

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE May 13, 2024

Honorable Members of the Public Safety Committee

TO Cara Mendelsohn (Chair), Kathy Stewart (Vice Chair), Tennell Atkins, Jesse Moreno  
Gay Donnell Willis

SUBJECT **Violence Intervention Program Update**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an history and current overview of Violence Intervention programming.

Violence Intervention programming was identified as an area for investment under the [Mayor's Task Force on Safe Communities](#) and the [City Manager's R.E.A.L. Change plan](#). The FY2021 budget allocated \$800,000 towards violence intervention programming and has since been expanded. For FY2024, the planned allocation is \$1,200,000. This funding increase is due to securing a grant from the National League of Cities and IPS' plan to expand violence intervention services. Full details of all briefings and contracts authorized by the City Council are provided and linked in the table below.

## **Current Programming:**

As referenced above, the City has [expanded violence intervention funding and programming](#) into four initiatives:

- Initiative #1: Direct services to persons affected by gun violence
- Initiative #2: Summer enrichment programming
- Initiative #3: Parent investment program
- Initiative #4: Focused deterrence support

Currently, the Office of Integrated Public Safety Solutions administers two contracts that support these initiatives. First, [Youth Guidance Inc.](#) is contracted to provide summer enrichment programming to youth following the "Becoming a Man & Working on Womanhood (BAM/WOW)" curriculum. The goals of this program are to:

- Serve up to 600 students 5 days per week during summer break at community centers.
- Provide field trips and experiences to students.
- Offer social and emotional skill-building on topics such as Integrity, Self-determination, Positive Anger Expression, Accountability, and Goal Setting.

In addition, IPS has recently entered a contract with [Urban Specialists Inc.](#) for the following services:

- Increase community engagement by developing and supporting credible community members.
- Strengthen the relationship between law enforcement and the community.
- Deploy outreach workers to provide social services and opportunities to change community norms and behaviors.
- Change behavioral norms that support violence in target communities through planning and participating in community activities and public education efforts.
- Delivery of an activity-based curriculum allowing parents to learn and practice behavior management techniques at home.

### **National League of Cities Grant Funds:**

As part of the Municipalities Reimagining Community Safety program, Dallas has also [accepted a \\$700,000 grant](#) aimed at supporting violence intervention programming. The table below outlines the planned expenditures for this grant:

Community Engagement Expenses	\$55,000.00
Data Measurement	\$20,000.00
Microgrants	\$100,000.00
Justice Involved Youth Re-Engagement	\$155,000.00
Program Expansion Expenses	\$202,582.00
Staffing for Program Oversight	\$159,472.00
Travel Expenses	\$8,000.00

### **Planned Programming:**

On March 7, 2024, another Request for Proposals (RFP) to further expand violence intervention programming was issued for [Community Violence Intervention \(BMZ24-00023767\)](#), inviting qualified proponents to fulfill the following services:

- Barber Shop Talk Program
- Weekly Group Sessions - Mental Health: Addressing Trauma Surrounding Violent Gun Crimes
- Youth Activate Space Program - Increasing Utilization of Parks and Centers
- Community Violence Intervention (CVI) Response Team (Community Mobile)

This RFP closed to new submissions on April 19, 2024. Received proposals will undergo evaluation by a multi-departmental effort, with recommendations for award presented to the Public Safety Committee before City Council consideration.

### **Performance Data:**

The Office of Integrated Public Safety Solutions presents monthly performance data on Violence Intervention programming to the Public Safety Committee as part of the "[Public Safety Dashboards](#)" agenda item. Dashboards including program output and outcomes dating back to February 2021 are available.

**Past Council Action & Briefings:**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Body</u>
February 5, 2021	<a href="#">Violence Interrupter Program Update</a>	Public Safety Committee
April 12, 2021	<a href="#">Violence Interruption Program contract recommendations</a>	Public Safety Committee
April 28, 2021	<a href="#">Contract authorization with YAP, Inc.</a> (two-year contract totaling \$1,600,000)	City Council
November 8, 2021	<a href="#">Violence Intervention Program Update</a>	Public Safety Committee
June 15, 2022	<a href="#">Crime Reduction Strategies Update</a>	City Council Briefing
August 24, 2022	<a href="#">Council authorization of receiving National League of Cities Grant</a>	City Council
February 13, 2023	<a href="#">Community Violence Intervention Program Expansion</a>	Public Safety Committee
June 28, 2023	<a href="#">Contract authorization with Youth Guidance</a> (Three-year contract totaling: \$1,200,000)	City Council
January 24, 2024	<a href="#">Contract authorization with Urban Specialists Inc.</a> (two-year contract totaling \$800,000)	City Council
March 7, 2024	<a href="#">Community Violence Intervention RFP #3</a> (Closed on 4/19/2024)	Office of Procurement

In summary, the City's funding to support a comprehensive community violence intervention program has grown from \$800,000 in FY21 to \$1.2 million in FY24 through expanded services and leveraging of grant funds. These funds are disbursed to community organizations through competitive procurement and approval by the City Council. IPS will continue in tracking outcome metrics for contracted services and providing monthly reports to the Public Safety Committee.

Should you have any questions please contact Kevin Oden, Director of Integrated Public Safety Solutions, at [kevin.oden@dallas.gov](mailto:kevin.oden@dallas.gov).



Jon Fortune  
Deputy City Manager

DATE May 13, 2024  
SUBJECT **Violence Intervention Program Update**  
PAGE **3 of 3**

C: Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, City Manager (I)  
Tammy Palomino, City Attorney  
Mark Swann, City Auditor  
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary  
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge  
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager

M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager  
Dr. Robert Perez, Assistant City Manager  
Donzell Gipson, Assistant City Manager (I)  
Robin Bentley, Assistant City Manager (I)  
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer  
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager  
Directors and Assistant Directors