

OJJDP FY 2014 National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention Expansion Project (CFDA #16.819)

Overview

Youth and gang violence affect urban, suburban, and rural communities across the United States. Young people can be perpetrators, victims, or witnesses to violence. Some violent acts, such as bullying, can cause as much emotional harm as physical harm. Other acts, such as assault, with or without weapons, can lead to serious injury or death. The consequences of youth gang and gun violence are visible and immediate and are felt by citizens nationwide.

Likewise, exposure to violence that children and youth experience in their homes, schools, or communities harms citizens and communities. Without support and intervention, such exposure can impair children's cognitive and emotional development, keep them from healing, lead to later serious health issues, and may perpetuate the cycle of violence.

At the direction of President Obama, the Departments of Justice and Education launched the National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention (Forum) to begin a national conversation concerning youth and gang violence and prevention, raise awareness, and elevate the issue to national significance. To enhance these efforts, the federal government supports Forum cities as they align and coordinate existing resources, engage in community outreach, develop and maintain strong collaboratives, and increase the engagement of youth, the faith community, law enforcement, victim services, and other key partners in their efforts.

Successful applicants will become part of a national movement and a network and learning community of cities working to stem youth violence and improve the wellbeing of children and youth.

OJJDP will competitively select as many as five new sites to join the Forum's participating localities of Boston, Camden, Chicago, Detroit, Memphis, Minneapolis, New Orleans, Philadelphia, Salinas, and San Jose. The FY 2014 National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention Expansion Project is authorized pursuant to paragraph (8) under the Juvenile Justice heading, in the Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2014, Pub. L. No. 113-76, 128 Stat. 5, 65.

Deadlines: Registration and Application

Applicants must register with Grants.gov prior to submitting an application. OJP encourages applicants to **register several weeks before** the application submission deadline. In addition, OJP urges applicants to **submit applications 72 hours** prior to the application due date. The deadline to apply for funding under this announcement is 11:59 p.m. eastern time on June 23, 2014. See "How To Apply" on page 21 for details.

Eligibility

Applicants are limited to units of local government, including state agencies (only if targeted to a

local community), and federally recognized tribal governments (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior) that are currently implementing violence prevention strategies.

Lead applicants may partner with a collaborative body that includes representation from city/county leadership, law enforcement, public health, courts, workforce development, housing and urban development, educators, and faith and community members. Partners should collectively have expertise in prevention, intervention, enforcement, and reentry. To be considered, applicants must provide a signed letter of commitment to the goals of the National Forum from, at a minimum, the mayor, chief of police (or equivalent law enforcement executive), and superintendent of schools within the locality.

Units of government may partner, when necessary, to achieve the goals of this solicitation; however, one eligible entity must be the applicant and the others must be proposed as subrecipients. The applicant must be the entity with primary responsibility for conducting and leading the project.

Program-Specific Information

OJJDP is committed to promoting reform through the adoption of evidence-based practices (see OJJDP's Model Program Guide) and a developmentally appropriate approach to juvenile justice (see Reforming Juvenile Justice: A Developmental Approach, National Research Council). In addition, OJJDP is increasingly aware of the growing body of research on effective community-based approaches to juvenile crime and the limited effect that secure placement has on reducing juvenile offending and recidivism. OJJDP is incorporating this research in the development of a Smart on Juvenile Justice Strategy that will focus on implementing reforms to enhance public safety, hold youth appropriately accountable, reduce reoffending, maximize cost savings, and support strategic reinvestment of some of the savings while supporting systemic statewide reform. OJJDP will also focus on reducing preadjudicatory detention and out-of-home placements as a way to reduce overall costs while improving outcomes for youth. Furthermore, OJJDP is committed to reducing children's exposure to violence and the traumatic effects of violence by promoting recovery, the well-being of children, youth and families who have been exposed to violence (view Attorney General's National Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence's report at www.justice.gov/defendingchildhood/cev-rpt-full.pdf).

The National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention was created to build the capacity of localities to more effectively address youth violence through multidisciplinary partnerships, balanced approaches, data-driven solutions, comprehensive planning, and sharing common challenges and promising strategies. The Forum is a strategy for federal and local collaboration that encourages its member jurisdictions to change the way they do business through review and improvement of internal decision making structures, policies, and practices; increased communication; and strategic, coordinated action.

Purpose

This solicitation will provide a nominal award to successful applicants to assist with planning and travel to the national summit on youth violence prevention. OJJDP will make a training and technical assistance available to Forum sites to assist in the planning process. More information regarding the Forum is available at www.findyouthinfo.gov/youthviolence.