



RFA Conference

April 22, 2025

Colleen Violette, MSW
Public Health Services Manager
Office of Firearm Injury Prevention

Implementing a Public Health Approach to Address Community Gun Violence RFA 2026-0907

Issued by Connecticut Department of Public Health Monday March 31, 2025

Department's Official Contact:

- Name: Colleen Violette, Public Health Services Manager
- Address: 410 Capitol Avenue, MS #HLS, Hartford, CT 06134-0308
- Phone: 860-509-8251
- Fax: 860-509-7720
- E-Mail: DPH-GunViolenceRFA@ct.gov

The RFA is also available on the Department's website at:

<https://portal.ct.gov/dph/rfa/request-for-applications> OR
<https://portal.ct.gov/DAS/CTSource/BidBoard>

RFA Summary

- The Department is seeking proposals from:
 - Existing or developing local offices of Firearm Injury Prevention (FIP Offices);
 - Municipalities;
 - Local health districts (LHDs); and
 - 501(c)(3) corporations with a mission of addressing community gun violence.
- Proposers are asked to submit an application describing how they will address the community gun violence crisis within their municipality through a public health lens.

RFA Summary

- The Department encourages FIP Offices, municipalities, LHDs, and 501(c)(3) corporations within the same municipality to work collaboratively to submit one (1) proposal that encompasses participation, partnership and input from all such parties, and will give preference to such proposals.
- Preference will also be given to proposals from entities that serve a Connecticut municipality or are a Connecticut municipality that is identified by the Department as having among the highest rates of gun violence.
- Additionally, proposals submitted by an FIP Office, municipality or LHD will be given preference over proposals from 501(c)(3) corporations.

High-Rate Municipalities

The Department has identified the following municipalities as High Rate Municipalities defined by firearm injury age adjusted rate equal to or greater than 5.2 per 100,000. Data sources include Department analysis of Connecticut Violent Death Reporting System (CTVDRS) and hospital discharge data from 2018 through 2022.

- City of Bridgeport
- City of Hartford
- City of Meriden
- City of New Britain
- City of New Haven
- City of New London
- City of Stamford
- City of Waterbury

RFA Summary

A Proposer must discuss and recommend activities that:

1. Define and document the gun violence problem in Proposer's community, municipality or Eligible Municipality through data collection.
2. Include local research to determine risk factors prevalent in the Proposer's municipality and identify evidence-based solutions supported by literature that is relevant to the Proposer's municipality.
3. Develop and test prevention strategies and identify and describe potential solutions, including adoption of laws and policies to reduce gun violence.
4. Promote widespread adoption of gun violence prevention strategies by evaluating and suggesting refinements and improvements to existing applicable laws and policies.

Ideal Application

The successful Proposer(s) shall:

- Use a public health approach to address community gun violence, such as the approach outlined in the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials Firearm Prevention Toolkit available at: <https://www.astho.org/topic/toolkit/how-to-prevent-firearm-injury-using-public-health-approach/#howto>;
- Engage in multisectoral collaboration with community partners (e.g. law enforcement, schools, clergy);
- Identify, collaborate, and sub-contract with evidence-based, evidence-informed, community-centric gun violence prevention programs within their target area; and
- Identify highest risk locations within the Proposer's municipality through census track or neighborhood location.

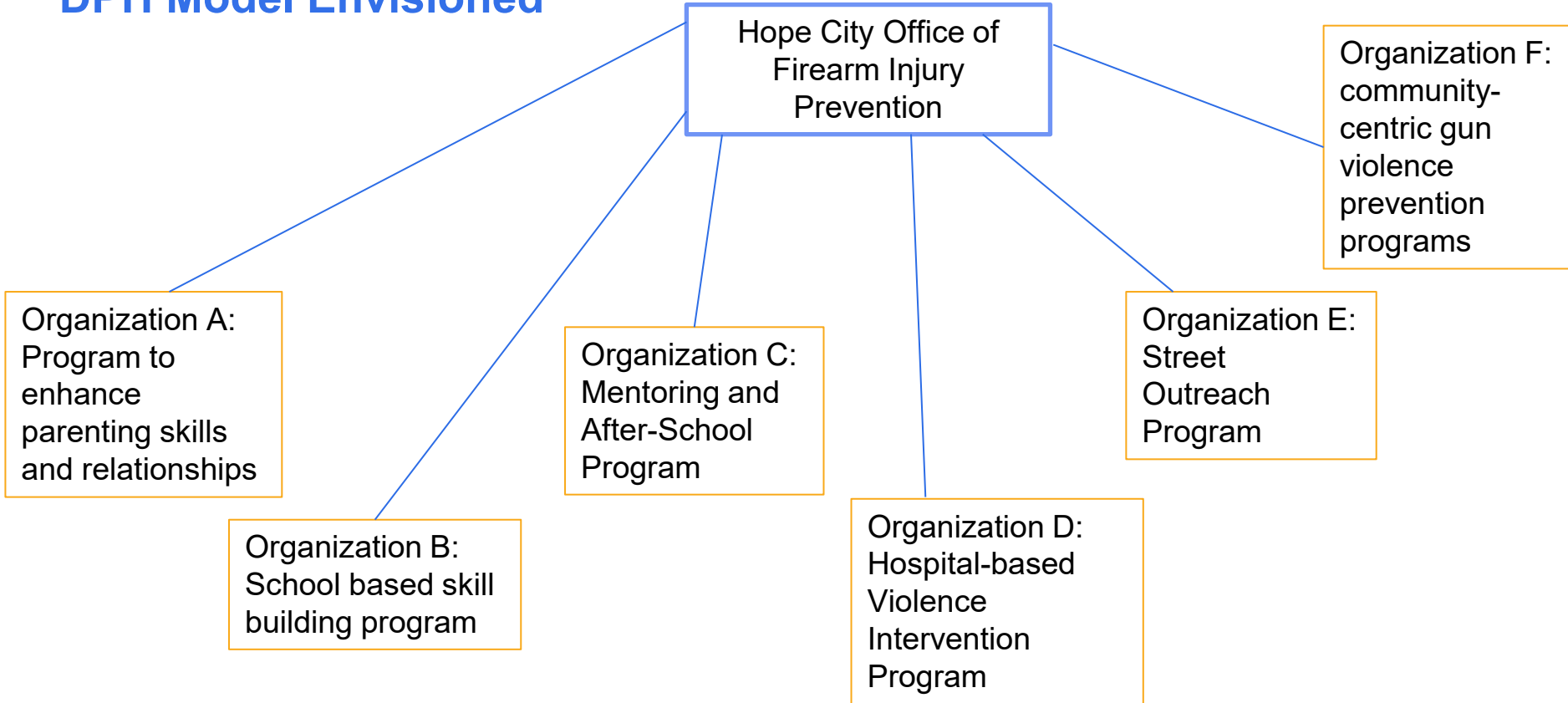
Ideal Application

The successful Proposer(s) shall:

- Implement prevention strategies, including but not limited to mentoring programs, after school programs, hospital-based violence intervention programs, and street outreach programs that will:
 1. Prevent violence before it occurs (Primary Prevention);
 2. Reduce impact after violence occurs (Secondary Prevention); and
 3. Soften the long-lasting impacts of gun violence (Tertiary Prevention).
- Implement additional prevention initiatives such as those described by the CDC in its Community Violence Prevention Resource available at: https://www.cdc.gov/violence-prevention/media/pdf/resources-for-action/CV-Prevention-Resource-for-Action_508.pdf
- Conduct rigorous evaluation of and data collection for implemented programs including working with the Department Contract Evaluator to identify metrics and outcomes to measure program implementation and effectiveness.

Responses to this RFA must align with the mission of the Department. Proposers are expected to read and incorporate the content of the articles referenced above in their response.

DPH Model Envisioned





Lead Organization

- Existing or developing local offices of Firearm Injury Prevention (FIP Offices);
- Municipalities;
- Local health districts (LHDs); and
- 501(c)(3) corporations with a mission of addressing community gun violence.



Collaborative Organizations Examples

- Law enforcement conducting positive youth development or diversion program.
- YMCA conducting after-school or community engagement program.
- Clergy organization providing victim support and resources.
- Veterans group conducting a mentorship for at risk youth.
- Local company providing job training and employment to youth and youth adults.
- 501(c)(3) corporation conducting street outreach and responding to hospitals after incidents of gun violence.
- Small organization with an innovative program to reduce community gun violence.

Rigorous Evaluation Expectation

- Working with an Evaluator contracted by DPH.
- Developing a logic model and evaluation plan.
- Identifying metrics that best measure your program.
- Understanding program successes or areas in need of enhancements.
- Ongoing TA and educational opportunities.

Procurement Schedule

- RFA Released: Monday, March 31, 2025
- Deadline for Questions: April 7, 2025
- Answer Release: April 14, 2025
- RFA Conference: April 22, 2025, 11:00AM-12:00PM
- Letter of Intent Due: May 8, 2025, 4:00 PM EST
- Proposals Due: Friday May 23, 2025, 12:00 PM EST
- (*) Proposer Selection: Friday, June 13, 2025
- (*) Start of Contract Negotiations: Monday, June 16, 2025
- (*) Start of Contract: Monday, September 1, 2025

(*) Non-binding target dates only

Contract Award

The award of any contract pursuant to this RFA is dependent upon the availability of funding to the Department. The Department anticipates the following:

- Total Funding Available: \$2,500,000
- Number of Awards: Up to ten (10)
- Contract Cost: \$75,000-\$1,000,000
- Contract Term: September 1, 2025-June 30, 2027
- Funding Source: General Funds

Required Proposal Submission Outline and Requirements

- A. Cover Sheet**
- B. Table of Contents**
- C. Executive Summary**
- D. Main Proposal**
 - A. Organizational Profile
 - B. Scope of Services
 - C. Staffing Plan
 - D. Data and Technology
 - E. Work Plan
 - F. Financial and Budget
 - G. High-Rate Municipality Designation
 - H. Number of Entities Providing Services within an Individual Proposal
 - I. Solo Proposal from a High-Rate Municipality
- E. Attachments** (clearly referenced to summary and main proposal where applicable)
 - A. Appendices
- F. Declaration of Confidential Information**
- G. Conflict of Interest - Disclosure Statement**
- H. Statement of Assurances**

(Additional language in official document).

Questions Received

- 1. Are current DPH Community Violence Intervention (CVI) grantees allowed to apply for this round of funding? If so, is it advised we apply in partnership with a municipality or other related agency in one of the regions we serve?**

Current DPH CVI grantees are eligible to apply for this RFA. Please refer to Section A. Introduction. Subsection 2 on page 4. The Department encourages FIP Offices, municipalities, LHDs, and 501(c)(3) corporations within the same municipality to work collaboratively to submit one (1) proposal that encompasses participation, partnership and input from all such parties, and will give preference to such proposals. Preference will also be given to proposals from entities that serve a Connecticut municipality or are a Connecticut municipality that is identified by the Department as having among the highest rates of gun violence (such municipalities are referred to herein as “High Rate Municipalities” and included in Section IX). Additionally, proposals submitted by an FIP Office, municipality or LHD will be given preference over proposals from 501(c)(3) corporations.

Questions Received

2. On page 36 it instructs us to complete a budget for each year of funding. Is that by State fiscal year – so one nine month budget for Sep 25-Jun 26 and a twelve month budget for Jul 26-Jun 27?

Correct. Contracts for selected Proposers are estimated to begin on September 1, 2025. Funding Period 1 is September 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 and Funding Period 2 is July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.

Questions Received

3. What is allowed for the Administrative and General Costs? Is there a percentage cap? Is it applied to all direct expenses or just salary expenses?

The Administrative cap percentage is 15 % and includes salary expenses for the selected Proposers. Salary expenses for subcontractors under this proposal would not be included as an administrative cost. Please refer to Section C. Scope of Service Description. Subsection 7 on page 12.

Questions Received

4. What are prohibited expenses? There is a “Client Subsidies” line on the budget form – what are some examples of allowable client subsidies? Is food for community meetings and events allowed? Childcare?

Prohibited expenses include capital expenditures as defined in Connecticut General Statutes § 19a-630 (4). Food and childcare may be allowable expenses to the extent the expenses support the proposed initiative of this RFA, which is addressing community gun violence.

Questions Received

5. Can an organization take the lead if it is a 501(c)(3) that has programs to decrease gun violence but its mission isn't gun violence-related?

The Department is seeking proposals from a) existing or developing local offices of Firearm Injury Prevention (FIP Offices); b) municipalities; c) local health districts (LHDs); and d) 501(c)(3) corporations with a mission of addressing community gun violence. The Department will consider all properly submitted proposals but preference will be given to Proposers whose mission is addressing gun violence. Additionally, proposals submitted by an FIP Office, municipality or LHD will be given preference over proposals from 501(c)(3) corporations.

The Department encourages Proposers to collaborate and submit joint proposals. Preference will be given to proposals that include Contractors and/or subcontractors whose mission is addressing gun violence.

Questions Received

6. The \$75,000-\$1 million – is that annual or for the life of the grant?

The amounts are annual amounts.

7. Is the grant period really 9/1/25-6/30/27 or is this a typo?

Contracts for selected Proposers are anticipated to begin September 1, 2025.

Funding Period 1 is September 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 and Funding Period 2 is July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.