

2022 Stop The Violence Community Investment Fund Grantees
Revised March 2, 2023

The City of Pittsburgh awarded a total of \$975,025 in grants to 45 organizations with an established history of addressing community needs, particularly with high-risk individuals in the City of Pittsburgh. They are the “boots on the ground”, and the City wanted to support their existing work and enable them to expand the work to address more issues or involve more family members of their participants. They will also be encouraged to be active partners with City of Pittsburgh Department of Public Safety initiatives and strategies, including the Pittsburgh Police and GVI Outreach.

Descriptions include principal police zone, a brief overview of the funded project, and the project coordinator.

1 Hood Media Academy - City-wide

Organize and implement a violence prevention campaign beginning in 2023 with a cohort of 10 to 15 youth, ages 16 to 24. They will create a training curriculum for developing and implementing a youth-led violence prevention campaign and launch the violence prevention campaign. Participants will be recruited from U-Prep, Obama, Westinghouse, Brashear, Allderdice, Sci-Tech and Perry High Schools. The total number of individuals impacted by the media effort includes the participating individuals and up to 5,000 viewers of the media produced. Coordinated by **Jasiri X**.

1 Nation Mentoring - Zones 3 & 6

Contract with a trauma therapist to begin overcoming trauma sessions for 15 students at Brashear High School. Also increase mentor opportunities for participation and expand the number of participants in our programs by 20%. Coordinated by **Kevin McNair**.

5A Elite Youth Empowerment - Zone 6

10-15 youth participants completing assessments and utilization workshops, learning to leverage their results in a team environment. 100% of assessments will be completed in early 2023, while workshops will be ongoing over the duration of the program. 10-15 youth participants will complete 12 human centered design and holistic wellness training sessions by May 2023. Produce (A) pilot program design outline, as well as a launch and sustainability plan and (B) public facing document highlighting facts, findings, barriers and recommendations discovered by the students. Coordinated by **Nathaniel Brown**.

25 Carrick Avenue Project - Zone 3

Launch regular afterschool programming targeted at youth 15-20 that will include DJ workshops, Sports Video Production team, and event production program, meeting regularly at 25 Carrick Ave and the Phillips Park Recreation Center. These sessions will total to 48 and engage a broad range of students. Host a series of community events that are planned by the youth that incorporates performances, video game tournaments, cooking classes and community events at the end of the school year and through the summer. In preparation for this event, we will hire 8-10 local youth to curate, market, and produce the events leading up to and including the year-end celebration. Coordinated by **Jordan Gilliam** and **Peter Spynda** (Executive Director).

Aaron Donald 99 Solutions Foundation - City-wide

Develop an individualized action plan for each student (ages 13-18) in their existing cohort and their caregiver, then regularly monitor students' grades, school attendance, and infractions; offer weekly virtual one-on-one tutoring, establish a rapport with school counselors and maintain contact; assist students with the college recruiting process; and when applicable, implement staff-led workshops (i.e., time management, organization); provide each student with a minimum of 6 career exploration opportunities. Maintain direct contact with student caregivers; offer a minimum of 15 hours of skills development to students and families; engage students and immediate families in "family fun activities" (board games, competitions, trivia); and host 2 "parent-only" opportunities. Coordinated by **Akita Donald**.

Abiding Missions - Zone 3

Train youth peacemakers by hosting a 12-week series of speakers at their facility in Allentown. These speakers will explore peacemaking and the work that is happening in their communities. By end of the series, youth will be able to identify at least 5 community leaders they can turn to for advice and leadership in times of need. Provide a location for youth to gather that is free from violence and promotes peace. Increase participation in our weekly Adult Fellowship Breakfast by 100% by June 2023. Provide training in de-escalation and interpersonal skills to at least 10 adults from the Allentown community. Coordinated by **Jordan Shoenberger**.

A's Vision - Zone 3

Prepare at least 5 young males in the city of Pittsburgh (ages 16-22), primarily from south side neighborhoods to become self-sufficient, responsible and career ready individuals by helping them get their driver's license. Once the first five complete the program, they will continue with more students until funds are depleted. Holding up to two financial literacy classes in which at least 10 youth will be taught a banking 101 course and upon completion will be paid a stipend to open their savings account on the spot. Also engage zone 3 Pittsburgh Police to discuss police and citizen interaction during traffic stops with the new drivers. Coordinated by **Aaron Wade**.

Basketball Dreamz - Zone 1

Provide sports related out-of-school time youth mentoring and academic support with lifeskills, including workshops and training on cultural diversity and inclusion, psychotherapy, trauma,

restorative passages, the impact of crime and violence on families, communities, youth development, etc., personal development (self-esteem, self-control, self-worth, and self-respect). Coordinated by **Mike Dixon**.

Bible Center Church - Zone 5

Add mental health counseling and an evidence-based violence prevention curriculum to positively influence students' attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors around the inappropriateness of violence as a strategy to resolve conflict to existing programming in Homewood. They will reach students in Lincoln and Faison Elementary Schools and students in their summer programs. Coordinated by **Cynthia Wallace**.

Brothers & Sisters Emerging - Zone 5

Training about 15 neighborhood youth aged 7 to 14 to develop and maintain healthy and positive relationships utilizing a Coaching Boys to Men curriculum. Also working to increase program participants in basic BASE programs and adding program components including African American history, understanding the impact of rap music and making good choices. Brothers & Sisters Emerging also operates the Garfield Gators youth sports program. Coordinated by **Bob Jones**.

Center of Life - Zone 4

Adding additional training for staff and participants in violence prevention, de-escalation and conflict resolution which will affect youth and families in Hazelwood, including materials and mentoring. Integrate the elements of trauma-informed care, social-emotional learning skills, and methods for violence prevention directly into daily operations of all of their programs. Implement high-risk intervention plans that will help to identify and support students who exhibit potentially harmful or dangerous behaviors, while engaging with their family, school, and community networks to develop a plan of action and provide recourses and referrals if needed. Coordinated by **Patrick Ohrman**.

Community Empowerment Association - Zone 5-

Assist identified youth at Westinghouse Academy to decrease the tendency for inappropriate behaviors. Conduct educational workshops related to understanding and overcoming risk factors and developing appropriate coping, problem solving and de-escalation skills, and developing a purpose, self-care and skill building for positive social interaction. Engage parents of identified youth through workshops and educational forums in ways to increase protective factors and decrease risk factors related to the causes of violence. Coordinated by **Rashad Byrdsong**.

East End Cooperative Ministry - Zone 5

Introduce and practice character building skill, teaching competency and conduct skills, and promote education and holistic health to at risk middle and high school students in the East End of Pittsburgh through in-school and after school programs. Program components include drug avoidance, healthy relationships, anger management, social interaction, conflict resolution,

communication and promoting respect for self and others. Coordinated by **Michael Bartley** and **Reverend Darnell Leonard** (Executive Director).

Homewood Children's Village - Zone 5

Continuing existing programming for 50 Westinghouse high school students and assisting with the creation of a middle school out-of-school time program for 50 students in grades 6-8 who attend Westinghouse Academy. Staff training includes mental health first-aid and conflict de-escalation. A postsecondary plan will be developed with and for each participant. 75% of participants will set and complete a goal on their postsecondary plan. Participants will establish and develop positive adult-youth relationships. Coordinated by **JaLissa Coffee**.

Infinite Lifestyle Solutions - Zone 1

Train 10 safety ambassadors from Northside middle schools and 5 volunteer safety ambassadors from the community who will use restorative conflict resolution skills learned to mediate or diffuse conflicts or acts of violence. The safety ambassadors are based on the Cure Violence interrupter model. Coordinated by **Cecilia Ware**.

Iota Phi Foundation - Zone 1

Link 40 local high school students with mentors, expose them to potential majors at Historically Black Colleges and Universities and engage in at least 5 organized group activities plus service learning and field trips. This African American fraternity has a facility in Manchester. Coordinated by **Rahmon Hart**.

Melanin Mommies - Zone 5

Provide accessible, trauma-informed grief counseling to a cohort of up to 25 families from the East Hills neighborhood that have grief associated with gun violence and link them to local trauma support and behavioral health systems. Coordinated by **Latrice Rose**.

Northside Partnership Project – Zone 1

Launch an anti-violence campaign and communications strategy in the 18 neighborhoods on the Northside. The primary theme is “See Something-Say Something”. The strategy will include signs, events, community meetings, information sharing and expert workshops. Coordinated by **English Burton** and **Reverend Eleanor Williams**.

Ozanam, Inc. - Zone 2

Expanding their existing athletic programming (focused on basketball), specifically by focusing on broadening participation for high-risk young men (age 19 and under), and developing an infrastructure for prevention and conflict resolution, engaging 100 youth in 10-week league. Also adding trauma informed training throughout the organization which will connect with 300 youth. Finally, conducting a Teen Violence Forum as part of their annual Youth Leadership Conference as a vehicle to actively engage youth as problem solvers and change agents that can influence solutions. Coordinated by **Darrelle Porter**.

POORLAW - Zone 4

Expanding the operations of its Data Hub, which collects information on returning citizens. Also identifying households to participate in a community block watch and safe house program. And continuing their efforts to hire returning citizens for an urban agriculture workforce development program. Youth development and mentoring would be funded separately through WYPAA for the Hazelwood Cobras. Coordinated by **Saundra Cole**.

Project Destiny - Zone 1

Hire a qualified, licensed social worker to conduct individual meetings with at-risk students and their families. Expand programming in to add 15 students, age 12-18, from the Northview Heights, Manchester and Perry neighborhoods with a weekly Youth Club which will include team building, community building and mentoring activities, meeting with the social worker and referrals to necessary programs and services (for youth and families). Coordinated by **Reverend Brenda Gregg** and **Dr. Daphne Curges**.

PROMISE - Zone 1

Host basketball games and competitions for youth, families and adults that also offer a variety of violence prevention workshops, health and physical fitness activities, healing circles, cultural diversity and inclusion workshops; psychotherapy, trauma, and restorative passages workshops/training sessions; and personal development Sessions (including self-esteem, self-control, self-worth, and self-respect). Coordinated by **Jakim Donaldson**.

Save A Life Today - Zone 6

Complementing its existing work with families and children in the West End by preparing the site and launching a parent support center at Trinity AME Zion Church in Sheraden. The Center will provide positive events all year round to encourage 150 at-risk families to stay engaged in the community in a safe and positive manner. Coordinated by **Mary Williams**.

Shadow Student Athletes - Zone 3

Conduct interpersonal conflict resolution classes with a conflict specialist for 10 to 12 students from the Hilltop neighborhoods. Also provide safe passage for students and community members during school dismissal twice a week. Coordinated by **Von Madden**.

South Pittsburgh Coalition for Peace - Zone 3

Fund one part-time staff member of the South Pittsburgh Peacemakers violence intervention team. Their team has been trained by the Pittsburgh Police and unofficially collaborates with the GVI team. Continue their series of Suicide Awareness workshops and provide at least two Compassion Fatigue self-care in-person workshops. Coordinated by **Reverend Eileen Smith**.

The Brashear Association - Zone 3

Host two six-week parent/family leadership training cohorts focusing on recognizing warning signs, preventing violence, advocating for their children in order to access educational, social and economic supports, and developing a strong support network around their family. Coordinated by **Andrea Matthews**.

The Kingsley Association - Zone 5

Work with local coaches, teams, community involved mentors to provide post-season training sessions and health and wellness supports for 75-100 youth, improve digital literacy, awareness of professional opportunities in tech, and engage in problem solving via technology, provide arts awareness experiences and host a cultural community event at the Kingsley Center in Larimer. Kingsley's partner organizations are Larimer Consensus Group, Habitat for Humanity, Phase 4, Reach, and Urban Strategies (which provides social services at the Cornerstone development). Coordinated by **Alex Payton** and **Dexter Hairston** (Executive Director).

Trade Institute of Pittsburgh - City-wide

Adding a community engagement coordinator to add lifeskills and mentoring components to their existing adult job training programming for all ages, coordinate outreach, partnerships and alumni relations and assure consistent support for the students while they are attending classes and after graduation from their 11-week course. Coordinated by **Kenya Alford** and **Donta Green** (Executive Director).

Voices Against Violence - Zone 3

Implement an emotional well-being program by Imagine Further Collective for all of the youth participating in their after-school program, including work on peaceful conflict resolution. Coordinated by **Richard Carrington**.

Western Pennsylvania Youth Athletic Association – City-wide

WPYAA coordinates youth sports programming and is acting as an umbrella organization for funding individual teams. Each team will have its own allocation of funds from the total amount. Each team can spend a portion of their funds on athletic needs including security, coaching, equipment, travel and supplies. The remaining funds will be spent on participant, family and coach supporting activities, such as academic assistance, family strengthening activities, mental health care, and lifeskills development. WPYAA is coordinated by **Tonya Payne-Scott**. These are the teams that will receive funds through the WPYAA:

- **Zone 1: Northside Steelers** – Coordinated by **Audie Chapman**.
- **Zone 2: Hill District Rebels** - Coordinated by **Tywone Bray**.
Lawrenceville Seminoles – Coordinated by **Jamaal Moore**.
- **Zone 3: Southside Bears** - Coordinated by **Kevin Alton**.
- **Zone 4: Hazelwood Cobras** – Coordinated by **Sandra Cole**.
- **Zone 5: East End Raiders** – Based in East Liberty and coordinated by **Antoine Lester**.
Homewood Bulldawgs - Coordinated by **Mubarik Ismaeli**.
Lincoln Rams – Coordinated by **Jamaul Sapp**.
Pittsburgh Kings - Based in Lincoln-Lemington and coordinated by **Sheldon Moorehead**.
- **Zone 6: Westside Mustangs** - Coordinated by **Martin Langford**.

Westinghouse Youth Wrestling - Zone 5

Increase the number of mentors and youth ages 5 to 17 that are served by this athletic training, mentoring and lifeskills development program based in Homewood but serving youth from around the City. Topics include conflict resolution and behavior management, violence prevention and conflict resolution. Coordinated by **Justin Perkins**.

YMCA-Homewood - Zone 5

Enable the Homewood YMCA to stay open additional hours for 40 weeks, enabling additional interaction with artists, mentors, coaches and law enforcement during those hours and completing short-term goals. Coordinated by **Nedra Perkins**.

Youth Enrichment Services - City-wide

High school students will participate in meaningful work experiences in professional settings, engage in positive in-home and in-school behaviors that promote emotional stability, wellness, and low social risks, expand their mentor network, build awareness of social capital and increase financial wellness. Based in East Liberty. Coordinated by **Dennis Floyd Jones**.

YouthPlaces - Zones 1-2-5

Engage 120 students and include the Hobbies to Opportunities after school enrichment, trauma informed care and strengths-based case management system in 3 locations: Downtown, Northside, East End (at Kingsley Association). Coordinated by **Cynthia James**.

Za'kiyah House - Zone 5

Begin the process of healing for clients by providing a cohort of 10 program participants with workshops and other support options, plus budgeting techniques, how to get to resources, overdose prevention, spiritual awareness, mental health wellness, and finally telling their trauma through story telling. All sessions facilitated by leaders with relevant life experiences. Coordinated by **Rona Davis-Moore**.