



COOK COUNTY JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Gun Violence Prevention and Reduction Grant Opportunities



Initiative Overview

In response to high levels of gun violence experienced since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Cook County designated \$85 million to the Safe & Thriving Communities American Rescue Plan Act Initiative: The Violence Prevention and Reduction Grant Portfolio. An additional \$25 million of funding has been designated to the initiative through a partnership with the Illinois Department of Human Services Office of Firearm Violence Prevention, bringing the total investment to just over \$110 million.

The grant initiative, led by the Cook County Justice Advisory Council (JAC), was designed to fund a diverse array of service providers that support residents at high risk of experiencing gun violence as either a victim or perpetrator. The initiative prioritizes communities with the highest rates of shootings and gun-related homicides in Chicago and Suburban Cook County.

Applications for funding were open to 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations that provide violence prevention programming in Cook County. Applicant organizations were asked to propose creative community-driven programming, leveraging at least one of the following evidence-informed violence prevention strategies: Prevention and Support Services, Street Outreach and Intervention, Case Management, Victim Services and Hospital Based Services.

Response & Selection Process

190 applications were submitted, representing nearly 400 unique organizations and a total request for funding of nearly \$500 million.

The highly selective review process consisted of review panels, utilizing a standardized rubric to evaluate applications in accordance with the point values articulated in the [application materials](#).

The overwhelming response from qualified applicants signaled to the JAC the high volume of organizations ready to expand and deliver critical violence prevention programming in Cook County. The JAC subsequently explored and secured additional funding for high quality proposals that were received but not initially funded under the initiative.



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ROADMAP TO RECOVERY: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

Grant Awards

Grant Award Cycle 1: Following the application review period, an initial 34 grants were awarded totaling \$75 million in funding to be distributed over three years. 5 grant awards were approved by the Cook County Board in June 2022 and 29 were approved in July 2022. The 34 grants were awarded to individual organizations and coalitions that together represent 66 unique organizations.

Grant Award Cycle 2: In the winter of 2023, the JAC partnered with the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) Office of Firearm Violence Prevention to fund an additional group of highly ranked applicants under the initiative. In January 2023, Cook County was awarded \$25 million in funding from IDHS and the County Board approved 39 additional grants that support 70 unique organizations.

Grant Award Cycle 3: In the Spring of 2023, the JAC facilitated a third grant award cycle with the remaining Cook County ARPA funds allocated to the initiative. In this cycle, just over \$10 million in funding was awarded. The additional 17 grants support 22 unique organizations.

In total, the grant initiative represents just over \$110 million of investment in gun violence prevention and reduction services since 2022. There are currently 90 active grant awards that support 150 unique organizations providing services in Cook County communities that have been most impacted by gun violence.

Award Summary

**Partners and coalition members are funded through the lead organization.*

They provide various services that contribute to the programming proposed under the grant initiative.

Lead Organization (Grant Recipient) • Partners/Coalition Members*	Number of Organizations Funded	Funding Awarded (\$)
Cycle 1 Grants (Awarded in Summer 2022)		
Books Over Balls • African American Family Research Institute • Illinois Collaboration on Youth • Saving Ourselves • Urban Tech Academy	5	1,458,739.03
Brighton Park Neighborhood Council • Centro Sanar • New Life Centers • PODER	4	2,203,150.12
BUILD Inc • Blocks Together • Covenant House Illinois • MAAFA Redemption Project • United for Better Living	5	15,000,000.00
Catholic Bishop School of Chicago – St. Sabina	1	1,489,776.28
Children’s Research Triangle	1	1,484,888.00
ConTextos, NFP	1	1,073,315.25
Dr. Pedro Alibuzu Campos Puerto Rican High School • Community Justice for Youth Institute • Freedom Lifted	3	483,212.10
Firebird Community Arts	1	661,597.52
Firehouse Community Arts Center of Chicago • Contextos	2	1,499,915.00
Friends of the Children – Chicago	1	1,683,969.67

Hope Center Foundation	1	1,463,352.00
Inner-City Muslim Action Network	1	1,500,000.00
James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy	1	616,283.02
Kids Above All Illinois	1	3,333,196.90
Lawrence Hall	1	1,283,364.88
Manufacturing Renaissance	1	1,299,526.68
Metropolitan Family Services (CP4P) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ALSO Breakthrough Claretian Associates Enlace Institute for Nonviolence Chicago New Life Centers Precious Blood Project HOOD Public Equity SWOP Target Area Development Corps Think Outside Da Block Together Chicago UCAN 	15	15,000,000.00
Mikva Challenge Grant Foundation, Inc	1	593,720.00
The Mission of Our Lady of Mercy (Mercy Home for Boys and Girls)	1	500,000.00
New Moms, Inc.	1	1,453,255.00
Organizing Neighborhoods for Equality	1	333,808.97
Project Simeon 2000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hip Hop Detox 	2	1,495,745.48
Reflections Foundation	1	1,230,027.90
Restoring the Path	1	1,500,000.00
Revolution Workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literacy Chicago 	2	750,416.46
Roseland Ceasefire Project, Inc	1	4,110,943.30
Saint Anthony Hospital	1	3,056,000.88
Sinai Community Institute <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UCAN Under the Rainbow 	3	1,499,999.92
Storycatchers Theater	1	589,974.43
Sunshine Gospel Ministries	1	1,485,851.39
Teamwork Englewood	1	1,480,963.65
Westside Health Authority	1	1,457,544.00
Y.E.M.B.A. Incorporated	1	300,000.00
Youth Crossroads, Inc.	1	1,500,000.00
Cycle 1 Total	66	\$74,872,537.83
Cycle 2 Grants (Awarded in Winter 2023)		
A Hand Up Recovery Homes NFP	1	300,000.00
Advocate Health and Hospitals Corporation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metropolitan Family Services CP4P 	2	1,000,000.00
Bethel Family Resource Center <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bethel Baptist Church Victim Services 	2	707,168.00
The Black Fire Brigade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Andrew Holmes Foundation Cabrini Green Legal Aid DLD for Youth Superior Ambulance 	5	500,000.00
The Blessed Child	2	481,767.00

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acclivus, Inc. 		
Center for Advancing Domestic Peace, Inc.	1	300,000.00
Centers for New Horizons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chicago Community Learning Center 	2	799,583.00
Chicago Adventure Therapy	1	108,440.00
Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hope Center Foundation Kids Off the Block Metropolitan Family Services Roseland Youth Center 	5	750,000.00
Christian Community Health Center <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MACH1 Mentoring 	2	750,000.00
Communities In Schools of Chicago <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KWOE Group 	2	745,000.00
Cornerstone Community Development Corporation	1	590,741.00
Fathers Who Care	1	300,000.00
Friendly Temple Church of God in Christ (Chatham Collaborative for Violence Prevention) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AGB Institute Project Outreach and Prevention 	3	299,605.00
Gads Hill Center	1	705,584.00
Habilitative Systems Inc	1	999,867.00
Heartland Human Care Services	1	1,000,000.00
Lawndale Christian Legal Center	1	1,000,000.00
Leave No Veteran Behind	1	558,449.00
NDICA	1	749,889.00
NEBC Employment Resource Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> F.L.Y. Radical Therapy 	2	349,998.00
Nehemiah Group	1	750,000.00
New Eclipse Community Alliance	1	750,000.00
North Lawndale College Preparatory Charter High School	1	749,405.00
OAI, Inc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chicago Southland Economic Development Corporation (CSEDC) LifeHouse Group Prairie State College (PSC) Sertoma Center, Inc. TransfR 	6	1,000,000.00
Proviso Leyden Council for Community Action, Inc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cabrini Green Legal Aid FOBA Inc. J.E.M. Baseball Academy The Darren Group 	5	699,191.00
Ring of Hope	1	644,889.00
River City Community Development Center	1	725,952.00
Roll Call	1	222,514.00
Safer Foundation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crisis Intervention - CORE Peace Fellowship Initiative Women's Justice Institute 	4	1,000,000.00
Southland Juvenile Justice Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chronic Absenteeism Partnership Midwest Family and Community Resources 	3	645,745.00
St. Agatha Catholic Church	1	742,900.00

TGi Movement	1	748,488.00
UR Chicago Alliance	1	749,375.00
Veteran Youth Corp	1	166,213.00
The West Side Justice Center, Inc.	1	299,817.00
Youth Connection Charter School	2	746,349.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grand Boulevard Prevention Services 		
Youth Guidance	1	616,013.00
YWCA Metropolitan Chicago	1	750,000.00
Cycle 2 Total	70	\$25,002,942.00
Cycle 3 Grants (Awarded in Spring 2023)		
Carole Robertson Center for Learning	1	\$746,575.57
Chicago-Lawndale Amachi Mentoring Program	3	\$338,826.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I AM ABLE P&S Evolution 		
College Mentoring Experience	1	\$275,300.00
Community Assistance Programs	1	\$749,994.40
Darren B. Easterling Center for Restorative Practices	1	\$391,386.00
Equiticity	1	\$599,775.00
Erie Neighborhood House	2	\$696,112.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loyola University Center for Urban Research and Learning 		
Growing Home, Inc.	1	\$676,211.58
Institute for Nonviolence Chicago	1	\$750,000.00
Pilsen-Little Village Community Mental Health Center, Inc. (Pilsen Wellness Center)	1	\$750,000.00
Red Clay Dance Company	1	\$300,000.00
Rush University Medical Center	1	\$684,866.50
Sankofa Safe Child Initiative	3	\$749,731.50
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chicago West Side Chamber of Commerce Westside Ministers Coalition 		
Sunrise Community Empowerment	1	\$185,890.00
Tools Up Foundation, INC	1	\$749,861.34
Volunteers of America of Illinois	1	\$737,235.36
ZAM's Hope	1	\$745,696.94
Cycle 3 Total	22	\$10,127,462.17
Initiative Grand Total	150*	\$110,002,942.00

**Total funded organizations excluding instances of participation in multiple coalitions.*

Geography

Grants are organized in geographic areas, or clusters. Within these areas, neighborhoods and municipalities with the highest levels of need were determined using numbers of fatal and non-fatal shootings. Grant recipients serve one or more of these neighborhood and municipal areas.

Geographic Cluster Area	Number of Grants Serving the Area
County Suburb South	20
County Suburb West	8
County Suburb-wide	2
Chicago South	48
Chicago West	50
Citywide (includes City North)	5