



Allegheny County Department of Human Services

RFP Response Form

RFP for Community Violence Reduction Plans from High-Priority Areas

COMMUNITY QUARTERBACK INFORMATION

Eligible Community(ies): **Clairton, Duquesne, Homestead, McKeesport**

Proposer/Community Quarterback Name: **Steel Rivers Council of Governments (SRCOG)**

Authorized Representative Name & Title: **An Lewis, Executive Director**

Address: **1705 Maple St. Suite 100 Homestead, PA 15120**

Telephone: **412-462-7600**

Email: **al@steelriverscog.org**

Website: <https://steelriverscog.org/>

Legal Status: For-Profit Corp. Nonprofit Corp. Sole Proprietor Partnership

Date Incorporated: **March 23, 1973**

Partners, stakeholders and/or subcontractors included in this Proposal:
(Please see attached letters of commitment)

Clairton Community Partners:

City of Clairton Mayor's Office
Youth Opportunities Development
Clairton City School District
Clairton Cares

Duquesne Community Partners:

City of Duquesne Police Department
City of Duquesne School District
City of Duquesne Boy and Girls Club
Divine Restoration Church of God in Christ
Fresh Word Ministries of Duquesne
YouthWorks | Goodwill SWPA

Homestead Community Partners:

Homestead Borough Mayor
Homestead Police Department
Steel Valley Youth Football Association (Reginal King)

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McKeesport Community Partners:

City of McKeesport Mayor's Office
McKeesport Police Department
Auberle
LaRosa Youth Development Foundation
NAACP McKeesport Unit
Healthy Village Learning Institute
Youth Places
Austin Davis, State Representative
James R. Brewster, State Senator

How did you hear about this RFP? *Please be specific.*

SRCOG learned about this RFP through its member municipalities, specifically the four eligible communities included in this proposal: Clairton, Duquesne, Homestead, and McKeesport. In mid-March, An Lewis, executive director for SRCOG, was approached by representatives from each community who requested that the SRCOG act as the Community Quarterback to implement and manage the community violence reduction plan on behalf of the eligible communities. The four communities recognized that SRCOG has the grants and fiscal management experience that is needed for this endeavor.

Does your organization have a telecommunications device to accommodate individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing? Yes No

COMMUNITY QUARTERBACK REQUIRED CONTACTS

	Name	Phone	Email
Chief Executive Officer	An Lewis	412-462-7600 ext 101	al@steelriverscog.org
Contract Processing Contact	Grace Schierberl	412-462-7600 ext 109	gs@steelriverscog.org
Chief Information Officer	An Lewis	412-462-7600 ext 101	al@steelriverscog.org
Chief Financial Officer	Kayla Gheary	412-462-7600 ext 106	kg@steelriverscog.org
MPER Contact*	Grace Schierberl	412-462-7600 ext 109	gs@steelriverscog.org

* [MPER](#) is DHS's provider and contract management system. Please list an administrative contact to update and manage this system for your agency.

COMMUNITY QUARTERBACK BOARD INFORMATION

Board Chairperson Name & Title: Tammy Firda, President

Board Chairperson Address: Elaina Skiba, Vice President

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Board Chairperson Telephone: Thomas Evans, Secretary

Board Chairperson Email: Ashley Cain, Treasurer

REFERENCES

Provide the name, affiliation and contact information [include email address and telephone number] for three references who are able to address relevant experience with your organization. *Please do not use employees of the Allegheny County Department of Human Services as references.*

McKeesport: Mayor Michael Cherepko -- mike.cherepko@mckeesport-pa.gov - 412-675-5020, ext. 605

Homestead: Councilwoman Mary Nesby -- [REDACTED]

Clairton: Mayor Richard Lattanzi -- mayor@cityofclairton.com - 412-233-8113, Ext 1

Duquesne: Mayor R. Scott Adams -- rsadams@duquesnepa.us - 412-469-3857

PROPOSAL INFORMATION

Date Submitted: May 6, 2022

Amount Requested: \$1,390,660.00

CERTIFICATION

Please check the following before submitting your Proposal, as applicable:

I have read the standard County terms and conditions for County contracts and the requirements for DHS Cyber Security, EEOC/Non-Discrimination, HIPAA and Pennsylvania's Right-to-Know Law.

By submitting this Proposal, I certify and represent to the County that all submitted materials are true and accurate, and that I have not offered, conferred or agreed to confer any pecuniary benefit or other thing of value for the receipt of special treatment, advantaged information, recipient's decision, opinion, recommendation, vote or any other exercise of discretion concerning this RFP.

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Choose one:

My Proposal contains information that is either a trade secret or confidential proprietary information and I have included a written statement signed by an authorized representative identifying those portions or parts of my Proposal and providing contact information.

OR

My Proposal does not contain information that is either a trade secret or confidential proprietary information.

ATTACHMENTS

Please submit the following attachments with your Response Form. These can be found at <http://www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs/solicitations>.

- Partner and stakeholder commitment letters
- MWDBE and VOSB documents
- Allegheny County Vendor Creation Form
- Audited financial reports or other financial documentation for the last three years
- W-9

REQUIREMENTS

Please respond to the following. The maximum score a Proposal can receive is 160 points. Your response to this section should not exceed 20 pages.

A. Stakeholder Commitment (35 points possible)

1. Please list the partners and stakeholders that support your CVRP. For each, provide an explanation of how they participated in developing the CVRP and how they will support its implementation. Attach a signed letter of commitment from each partner and stakeholder listed.

Clairton Community Partners:

Youth Opportunities Development- committed to providing a staff member to attend advisory meetings and to support data collection and street outreach efforts.

Clairton City School District - committed to supporting community violence reduction efforts through sharing any relevant resources to include space to meet, access to target population, and opportunity to access target population.

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Clairton Cares - committed to supporting community violence reduction efforts through sharing any relevant resources to include space to meet, access to target population, and opportunity to access target population.

Duquesne Community Partners:

City of Duquesne Police Department - committed to supporting community violence reduction efforts through sharing any relevant resources to include space to meet, access to target population, and opportunity to access target population. Additionally, a delegate from the department will meet on a monthly basis with the Community Convener as part of an intercommunity safety committee.

City of Duquesne School District - committed to supporting community violence reduction efforts through sharing any relevant resources to include space to meet, access to target population, and opportunity to access target population.

City of Duquesne Boy and Girls Club - committed to supporting community violence reduction efforts through sharing any relevant resources to include space to meet, access to target population, and opportunity to access target population.

Divine Restoration Church of God in Christ - committed to supporting community violence reduction efforts through sharing any relevant resources to include space to meet, access to target population, and opportunity to access target population.

Fresh Word Ministries of Duquesne - committed to supporting community violence reduction efforts through sharing any relevant resources to include space to meet, access to target population, and opportunity to access target population.

YouthWorks | Goodwill SWPA - committed to supporting community violence reduction efforts through opportunities available in the City of Duquesne Summer Learn and Earn and YouthWorks programs.

Homestead Community Partners:

Homestead Borough - mobilized resources and contacts to prepare to accept the CURE Violence Model and program implementation.

Steel Valley Youth Football Association - committed to supporting community violence reduction efforts through sharing any relevant resources to include space to meet, access to target population, and opportunity to access target population.

Homestead Police Department - committed to supporting community violence reduction efforts through sharing any relevant resources to include space to meet, access to target population, and opportunity to access target population. Additionally, a delegate from the department will meet on a monthly basis with the Community Convener as part of an intercommunity safety committee.

McKeesport Community Partners:

City of McKeesport Mayor's Office - committed to offering public support of the community violence reduction efforts on behalf of the City of McKeesport. Also, committed to supporting community violence reduction efforts through sharing any relevant resources to include space to meet, access to target population, opportunity to access target population, and hiring individuals who will work directly within the City of McKeesport.

McKeesport Police Department - committed to offering public support of the community violence reduction efforts on behalf of the City of McKeesport. Additionally, a delegate from the department will meet on a monthly basis with the Community Convener as part of an intercommunity safety committee.

Auberle - committed to supporting community violence reduction efforts through sharing any relevant resources to include space to meet, access to target population, and opportunity to access target population.

La Rosa Youth Development Organization - committed to supporting community violence reduction efforts through sharing any relevant resources to include space to meet, access to target population, and opportunity to access target population.

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NAACP McKeesport Unit - committed to supporting community violence reduction efforts through sharing any relevant resources to include access to target population, and opportunity to access target population.

Healthy Village Learning - committed to supporting community violence reduction efforts through sharing any relevant resources to include space to meet, access to target population, and opportunity to access target population.

Youth Places - committed to supporting community violence reduction efforts through sharing any relevant resources to include space to meet, access to target population, and opportunity to access target population.

Austin Davis, State Representative - committed to offering public support of the community violence reduction efforts on behalf of all four eligible communities.

James R. Brewster, State Senator - committed to offering public support of the community violence reduction efforts on behalf of all four eligible communities.

B. Summary of Community Violence Reduction Plan (75 points possible)

2. Specify the Eligible Community(ies), and any specific focus areas within them, included in your CVRP. Describe the characteristics and strengths that you see as defining the community.

The eligible communities of Clairton, Duquesne, Homestead, and McKeesport are situated along the once largely industrial Monongahela River Valley (Mon Valley). In these communities, where prosperity was once a promised way of life, citizens were abandoned by corporations and industries in the name of progress and evolution. However, in the absence of ease and a future guarantee of fiscal security, a community continued. Those who chose to stay and serve their fellow neighbors laid the foundation of hope, commitment, and perseverance that this community led violence prevention program will be built upon.

With a region strengthened and united by hardship and loss, these four Mon Valley communities have repeatedly and immediately mobilized resources and taken the initiatives required to access available funding to aid their communities and neighbors in the hope of achieving a safer, more prosperous future. Out of the difficulties presented by high employment rates, high poverty rates, increased urban blight, and reduced resources grew the region's community coordination and community organization assets. The Community Quarterback, SRCOG, is a non-profit organization supporting 19 municipalities in the Mon Valley region of Allegheny County. It offers numerous services and programs to help our members maintain and improve their towns in the short-term. The SRCOG is uniquely positioned to collaboratively develop dynamic strategies that tackle regional problems for the long-term. The mission of the SRCOG is to share resources, services, and ideas to drive positive change in our member communities which is supported by the belief that collaboration leads to stronger communities. It was formed across multiple communities and city governments to facilitate community resource pooling and coordinate community efforts. Founded in 1988 following the region's industrial collapse, The Mon Valley Initiative (a parent organization of Clairton Cares) works to rebuild community infrastructure and find viable employment for Mon Valley residents. The McKeesport LaRosa Youth Development Foundation focuses their organization on offering positive socialization and growth opportunities to create a successful path to adulthood for McKeesport youth. The Duquesne Boys and Girls Club offers childcare support for working

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parents across the community and youth programming to foster positive development. In the absence of past youth organizations, the Steel Valley Youth Football Association expanded its sport offerings to extend its outreach efforts and positive connection to Homestead youth.

The leadership that was forged along the banks of the Monogahela, in response to the hurdles faced by the communities, is ready to face these ongoing challenges. Out of the desire to further benefit and support their communities, the current leaders of the four eligible communities banded together to create an inter community team to create a plan to quell the spread of violence that has broken out on the streets of the Mon Valley. Richard Lattanzi, Mayor of the City of Clairton, has held his position since 2010. In the nearly 12 years since Lattanzi took office, he has brought new business and housing back to Clairton and a new excitement about the future of the city, winning a \$16.7M award to restore the 70,000 sq ft Clairton Inn building and create 49 housing units. In August of 2022 Clairton will celebrate their centennial with a festival and parade. This event and future community events will be a platform to further the discussion surrounding community violence and provide education on new resources available to the Mon Valley community. On his continuing journey toward a citywide renaissance, Lattanzi is ready to tackle the violence disease that is plaguing his community through the implementation of the inter community violence reduction plan detailed in this proposal.

Councilwoman Mary Nesby, a long-time Homestead resident and community organizer, has been responding to violence in her community by facing it head on. When concerns of reprisal are imminent, Nesby mobilizes her fellow community members to serve as an intervention point to thwart the spread of violence. Nesby's concern for the community's youth was echoed by Homestead when the borough elected her to the borough council in 2017. Nesby is no stranger to the battle against the spread of violence, she is eager to implement the community violence reduction plan and funnel more support and resources to the youth of Homestead as well as the greater Mon Valley.

Former police Chief and newly elected City of Duquesne Mayor, Scott Adams, works to link community resources in the battle against the spread of violence. Uniting the city police department, local faith ministries, the city school district, as well as local organizations created a fellowship connected in the mission of protecting and healing the community. Adams is eager to initiate the community violence reduction plan and join his community resources and partners in implementing the CURE Violence Model on the streets of Duquesne.

McKeesport Mayor, Michael Cherepko, a former McKeesport School District fifth grade teacher and city mayor of 10 years, is not new to the battles against the spread of violence. During his second term, Cherepko sought funds for a multi-year, comprehensive gun violence prevention grant where he linked the city police department, the city school district, and community organizations to educate on the spread violence and interrupt violence in its path. Additionally, this effort worked to create a new trust and understanding between the citizens of McKeesport and the city's law enforcement and safety officers.

These four leaders, representatives of each of the four eligible communities included in this proposal, along with SRCOG leadership, formed a unified, a tangible task-force to obtain resources, coordinate efforts, and continue the battle against violence as part of their ongoing missions to offer the citizens of the Mon Valley a safer and more comfortable life.

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3. Describe the Community Violence that you see in your community(ies) and the factors you think are driving it.

After over a century of industrial prosperity, each of these Mon Valley communities felt the pains of economic hardship caused by the 1970s-1980s collapse of the steel industry in and around the Pittsburgh region. In the wake of deindustrialization, the Mon Valley communities battled dwindling populations, lost tax revenue, and diminished employment opportunities. In this post-industrial, resource scarce environment, decades after the closing of the mills, mines and factories, these communities continue to experience a significant increase in unemployment rates, poverty rates, and crime rates.

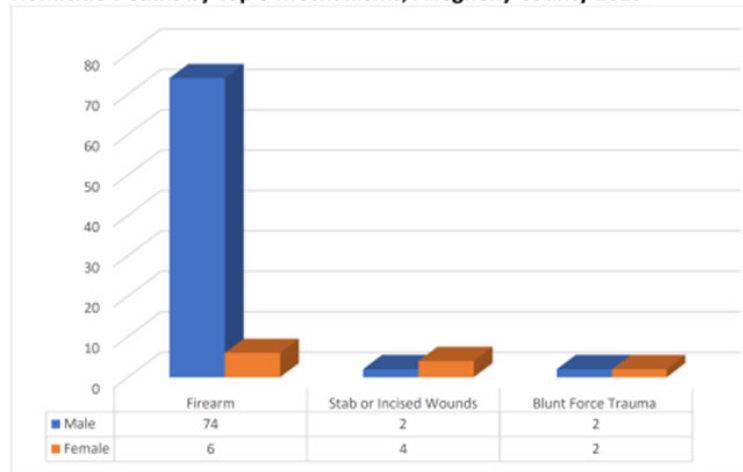
According to the *Violence in Allegheny County and Pittsburgh 2016* report, Duquesne had a homicide rate of 23.2 in 100,000 and Homestead had a rate of 16.2 in 100,000. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, these numbers only continued to climb contributing to one of the nation's largest jumps in single-year violent crime rates. Additionally, the aforementioned report noted the time of homicides and shootings increase dramatically between the hours of 8:00pm and 12:00am. Statistics released by Allegheny County Department of Human Services (DHS) indicated that the 2016-2020 homicide rate in Homestead rose to 44 in 100,000, Duquesne's homicide rate increased to 25 in 100,000, McKeesport holds a rate of 34 homicides in 100,000 and Clairton has a rate of 27 homicides in 100,000. These community numbers tower over the current national homicide rate of 7.8 in 100,000. According to information provided by DHS and the *2019 Allegheny County Office of Medical Examiner (ACOME) Annual Report* (please see coordinating charts), homicide victims in these communities largely consist of young Black men between the ages of 15 and 34. Additionally, information collected by the ACOME indicates that homicides in this region are largely conducted using firearms. With violence and crime near commonplace on the streets of Mon Valley communities, it is the duty of community leaders and community activists to seek all avenues to deter the spread of violence and return to their communities the promise of prosperity that was once a near guarantee to the citizens of the Mon Valley industrial age.

To combat the rise in violent crime rates, the communities of McKeesport, Clairton, and Duquesne applied for a Gun Violence Reduction Program (GVRP) grant in 2018. This grant provided \$150,000 the first year to support the cost of efforts of gun violence prevention. In a second award, the grant provided \$133,000 (\$79,000 the first year, and \$54,000 the second year). An awarded addendum supplied an additional \$55,000 for McKeesport to continue their program through June of 2022. The goal of this violence prevention plan was to use intergovernmental cooperation, street outreach, and violence interruption models to promote communication between school entities, community, and law enforcement as well as disrupt the path of violence.

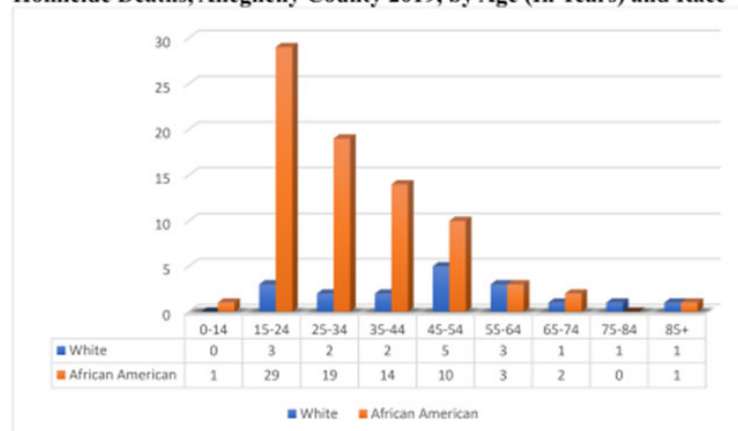
In addition to the GVRP funded efforts, McKeesport initiated the Weed & Seed program operated in direct collaboration with the McKeesport Healthier Communities PartnerSHIP Crime and Safety Logic Model to organize school visits and community activities that exposed students, parents, and other residents to a positive side of law enforcement.

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Homicide Deaths by Top 3 Mechanisms, Allegheny County 2019



Homicide Deaths, Allegheny County 2019, by Age (In Years) and Race



source: 2019 Allegheny County Office of Medical Examiner (ACOME) Annual Report

4. Identify the strategies you have chosen to implement to address Community Violence. Be sure to include at least one EBP listed in the RFP. For each strategy, please include.
 - a. If the strategy is currently in place or if it will be new.
 - b. If the strategy is: 1) one of the EBPs listed in the RFP, 2) a current violence prevention effort that shows results or promise or 3) a group or activity that brings people together.
 - c. If you are asking DHS to fund the strategy and/or if you have other funding to support it. If a strategy is already funded, please provide details on this funding.
 - d. The names and roles of the partners/stakeholders who will carry out the strategy.
 - e. An explanation of why you chose the strategy and how you think it will make a measurable difference on the Community Violence that you see in your community.

The SRCOG, in coordination with the four eligible communities included in this proposal: Clairton, Duquesne, Homestead and McKeesport as well as the community partners, are dedicated to stopping the spread of violence using the holistic and preventative practices of the CURE Violence Model. This preventative program was a selected Evidence-Based Program (EBP) from the list provided in the

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Allegheny County DHS *Community Violence Reduction Plans from High-Priority Areas* RFP dated January 5, 2022. Of the EBP's presented in county's January 5th RFP, CURE Violence was selected by the four communities for the program's approach to violence as a disease, as well as for the attention the program pays to mental health and healthy emotional coping skills that are needed among the high risk population for violence (young Black men between the ages of 15 and 34). The access to mental health resources is limited in the Mon Valley and by selecting the CURE Violence Model those most at risk to experience and perpetuate the spread of violence can have a new avenue to reach resources they require to live a safer, more fulfilling life. The SRCOG seeks funding to implement a new CURE Violence program in each of the eligible communities included in this proposal: Clairton, Duquesne, Homestead, and McKeesport.

SRCOG, the four eligible communities, and community partners are committed to stopping the spread of the violence disease that has claimed 14 lives in the four eligible communities within the last year alone.

The SRCOG initiated community violence reduction plan will include intercommunity coordination and intra community support. SRCOG will function as the Community Quarterback, managing the overall administration of the program by creating a new team within their organization. Additionally, and the Community Quarterback, the SRCOG will function as the fiscal agent, overseeing the funding and all allocation. Mr. Richard Garland, a violence prevention and youth specialist with over 30 years of experience administering similar programs, will function as the Community Convener overseeing this effort. The Community Convener, hired as a consultant by the SRCOG, will be responsible for overseeing the implementation and execution of the 3-step Cure Violence approach (detecting and interrupting conflicts, identifying and treating the highest risk individuals, and changing social norms) in each of these communities. Additionally, the Community Convener will hold monthly meetings with the Outreach Worker Supervisor from each of the communities cited above. In the monthly meetings the Community Convener will gather information and data from each community on the work their Violence Interrupters are doing in these communities to stop the spread of the disease of violence and any violence occurrences or concerns. Additionally, the Community Convener will meet with the intercommunity safety committee established by community safety delegates from each community on a monthly basis to review current violence trends. In addition to the Community Convener, SRCOG will employ a Program Manager to oversee violence prevention efforts across all four eligible communities included in this proposal. To support the efforts of the Program Manager, SRCOG will employ a Community Coordinator, Data Manager and Administrative Assistant.

SRCOG, in coordination with Mr. Richard Garland as the Community Convener, the four eligible communities included in this proposal, as well as the community partners and CURE Violence Global will implement the CURE Violence Model to combat community violence in the eligible communities. Garland and SRCOG executive officer, An Lewis, will initiate the plan by connecting with CURE Violence Global and scheduling the initial assessment. Following the initial assessment conducted by CURE Violence staff, Garland and Lewis will begin advertising job opportunities and selecting what will become the community violence reduction plan team who will implement the 3-step CURE Violence approach in the four eligible communities as well as the new program SRCOG team that will administer the overall program. Following the hiring of personnel and the completion of required training, each community will be equipped with a trained Outreach Worker Supervisor and three Violence Interrupters. The SRCOG will incorporate the community violence reduction plan team into current available office space in the SRCOG building. Additionally, CURE Violence training will be conducted in the SRCOG conference rooms.

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Each community will employ the Outreach Worker Supervisor, three Violence Interrupters, and a Data Manager to execute the CURE Violence Model. Each of the four eligible communities has coordinated support from community partners to help facilitate the CURE Violence program (please see the attached letters of commitment). The Violence Interrupters will be responsible for tracking all relevant community interactions, interventions, and violence occurrences through the Nvivo program application uploaded on their provided phones. This information will be quantified by the University of Pittsburgh and maintained by the Data Manager.

Clairton has partnered with Youth Opportunities Development (who partnered with Reimagine Reentry, Inc., Clairton Education Center, and Kindred C.U.L.T.U.R.E), an afterschool organization that offers positive-social experiences for Clairton youth, to support community outreach operations and share data collected in support of this program. Additionally, Clairton partnered with Clairton City School District who committed to providing necessary access to targeted high-risk demographics as well as space required to meet with targeted populations and individuals and opportunities to expand the outreach and education of the CURE Violence Model. Clairton Cares, a program under the Mon Valley Initiative, Community violence and its impact on Clairton youth has been something Clairton Cares' youth workgroup has been working to address for several years. Initially the group formed to address the issue directly, but at present it has shifted to indirect work due to a variety of factors.

Duquesne has partnered with City of Duquesne Mayor's Office, City of Duquesne Police Department, City of Duquesne School District, City of Duquesne Boy and Girls Club, Divine Restoration Church of God in Christ, Fresh Word Ministries of Duquesne, and YouthWorks | Goodwill SWPA. City of Duquesne Mayor's Office, offers the community violence reduction plan public support and message dissemination, in addition to creating events and opportunities for further outreach and education to the community regarding the CURE Violence MODEL and 3-step CURE Violence approach. City of Duquesne Police Department offers additional outreach support and opportunities to access the community to provide important education on the resources available through the CURE Violence Model. In addition, the support of the Duquesne City Police Department will be key in tracking violent occurrences, and further ensuring the success of the community violence reduction plan's success. The City of Duquesne School District committed to providing an opportunity to reach youth and further education on the CURE Violence Model. Much like Clairton's partnership with Youth opportunities, Duquesne's partnership with City of Duquesne Boys and Girls Club offers the community violence reduction plan and opportunity to reach youth and provide an opportunity to educate on the resources available through the CURE Violence Model and inform both the targeted youth population and younger generation on the cultural shift in healthy emotional responses that are key in the 3-step CURE Violence approach. The Divine Restoration Church of God in Christ and the Fresh Word ministries partnership with Duquesne offers the community violence reduction plan public support and message dissemination within the respective organizations, in addition to a platform to provide further outreach and education to the community regarding the CURE Violence Model. Additionally, support of Duquesne's faith-based organizations allows for greater opportunities to connect with those in the targeted demographics. Finally, the partnership with YouthWorks | Goodwill SWPA, gives the community violence reduction plan connection to targeted demographics, a mentorship resource, and positive work experiences to the targeted youth population.

The City of McKeesport has partnered with the City of McKeesport Mayor's Office, Auberle, Healthy Village Learning Institute, NAACP, and LaRosa Youth Development Organization to provide relevant resources to include space to meet, access to target population, and opportunity to access target population. City of McKeesport Mayor's Office, offers the community violence reduction plan public

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support and message dissemination, in addition to creating events and opportunities for further outreach and education to the community regarding the CURE Violence Model and 3-step CURE Violence approach. Auberle, a social service agency, provides access and opportunity to reach targeted youth population for outreach and education on the resources provided by the CURE Violence as well as being a partner in the cultural change in healthy emotional responses to stress and anger that are key in the success of the CURE Violence Model. McKeesport has partnered with Healthy Village Learning Institute run by Keith Murphy to hold outreach and education events to engage the targeted youth population and provide a platform for information dissemination and further outreach by the community violence prevention plan CURE Violence team. NAACP offers the community violence reduction plan and CURE Violence legitimacy in the community, public support and message dissemination within the respective organization, in addition to a platform to provide further outreach and education to the community regarding the CURE Violence Model. Finally, the partnership with the LaRosa Youth Development Organization, a youth organization postured to provide youth with positive social, educational, and physical opportunities, gives the the community violence reduction plan a connection to targeted youth population, further education opportunities to expand outreach and information dissemination on the resources available through the CURE Violence Model as well as a platform to teach youth healthy emotional responses to stress and anger that are key in the success of the this model.

Homestead has partnered with the Borough Council, Steel Valley Youth Football Association (Reginal King), and the Homestead Police Department. The Borough Council offers the community violence reduction plan public support and message dissemination, in addition to creating events and opportunities for further outreach and education to the community regarding the CURE Violence Model and 3-step CURE Violence approach. The Steel Valley Youth Football Association committed to providing access and opportunity to reach targeted youth population for outreach and education on the resources provided by the CURE Violence as well as being a partner in the cultural change in healthy emotional responses to stress and anger that are key in the success of the CURE Violence Model. Finally, the Homestead Police Department offers additional outreach support and opportunities to access the community to provide important education on the resources available through the CURE Violence Model. Additionally, the Homestead City Police Department will be instrumental in tracking violent occurrences, and further supporting the success of the community violence reduction plan's success.

Finally, State Senator, James R. Brewster, and Austin Davis, State Representative of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, have committed public support of the community violence reduction efforts of all four eligible communities included in this proposal.

Gun Violence Prevention McKeesport: This preventative program is an existing strategy that is funded by a previously obtained GVRP grant. Funding for this preventative program is scheduled to end in June 2022.

The Cure Violence Model has been proven successful in similar communities burdened by poverty, unemployment, and violence. In New York City communities where CURE Violence was implemented, there was a 63% decrease in shootings based on an external evaluation. In our fellow Pennsylvanian city, Philadelphia, there was a decrease in shootings of 30% in communities where CURE Violence was implemented. The four eligible communities of the Mon Valley determined it in their best interest to use one cohesive strategy when battling a disease that does not conform to city limits or district lines.

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Considering the existing resources, strong community partnerships, and committed residents, the implementation of CURE Violence, and the programs holistic approach to stopping the spread of violence, best captured both the needs of the communities as well as the foundations created by past cooperative efforts.

As McKeesport is finishing a gun violence prevention and disruption effort from a previously obtained grant, many of the resources for a smooth CURE Violence program implementation are already in place and in practice. The previous violence prevention plan solidified the bond between the local government, the McKeesport police department, community organizations, and the city community. While McKeesport did have a community outreach specialist coordinating youth engagement to understand and prevent the culture of violence through positive life-learning experiences, McKeesport's GVRP's missing piece was helping individuals who are highly at risk for or already engaged in violent behaviors or circumstances. When CURE Violence was suggested, it was embraced by McKeesport's administration, police department, and community due to its proven success in addressing the culture of violence as a public health issue. Having CURE-trained interrupters in the field in McKeesport is yet another approach that will bring proven methods to the community. WMckeesport looks to CURE Violence expertise to reach teens and young adults who otherwise may not have been included in the city's past efforts to stop the spread of violence.

Under the direction of Councilwoman Mary Nesby, in conjunction with an eager community ready for change, Homestead mobilized resources and contacts to prepare to accept the CURE Violence Model and program implementation.

With efforts in Duquesne being led by former police Chief and current Mayor, Scott Adams, the city of Duquesne (safety officers, school facilitators, local business patterns, and faith leaders) has excitedly signed on to partner with the community violence reduction efforts and CURE Violence to combat the spread of violence in their community.

Clairton Mayor, Richard Lattanzi, in coordination with Mon Valley Initiative, secured community support from community organizations and the Clairton City School District to initiate the CURE Violence Model in a community that is eagerly working to see a renaissance of community prosperity and pride.

5. Describe the process you used to choose the Community Quarterback.

SRCOG was selected due to its history of intercommunity work and administrative, grant, and funds management. Additionally, SRCOG's commitment to the success of Mon Valley communities is unwavering. When considering who was best poised to take on the Community Quarterback role for the four eligible Mon Valley communities, SRCOG was a natural choice.

6. How will the Community Quarterback ensure that the CVRP is well implemented?

SRCOG will hire Mr. Richard Garland, a violence prevention and youth specialist with over 30 years of experience administering similar programs in and around the Pittsburgh region, to function as the Community Convener overseeing this effort. In addition to the Community Convener, SRCOG will employ a Program Manager to oversee violence prevention efforts across all four eligible communities included in this proposal. To support the efforts of the Program Manager, SRCOG will employ a Data Manager and Administrative Assistant.

RFP for Community Violence Reduction Plans from High-Priority Areas

7. Provide an implementation plan and timeline for your CVRP that describes how the community will organize and carry out its strategies over time. If your CVRP includes adopting one of the EBPs, please include time to work with the model developers and participate in their technical assistance and training.

As prescribed by CURE Violence Global, upon receiving the funding award, SRCOG will initiate a call with CURE Violence to begin the assessment process. The 2-3 day assessment will familiarize stakeholders and team members with the CURE Violence model for violence prevention in addition to addressing target areas, needed workers, and program structures. Following the initial assessment, SRCOG and all eligible communities, in collaboration with CURE Violence Global, will begin the multi-month implementation process (an anticipated 6-12 months). During this implementation process, additional staff will be hired, stakeholders and community partners will be mobilized, administrative practices will be determined and solidified, and all relevant training will be conducted. The anticipated time for implementation is 12 months.

Month	Implementation Steps
Month 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Initiate contact with CURE Violence ● Schedule initial assessment
Month 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conduct initial assessment ● Begin soliciting job opportunities ● Review applicants ● Maintain bi-weekly meetings with CURE Violence Global
Month 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Finalize job offerings ● Conduct job interviews ● Maintain bi-weekly meetings with CURE Violence Global
Month 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Schedule relevant CURE Violence training ● Fit operating space and acquire necessary tools ● Maintain bi-weekly meetings with CURE Violence Global
Month 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conduct CURE Violence training ● On-Board new hires ● Order P.R materials ● Begin conducting monthly meetings between communities and Community Convener ● Complete organizing operating space ● Maintain bi-weekly meetings with CURE Violence Global
Month 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Determine standard administrative, reporting, and operating practices ● Formalize all roles and responsibilities ● Complete any outstanding training and on-boarding ● Begin monitor current violence trends ● Team members are educated on community specific violence influencers ● Maintain bi-weekly meetings with CURE Violence Global ● Maintain monthly Community Convener Meetings
Month 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Convene Community Partners: update on implementation process ● Begin initial community education regarding CURE Violence Program ● Begin dispersing relevant public. materials ● Continue monitoring current violence trends ● Maintain bi-weekly meetings with CURE Violence Global ● Maintain monthly Community Convener meetings

RFP for Community Violence Reduction Plans from High-Priority Areas

Month 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Send emissaries into high risk locations to begin initial community contact and education on the CURE Violence Program ● Continue monitoring current violence trends ● Maintain bi-weekly meetings with CURE Violence Global ● Maintain monthly Community Convener Meetings
Month 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Convene Community Partners: update on implementation process ● Continue community education regarding CURE Violence Program ● Continue meeting with community members in high risk locations to discuss CURE Violence Program ● Continue monitoring current violence trends ● Maintain bi-weekly meetings with CURE Violence Global ● Maintain monthly Community Convener Meetings
Month 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Begin implementing CURE Violence Program in small targeted populations ● Test standards and practices in real world setting ● Continue community education regarding CURE Violence Program ● Continue meeting with community members in high risk locations to discuss CURE Violence Program ● Continue monitoring current violence trends ● Maintain bi-weekly meetings with CURE Violence Global ● Maintain monthly Community Convener Meetings
Month 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Adjust operating procedures, standards, or practices as necessary ● Convene Community Partners: prepare for full-scale program implementation ● Continue community education regarding CURE Violence Program ● Continue meeting with community members in high risk locations to discuss CURE Violence Program ● Continue monitoring current violence trends ● Maintain bi-weekly meetings with CURE Violence Global ● Maintain monthly Community Convener Meetings
Month 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fully implement and initiate CURE Violence program in the four eligible communities ● Continue community education regarding CURE Violence Program ● Continue meeting with community members in high risk locations to discuss CURE Violence Program ● Continue monitoring current violence trends ● Maintain bi-weekly meetings with CURE Violence Global ● Maintain monthly Community Convener Meetings

C. Community Quarterback’s Organizational Experience (40 points possible)

8. Why does the Community Quarterback want to serve in the role for the Eligible Community(ies)? Which parts of the CVRP will the Community Quarterback directly implement?

SRCOG is committed to the economic and overall community success of the Mon Valley. Since its founding in 1973, this intercommunity organization functions under the mission of making the Mon Valley the most collaborative and sustainable region in southwestern Pennsylvania. Through

RFP for Community Violence Reduction Plans from High-Priority Areas

administrative efforts, grant management, and project management, the SRCOG provides structured support for municipalities to collaborate on projects that will create regional benefits and save money and resources.

Using the skills acquired through nearly 50 years of community support, the SRCOG will directly implement the Program Management efforts of the community violence

9. Provide two examples of how the Community Quarterback has successfully served the target population/community.

Regional Training Complex: SRCOG manages a Regional Training Complex located in Elizabeth Township, available for police and fire departments, EMS, and municipal personnel to rent for training. The complex includes a classroom, firing range, tactical training building, and drivers' proficiency course. In 2021 the center was used for 180 days by 22 organizations. Clairton, Duquesne and McKeesport Police have all utilized the Regional Training Complex at least once in 2022.

Grant Administration : The SRCOG administers over \$1 million in government grants for its member municipalities and has done so since its inception. As the member municipalities of the SRCOG are small, they have limited staff capacity and cannot afford to hire individual grant writers. Therefore, these services are performed by the SRCOG. The SRCOG assists the municipalities in the application for these funds and acts as the fiscal agent for the construction contracts which result. This lessens the burden on the individual municipalities because (1) the SRCOG provides the grant writing expertise needed to obtain the grant funds and (2) the SRCOG holds the construction contracts and is therefore responsible for the fiscal management of the funds and completing all of the reporting requirements. Following are three sources of government grant funds available to the SRCOG member municipalities.

- *Community Development Block Grant Program* is a federally funded US Housing and Urban Development grant program specifically aimed at benefiting low to moderate income communities. Every year SRCOG manages CDBG funds for Through this program, the SRCOG competes for grant funds to support demolition, street reconstruction, recreation, sewer and water, and various infrastructure rehabilitation projects that directly benefit low to moderate income people within its member municipalities. The total amount of grant funds managed by the SRCOG varies from year to year but ranges from \$750,000 - \$1.5 million.
- *Gaming Economic Development Tourism Fund* (Formerly CITF and GEDF) provides financial assistance to municipal and nonprofit entities to facilitate economic development through: infrastructure assistance, stabilize or correct existing infrastructure problems, or plan and prepare sites and buildings for future use. These funds flow from the State of Pennsylvania to the municipalities through Allegheny County. The SRCOG prepares applications and administers grant funds and projects for its member municipalities as requested. Like with the Community Development Block Grant Program funds, the SRCOG acts as the grant-writer, fiscal agent and contractor for successfully awarded projects. The amount of funds managed through this program varies from but has ranged from \$325,000- to \$650,000 over the last four years.

Total Grant Funds Administered for Each High Impact Community 2016-2021

RFP for Community Violence Reduction Plans from High-Priority Areas

	CDBG	GEDTF/GEDF/CITF
Clairton	\$407,711.09	-
Duquesne	\$895,754.00	\$ 400,000.00
Homestead	\$410,584.00	\$ 100,000.00

*The City of Mckeesport Manages its own grants

Shared Equipment Services: SRCOG’s Street Sweeping Program was used by 12 communities for a total of 133 days in 2021. It reduces stormwater pollution by removing silt, trash, and chemicals from streets and alleys before they enter the storm drainage system. This program also improves the attractiveness of member communities by removing litter and debris from roads, streets, alleys, and highways. SRCOG owns and manages commercial truck scales and a public safety vehicle. Member police departments share this equipment to weigh commercial vehicles and enforce traffic safety regulations on our local roadways. This preserves both community safety standards and the roadways themselves.

10. Provide two examples of how the Community Quarterback has successfully convened stakeholders, built partnerships and coordinated large-scale initiatives.

The Waterfront Development Maintenance Fund: On behalf of Homestead, Munhall and West Homestead, SRCOG manages a fund and administers projects to maintain the multi-municipal business district that spans The Waterfront Development. This program, initially funded through a Tax Increment Financing Program, was developed to support the construction and maintenance of The Waterfront. In 2018, that program ended, and the three municipalities worked together to develop a strategy and to finance a shared \$750,000 annual maintenance fund.

Tri-COG Land Bank (TCLB): Blight and property abandonment are expensive and pervasive problems that, without effective intervention, deteriorate the economic and social fabrics of communities. SRCOG and Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments (TCVCOG) began studying the effects of blight over 10 years ago and have been a part of a national community of colleagues aimed to cultivate creative strategies and solutions to address it. In coordination with TCVCOG, SRCOG produced a number of reports related to those efforts. According to the SRCOG published Financial Impact of Blight (2013) report, the cost of blight in just the Mon Valley and Eastern suburban footprint of Allegheny County in 2012 was over \$250 million.

Using this research, SRCOG and TCVCOG built the political support to create TCLB in 2017. Since its founding, TCLB has become the first land bank to successfully transfer abandoned property to new ownership in Allegheny County. Reaching this milestone required many years of planning and convening local partners to develop a system to sustainably acquire, maintain, and transfer abandoned properties through a process that supports and amplifies other neighborhood initiatives and goals.

Land banks are a powerful tool to help recover abandoned structures and land with clear, insurable title. The TCLB revitalizes neighborhoods by transitioning blighted properties to beneficial reuse. In 2021, TCLB acquired 24 properties and sold 18.

RFP for Community Violence Reduction Plans from High-Priority Areas

11. Describe the Community Quarterback's organizational structure and how the CVRP responsibilities will fall and be managed within it. Please include:
- a. The staff positions needed to implement the CVRP and if you will need to hire and/or reassign staff.
 - i. If the Community Quarterback will hire staff, include the education and/or experience you will require and the traits you will emphasize in hiring decisions.
 - ii. If the Community Quarterback has already identified individuals to staff the CVRP, include their names and a short description of their qualifications.
 - b. Examples of specific strategies the Community Quarterback uses to retain staff.
 - c. How the Community Quarterback uses IT to track and report service delivery data and outcomes.

The following positions will serve to support all CURE Violence program responsibilities. Each position listed will be a newly hired staff member that falls within a separate organization structure under the Community Quarterback and fiscal agent, SRCOG.

Community Convener: The Community Convener will be a subject matter expert with experience implementing similar programs. This position will be hired as a consultant by SRCOG to aid in the implementation and execution of the community violence reduction plan outlined in this proposal. The Community Convener will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Cure Violence Model in each of these communities. Additionally, the Community Convener will hold monthly meetings with the lead outreach workers from the communities cited above and a monthly meeting with the intercommunity safety committee.

Program Manager: The Program Manager will manage and help organize the prevention efforts within the four eligible communities. The individual hired for this position will hold a social work or community violence background.

Community Coordinator: The Community Coordinator will manage outreach for all four eligible communities. They will track the community engagement and efforts conducted by the Outreach Worker Supervisor and monitor occurrences of violence and CURE Violence interventions that are occurring in each of the four eligible communities. Additionally, the Community Coordinator will work with community leadership and community organizations to create opportunities to educate and disseminate program information to the larger community populations.

Data Manager: The Data Manager will work with the data collected by Violence Interrupters using the Nvivo application provided on each Violence Interrupter's phone. Additionally, the Data Manager will work with the University of Pittsburgh to quantify the data collected by the community violence reduction plan CURE Violence team. The Data Manager will compile all relevant data and statistics to monitor the efficiency, productivity, and outcomes of the program.

Administrative Assistant: The Administrative Assistant will handle all administrative duties in support of the program and communities to include scheduling, documentation, filing, and engaging in internal communication efforts.

Outreach Worker Supervisor: The Outreach Worker Supervisor will oversee community outreach operations for each community. As described by CURE Violence Global, they will meet with government officials, community leaders, faith leaders, local businesses, high risk populations and the larger community to stop the spread of violence. They will respond to every shooting, organize the community, and propagate nonviolent social norms.

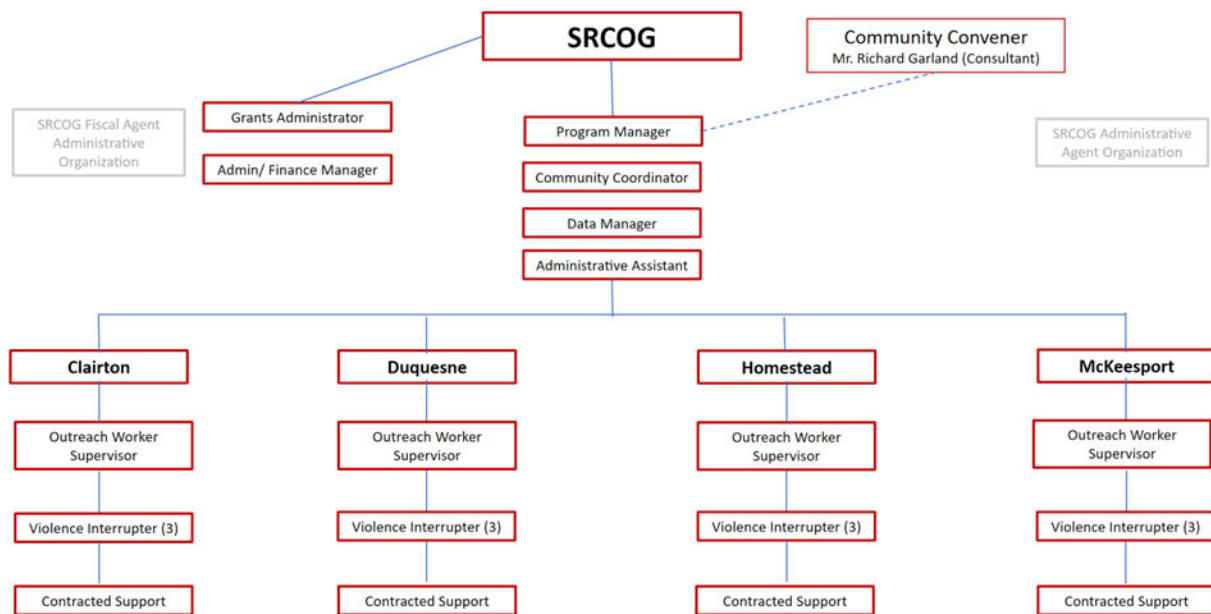
RFP for Community Violence Reduction Plans from High-Priority Areas

Violence Interrupters: The Violence Interrupters will have relevant and/or first hand knowledge of community violence.

As detailed by CURE Violence, SRCOG will look to employ (within each community) individuals with direct links to the community as well as past experience with the community violence. Educational background and experience will vary depending on position and recommendations made by CURE Violence staff and the program Community Convener, Mr. Richard Garland.

SRCOG will hire Mr. Richard Garland, a violence prevention and targeted youth population specialist with over 30 years of experience administering similar programs, to function as the Community Convener overseeing this effort. Garland specializes in approaching violence as a disease and working with high risk communities and organizations in restorative and transformative practices. In addition to his on-the-ground community efforts, Garland serves as Assistant Professor and Director of Violence Prevention Project at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health, Behavioral and Community Health.

All other personnel set to fill the above roles have yet to be determined.



The community violence reduction plan CURE Violence team will implement the use of Nvivo qualitative data collection application to track program information and SPSS quantitative analytics software. Each Violence Interrupter will have the Nvivo application uploaded on their provided phone. Each relevant community interaction or occurrence will be annotated in this program. The information collected using Nvivo will be sent to the University of Pittsburgh for quantification analysis. Upon completion of the quantification analysis, the Data Manager will compile and maintain the data collected to monitor efficiency, productivity, and outcomes of the program.

12. Describe and provide examples of how the Community Quarterback is committed to providing high-quality services to all individuals and families so that everyone with feels welcomed, well-served and supported regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender

RFP for Community Violence Reduction Plans from High-Priority Areas

identity and expression (SOGIE), intellectual or physical ability, English language proficiency or life experiences.

In accordance with SRCOG’s Rules and Regulations policy:

“There shall be no discrimination against employees or applicants for employment because of race, color, religion, gender, age, ancestry, national origin, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, handicap or disability, political affiliation, genetic information or any other status protected by law.”

D. Budget and Participant Estimates (10 points possible)

13. Complete the following chart for all violence reduction strategies that you are asking DHS to fund. (Add rows as necessary. **Please do not** provide a budget, just the number of participants by strategy, by year.)

The below numbers were determined by the city population and the stage of implementation. Using the CURE Violence Model the community violence reduction plan intends to touch 25% of each community during the implementation year through education and community outreach and 50% of each community in the second year through education, community outreach, community events, and direct violence intervention.

Strategy Name	Estimated number of participants served	
	Year 1	Year 2
CURE Violence: Clairton	1,654	3,309
CURE Violence: Duquesne	1,385	2,771
CURE Violence: Homestead	792	1,585
CURE Violence: McKeesport	4,806	9,612

14. Provide a line-item budget for the Community Quarterback’s coordination work for years one and two. Include a narrative to explain the line-item budget.
- a. **Please do not** include any program costs. For example, if the Community Quarterback will be implementing BAM, do not include those costs. Just include expenses and revenues related to the Community Quarterback’s coordination.
 - b. **Please do** include additional revenues you can bring to the CVRP. List the sources and amounts of money local government, community-based organizations, foundations or other entities will contribute during the first two years.

The proposed budget incorporates SRCOG (the Community Quarterback and fiscal agent) , and the four eligible communities: Clairton, Homestead, Duquesne and McKeesport. Included in the below budget are the salaries and benefits for 29 new positions created to support the implementation and execution

RFP for Community Violence Reduction Plans from High-Priority Areas

of the CURE Violence Model, administrative costs needed to conduct the program, the physical space needed to conduct the program, and supplies required to facilitate the program. The Executive Officer efforts are calculated anticipating four hours a week working in support of the community violence reduction plan. The Government Grants Manager efforts are calculated by anticipating six hours a week working in support of the community violence reduction plan. The Financial Manager efforts are calculated by anticipating six hours a week working in support of the community violence reduction plan. Utilities noted in this budget were determined by comparing the utility budget for CD 47 to the rent budget using similar proportions.

Program Budget	Estimated Budget Per Year	
	Year 1 (Implementation)	Year 2
SRCOG Program Costs		
Executive Officer Efforts (20% time)	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Government Grants Manager (25% time)	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Administrative/ Financial Manager (25% time)	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Office Space/ Utilities	\$17,500.00	\$17,500.000
Phones/Laptops + Set Up	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
Community Convener	\$65,000.00	\$65,000.00
Program Manager	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00
Community Coordinator	\$65,000.00	\$65,000.00
Data Manager	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00
Administrative Assistant	\$55,000.00	\$55,000.00
SPSS Quantitative Analytic Software	\$1,200	\$1,200
Nvivo Qualitative Analytic Software	\$400	\$400
Program Subtotal	\$416,600.00	\$416,600.00
Community Specific Costs		
Outreach Worker Supervisor	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
Violence Interrupter \$35,000 per interrupter (3)	\$105,000.00	\$105,000.00
Phones/ Laptops	\$15,000.00	----
Internet/ Phone service	\$2,500	\$2,500
Local Transportation Costs	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Materials (ex. T-Shirt, Fliers, Office Supplies)	\$22,500.00	\$22,500.00
Meeting/ Events Expenses	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Program Subtotal (Per Community)	\$219,000.000	\$204,000.00
Program Subtotal	\$876,000.00	\$816,000.000

RFP for Community Violence Reduction Plans from High-Priority Areas

Program Total	\$1,292,600.00	\$1,232,600.00
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Wednesday, May 4, 2022

Steel Rivers Council of Governments
1705 Maple Street
Homestead, PA 15120

ATTN: An Lewis, Executive Director

Grace Schierberl, Government Grants and Project Manager

RE: Community Partner Letter of Intent to support the CURE Violence Program

Dear Ms. Lewis and Ms. Schierberl,

It is my understanding that the Steel Rivers Council of Governments is assisting the communities of McKeesport, Clairton, Duquesne, and Homestead in securing funds to implement the CURE Violence program.

As an organization that provides afterschool programs for youth in McKeesport, YouthPlaces is pleased to formally express our interest in partnering with CURE Violence to implement its evidence-based CURE Violence violence disruption and healing program for individuals.

We acknowledge that CURE Violence and the efforts related to the program will employ and train CURE Violence staff, as well as deliver programming in selected sites and communities, working in partnership and coordination with each site and community so that CURE Violence is integrated into the existing structure. YouthPlaces agrees to support implementation of CURE Violence with high quality and fidelity through providing necessary resources (such as space, access, and opportunity) to support CURE Violence efforts.

Based on the criteria above, the site(s) and community(ies) where we seek to implement CURE Violence include the McKeesport.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Uwe Calloway'.

Uwe Calloway
Chief Operations Officer
YouthPlaces



Healthy Village Learning Institute

"BUILDING TOWARDS EXCELLENCE"

April 30, 2022

Steel Rivers Council of Governments
1705 Maple Street
Homestead, PA 15120

ATTN: An Lewis, Executive Director
Grace Schierberl, Government Grants and Project Manager

RE: Community Partner Letter of Intent to support the CURE Violence Program

Dear Ms. Lewis and Ms. Schierberl,


It is my understanding that the Steel Rivers Council of Governments is assisting the communities of McKeesport, Clairton, Duquesne, and Homestead in securing funds to implement the CURE Violence program.

As an organization that provides violence and gun prevention/intervention services, academic assistance through our S.T.R.E.A.M. (Science-Technology-Research-Engineering-Arts-Math) in McKeesport, the Healthy Village Learning Institute (HVLI) is pleased to formally express our interest in partnering with CURE Violence to implement its evidence-based CURE Violence disruption and healing program for individuals and families.

We acknowledge that CURE Violence and the efforts related to the program will employ and train CURE Violence staff, as well as deliver programming in selected sites and communities, working in partnership and coordination with each site and community so that CURE Violence is integrated into the existing structure. The Healthy Village Learning Institute agrees to support the implementation of CURE Violence with high quality and fidelity through providing necessary resources such as space at the HVLI and opportunities to support CURE Violence efforts.

Based on the criteria above, the site(s) and community(ies) where we seek to implement CURE Violence include the HVLI in McKeesport, Duquesne, Clairton, and Homestead.

Peace and Blessings,


Keith Murphy
President-CEO
Healthy Village Learning Institute



1101 Hartman Street
McKeesport, PA 15132-1500
www.auberle.org

May 2, 2022

Steel Rivers Council of Governments
1705 Maple Street
Homestead, PA 15120

ATTN: An Lewis, Executive Director
Grace Schierberl, Government Grants and Project Manager

RE: Community Partner Letter of Intent to support the CURE Violence Program

Dear Ms. Lewis and Ms. Schierberl,

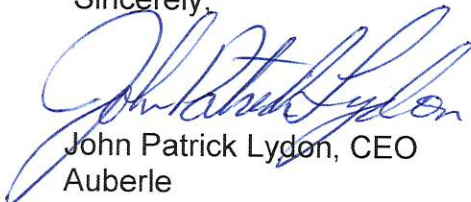
It is my understanding that the Steel Rivers Council of Governments is assisting the communities of McKeesport, Clairton, Duquesne, and Homestead in securing funds to implement the CURE Violence program.

As an organization that provides a variety of services in McKeesport, Clairton, Duquesne and Homestead. Auberle is pleased to formally express our interest in partnering with CURE Violence to implement its evidence-based CURE Violence violence disruption and healing program for individuals.

We acknowledge that CURE Violence and the efforts related to the program will employ and train CURE Violence staff, as well as deliver programming in selected sites and communities, working in partnership and coordination with each site and community so that CURE Violence is integrated into the existing structure. Auberle agrees to support implementation of CURE Violence with high quality and fidelity through providing necessary resources (such as space, access, and opportunity) to support CURE Violence efforts.

Based on the criteria above, the sites and communities where we could help implement CURE Violence include the Auberle Main Campus, Family Emergency Shelters in McKeesport and Duquesne, and Ward Home Supervised Independent Living as well as drawing many clients from all four communities.

Sincerely,



John Patrick Lydon, CEO
Auberle

Alliance for Children and Families
National Agency of the Year



Recipient, Wishart Award for Excellence
in Nonprofit Management

45TH DISTRICT
JIM BREWSTER

SENATE BOX 203045
THE STATE CAPITOL
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3045
717-787-5580
FAX: 717-772-3588

ONE MONROEVILLE CENTER
3824 NORTHERN PIKE, SUITE 1015
MONROEVILLE, PA 15146
412-380-2242
FAX: 412-380-2249

201 LYSLE BOULEVARD, SUITE 100
MCKEESPORT, PA 15132
412-664-5200
FAX: 412-664-5202

NEW KENSINGTON CITY HALL
301 11TH STREET, SUITE L
NEW KENSINGTON, PA 15068
724-334-1143
FAX: 724-334-1152

WEB: www.SenatorBrewster.com
FACEBOOK: @SenatorBrewster
TWITTER: @SenatorBrewster
INSTAGRAM: @SenatorBrewster



Senate of Pennsylvania

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CO-CHAIR
AFTERSCHOOL CAUCUS
ARTS & CULTURE CAUCUS
AT-RISK CHILDREN & YOUTH
AVIATION CAUCUS
COAL CAUCUS
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GOVERNMENT REFORM CAUCUS
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WOMEN'S HEALTH CAUCUS

May 3, 2022

An Lewis, Executive Director
Steel Rivers Council of Governments
1705 Maple Street
Homestead, PA 15120

Grace Schierberl, Government Grants and Project Manager
Steel Rivers Council of Governments
1705 Maple Street
Homestead, PA 15120

RE: Community Partner Letter of Intent to support the CURE Violence Program

Dear Ms. Lewis and Ms. Schierberl:

I am writing in support of the Steel Rivers Council of Governments and their effort to assist McKeesport, Clairton, Duquesne, and Homestead with securing funds to implement the CURE Violence program.

It is my understanding that these four communities acknowledge that CURE Violence and the efforts related to the program will employ and train CURE Violence staff, as well as deliver programming in selected sites and communities, working in partnership and coordination with each site and community so that CURE Violence is integrated into the existing structure. I have been assured that these communities agree to support implementation of CURE Violence with high quality and fidelity by providing necessary resources (such as space, access, and opportunity) to support CURE Violence efforts.

I am happy to support this effort as these four Mon Valley communities work together to combat violence in the region. If you need any additional information, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Brewster".

Jim Brewster
State Senator



Mayor Michael E. Cherepko

500 Fifth Avenue, Ste. 201
McKeesport, PA 15132
412-675-5020

Friday, April 29, 2022

Steel Rivers Council of Governments
1705 Maple Street
Homestead, PA 15120
ATTN: An Lewis, Executive Director
Grace Schierberl, Government Grants and Project Manager

RE: Community Partner Letter of Intent to support the CURE Violence Program

Dear Ms. Lewis and Ms. Schierberl,

First and foremost, as Mayor of the City of McKeesport, I would like to thank the Steel Rivers Council of Governments for assisting not only the McKeesport, but our neighbors in Clairton, Duquesne, and Homestead as we collaborate in hope of securing funds to implement the CURE Violence program.

As my administration, the McKeesport Police Department, and many partner agencies throughout the McKeesport community work together to provide children and teens in McKeesport with positive life-learning experiences, we understand the value and importance of this collaboration. The City of McKeesport is pleased to formally express interest in partnering with CURE Violence to implement its evidence-based CURE Violence violence disruption and healing program for individuals.

We acknowledge that CURE Violence and the efforts related to the program will employ and train CURE Violence staff, as well as deliver programming in selected sites and communities, working in partnership and coordination with each site and community so that CURE Violence is integrated into the existing structure. The City of McKeesport agrees to support implementation of CURE Violence with high quality and fidelity through providing necessary resources (such as space, access, and opportunity) to support CURE Violence efforts.

Based on the criteria above, the site(s) and community(ies) where we seek to implement CURE Violence include the parks and other city-owned facilities within the City of McKeesport. This also serves as a commitment for the City of McKeesport staff to work alongside CURE Violence-authorized coordinators and staff.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Cherepko, Mayor

AUSTIN DAVIS, MEMBER
35TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

216 IRVIS OFFICE BUILDING
P.O. BOX 202035
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2035
(717) 783-1018
FAX: (717) 780-4779

627 LYSLE BOULEVARD
MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA 15132
(412) 664-0035
FAX: (412) 664-0039

3905 MAIN STREET
MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA 15120
(412) 476-3046
FAX: (412) 476-3048



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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DELEGATION, *CHAIRMAN*

CAUCUSES

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION
PA LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM
MANUFACTURING
AFTER SCHOOL
BLUEGREEN
CLIMATE
HUNGER
STEEL
YMCA
SAFE

May 2, 2022

Ms. Erin Dalton
Director
Allegheny County Department of Human Services
One Smithfield St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

RE: Violence Intervention Program for McKeesport, Clairton, Duquesne, and Homestead

Dear Ms. Dalton:

Please accept this letter as my ardent support of the grant application submitted in partnership by the cities of McKeesport, Clairton, Duquesne and borough of Homestead to the Allegheny County Department of Human Services for a violence intervention program. These four Mon Valley communities are attempting to work in collaboration with each other to change the existing culture of violence that is impacting our region, state, and nation.

If selected for this proposal, these communities intend to implement a violence intervention program that follows the CURE Violence Model. Cure Violence is an evidence-based practice that approaches community violence as a health issue. This approach views violence as a contagious behavior transmitted through exposure, which can be prevented and changed. Cure Violence's theory of change utilizes carefully selected and trained workers/trusted members of the community to stop the violence contagion.

I am confident that McKeesport, Clairton, Duquesne, and Homestead will be able to significantly reduce gun violence in their communities if their proposal is selected by Allegheny County DHS. These Mon Valley communities have several community partners that would successfully be able to utilize the Cure Violence Model to change the trajectory of violence and make our region a safe place.

Thank you in advance for your favorable consideration of this request. If you have any additional questions regarding my support, please do not hesitate to contact me at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Austin Davis".

Austin Davis
State Representative
35th Legislative District



Thursday, April 28, 2022

Steel Rivers Council of Governments
1705 Maple Street
Homestead, PA 15120
ATTN: An Lewis, Executive Director
Grace Schierberl, Government Grants and Project Manager

RE: Community Partner Letter of Intent to support the CURE Violence Program

Dear Ms. Lewis and Ms. Schierberl,

It is my understanding that the Steel Rivers Council of Governments is assisting the communities of McKeesport, Clairton, Duquesne, and Homestead in securing funds to implement the CURE Violence program.

As an organization that supports out-of-school-time programming for children and teens in McKeesport, the LaRosa Youth Development Foundation is pleased to formally express our interest in partnering with CURE Violence to implement its evidence-based CURE Violence violence disruption and healing program for individuals.

We acknowledge that CURE Violence and the efforts related to the program will employ and train CURE Violence staff, as well as deliver programming in selected sites and communities, working in partnership and coordination with each site and community so that CURE Violence is integrated into the existing structure. The LaRosa Youth Development Foundation agrees to support implementation of CURE Violence with high quality and fidelity through providing necessary resources (such as space, access, and opportunity) to support CURE Violence efforts.

Based on the criteria above, the site(s) and community(ies) where we seek to implement CURE Violence include the LaRosa Youth Club, 901 Ravine Street, McKeesport.

Sincerely,

James T. Barry, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer
The LaRosa Youth Development Foundation

ADAM ALFER
CHIEF OF POLICE

MARK STEELE
ASSISTANT CHIEF



POLICE DEPARTMENT
PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING

CITY OF MCKEESPORT • PENNSYLVANIA

Wednesday, May 4, 2022

Steel Rivers Council of Governments
1705 Maple Street
Homestead, PA 15120

ATTN: An Lewis, Executive Director
Grace Schierberl, Government Grants and Project Manager

RE: Community Partner Letter of Intent to support the CURE Violence Program

Dear Ms. Lewis and Ms. Schierberl,

The McKeesport Police Department is pleased to formally express interest in partnering with CURE Violence to implement its evidence-based CURE Violence violence disruption and healing program for individuals.

We acknowledge that CURE Violence and the efforts related to the program will employ and train CURE Violence staff, as well as deliver programming in selected sites and communities, working in partnership and coordination with each site and community so that CURE Violence is integrated into the existing structure. The City of McKeesport agrees to support implementation of CURE Violence with high quality and fidelity through providing necessary resources (such as space, access, and opportunity) to support CURE Violence efforts.

Based on the criteria above, the site(s) and community(ies) where we seek to implement CURE Violence include the City of McKeesport, as the Steel Rivers Council of Governments works toward bringing this initiative to the cities of McKeesport, Clairton, and Duquesne, and the borough of Homestead.

We wish to collaborate in implementing the CURE Violence program, and our officers will provide any required support and community-based policing that the program would require.

Sincerely,

Adam Alfer, Chief of Police
McKeesport Police Department




April 29, 2022

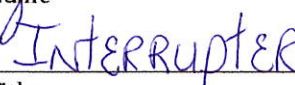
RE: Homestead Community Partners Letter of Intent to support the CURE Violence Program

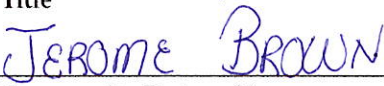
Homestead Community Partners is pleased to formally express our interest in partnering with CURE Violence to implement its evidence based CURE Violence violence disruption and healing program for individuals.

We acknowledge that CURE Violence and the efforts related to the program will employ and train CURE Violence staff, as well as deliver programming in selected sites and communities, working in partnership and coordination with each site and community so that CURE Violence is integrated into the existing structure. Jerome Brown agrees to support implementation of CURE Violence with high quality and fidelity through providing necessary resources (such as space, access, and opportunity) to support CURE Violence efforts.

Based on the criteria above, the site(s) and community where we seek to implement CURE Violence include: Homestead Borough

Sincerely,


Name


Title


Community Partner Name

April 29, 2022

RE: Homestead Community Partners Letter of Intent to support the CURE Violence Program

Homestead Community Partners is pleased to formally express our interest in partnering with CURE Violence to implement its evidence based CURE Violence violence disruption and healing program for individuals.

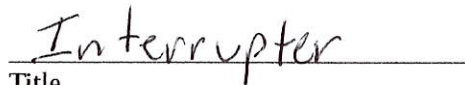
We acknowledge that CURE Violence and the efforts related to the program will employ and train CURE Violence staff, as well as deliver programming in selected sites and communities, working in partnership and coordination with each site and community so that CURE Violence is integrated into the existing structure. Neil Chandler agrees to support implementation of CURE Violence with high quality and fidelity through providing necessary resources (such as space, access, and opportunity) to support CURE Violence efforts.

Based on the criteria above, the site(s) and community where we seek to implement CURE Violence include: Homestead Borough

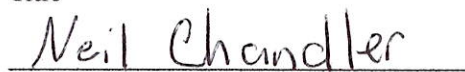
Sincerely,



Name



Title



Community Partner Name

April 29, 2022

RE: Homestead Community Partners Letter of Intent to support the CURE Violence Program

Homestead Community Partners is pleased to formally express our interest in partnering with CURE Violence to implement its evidence based CURE Violence violence disruption and healing program for individuals.

We acknowledge that CURE Violence and the efforts related to the program will employ and train CURE Violence staff, as well as deliver programming in selected sites and communities, working in partnership and coordination with each site and community so that CURE Violence is integrated into the existing structure. Reginald Kenney agrees to support implementation of CURE Violence with high quality and fidelity through providing necessary resources (such as space, access, and opportunity) to support CURE Violence efforts.

Based on the criteria above, the site(s) and community where we seek to implement CURE Violence include: Homestead Borough

Sincerely,

Reginald E. Kenney III

Name

Interrupter

Title

Reginald E. Kenney III

Community Partner Name

April 29, 2022

RE: Homestead Community Partners Letter of Intent to support the CURE Violence Program

Homestead Community Partners is pleased to formally express our interest in partnering with CURE Violence to implement its evidence based CURE Violence violence disruption and healing program for individuals.

We acknowledge that CURE Violence and the efforts related to the program will employ and train CURE Violence staff, as well as deliver programming in selected sites and communities, working in partnership and coordination with each site and community so that CURE Violence is integrated into the existing structure. Mary E. Nesby agrees to support implementation of CURE Violence with high quality and fidelity through providing necessary resources (such as space, access, and opportunity) to support CURE Violence efforts.

Based on the criteria above, the site(s) and community where we seek to implement CURE Violence include: Homestead Borough

Sincerely,


Name

Coordinator
Title

Mary E. NESBY
Community Partner Name



BOROUGH OF HOMESTEAD

ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Donald Dais, President
Lloyd Cunningham, Vice President
Drew Borcik Min. Connie Burwell
Jou-Al Burwell Mary Nesby
Duane Schulte John M. Burwell, Mayor

221 East 7th Avenue
Homestead, Pennsylvania 15120
Telephone: (412) 461-1340
Fax: (412) 461-4057
Email: info@Homesteadborough.com
Website: www.HomesteadBorough.com

May 2, 2022

To whom it may concern:

This letter is in support to bringing the Cure Violence model to Homestead. As we see violent crimes and deaths increasing, we would like to find a way to stem this issue before it becomes a crime wave. The Cure Violence model has widely been proven to be a success as it treats violence like a disease and helps stem the spread of violence to build stronger, healthier communities.

The Homestead Mayor, John M. Burwell, has committed an officer to this initiative. As the Borough Manager, I am giving my support to establish this program in Homestead along with Councilwoman Mary Nesby and her team, who currently do this work. We are committed to increasing the quality of life for our residents and believe Cure Violence Homestead would be an excellent opportunity.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With regards,

Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson
Borough Manager

manager@homesteadborough.com

April 29, 2022

RE: Duquesne Community Partners Letter of Intent to support the CURE Violence Program

City of Duquesne Police Department is pleased to formally express our interest in partnering with CURE Violence to implement its evidence based CURE Violence violence disruption and healing program for individuals.

We acknowledge that CURE Violence and the efforts related to the program will employ and train CURE Violence staff, as well as deliver programming in selected sites and communities, working in partnership and coordination with each site and community so that CURE Violence is integrated into the existing structure. The City of Duquesne Police Department agrees to support implementation of CURE VIolence with high quality and fidelity through providing necessary resources (such as space, access, and opportunity) to support CURE Violence efforts.

Based on the criteria above, the site(s) and community where we seek to implement CURE Violence include: City of Duquesne Police Department, Staff and Facilities.

Sincerely,

W. Thomas Shaw 
Name

Acting Chief of Police
Title

City of Duquesne Police Department _____
Community Partner Name

April 29, 2022

RE: Duquesne Community Partners Letter of Intent to support the CURE Violence Program

City of Duquesne School District is pleased to formally express our interest in partnering with CURE Violence to implement its evidence based CURE Violence violence disruption and healing program for individuals.

We acknowledge that CURE Violence and the efforts related to the program will employ and train CURE Violence staff, as well as deliver programming in selected sites and communities, working in partnership and coordination with each site and community so that CURE Violence is integrated into the existing structure. The City of Duquesne School District agrees to support implementation of CURE VIolence with high quality and fidelity through providing necessary resources (such as space, access, and opportunity) to support CURE Violence efforts.

Based on the criteria above, the site(s) and community where we seek to implement CURE Violence include: City of Duquesne School District, Staff and Facilities.

Sincerely,

Sue Mariani
Name



Superintendent
Title

City of Duquesne School District
Community Partner Name



April 29, 2022

RE: Duquesne Community Partners Letter of Intent to support the CURE Violence Program

City of Duquesne Boy & Girls Club is pleased to formally express our interest in partnering with CURE Violence to implement its evidence based CURE Violence violence disruption and healing program for individuals.

We acknowledge that CURE Violence and the efforts related to the program will employ and train CURE Violence staff, as well as deliver programming in selected sites and communities, working in partnership and coordination with each site and community so that CURE Violence is integrated into the existing structure. The City of Duquesne Boys & Girls Club agrees to support implementation of CURE Violence with high quality and fidelity through providing necessary resources (such as space, access, and opportunity) to support CURE Violence efforts.

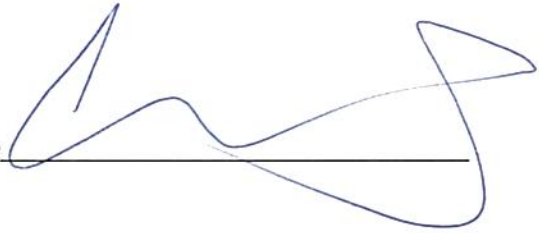
Based on the criteria above, the site(s) and community where we seek to implement CURE Violence include: The City of Duquesne Boys & Girls Club Staff and Facilities.

Sincerely,

Cameron Saddler _____
Name

Director
Title

City of Duquesne Boys & Girls Club _____
Community Partner Name

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cameron Saddler', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and fluid.

April 29, 2022

RE: Duquesne Community Partners Letter of Intent to support the CURE Violence Program

Divine Restoration Church of God in Christ is pleased to formally express our interest in partnering with CURE Violence to implement its evidence based CURE Violence violence disruption and healing program for individuals.

We acknowledge that CURE Violence and the efforts related to the program will employ and train CURE Violence staff, as well as deliver programming in selected sites and communities, working in partnership and coordination with each site and community so that CURE Violence is integrated into the existing structure. Divine Restoration Church of God In Christ agrees to support implementation of CURE Violence with high quality and fidelity through providing necessary resources (such as space, access, and opportunity) to support CURE Violence efforts.

Based on the criteria above, the site(s) and community where we seek to implement CURE Violence include: Divine Restoration Church of God In Christ, Staff and Facilities.

Sincerely,

Eric Ewell
Name



Pastor
Title

Divine Restoration Church of God In Christ
Community Partner Name

April 29, 2022

RE: Duquesne Community Partners Letter of Intent to support the CURE Violence Program

Fresh Word Ministries of Duquesne is pleased to formally express our interest in partnering with CURE Violence to implement its evidence based CURE Violence violence disruption and healing program for individuals.

We acknowledge that CURE Violence and the efforts related to the program will employ and train CURE Violence staff, as well as deliver programming in selected sites and communities, working in partnership and coordination with each site and community so that CURE Violence is integrated into the existing structure. Fresh Word Ministries of Duquesne agrees to support implementation of CURE VIolence with high quality and fidelity through providing necessary resources (such as space, access, and opportunity) to support CURE Violence efforts.

Based on the criteria above, the site(s) and community where we seek to implement CURE Violence include: Fresh Word Ministries of Duquesne, its Staff and Facilities.

Sincerely,

Trennon Neal
Name

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Trennon Neal', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and extends above the line.

Pastor
Title

Fresh Word Ministries of Duquesne
Community Partner Name



Workforce Development Center
Robert S. Foltz Building
118 52nd Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15201
Phone: 412-481-9005
Fax: 412-632-1998
TTY: 412-632-1977
www.goodwillswpa.org

April 29, 2022

RE: Duquesne Community Partners Letter of Intent to support the CURE Violence Program

To Whom it may concern:

The YouthWorks, a program of Goodwill SWPA in working with the City of Duquesne is pleased to express our interest in partnering with CURE Violence to implement its evidence-based CURE violence disruption and healing program for individuals.

We acknowledge that CURE Violence and the efforts related to the program will employ and train CURE Violence staff, as well as deliver programming in selected sites and communities. Working in partnership and coordination with the City of Duquesne, CURE Violence in integrated into the existing structure. YouthWorks agrees to work with the City of Duquesne to support implementation of CURE Violence with high quality and fidelity through providing necessary resources to support CURE Violence efforts.

Based on the criteria above the City of Duquesne would seek to implement CURE Violence includes: The City of Duquesne Summer Learn & Earn Site supervisors and YouthWorks, a program of Goodwill staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tiffanee C. Heywood".

Tiffanee C. Heywood, Director of YouthWorks
YouthWorks, A Program of Goodwill of Southwestern PA
Goodwill
118 52nd Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15201

AFFILIATES

Goodwill of Fayette County
Goodwill of North Central West Virginia
Goodwill Housing
Goodwill Commercial Services Inc.
Northside Common Ministries

Our Mission

We help people improve their quality of life through work and related services.



May 5, 2022

RE: Community Partner Letter of Intent to support the Cure Violence Program

Clairton Cares is pleased to formally express our interest in partnering with Cure Violence to implement its evidence-based Cure Violence violence disruption and healing program for individuals.

The city of Clairton has many passionate residents and community-based organizations that recognize the city's most persistent health threats are due to decades of systemic failures that fall hardest on marginalized populations. Clairton Cares works to coordinate between these stakeholders to look for collaborative, locally-rooted solutions to these threats. Clairton Cares consists of one full-time staff person and is advised by seven local and regional leaders with a demonstrated history of impact and advocacy within the city. Clairton Cares has been organizing between systems such as the school, youth providers, coaches, and local advocates for several years to try to address local systemic problems that fuel community violence. However, this was one of many issue areas that needed attention and the group lacked a clear organizational lead with the expertise and time to make a direct impact on those deepest within the hold of local violence.

Mr. Richard Garland leading Cure Violence will provide the research and the direct experience needed to make a local, public health response to community violence a reality. Mr. Garland already has strong relationships with several Clairton advocates close to the issue of community violence. We also recognize Mr. Garland is part of a regional network of experts on this topic that will bring more resources to help address community violence through a public health lens in the city of Clairton. In addition to his own expertise and that of the larger movement he helped create, Clairton Cares recommends including contracted support from three Clairton Cares advisory members in youth leadership roles to help navigate the local players and landscape, specifically when it comes to young adults who have been overrepresented as victims and shooters locally. These local stakeholders, with strong backgrounds in youth trauma, community dynamics, and dense local social networks can provide neighborhood intel, help with outreach around the Cure program, and to vet potential hires for interrupters.

We acknowledge that Cure Violence and the efforts related to the program will employ and train Cure Violence staff, as well as deliver programming in selected sites and communities, working in partnership and coordination with each site and community so that Cure Violence is integrated into the existing structure. Clairton Cares agrees to support implementation of Cure violence with high quality and fidelity through providing necessary resources (such as space, access, and opportunity) to support Cure Violence efforts.

Based on the criteria above, the site(s) and community(ies) where we seek to implement Cure Violence include: Clairton.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Madeline Nagel".

Madeline Nagel

Clairton Cares Initiative

Email: mnagel@monvalleyinitiative.com

Phone: [REDACTED]

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Clairton City School District



Administrative Offices

501 Mitchell Avenue

Clairton, PA 15025

(412) 233-7090 ext. 2200

Fax: (412) 233-4755

GINNY L. HUNT, Ed.D.

Superintendent

THOMAS E. McCLOSKEY

Assistant Superintendent

LAWRENCE J. NICOLETTE, CPA

Business Administrator

April 28, 2022

RE: Community Partner Letter of Intent to support the CURE Violence Program

The Clairton City School District is pleased to formally express our interest in partnering with CURE Violence to implement its evidence based CURE Violence disruption and healing program for individuals.

We acknowledge that CURE Violence and the efforts related to the program will employ and train CURE Violence staff, as well as deliver programming in selected sites and communities, working in partnership and coordination with each site and community so that CURE Violence is integrated into the existing structure. The Clairton City School District agrees to support implementation of CURE Violence with high quality and fidelity through providing necessary resources (such as space, access, and opportunity) to support CURE Violence efforts.

Based on the criteria above, the site(s) and community(ies) where we seek to implement CURE Violence include: **City of Clairton.**

Sincerely,

Roger Tachoir, President/Board of Directors



3/31/22

Dear Mr. Garland,

As Executive Director of Youth Opportunities Development, I am pleased to support your application for the Allegheny County Department of Human Services Request for Proposals for Communitywide Support for Violence Prevention. I understand this is part of a larger effort to develop countywide collaborative to “support community plans for reducing violence” and provide “sustained support for the infrastructure that is critical to violence prevention in the county”. We are eager to partner with Reimagine Reentry, Inc. in this important effort, along with other community partners such as Clairton Education Center and Kindred C.U.L.T.U.R.E.

This proposal highlights strengths relevant to our community. The recruitment and deployment of community residents as violence-prevention outreach workers will offer great benefit to the community, at large. Clairton does not have access to a program specific to the needs of our community that links and facilitates collaboration between the many assets in our community. Leveraging our community’s strengths to focus on preventing violence, as you propose, will allow the designated street outreach workers to establish and nurture deeper roots in Clairton.

Under the direction of Richard Garland, this proposal would implement the Cure Violence prevention model in our community. Mr. Garland has many years of experience in the field of violence prevention, in which he trained and implemented the Cure Violence model in the past. Mr. Garland previously served as the Executive Director of One Vision One Life, a grassroots non-profit organization dedicated to violence prevention, and now sits as the Director of the Violence Prevention Initiative (VPI) and as an Assistant Professor at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health. At VPI, Mr.

Garland oversees several community-oriented violence prevention projects including a hospital-based violence prevention service, Gunshot Recurring Injury Prevention Service (GRIPS). Most recently, Mr. Garland founded and is the Executive Director of Reimagine Reentry, Inc., a strengths-based reentry program working with men and women returning to their communities from incarceration.

We are excited to partner with you in this effort. As partners, we agree to detail a staff member to attend advisory group meetings and share data as appropriate to coordinate street outreach efforts. We look forward to a productive partnership as we work together to reduce violence in Clairton.

Sincerely,

Brandon Ziats

Executive Director