS Human Services Philadelphia and Montgomery Counties Amount: \$950,000</p>	<p>JEVS is requesting \$950,000 to support The Choice Is Yours (TCY) Safe and Sound, an enhanced diversion and reentry program, in Philadelphia and Montgomery counties that focuses specifically on individuals at highest risk for gun violence involvement, including those charged with firearm-related offenses. Currently, TCY is limited to first-time offenders; the proposed TCY Safe and Sound expansion would reach youth and adults in Philadelphia and Norristown who are currently ineligible for TCY program participation, reaching higher-risk individuals more likely to engage in gun violence.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support staffing, including new and current personnel (Program Manager, Office Manager, two Resource Coordinators, Program Instructor, Quality Assurance Specialist, etc.); equipment, supplies, and operating expenses; travel, training, and training-related supplies and materials. This grant is expected to serve an additional 80 clients in Philadelphia and 40 clients in Montgomery County on a monthly basis.</p>
<p>Lehigh Valley Hospital, Inc. Carbon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Schuylkill, and Northampton Counties Amount: \$950,000</p>	<p>Lehigh Valley Hospital, Inc. (LVH), in collaboration with Promise Neighborhoods of the Lehigh Valley (PNLV), is requesting \$950,000 to sustain its Cure Violence partnership in Allentown and other counties and communities in Central Eastern Pennsylvania. Cure Violence is an evidence-based public health model that treats violence as a learned and preventable behavior and can lead to reductions in retaliatory violence. This project maintains critical elements of a collaboration between LVH Trauma Centers and the PNLV's Zero Youth Violence Team to build relationships with people who are immersed in and struggling with violence, intervene during the crisis of hospitalization, decrease retaliatory violence, and promote norm-changing messages of anti-violence.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support both hospital-based and community-based personnel, including three Violence Prevention Coordinators,</p>

	<p>a Project Coordinator, one Outreach Worker, one Violence Interrupter, and one Volunteer Coordinator; local and conference travel; program supplies (including outreach and firearms safety materials) and equipment; and costs associated with a Community Violence Summit. This grant is expected to result in decreased retaliatory acts of violence and, ultimately, reduced hospital admissions for violent injury, within the project’s regional service area.</p>
<p>Lutheran Social Mission Society DBA Lutheran Settlement House Philadelphia County Amount: \$947,901</p>	<p>Lutheran Settlement House is requesting \$947,901 to adapt, implement, and evaluate their violence prevention program, Students Talking About Relationships (STAR), with three new target populations: queer/trans youth, violence-affected youth, and patients who screen positive for teen dating violence at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP).</p> <p>Funds will be used to support staff, CHOP partnerships to link patients with counseling programs and resources, stipends for STAR Teen Ambassadors, and incentives/food/transportation for participants. This grant is expected to deliver programming to 200 high-risk youth, screen 90,000 teens for dating violence, provide linkage to services, decrease PTSD symptoms, and provide leadership and educational opportunities to youth.</p>
<p>Making a Change Group Delaware County Amount: \$440,280</p>	<p>Making a Change Group is requesting \$440,280 to provide credible-messenger-based violence intervention services and mentoring to youth and young adults ages 14 – 24 residing in three neighborhoods in Chester City, PA.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support personnel, workshop expenses, staff training, youth incentives, travel costs, and operating costs. This grant is expected to provide additional opportunities for intervention and expand to new neighborhoods, with the ultimate goal of reducing gun violence in targeted community regions.</p>
<p>Municipality of Norristown Montgomery County Amount: \$950,000</p>	<p>The Municipality of Norristown, on behalf of the Norristown Police Department, is requesting \$950,000 to enhance the Safe Marshall Street Corridor Crime Reduction Plan. This plan includes activities to improve safety by addressing physical and environmental factors that contribute to violence (e.g., Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design strategies), increase surveillance capabilities and patrolling by law enforcement within high-crime locations, and deploy new approaches to improve community engagement.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the purchase of camera systems and license plate readers, enhance lighting, a Robbery Box Initiative, and Community CompStat. This grant is expected to reduce crime, including violent incidents, within the Marshall Street Corridor and increase community safety.</p>
<p>NoMo Foundation Philadelphia County Amount: \$950,000</p>	<p>The New Options More Opportunities (NoMo) Foundation is requesting \$950,000 to offer in-house mental health support and enhance capacity to provide quality services to youth. The organization currently operates five service centers for youth and their families across Philadelphia, which offer a range of programming resources, including professional development,</p>

	<p>financial literacy education, life skills, career exploration, housing assistance, and mental health support.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the hiring of a part-time Mental Health Counselor to provide daily access to mental health and grief supports, a full-time Data Manager, and convert two part-time roles to full-time positions (Youth Coordinator and Community Outreach Specialist) to increase capacity for youth mentoring and parent/family engagement programs (“Parent Cafes”). This grant is expected to expand programming, increase attendance and participation among youth, and strengthen ability to respond to emerging community needs effectively.</p>
<p>One Art Community Center</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$175,000</p>	<p>One Art Community Center is requesting \$175,000 to expand trauma-informed arts and cultural programming in West Philadelphia. The Center provides holistic healing and safe creative spaces for community members, including film classes, arts and wellness classes, and other community-centered programming for youth and adults.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support weekly classes and monthly community programs including film and video, movement arts, yoga, and more, with the goal of increasing access to free arts and cultural programming and creating a community for people who have experienced violence. Funds will support the Center’s personnel, consultants and instructors to facilitate filmmaking classes and other program offerings, as well as operational costs. This grant is expected to serve over 10,000 Philadelphians over the course of the project period through classes, workshops, and larger-scale community events.</p>
<p>Opportunities Industrialization Center Philadelphia d.b.a. OIC Philadelphia</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$216,875</p>	<p>OIC Philadelphia is requesting \$216,875 to strengthen and expand their Workforce Development Training with Integrated Holistic Supportive Services program. Through this program, vocational training will be combined with wraparound services for participants who are low-income, housing insecure, justice-involved, or otherwise susceptible to community violence.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support and strengthen their existing intervention programming partnerships with behavioral health providers, workforce development agencies, and violence prevention organizations. This grant is expected to serve 60 at-risk individuals, with individuals completing vocational training, securing employment, improving mental health outcomes, and reducing recidivism rates.</p>
<p>Oxford Circle Christian Community Development Association</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$754,043</p>	<p>The Oxford Circle Christian Community Development Association is requesting \$754,043 to build on services offered to Fels High School students and families through the Fels Oasis. The Fels Oasis is a safe place where students who have been impacted by violence can decompress, participate in small-group social-emotional learning sessions, and receive case management assistance and one-on-one interventions.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support staffing, trips for students, curriculum development, case management software, and program materials.</p>

	<p>This grant is expected to reach 150 students per year and result in violence interruption through conflict mediation skills training and connection to community resources.</p>
<p>Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association</p> <p>Statewide</p> <p>Amount: \$591,000</p>	<p>The Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association is requesting \$591,000 to enhance its statewide programs that combat and reduce community violence, domestic violence, and intimate partner violence. This funding will support continued and enhanced services to bolster law enforcement agencies' ability to track and respond to crime trends.</p> <p>Funds will be used to enhance records management systems used by 104 police departments; upgrade the Pennsylvania Police Virtual Training Network (PAVTN) currently used by 33,740 law enforcement professionals; create a pre-booking software module for 212 criminal booking sites to increase efficiency and reduce the time to process criminal offenders; and provide for costs associated with grant administration and program management. This grant is expected to improve access to trainings, technology, and other tools, improving booking procedures and increasing crime scene documentation, ultimately leading to more reliable criminal investigations and prosecutions.</p>
<p>Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence</p> <p>Statewide</p> <p>Amount: \$950,000</p>	<p>PCADV is requesting \$950,000 to address gun violence among those also experiencing domestic violence through the expansion of its community-led strategies to intervene in and respond to domestic violence (DV).</p> <p>Funds will be used to generate hotspot mapping for DV-related calls that included a firearm, work with DV programs to train and provide scanners that identify tracking devices, and provide subgrants focused on community intervention councils, therapy for children impacted by gun violence, and community education. This grant is expected to enrich the data available on gun-violence related domestic violence incidents and ultimately, to reduce incidences of domestic violence lethality.</p>
<p>Pennsylvania Immigrant & Refugee Women's Network</p> <p>Dauphin County</p> <p>Amount: \$37,000</p>	<p>The Pennsylvania Immigrant and Refugee Women's Network (PAIRWN) is requesting \$37,000 to address the economic advocacy, emotional healing and well-being of immigrant and refugee victims of domestic violence in a culturally appropriate manner.</p> <p>Funds will be used to expand its Survivor Empowerment Circles Program to provide culturally responsive services to victims of domestic violence. Grant funds will be used toward staffing and consultants, transportation, interpretation services, and supplies. This grant is expected to assist participants in emotional healing and economic self-sufficiency through employment assistance and workforce development programming.</p>
<p>Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers' Association</p> <p>Lancaster County</p> <p>Amount: \$741,402</p>	<p>The Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers' Association is requesting \$741,402 to expand its current Peer Co-Responder Program from one municipal police department and one peer support professional to five municipal police departments and three full-time peer support professionals. This program focuses on individuals experiencing issues related to violence, mental health, or</p>

	<p>substance use, as well as their families and loved ones. Four new police departments will join the Co-Responder Program (East Lampeter Township, Manheim Township, Pequea, and Strasburg), expanding geographic coverage. The program will also develop a data dashboard in collaboration with the Youth and Family Training Institute to monitor progress and track outcomes.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support staffing, training programs for peer professionals and police officers, and travel expenses. This grant is expected to expand reach and improve data-driven program evaluation.</p>
<p>Phase 4 Learning Center, Inc.</p> <p>Allegheny and Beaver Counties</p> <p>Amount: \$949,991</p>	<p>Phase 4 is requesting \$949,991 to expand its P4: 247 CommUNITY program, which provides culturally sensitive, trauma-informed interventions (mentoring and counseling) to youth/young adults and families impacted by gun violence within Allegheny and Beaver Counties. P4: 247 CommUNITY uses a combination of programming and educational strategies to engage youth and help them increase their skills and postsecondary readiness, while trained mentors provide support.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support project-related personnel, including Program Manager, Career Coordinator, Counselor/Mentor, and two In-School Violence Intervention Specialists/Mentors, as well as supplies and operating expenses for programming, activities, and events. Funds will also provide for paid work internships and job shadowing experiences for youth. The grant is expected to result in additional interactions with on-site violence intervention specialists, more opportunities for career exploration/job shadowing, enhanced health and wellness services, and additional community outreach events and resources. Funding for PCCD will help expand services within targeted communities, specifically Aliquippa (Beaver County) at the request of local officials and school district leaders, due to an uptick in violence and the need for enhanced youth services.</p>
<p>Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$715,774</p>	<p>The Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM) is requesting \$715,774 to enhance healthcare professional gun violence education programming and expand access to trauma-informed behavioral treatment.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support healthcare provider training through instructional brochures, seminars, role-plays, standardized patient encounters, and patient discussion forums, and will support delivery of free, brief cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) for adults experiencing symptoms of posttraumatic stress after gun violence exposure in three Philadelphia healthcare centers. This grant is expected to promote greater confidence among primary care providers in their ability to talk to patients about gun violence, increase the number of referrals to existing community-based resources and PCOM's behavioral health service, and reduce trauma symptom severity in adults undergoing CBT following exposure to gun violence.</p>
<p>Philadelphia Youth Basketball</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p>	<p>Philadelphia Youth Basketball (PYB) is requesting \$896,000 to enhance and expand its Older Youth Academies program, which supports high school-aged youth (ages 13-18), adding a new girls-</p>

<p>Amount: \$896,000</p>	<p>only anti-violence and diversion program to address gender-specific needs. The project will also enhance community outreach and engagement efforts, including building new school-based partnerships and increasing referrals from diversion programs and other high-risk recruitment channels to increase program reach among youth with elevated risk of gun violence involvement.</p> <p>Funds be used to support salaries for staff overseeing PYB's Older Youth Programming Suite, a new full-time Community Engagement Coordinator, and other personnel. Funds will also support Culture Keepers (trusted community members who promote positive relationships with youth) and older youth staff, trauma-informed training, community and parent/family engagement, and safe transportation pathways. This grant is expected to double the number of youth participating in the Older Youth Academies program, increase the number of programming days and transportation options to improve access for youth, and reduce recidivism rates among justice-involved participants.</p>
<p>Philly Truce Foundation Philadelphia County Amount: \$86,616</p>	<p>Philly Truce Foundation is requesting \$86,616 to expand the geographic coverage and frequency of its PEACE PATROL program. The goal of the program is to reduce gun violence in public spaces through visible deterrence. Currently, the program operates out of one base with the goal of adding two additional bases in the highest risk zip codes in Philadelphia. The target blocks are identified through data from the District Attorney's office. The key activities of PEACE PATROL include being a visible presence on the streets, disseminating information, and recruiting residents to join patrols. Each patrol unit consists of 3-4 justice-impacted individuals led by experienced patrollers and marshals to conduct a community-led walking patrol. Philly Truce partners with the Philadelphia Police Department to operate the program.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support six patrol positions and a Patrol Lead; and program supplies including uniforms and lights. The grant funding would provide for the expansion of two new bases and increase patrols from three to five days per week. This grant is expected to serve 72 justice-involved individuals over the next year.</p>
<p>Pottstown Hospital - Tower Health Montgomery County Amount: \$814,809</p>	<p>The Pottstown Hospital is requesting \$814,809 to implement a comprehensive violence prevention and intervention program aimed at reducing community violence and improving mental health support for individuals affected by trauma.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the addition of a Street Medicine Prevention Manager to the Montgomery County Street Medicine team, who will provide mobile health and behavioral healthcare, deliver violence prevention education, and facilitate referrals to community services for individuals experiencing homeless who are at a high risk for violence and trauma. Grant funds will also support the addition of a contracted Violence Intervention Social Worker and Supervisor in the Pottstown Hospital Emergency Department, who will provide immediate, trauma-informed case management and support to victims of violence. This grant is expected to reduce community violence and increase access to behavioral health resources.</p>

<p>Reading Hospital</p> <p>Berks County</p> <p>Amount: \$622,649</p>	<p>Reading Hospital is requesting \$622,649 to expand and enhance its Violence Recovery Program. Key activities include engaging violently injured patients who seek care at Reading Hospital at the bedside or soon after Emergency Department discharge, screening and assessing patients for eligibility, and case management and wraparound services including referrals to community-based organizations. The program also includes providing trauma-informed care trainings. The expansion would allow for an additional hire to manage the program, provide additional resources for an emergency support fund, increase outreach and education, establish a community advisory committee, increase employee education, and create a gun safe distribution program.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the salaries and benefits of a full-time Violence Recovery Specialist and Violence Recovery Program Manager; training, conferences, and local travel costs; supplies and operating expenses including program-specific expenses, an emergency support fund, cell phone, office supplies, printing, uniforms, and memberships; and consultants for topic-specific workshops. This grant is expected to increase participants reporting increases in their sense of safety and stability and decreases in reinjury and retaliation.</p>
<p>Supporting Area Families Everyday</p> <p>Bradford County</p> <p>Amount: \$125,243</p>	<p>Supporting Area Families Everyday is requesting \$125,243 to support family violence prevention efforts in Bradford and surrounding counties by expanding its Supervised Visitation and Parent Education Program. The initiative focuses on reducing domestic violence by providing safe environments for families during custody exchanges and teaching parents emotional self-regulation skills to prevent conflict. The key activities include structured, supervised visitations, safe no-contact custody exchanges, and trauma-informed, evidence-based parenting classes designed to break cycles of violence.</p> <p>Funds will support the salary and benefits of the Program Specialist responsible for the implementation of the program. This grant is expected to increase service capacity by 25% over the next two years and strengthen family resilience and build safer, more stable communities.</p>
<p>The Legacy Arts Project</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$434,840</p>	<p>The Legacy Arts Project is requesting \$434,840 to implement the expansion of the Drums Not Guns, which is a culturally enriching program to reduce gun violence and participation in gang activity.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support staffing, consultants (drum and martial arts instruction, program evaluation, mentoring, cultural sensitivity), operational expenses, and cover supply expenses (e.g., drums, costumes, food for monthly gatherings, etc.). This grant is expected to serve 150 youth per year, build skills in drumming and martial arts, and reduce incidents of violent behavior.</p>
<p>The Lincoln Center for Family and Youth</p>	<p>The Lincoln Center for Family and Youth (TLC) is requesting \$950,000 to continue and enhance a hospital and community-based violence intervention program modeled after Helping Hurt People, a model developed by Drexel University's Center for Nonviolence and Social Justice. TLC will partner with Trinity Health Mid-Atlantic to</p>

<p>Bucks, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia Counties</p> <p>Amount: \$950,000</p>	<p>implement this intervention program in Bucks, Delaware, and Montgomery Counties and in Northeast Philadelphia. The proposed program will mitigate the impacts of gun and group-related violence through assertive outreach and crisis response, trauma-focused evidence-based practices, and trauma-informed case management.</p> <p>Funds will be used to partially support the employment of a Violence Intervention Clinical Supervisor and Data Coordinator, as well as two full-time positions (Lead Violence Intervention Clinician, Violence Intervention Clinician). This grant is expected to provide crisis response, trauma-informed therapy, case management, and follow-up services to approximately 350 individuals exposed to gun and group violence across the community; connect 150 or more individuals to one or more long-term services to address needs related to exposure to gun and group violence; and significantly reduce traumatic stress and prevent violence involvement for individuals exposed to violence receiving services.</p>
<p>The Salvation Army (Reading)</p> <p>Berks County</p> <p>Amount: \$487,509</p>	<p>The Salvation Army is requesting \$487,509 to continue the Reading Corps' Trauma-informed Violence Prevention Program, which offers community-based support groups and "family nights" for children impacted by violence and trauma in Berks County.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support staffing (Program Director, Program Coordinator, and Mental Health Therapist), travel, training, food, and supplies. This grant is expected to serve 150 children, preventing them from engaging in future violent behaviors or limit their susceptibility to victimization by teaching coping skills.</p>
<p>University of Pennsylvania – Penn Injury Science Center</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$950,000</p>	<p>The Penn Injury Science Center is requesting \$950,000 to sustain and enhance its Penn Community Violence Prevention program in West and Southwest Philadelphia. The expansion aims to increase outreach capacity, enhance current services, and better identify high-risk individuals. The focus of the expansion is to provide more mentorship and case management for high-risk individuals, partnering with Bartram High School to increase the focus to school-age youth, and improve data collection to better identify high-risk participants and properly track outcomes.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support salaries and benefits of two full-time and two part-time community outreach workers, a new case manager position, a current program manager, and partial salary of the Project Director; professional development, local staff travel and conference travel, and transportation for participants; supplies including staff phones, uniforms, community outreach event supplies, incentives, emergency financial supplies and resources, laptops, and printed materials; and indirect costs. This grant is expected to target individuals at the highest risk of gun violence through street outreach, mentorship, and conflict mediation.</p>
<p>University of Pittsburgh</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$949,856</p>	<p>The University of Pittsburgh is requesting \$949,856 to support expansion of the Empowering Teens to Thrive (ET3) hospital-based violence intervention program and community-based mentorship program for youth ages 12-25 injured or impacted by community violence.</p>

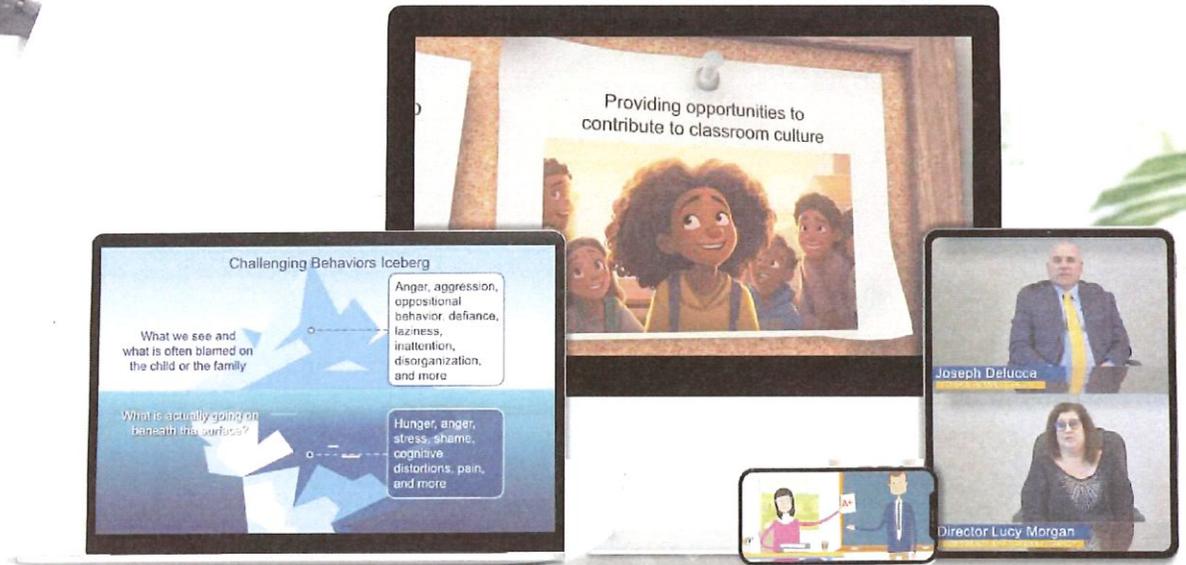
	<p>Funds will be used to support social work and program staff, provide stipends to mentors, caregiver support groups, mentor-mentee activities, transportation expenses, and staff training. This grant is expected to serve 150 youth through hospital-based violence intervention programming and 225 youth through community-based mentorship.</p>
<p>Uplift Center for Grieving Children</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$800,000</p>	<p>Uplift Center for Grieving Children is requesting \$800,000 to provide grief group services and support Philly HopeLine shifts.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support Masters-level clinicians to facilitate group sessions and host Philly HopeLine shifts, as well as provide travel and supplies for group sessions. This grant is expected to provide 120 in-school and 30 family services grief groups and 600 hours of Philly HopeLine shifts, supporting up to 1,200 youth and 600 caregivers in managing their grief and preventing future acts of violence and/or behavioral health challenges.</p>
<p>We Love Philly</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$245,400</p>	<p>We Love Philly is requesting \$245,400 to enhance mental health support services for pre-apprentices and expand Digital Marketing Apprenticeship opportunities. Grant funds will be used to support staffing for a full-time Emotional Support Coordinator and three apprentice positions. This grant is expected to provide more structured counseling time and effective one-on-one community mentoring.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the hiring of apprentices to allow We Love Philly to strengthen its Digital Marketing Agency, establishing more community partnerships and business opportunities for the pre-apprentice program and, ultimately, transitioning to a sustainable earned revenue model that contributes to the mission.</p>
<p>Women's Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$500,000</p>	<p>The Women's Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh is requesting \$500,000 to expand the efforts of the Legal Advocacy Department's work with high-risk intimate partner violence (IPV) victims in danger of firearm violence.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support positions within their Firearm Safety Team, provide staff training, and provide client transportation. This grant is expected to identify 200 IPV victims per year to receive immediate outreach and connection to services, including connections to police specialists for weapons confiscation.</p>
<p>Women's Center of Beaver County</p> <p>Beaver County</p> <p>Amount: \$887,767</p>	<p>The Women's Center of Beaver County is requesting \$887,767 to support expansion of the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) in Beaver County, continue increased access to trauma-informed services for families that have experienced interpersonal violence, and intervene with at-risk youth by connecting students with trauma supports.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support staff (legal advocate, therapists, family counselor, education specialist) that will support 15 police departments in expanding the LAP. This grant is expected to provide increased access to trauma-informed services and intervention for victims, foster skills for healthy relationships, and reduce the risk for future victimization.</p>

<p>Xiente</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Amount: \$949,995</p>	<p>Xiente is requesting \$949,995 to enhance its anti-violence efforts by introducing a job readiness program, for ages 10-19, and enhancing its workforce development program, for ages 14-19. The enhancement would allow for a new general carpentry pre-apprenticeship component for low-income, at-risk Hispanic and Black youth across Philadelphia. The program will train youth in NCCER and OSHA-10 certified skills and will prepare participants for NCEES exams and equip them for job placements in Xiente's community development projects.</p> <p>Funds will be used for partial salaries and benefits of staff; training costs; supplies and operating expenses including copier and printer maintenance, construction materials, exam certification fees, printed materials, and data management; consultants costs of a National Center for Construction Education and Research curriculum certified Construction Instructor and OSHA-10 Construction-English training; stipends; and indirect costs. This grant is expected to equip youth with technical skills and job readiness training to provide sustainable alternatives to violence.</p>
<p>York County Commissioners</p> <p>York County</p> <p>Amount: \$844,287</p>	<p>The York County Commissioners, on behalf of the York County District Attorney's Office, is requesting \$844,287 to enhance current violence prevention and intervention efforts in York County. The efforts include supporting diversion, alternative prosecution strategies, and appeals; provide trainings in the areas of litigation, investigation, diversion, and violent crimes; support violence interrupter activities via The PROGRAM It's About Change's Credible Messenger role; and support diversion participants' protective and prosocial factors via mentoring.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support the salaries and benefits of the YCDA Specialized Prosecutor and YCDA GVI Paralegal; related trainings; participant supports including registration fees, monthly dues, uniforms, and required supplies; and the PROGRAM's Credible Messenger salary and benefits. This grant is expected to reduce the number of justice-involved individuals and reduce recidivism rates in York County.</p>
<p>Youth Enrichment Services, Inc.</p> <p>Allegheny County</p> <p>Amount: \$950,000</p>	<p>Youth Enrichment Services, Inc. (YES) is requesting \$950,000 to enhance its youth-led peer engagement and violence prevention programming. Program components include the Fitness Fun Involving Sports and Health program, implementing youth-created Big Ideas for addressing gun violence, and scaling the annual Teen Violence Prevention Symposium. The enhancement would allow for increased frequency of the Fitness Fun Involving Sports and Health program, an annual Youth Job Fair, and expanded reach of the Teen Violence Prevention Symposium.</p> <p>Funds will be used to support partial staff salaries and benefits; youth and coaching stipends; travel and training costs including mileage, travel costs associated with the symposium including bus transportation for participants and guest speakers, and conferences; supplies and operating expenses associated with the symposium, job fair, and fitness programs; and consultants for program evaluation and social and emotional learning. This grant is expected</p>

	<p>to serve over 1,000 youth over the course of the project period, increasing socioemotional protective factors in participants, building resilience, and disincentivizing gun violence.</p>
<p>Youth Mentoring Partnership Philadelphia and Chester Counties Amount: \$684,250</p>	<p>The Youth Mentoring Partnership is requesting \$684,250 to enhance and expand its youth mentoring, social-emotional learning, and safe havens programs. These evidence-based initiatives are led by trauma-informed staff and aim to foster collaboration with schools, civic leaders, and law enforcement to support vulnerable at-risk youth.</p> <p>Grant funds will be used to support costs associated with retaining key staff, including the organization's Program & Research Director; creating and hiring a new Assistant Program Director and additional Site Coordinator; and support three trauma-informed Coach Mentors (contracted through Up2Us Sports). Grant funds will also provide for program-related operations and supplies (including software, laptops, student incentives, recognition items, etc.). This grant is expected to promote pro-social behavior, support trauma recovery, and reduce community violence by serving an additional 600 youth from 1-2 new schools.</p>

SIGMA 7 RSM

RESILIENCE AND TRAINING



School Safety and Security Training and Technical Assistance Project – End of Year Survey Analysis SY 2023 - 2024

PRESENTED TO

Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency

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Introduction

The Pennsylvania School Safety & Security Training & Technical Assistance Project End of Year Survey has been designed to gather information about the effectiveness of current training and to determine future training needs in relation to School Safety and Security. It was circulated to Safety and Security Coordinators and school staff across Pennsylvania who have participated in an in-person training or viewed online learning modules related to Act 55.

In total, there are 778 public school entities within Pennsylvania, between them employing just over 261,000 staff.

The survey did not capture any personal information that is subject to data privacy restrictions under US law. Any free text responses which can be attributed to an individual have been anonymized in the preparation of this report.

Background and Legislative Context

Act 55 of 2022 amended Section 1310-B of the PA Public School Code of 1949 to establish new requirements for school safety and security training for all school employees in Pennsylvania. Prior to the passage of Act 55, school safety and security training for school employees was limited to three hours of instruction every five years. Act 55 amended this requirement to three hours of instruction annually and requires that the training provided meet certain standards as adopted by the School Safety and Security Committee (the Committee), housed within the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD). Amendments to the Act also clarified the requirements for mandatory training for School Safety and Security Coordinators (SSSCs).

On September 28, 2022, the Committee adopted these new School Safety and Security Training Standards for all school employees and, separately, for SSSCs.

In March 2023, the Committee approved Risk and Strategic Management Corporation (RSM) to design and launch training programs aligned with these adopted standards for school employees and SSSC. All trainings developed by RSM/PCCD are available at no charge to school entities.

During the 2023-2024 school year, six online modules were made available to school employees. Behavioral Health Awareness (10.11.23), Situational Awareness (10.27.23), Recognizing Concerning Behaviors (10.27.23), Substance Use Awareness (11.20.23), Trauma Informed Approaches (1.2.24), and Suicide/Bullying Awareness (1.31.24). Between October 2023 and June 2024, 90,835 school employees accessed the online modules. Additionally, a 7-hour in-person training for School Safety and Security Coordinators launched on February 2, 2024. Between February 2nd and June 26th, there were 28 trainings across the Commonwealth with 733 attendees to these trainings.

This survey is an important step for the project to ensure the current approach and resources address school entities' needs effectively and helps to understand the future trainings needs of Pennsylvania school employees and School Safety and Security Coordinators.

Methodology

The survey was designed by RSM, in consultation with PCCD, using Survey Monkey

It was circulated to all school districts, charter schools, CTCs and IUs across Pennsylvania, via an email link (see Appendix A for full wording) and promoted by PCCD.

The email was sent to the Head School Administrator in each school, with the instructions to forward the survey link to any and all employees who viewed/attended training. The survey was open from August 19, 2024, until September 9, 2024.

The survey contained four sections:

1. Who, What, Where
Sample data concerning the IU within which the school is located, the nature of the school, and the respondent's role within the school
2. School Safety and Security Coordinators (SSSCs)
(Only for SSSCs) To self-assess their skills and experience, and to report on their use of and ratings of training materials
3. School Employees (not SSSCs)
To self-assess their skills and experience, and to report on their use of and ratings of training materials
4. Technical Assistance
To report on their use of and ratings of technical assistance

Response Quotas

The survey was distributed on a quota basis with a minimum response rate required for each of the training modules and for the total responses¹, as follows:

Module	Minimum Response Quota
Behavioral Health Awareness	470
Behaviors of Concern	400
Situational Awareness	790
Substance Use Awareness	400
Suicide/Bullying Awareness	350
Trauma Informed Approaches	500
Overall Minimum Responses	1,500

¹ As the groups are not mutually exclusive, in that respondents may have undertaken multiple modules, the standard quota methodology was adapted. In order to adjust for this in the analysis, the results were weighted using the iterative proportional fitting (raking) methodology where relevant to ensure that the results are statistically valid. Technical details of the quota calculations are included in Appendix C.

Demographic Information

The information on the number of school districts, school entities, staff and SSSC roles has been obtained from PDE website², and verified with RSM.

There are 778 public school entities³ within Pennsylvania, between them employing just over 261,000 staff (both professional and support staff).

They are arranged administratively into 143 school districts, and 29 Intermediate Units (IU). For the purposes of analysis, the responses are considered by IU. As detailed below, this has been compared with the total school population in order to establish the validity of the survey sample.

Act 55 specifies that every school entity is required to have a SSSC. This survey was distributed to all 784 public school entities in Pennsylvania.

² Ref: <https://www.education.pa.gov/DataAndReporting/Pages/SchoolStaff.aspx#>

³ There are a further 46 – 58 school entities that were excluded from this survey, including approved private schools, a chartered school for the education of the deaf or the blind and private residential rehabilitative institutions.

Glossary of Terms

The following terms have been used in this report.

Term	Definition
Confidence Level	<p>Statistical Term: The confidence level indicates the probability that the result is consistent and representative of the whole population. To put this another way, if the survey were to be repeated, the confidence level is the likelihood that the results would be within the same range.</p> <p>The higher the confidence level, the more certain it is that the results did not occur by chance or by sampling error.</p> <p>To be considered statistically significant, a confidence level of 95% or higher is required. The confidence level is specified in this report where applicable.</p>
Career and Technical College (CTC)	Colleges which specialise in teaching specific tech-based and career-oriented skills to students. Unlike traditional education that focuses on theory, CTCs focus on skills, hands-on experience, practice and application tests.
Intermediate Unit (IU)	In Pennsylvania, Intermediate Units are regional educational service agencies, established by the Pennsylvania General Assembly. IUs are public entities and serve a given geographic area's educational needs and function as a step of organization above that of a public school district, but below that of the Pennsylvania Department of Education.
Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD)	The justice planning and policymaking agency for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
Population Validity	Statistical term: Population validity refers to whether the findings can reasonably be generalised from the sample to a larger group of people (the population). This is used in any survey where sampling is undertaken, i.e. the whole population is not surveyed.
School Safety and Security Coordinator (SSSC)	The school staff member with designated responsibility for overseeing all school police officers, school resource officers, school security guards and policies and procedures in the school entity (relative to school safety and security) and for reporting directly to the chief school administrator.
Statistical significance	<p>Statistical term: Statistical significance is a measure of whether research findings are meaningful. It is a statement about the likelihood of findings not being due to chance, but instead being attributed to a specific cause and is expressed as a p-value. This p-value is a number between 0 and 1, and the smaller the value the higher the likelihood that the results are not due to chance.</p> <p>The p-value can be converted into a confidence level (see above), calculated as 1 minus the p-value and expressed as a %.</p>

Summary of Findings

- There were 3,003 valid survey responses were received, representing 1.1% of the staff employed across Pennsylvania school entities
- This included 442 staff who were designated as the School Safety and Security Coordinator for their school entity
- The response rate for the survey met the quota requirements and enables the results to be generalized to the whole population

- Whilst the response rates were not uniform across intermediate units, sufficient responses were received from each unit for the results to be meaningful
- The majority of staff who responded to the survey held at least one designated role in addition to their primary role
- Of the SSSCs, 70% reported that their knowledge had improved either somewhat or significantly as a result of the mandatory training, across all subject areas
- Over 50% of staff had put their training in both Emergency Preparedness and Situational Awareness into use since the training
- Among SSSCs, the greatest demand for additional training was for Emergency Preparedness, Emergency Procedures and Drills and Physical Assessments
- Feedback from SSSCs on the web modules was over 80% positive across all modules
- Across all staff (not just SSSCs) every online module was accessed by at least 2,400 staff members who responded to the survey
- Feedback on the modules was very positive, with 82% of respondents reporting somewhat or significantly increased knowledge, and 82% of staff rating the modules as positive or very positive
- Over 1,600 staff accessed the additional resources that were available and 95% reported that they were helpful
- Only 2% of staff provided any negative feedback, and this was mainly in relation to the modules covering areas with which they were already familiar
- 135 staff accessed technical assistance, and 93% were satisfied with the assistance they received.
- There are a few minor learning points in the feedback from respondents, particular with regard to a technical issue which prevented them from pausing a module and returning to it later
- Although there were not asked to provide specific positive feedback, some respondents chose to do so, commenting on both the good range and high quality of training provided

Results

Sample Information

3,003 valid responses were received by the deadline.

Workplace

Workplace	Frequency	%
School District	1,534	51.2
Public Elementary School	336	11.2
Public High School	277	9.2
Intermediate Unit	257	8.6
Charter School	167	5.6
Public Middle School	152	5.1
Career and Technical Center	122	4.1
Independent School	82	2.7
Cyber Charter School	61	2.0
Other	9	0.3
Total	2,997	100.0

Table 1 Workplace⁴

Of the respondents, 1,534 (51%) indicated that they work in a School District⁵. A further 1,206 (40%) reported that they work in a school setting whilst the remaining 257 (9%) reported that they work in an Intermediate Unit.

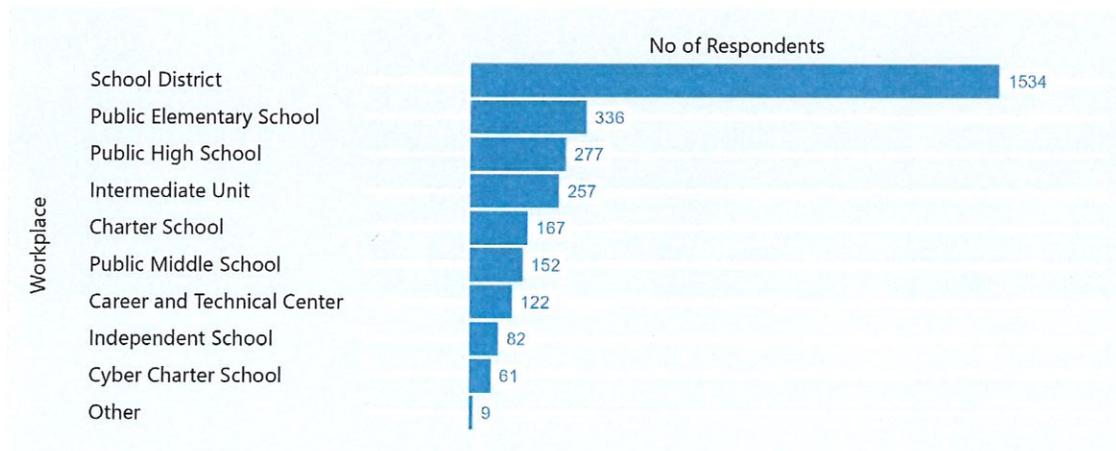


Figure 1 Workplace

⁴ Six respondents did not provide a valid response to this question

⁵ 649 of the respondents reported their role as teacher/instructional staff and reported their workplace as School District, rather than the school setting in which they work, overrepresenting this result. Therefore, the workplace results should be treated with caution, and no statistical analysis is conducted on this variable.

Intermediate Unit

Whilst the survey was distributed to all intermediate unites with the same instructions, the proportion of responses from each unit varies⁶.

Intermediate Unit	Total Staff	Frequency	% Responses
01 - Intermediate Unit 1	127	6,779	1.9
02 - Pittsburgh-Mt. Oliver Intermediate Unit	32	0	Inf
03 - Allegheny Intermediate Unit	211	22,840	0.9
04 - Midwestern Intermediate Unit	207	6,073	3.4
05 - Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit	103	7,543	1.4
06 - Riverview Intermediate Unit	46	3,417	1.3
07 - Westmoreland Intermediate Unit	56	6,041	0.9
08 - Appalachia Intermediate Unit	99	8,185	1.2
09 - Seneca Highlands Intermediate Unit	63	1,995	3.2
10 - Central Intermediate Unit	76	4,959	1.5
11 - Tuscarora Intermediate Unit	65	2,424	2.7
12 - Lincoln Intermediate Unit	135	13,456	1.0
13 - Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit	95	12,411	0.8
14 - Berks County Intermediate Unit	50	10,192	0.5
15 - Capital Area Intermediate Unit	168	13,618	1.2
16 - Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit	19	4,905	0.4
17 - Bradford Lycoming Sullivan Tioga Intermediate Unit	111	5,579	2.0
18 - Luzerne Intermediate Unit	73	5,756	1.3
19 - Northeastern Educational Intermediate Unit	163	4,988	3.3
20 - Colonial Intermediate Unit	172	12,568	1.4
21 - Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit	136	10,294	1.3
22 - Bucks County Intermediate Unit	185	15,416	1.2
23 - Montgomery County Intermediate Unit	233	19,042	1.2
24 - Chester County Intermediate Unit	74	13,007	0.6
25 - Delaware County Intermediate Unit	35	11,198	0.3
26 - Philadelphia Intermediate Unit	94	28,587	0.3
27 - Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit	63	4,155	1.5
28 - Armstrong-Indiana Intermediate Unit	89	2,820	3.2
29 - Schuylkill Intermediate Unit	23	2,967	0.8
Total	3,003	261,215	1.1

Table 2 Responses per IU

Across Pennsylvania, responses were received from 1.1% of school staff. This ranged from a response rate of 3.4% in Midwestern Intermediate Unit (4) to 0.3% in Delaware County IU (25) and Philadelphia IU (26).

⁶ Total staff data was not available for Intermediate Unit 2 – Pittsburgh-Mt Oliver

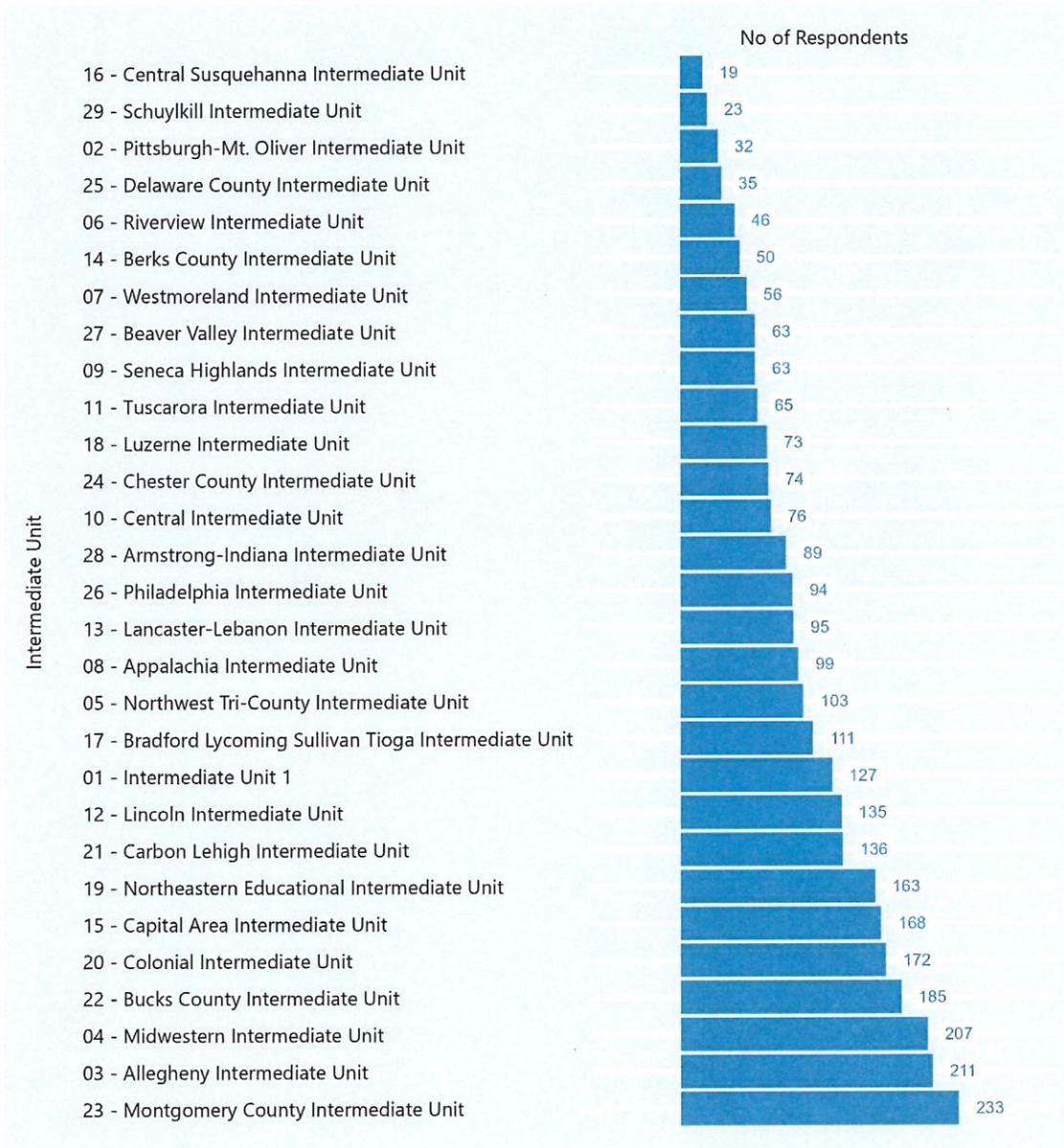


Figure 2 Responses per IU

In terms of actual numbers of responses, most were received from Montgomery County IU (233 responses) and fewest from Central Susquehanna IU (19).

A total of 442 SSSCs responded to the survey, a response rate of 57% for staff with this designated role, as shown below.

Intermediate Unit	Total SSSCs	% of Total Responses
01 - Intermediate Unit 1	20	4.5
02 - Pittsburgh-Mt. Oliver Intermediate Unit	2	0.5
03 - Allegheny Intermediate Unit	39	8.8
04 - Midwestern Intermediate Unit	21	4.8
05 - Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit	17	3.8
06 - Riverview Intermediate Unit	14	3.2
07 - Westmoreland Intermediate Unit	15	3.4
08 - Appalachia Intermediate Unit	25	5.7
09 - Seneca Highlands Intermediate Unit	9	2.0
10 - Central Intermediate Unit	13	2.9
11 - Tuscarora Intermediate Unit	5	1.1
12 - Lincoln Intermediate Unit	20	4.5
13 - Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit	22	5.0
14 - Berks County Intermediate Unit	10	2.3
15 - Capital Area Intermediate Unit	25	5.7
16 - Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit	8	1.8
17 - Bradford Lycoming Sullivan Tioga Intermediate Unit	8	1.8
18 - Luzerne Intermediate Unit	12	2.7
19 - Northeastern Educational Intermediate Unit	20	4.5
20 - Colonial Intermediate Unit	17	3.8
21 - Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit	16	3.6
22 - Bucks County Intermediate Unit	12	2.7
23 - Montgomery County Intermediate Unit	24	5.4
24 - Chester County Intermediate Unit	12	2.7
25 - Delaware County Intermediate Unit	9	2.0
26 - Philadelphia Intermediate Unit	22	5.0
27 - Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit	8	1.8
28 - Armstrong-Indiana Intermediate Unit	9	2.0
29 - Schuylkill Intermediate Unit	8	1.8
Total	442	99.8

Table 3 Number of Responses from SSSCs

Primary Role

Staff reported their primary role title within the school which have been categorised into five groups⁷.

Role	2024		2023	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Teacher/Instructional Staff	1,294	43.2	1,327	48.9
Other support role	1,082	36.1	519	19.1
Senior Administration	438	14.6	705	26.0
Other Security	105	3.5	88	3.2
SSSC	75	2.5	74	2.7
Total	2,994		2,713	

Table 4 Number of respondents By Role Group

43% of respondents reported that they were teachers or instructional staff, with a further 25% in support roles. 3% of respondents identified their primary role as SSSC.

When compared with 2023, fewer Senior Administrators responded to the survey, down from 705 respondents to 438.

In contrast the number of respondents in other supporting roles doubled from 518 to 1,082.

The breakdown of respondents in each Intermediate Unit is shown below.

⁷ Nine respondents did not provide a valid response to this question
 SSSC represents School Safety and Security Coordinator (where this the **primary** role).
 Senior Administration includes Administrative Director, Principal, Superintendent, and Assistants.
 Other Security includes School police officer, security guard and other law enforcement.
 Teacher/Instructional staff includes all teachers and instructional staff; and
 Other Support role includes counsellors, social workers, aides, paras, cafeteria and all other staff not specified above

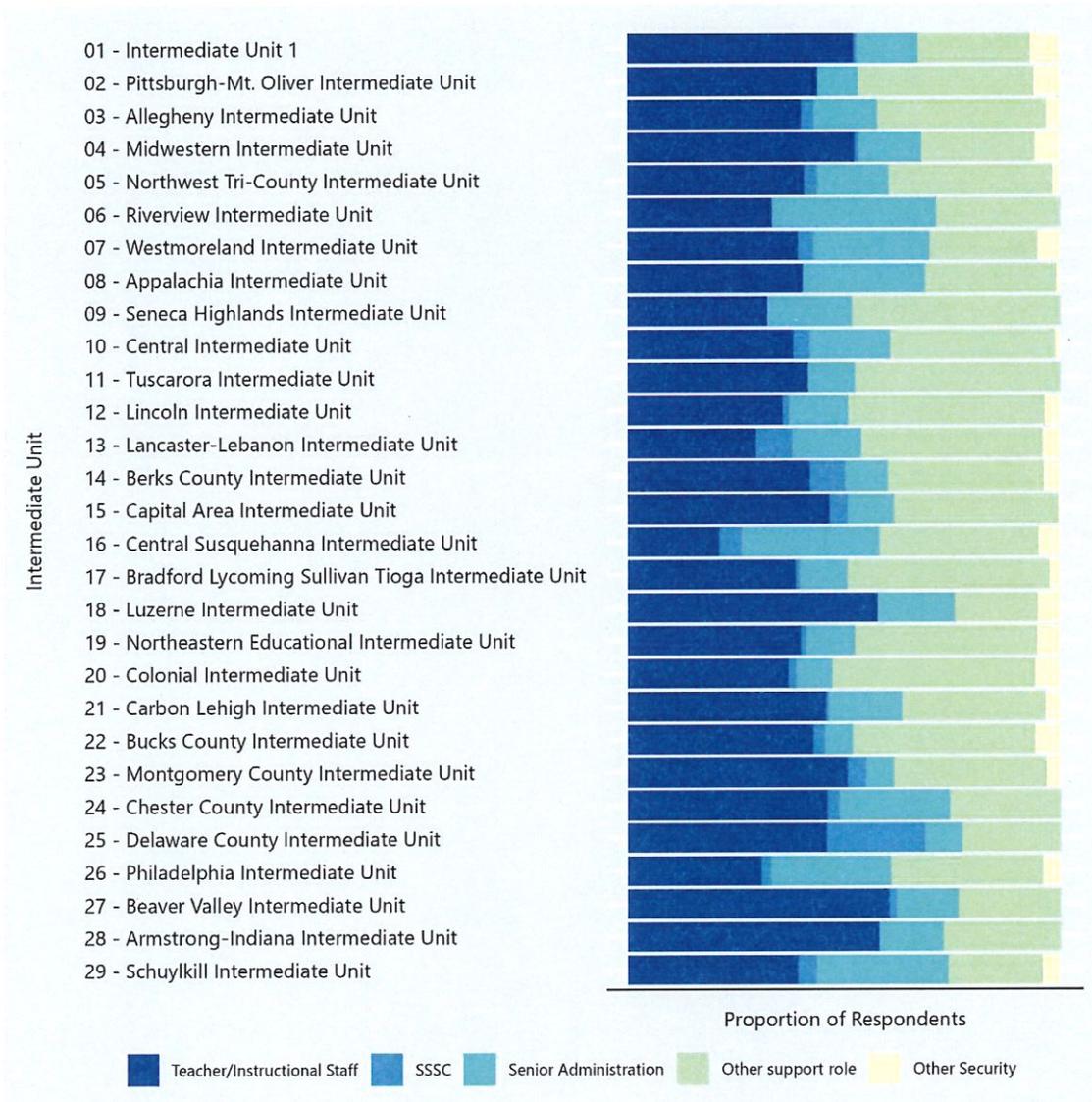


Figure 3 Proportion of Respondents in Different Staff Roles per IU

There is some variation between IUs in the distribution of staff roles represented among respondents. In Pittsburgh-Mount Oliver, Riverview, Seneca Highlands, Luzerne and Armstrong-Indiana IUs there are no respondents who identified their **primary** role as SSSC (see below for further information on staff with designated responsibility as SSSC but for whom it is not their primary role).

Additional Roles

Respondents were asked to report on additional roles they fulfil within their school entity

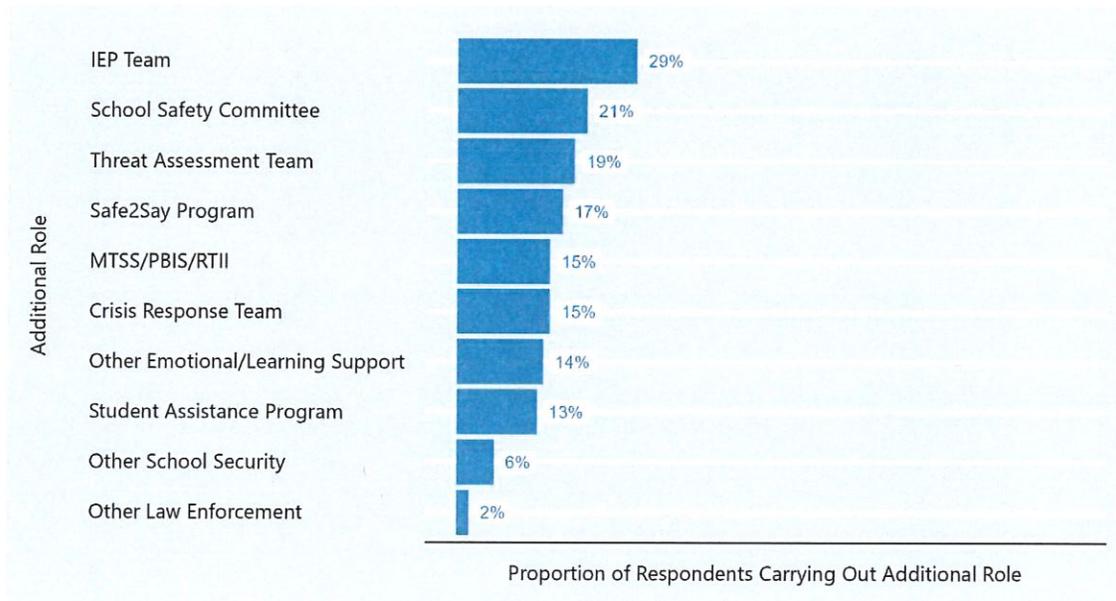


Figure 4 Respondents Fulfilling Additional Roles Within School Entity

The highest level of responses was from staff who were also members of the IEP Team, with 29% of respondents reporting that they fulfil this additional role, followed by Other Law Enforcement (21%), and Other School Security (19%).

On average, each staff member who responded to the survey has between 2 and 3 additional roles.

When the number of additional role responsibilities is considered by primary role group, it can be seen that Senior Administrators and SSSCs have more additional roles than other staff.

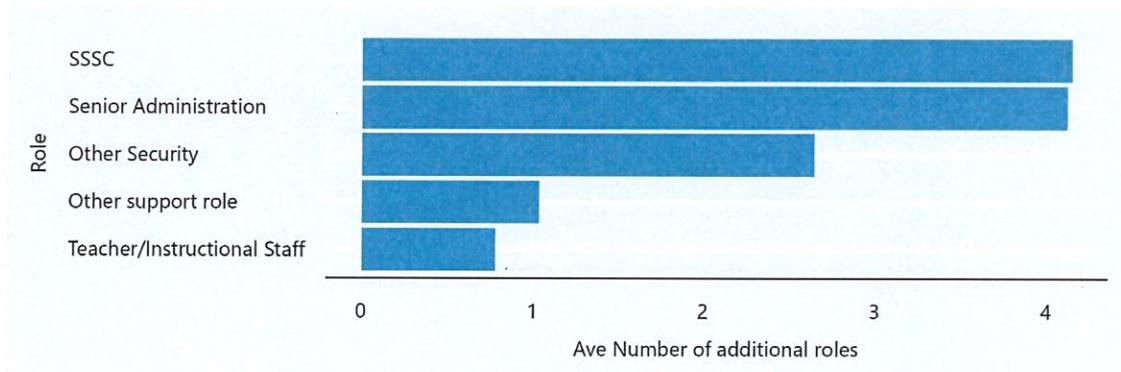


Figure 5 Additional Roles for Staff with Different Primary Roles

Teachers and instructional staff have fewest additional roles, with 50% not having any designated additional roles, as shown below.

Role	Number of additional roles held (%)										
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Other Security	4	38	8	14	15	19	1	1	0	0	0
Other support role	47	30	10	5	3	1	2	1	0	0	0
SSSC	5	5	1	15	32	24	8	8	1	0	0
Senior Administration	6	9	6	17	16	18	10	12	3	1	0
Teacher/Instructional Staff	50	32	12	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0

Table 5 Proportions of Additional Roles Held by Staff with Different Primary Roles

Designated School Safety and Security Coordinator (SSSC)

442 respondents reported that they are appointed as their school entity's SSSC.

Role	2024		2023	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Senior Administration	280	63.8	362	74.0
SSSC	75	17.1	74	15.1
Other Security	39	8.9	33	6.7
Other support role	35	8.0	15	3.1
Teacher/Instructional Staff	10	2.3	5	1.0
Total	439		489	

Table 6 Respondent Roles Appointed as SSSC

The majority of respondents who were appointed as SSSC were in senior administrator roles (64%), with only 17% in a dedicated role as SSSC. Only 2% of SSSCs were teachers / instructional staff. There are minor variations in this distribution from the 2023 survey.

This is illustrated by IU below, where statistically significant differences were found⁸.

⁸ Pearson Chi-Square $p < 0.01$ in all cases, i.e. confidence level >99% that the result is valid and not due to chance.

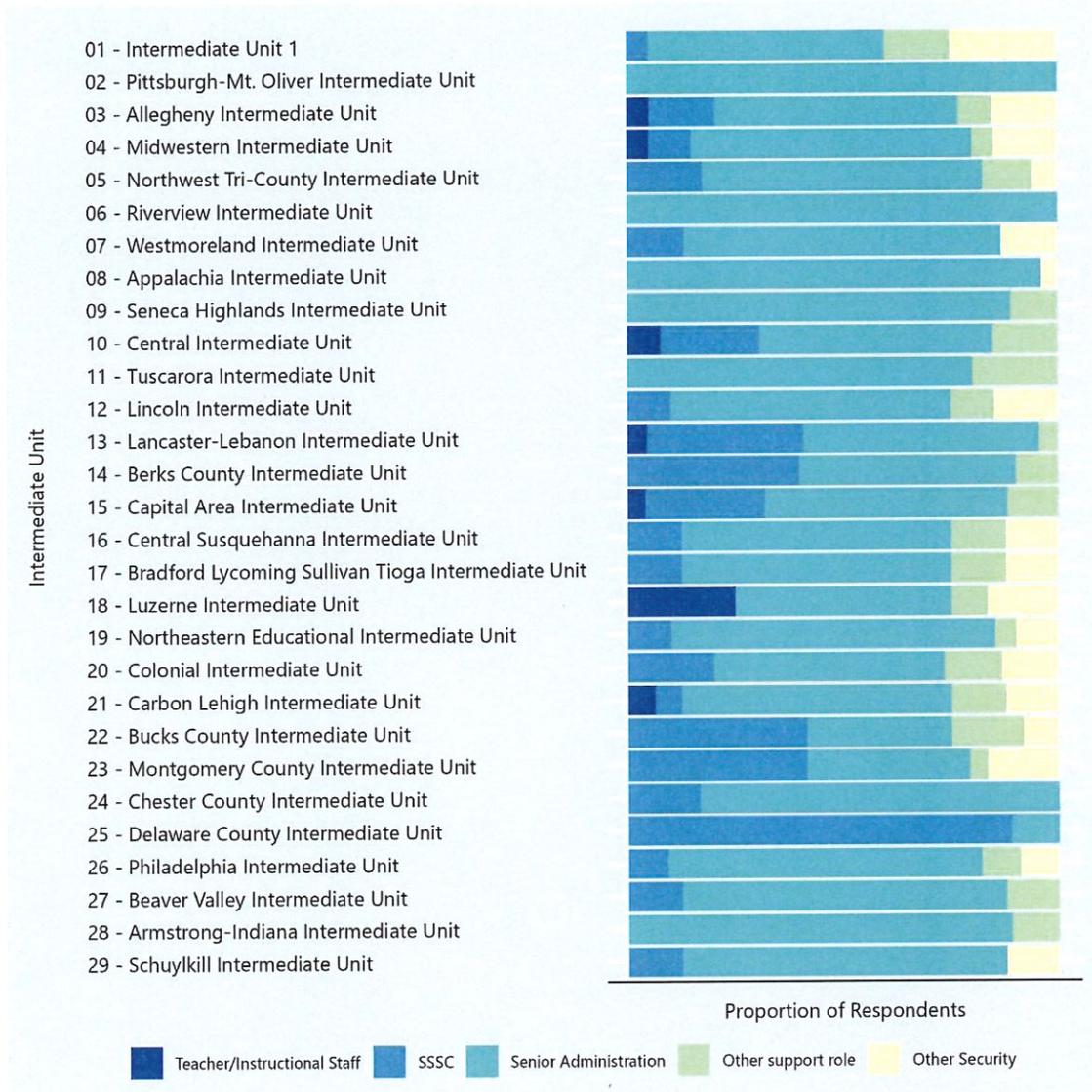


Figure 6 Type of Staff Designated as SSSC per IU

The highest proportion of dedicated SSSC specific roles were in Delaware IU (67%), whilst in Pittsburgh – Mount Oliver and Riverview all of the SSSCs had a primary role as Senior Administrators. Within Appalachia, Tuscarora and Armstrong-Indiana IUs, there were no dedicated SSSC specific roles.

Sample Validity

The survey has achieved a response rate in excess of the minimum quotas required to be valid. The standard error for the sample is below 5% both at whole sample level, and at SSSC level, indicating that findings are likely to be within 5% of the results if the whole population were surveyed. In effect, it is valid to draw conclusions for the population based on the findings in this survey.

SSSC Findings

The next section of results includes responses **only** from SSSCs⁹.

SSSC Training and Knowledge

SSSCs were asked to report on their skills and experience in relation to the mandatory training requirements for the role. They were asked to report on the extent to which the SSSC training enabled them to increase their knowledge and preparedness to carry out the role, in relation to 11 specific skills areas.

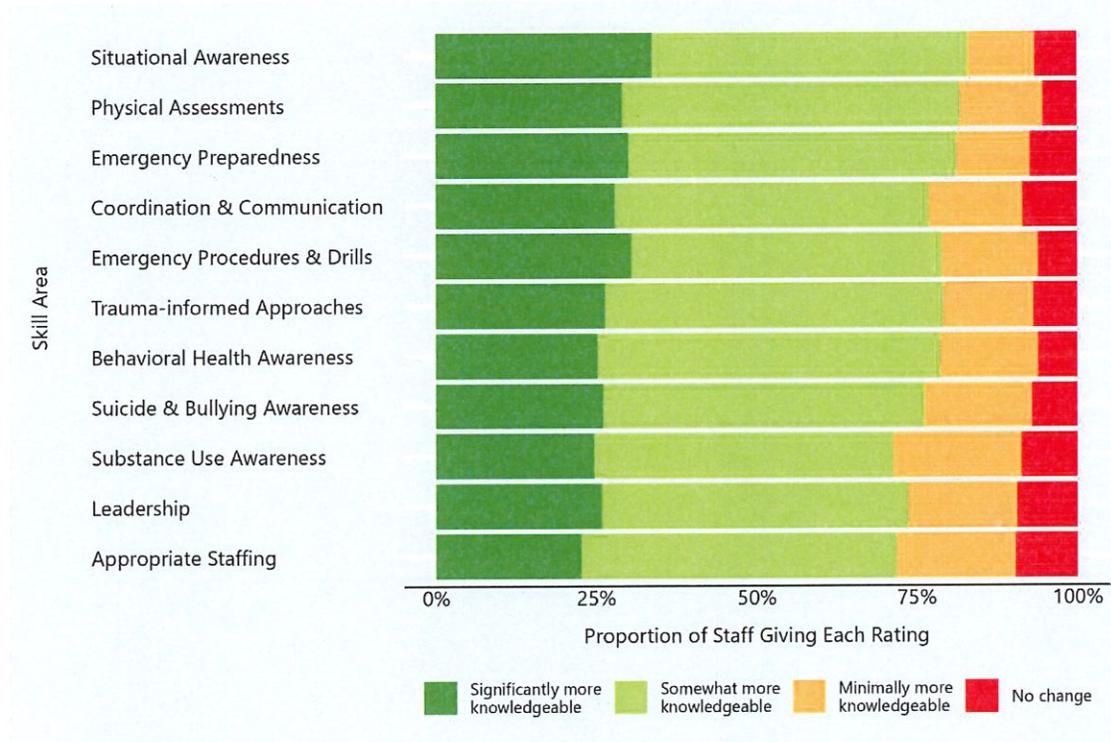


Figure 7 SSSC Skills Improvement in Mandatory Training Areas

Across every skill area, over 70% of SSSCs reported that they were either somewhat or significantly more knowledgeable having attended the mandatory training.

The highest ratings were for Situational Awareness (83%) and Physical Assessments and Physical Security (82%). The lowest ratings were for Substance Use Awareness and Appropriate Staffing, but it should be noted that the positive ratings were still at 72% for these factors.

Note that in the 2023 survey, prior to the SSSC training, the self-reported skills levels were lowest for Trauma-Informed Approaches (15% of respondents report minimal or no skills in this area), Behavioral Health Awareness (14%), Appropriate Staffing (13%) and Substance Use Awareness (12%). Significant progress has made in skills development in all of these areas, and it would be worth assessing the absolute skills levels again in a future survey.

⁹ 437 SSSCs completed this section.

For some training areas, there were significant differences between different types of staff performing the function of SSSC.¹⁰

In every case shown below, the self-reported increase in level of knowledge for staff in a dedicated SSSC role was greatest for staff in Other Support roles and lowest for Senior Administrators. These results are statistically significant¹¹.

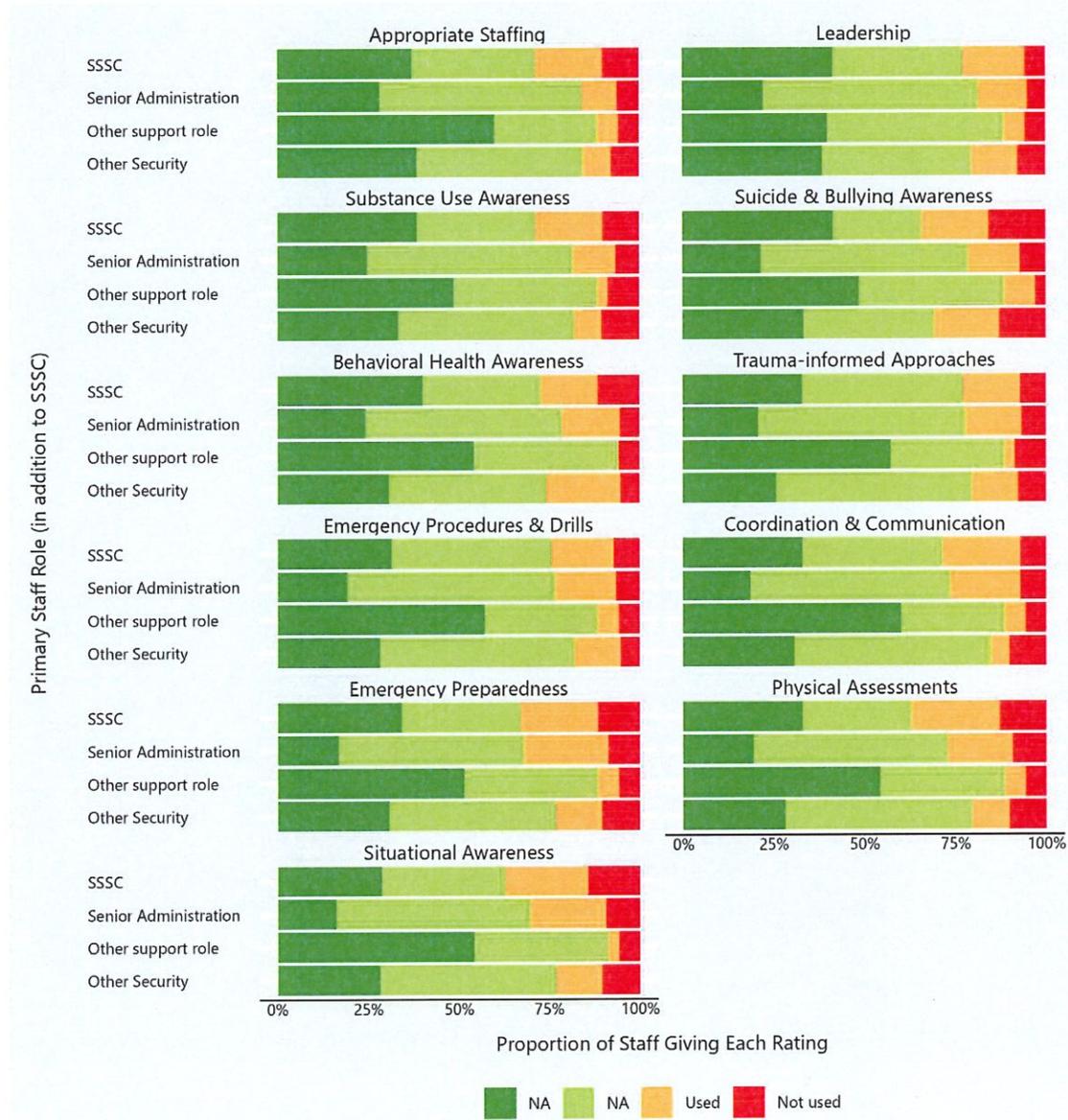


Figure 8 Charts to Illustrate Knowledge Improvement Differences between Staff Types

With reference to the data in the baseline survey, staff in a dedicated SSSC role most frequently reported that they were already highly skilled/knowledgeable in all training areas, so it is perhaps unsurprisingly that their level of skills improvement is less dramatic than other staff. However, across

¹⁰ Teachers and Instructions Staff were excluded from this analysis due to the low response rate on this factor

¹¹ Pearson Chi-Square $p < 0.01$ in all cases, i.e. confidence level $> 99\%$ that the result is valid and not due to chance EXCEPT Emergency Preparedness where $p < 0.05$ i.e. confidence level $> 95\%$ that the result is valid and not due to chance

all skills areas for all staff types, the improvement in knowledge was rated positively by three quarters of survey participants.

SSSC Knowledge Use

92% of SSSC had put at least one knowledge area into use, with only 37 (8%) SSSCs reported that they had not put any of their training into use. Half of the respondents who had not used their training were in Senior Administration roles.

For the remaining SSSCs who had used at least one subject area, the most frequent used subject was Emergency Preparedness (54%), whilst Substance Use Awareness was reported least frequently with only 10% of SSSCs reporting they had put these skills into use.

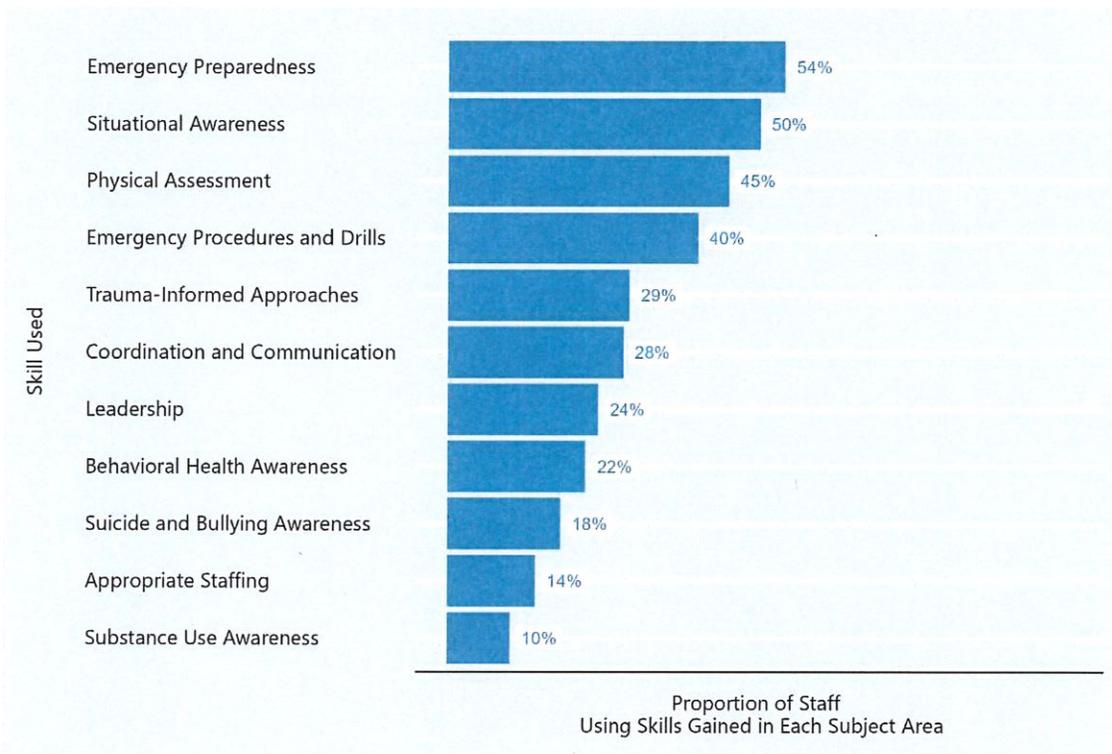


Figure 9 Proportion of SSSCs Using Skills Gained from Training by Subject Area

SSSC In Depth Training Preferences

SSSCs were asked to identify up to four options for skills areas in which they would like to receive in-depth follow-up training.

Only five respondents did not identify any areas to receive in-depth follow-up training.

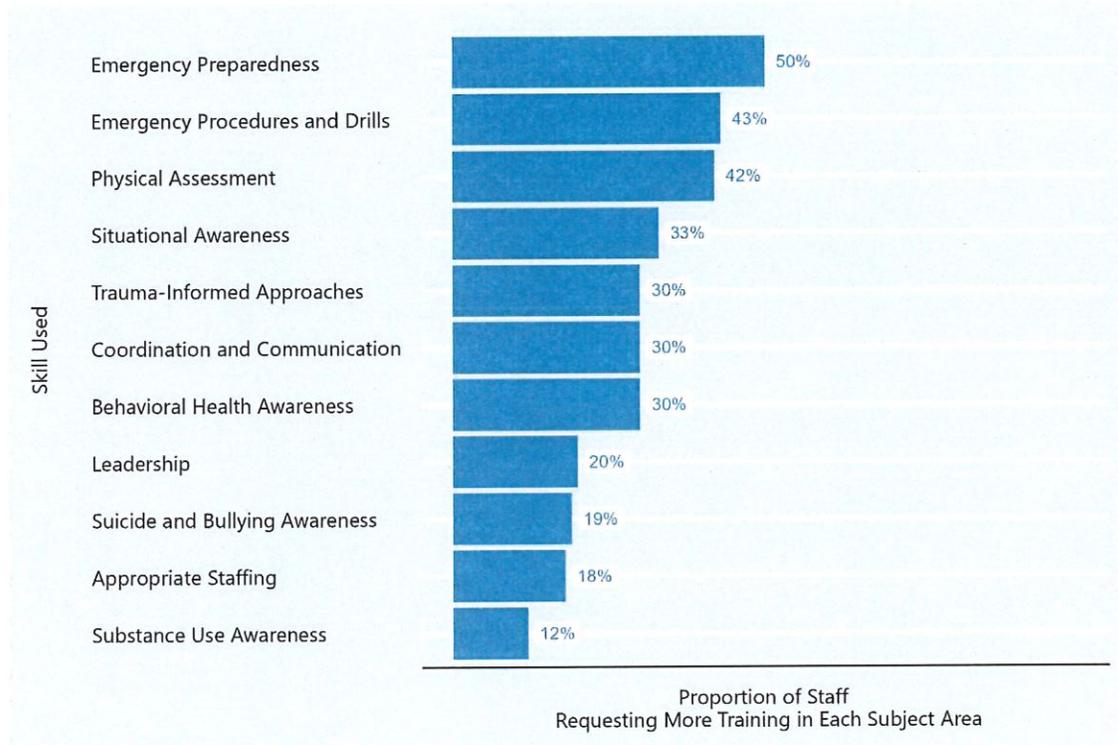


Figure 10 SSSCs Additional In-Depth Training Needs

Emergency Preparedness was the most popular option for additional in-depth training (50% of SSSCs requesting this follow-up training), followed by Emergency Procedures and Drills (43%) and Physical Assessments (42%).

This maps fairly closely onto the profile of the skills that SSSCs had put into use during the year, with a focus on practical skills to handle emergency situations, rather than preventative skills. This suggests that SSSCs are prioritising training that they believe they will be able to put into practise.

If a more preventative approach is to be taken, some education as to the benefits of this and the practical application of the learning may be beneficial.

SSSC Web Resources

In total 357 SSSCs accessed at least one of the documents located on the SSSTP training website. The most frequently accessed document was the Coordinator Training Criteria (accessed by 357 SSSCs) and the least frequently accessed document was the Case Study (323 SSSCs).

The ratings given for the helpfulness of the documents were overwhelmingly positive, as shown below.

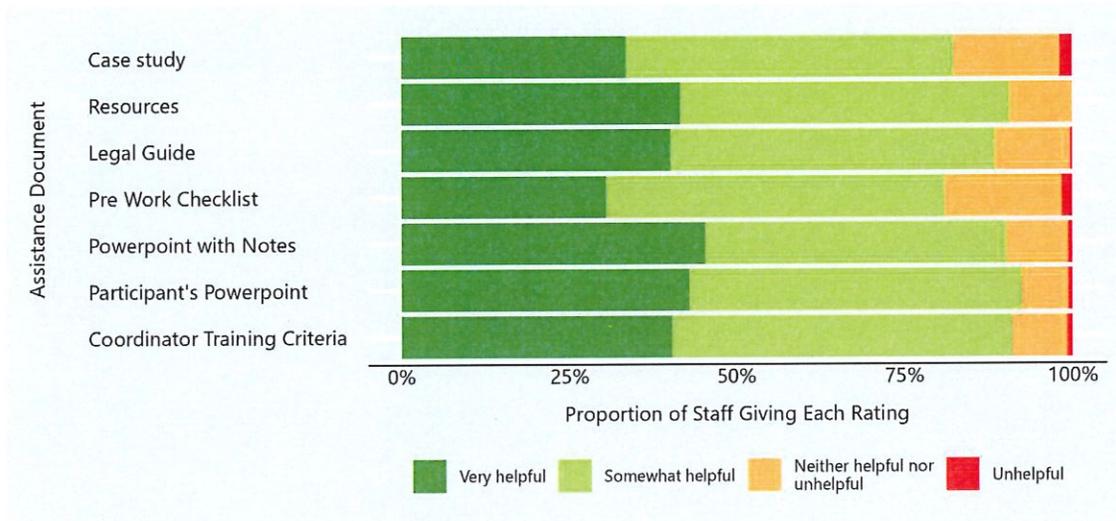


Figure 11 Ratings Given by SSSCs to Web Based Resources

For all the web-based documents, the positive ratings (somewhat or very helpful) exceeded 80%, peaking at 93% for the Participant’s Powerpoint.

289 of the SSSCs also reported that they accessed the employee online modules (66% of respondents to this question) and these responses are included in the following section.

School Employee Findings

The next section of results includes responses from both SSSCs and other school employees who accessed one or more of the online training modules.¹²

Accessing Online Training Modules

No of Modules Accessed	Frequency	%
One	162	5
Two	253	9
Three	232	8
Four	145	5
Five	106	4
Six	2,054	70
Total	2,952	

Table 7 Number of Modules Accessed

Over 2,000 employees (70%) who responded to the survey accessed all six modules.

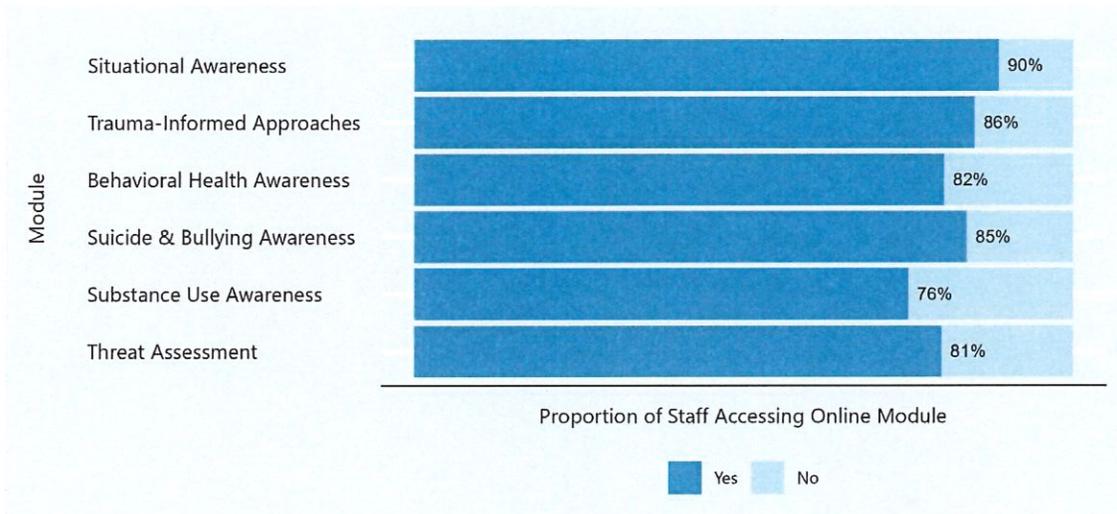


Figure 12 Modules Accessed by Staff

The most frequently accessed module was Situational Awareness (accessed by 2,662 staff), closely followed by Trauma-Informed Approaches (2,552 staff) and Suicide and Bullying Awareness (2,516 staff). Every one of the modules was accessed by at least 2,400 staff members who responded to the survey¹³.

When broken down by staff role types, there are some differences, with SSSCs accessing modules more frequently than any other role overall.

¹² 51 respondents (2%) reported that they did not access any of the online modules. These are excluded from the analysis.

¹³ The high response rates across all modules provide assurance that the data analysis in this section is valid

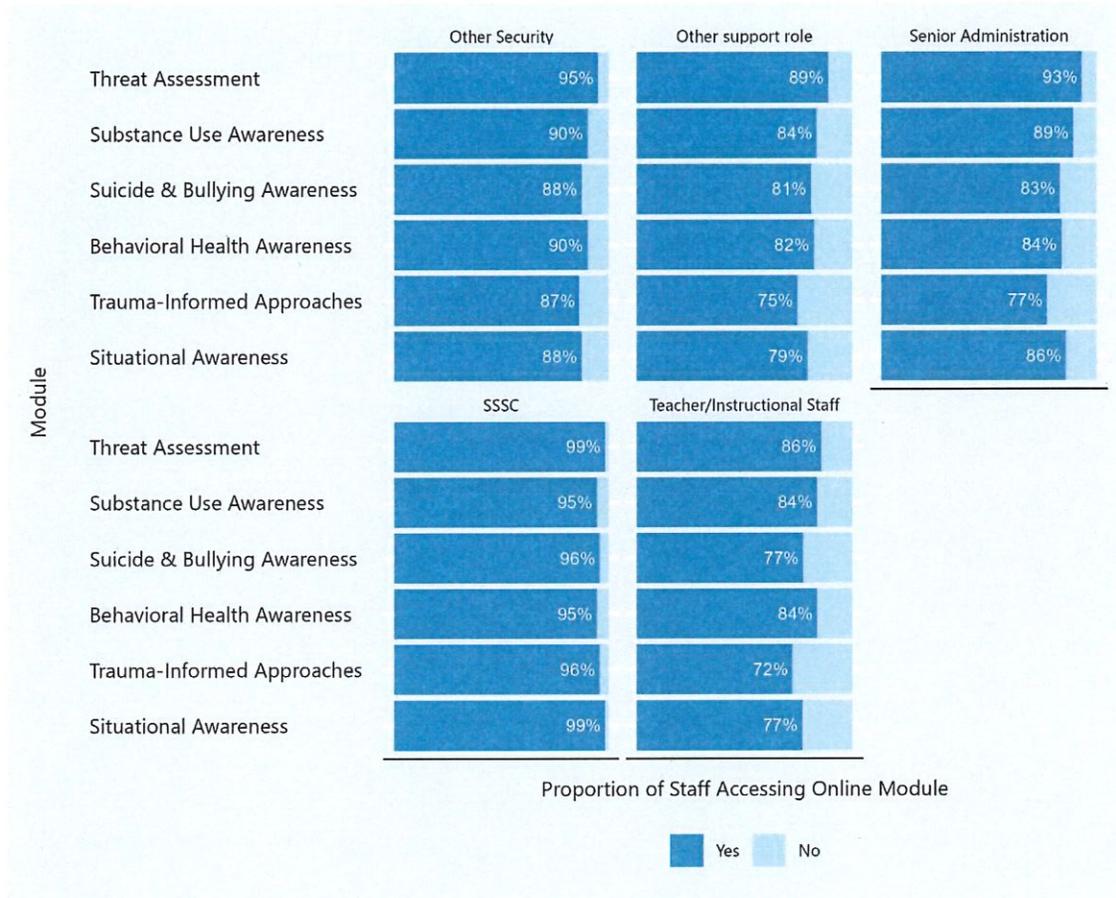


Figure 13 Modules Accessed by Staff in Different Roles

Fewer teachers and instructional staff accessed each module than other role types, but over 70% of these staff accessed each module, demonstrating that the web resources were very well used.

Web Resource Ratings

Respondents were also asked to report on how well the online modules had increased their knowledge and prepared them for their roles in each area. The results are shown below.

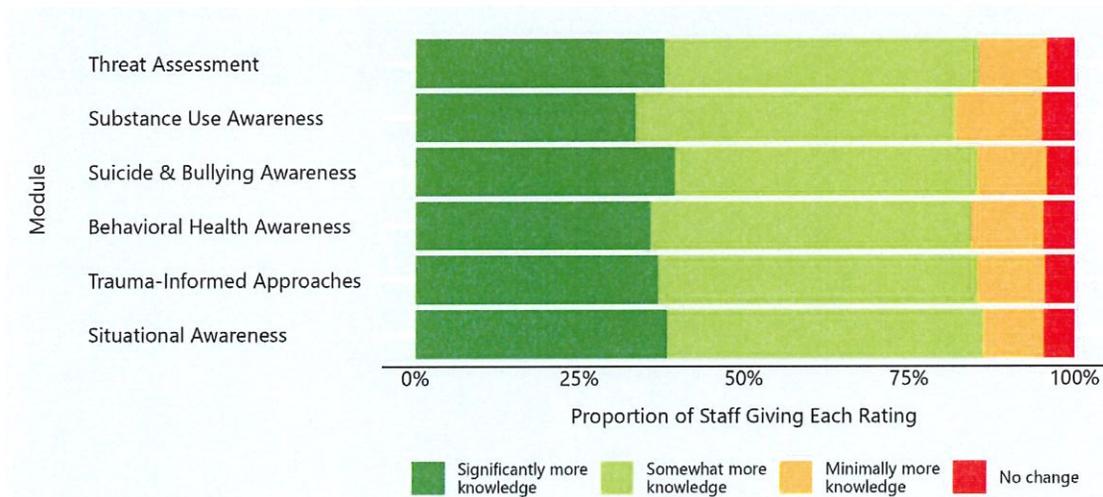


Figure 14 Staff Ratings of Change in Knowledge by Module

Across all modules staff reported dramatic increases in knowledge as a result of accessing the online modules, with over 82% of staff reporting somewhat or significantly more knowledge as a result for every module. There were no significant differences between modules in terms of knowledge enhancement - that is, they were uniformly good.

Staff also reported on their perception of the modules, as shown below.



Figure 15 Staff Perception by Module

Again, the ratings were overwhelmingly positive, with 82% or more staff rating each module as positive or very positive. Again, there were no significant differences between modules in terms of perception, and again they were perceived as uniformly good.

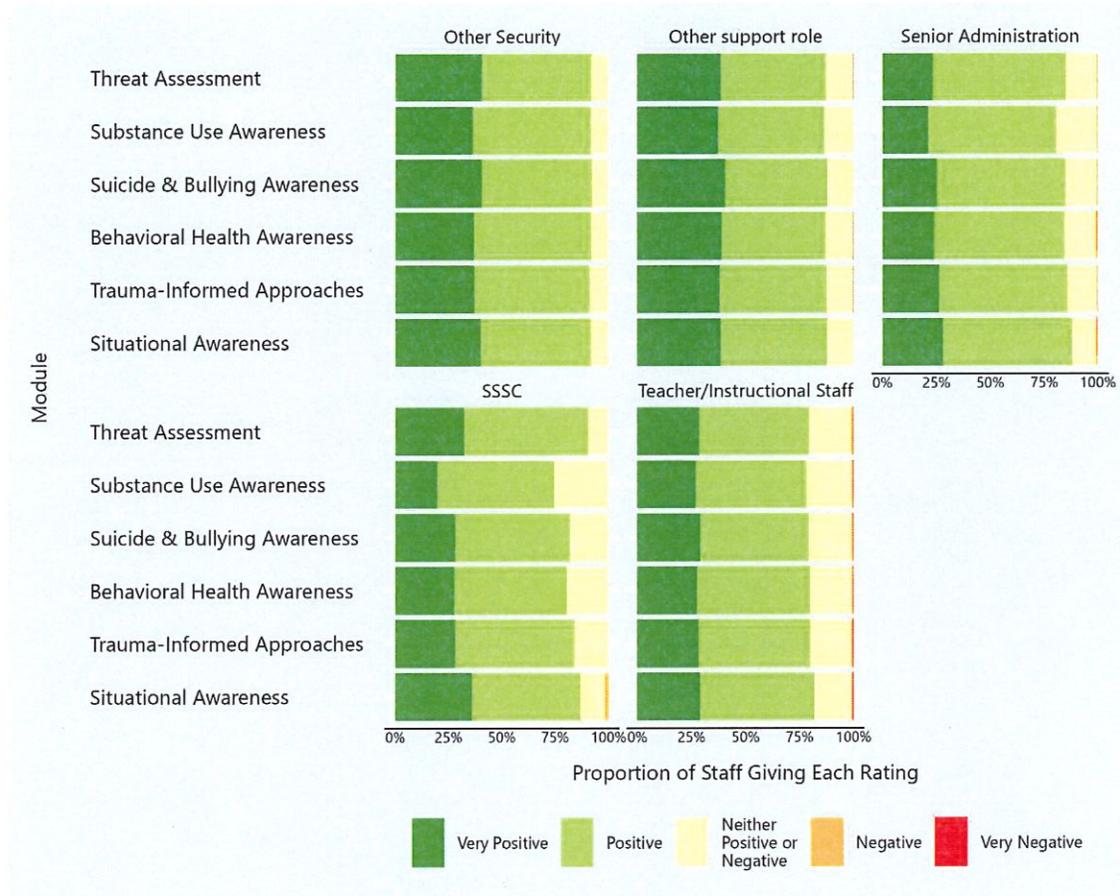


Figure 16 Perception of Modules by Staff in Different Roles

There were some significant differences between staff in different roles¹⁴, with SSSCs giving lower ratings than other staff, in particular with regard to the Substance Use Awareness module, however, these 75% of SSSCs still gave a positive rating to the module. This may reflect the more general nature of the web modules when compared with the more in depth training available to SSSCs.

Accessing Additional Resources

1,627 respondents reported that they had accessed additional resources, and 95% of these respondents reported that they found them to be helpful, with only 77 members of staff (5%) reporting that they did not find them to be helpful.

¹⁴ Pearson Chi-Square $p < 0.01$

Negative Feedback

The very small numbers of staff¹⁵ who provided negative feedback were asked to provide feedback on their reasons, as shown below.

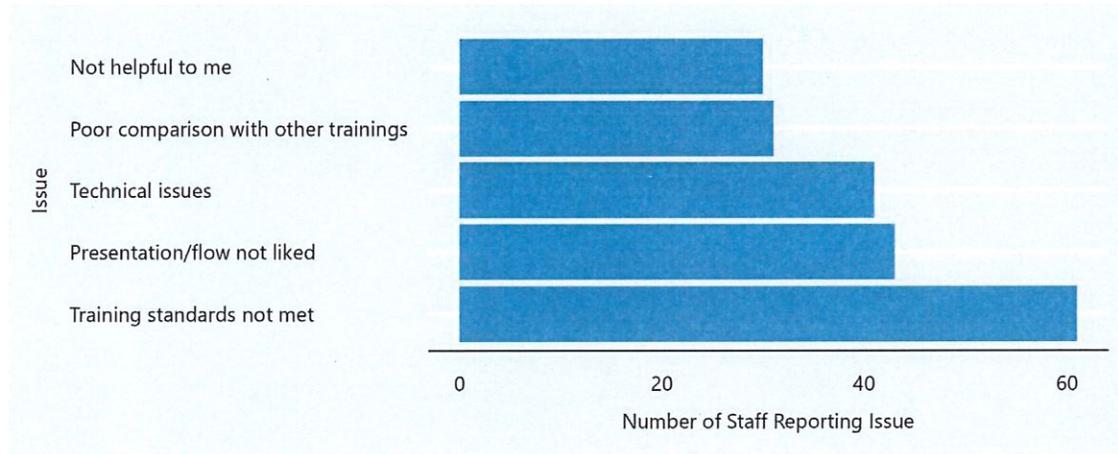


Figure 17 Types of Negative Feedback

The most commonly reported issue was that “the content of the module was not what I was expecting or did not meet the training standards.” However, this was reported by only 61 staff out of the 2,952 staff who completed online modules, or 2% of respondents.

Other feedback referred to dissatisfaction with presentation or flow of the modules, and technical issues.

In the open responses to this section, respondents explained their concerns in more detail. The primary concern was around the need for additional relevant content as the modules covered material that was already known to respondents.

The responses in relation to timing and technical issues were linked, in that a small number of respondents found the modules to be lengthy and also commented that the module design did not allow progress to be saved and returned to later.

A small number of respondents also gave very specific feedback in relation to learning styles¹⁶.

Positive Feedback

Although positive feedback was not requested in this survey, 18 respondents chose to take this opportunity to provide positive feedback, and some representative examples of feedback are provided below:

“I thought the topic was positive; much needed today in schools.”

“Everything was explained well”

“I actually felt the information was spot on”

¹⁵ Due to the small number of responses, no valid statistical analysis can be conducted on this section, and the responses cannot be weighted

¹⁶ Comments about learning style related to the visual learning style in the modules, and a preference for face to face training. In addition, one respondent raised concerns about discussion held within an online group, but this was not relevant to this survey which was reviewing the training materials and modules.

Technical Assistance

135 respondents reported that they requested technical assistance from RSM/PCCD.

Of these respondents, 126 (93%) were satisfied with the assistance they received, with only 9 respondents 7% reporting that they were dissatisfied.

When explaining their dissatisfaction, the following reasons were given.

Reason For Dissatisfaction	Frequency	%
Untimely or no response was given	3	33%
I was unable to get a resolution to my issue.	2	22%
The process was unclear to me	1	11%
Other	3	33%
Total	9	

Table 8 Reasons for Dissatisfaction with Technical Assistance

It should be noted that these responses were from a very small subsection of respondents, but of these respondents, the highest levels of dissatisfaction related to no response or the response not resolving the issue.

Closing Notes

- The feedback from both designated SSSCs and other staff was positive and significant knowledge improvement was reported across all skills areas
- The training was perceived as being of high quality and contributing to enhanced knowledge for the vast majority of respondents
- Fewer staff had put training on prevention skills into practice, such as Substance Use Awareness and Behavioral Awareness. If a more preventative approach is to be taken, some education as to the benefits of this and the practical application of the learning may be beneficial
- There was a small amount of feedback concerning the content of the training being already known to respondents, and to ensure that learning continues in future, the content should be refreshed and enhanced annually
- There was a technical issue reported with the online modules, and consideration should be given to enabling progress to be saved and returned to later
- In order to capture a fuller picture of training feedback, future surveys should include both positive and negative feedback to understand what staff particularly like and don't like about the training, and a question covering absolute skills levels would be beneficial in order to monitor progress over time

School Safety and Security Committee General Updates

January 15, 2025

School Safety Assessment Providers

The current list of approved assessors can be found on the [School Safety and Security Assessment Provider Registry](#). The total number of approved assessors is 224, including 154 physical security assessment providers, 57 behavioral health assessment providers, and 13 dually able to conduct both physical and behavioral health assessments.

School Security Guard Vendors

1 new vendor has been approved since the November 26, 2024, meeting. A total of 45 approved third-party providers are listed in the Registry on the [School Security Guard Vendors](#) page of the PCCD website.

Act 55 Training Providers

5 new Act 55 training providers have self-certified and been approved since the November 26, 2024, meeting. A total of 117 approved providers are listed on the [Act 55 Training Providers](#) page of the PCCD website to provide Act 55 employee training, in addition to the training available through PCCD/RSM.

Vendors for School Safety and Security Personnel Training

The full listing of approved vendors to provide NASRO Basic-equivalent School Safety and Security Personnel training can be found on PCCD's website [here](#).

School Security Personnel Waivers

A total of 37 school districts have received a school security personnel waiver in accordance with the criteria outlined in Section 1315-C of the PA Public School Code. More information about the school security personnel waiver requirements and process can be found on this [PCCD webpage](#).

Model K-12 Threat Assessment Procedures and Guidelines

The [3rd Edition of the Model K-12 Threat Assessment Procedures and Guidelines](#) were posted on December 20, 2024, and notification was sent to school entities. As discussed at the November 26th School Safety and Security Committee meeting, these procedures and guidelines have been updated to:

- Reflect recent changes to the PA Public School Code;
- Provide more clarity in addressing the overlapping requirements for threat assessment and suicide awareness, prevention, and response under Act 71;
- Emphasize the importance of coordination and information sharing with community-based partners, including law enforcement agencies; and
- Reflect updated standards of nationally recognized best practice, to serve as a continued resource for Pennsylvania school entities in the area of threat assessment.