

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### NYS DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES NEIGHBORHOOD VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROJECT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

As stated in Section XI of the Request for Proposals (RFP), and in the interest of fairness to all prospective applicants, DCJS is posting the following answers to substantive questions received through Wednesday September 18, 2013 regarding this RFP.

**Q.** Except for a maximum of 300 words for the Executive Summary, are there page limitations for the narrative?

**A.** With the exception of the Executive Summary (300 word limit), there are no page limitations for the narrative.

**Q.** Based upon the 2012 Violent Crime Rates attachment, can the City of Yonkers apply for this funding?

**A.** The city of Yonkers does not meet the eligibility criteria established in the RFP for program sites. Localities that are eligible as project sites are identified in the RFP: Erie (Buffalo), Westchester (Mount Vernon) and Monroe (Rochester) are qualified by rates of shooting incidents and population; the Bronx, Queens, Onondaga, and Rockland counties are also eligible.

**Q.** Does the lead applicant have to be a government entity, or can it be a non-profit, with government entities as willing partners?

**A.** The lead applicant can be either a local government agency or a not-for-profit entity. If the lead applicant is a local government agency, that agency must partner with a not-for-profit community-based agency to implement the project and include in their GMS application a signed MOU with such a partner detailing the agreed upon collaboration. If the lead applicant is a not-for-profit entity, there is no requirement for formal partnership with a local government agency. However, applicants must provide letters from local leadership and community organizations that validate both the need for the project and the local support for it. This must include a letter of support from the law enforcement organization in the target area as well as community partners that will participate in quarterly project meetings. Desirable supporters include local law enforcement, public officials, violence prevention groups and relevant service providers.

**Q.** Are Sheriff Departments eligible to apply?

**A.** As local government agencies, Sheriff Departments are eligible to apply; they must work in cooperation with a not-for-profit community based partner and include in their GMS application a signed MOU with such a partner detailing the agreed upon collaboration.

**Q.** On p. 12 of the grant guidelines it states that “each site will be responsible for budgeting for training-related expenses...” For the purposes of developing travel-related expenses, will all trainings be held in Chicago for those implementing the Cure Violence Model? Beyond the initial 2-day site visit to Chicago, will the trainings noted on p. 3 of the guidelines, including program manager/outreach worker, violence interrupter and booster training, also be held in Chicago?

**A.** For those implementing the Cure Violence model, two key staff from each project will be expected to attend one two-day training in Chicago. The remaining staff trainings will be held locally or regionally in New York State.

**Q.** Do grantees need a federally approved indirect cost rate in order to include these costs in their budget?

**A.** It is not required that applicants have a federally approved indirect cost rate. However, it is important to adhere to the limits on indirect costs as stated in the RFP.

**Q.** Are grantees permitted to subcontract out portions of the program to community partners? For example, can the outreach component be conducted by a partner and paid for through the NVP program?

**A.** From a fiscal perspective, subcontracting is permissible. There is nothing in the RFP that prohibits subcontracting out some portion(s) of the services necessary to implement the project to other agencies. Whether subcontracting is programmatically appropriate, however, depends on the neighborhood violence prevention model identified and the role of the subcontractor(s) proposed.

For applicants proposing implementation of the Cure Violence model, outreach is one aspect of the work carried out by project staff (a team made up of violence interrupters and outreach workers). Preference will be given to applicants whose budgets are aligned with Cure Violence recommendations (80% of funds to support direct service staff).

For applicants proposing implementation of other neighborhood violence models, it should be demonstrated that project functions, responsibilities and budgets are aligned with those established in the model.