Proposal Guide

Project Safe Neighborhoods: PSN Buffalo

The Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Task Force, in cooperation with the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), a component of the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, seeks proposals for a PSN Task Force Sub recipients to carry out the initiatives in the PSN Task Force’s Strategy.

Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) is designed to create and foster safer neighborhoods through a sustained reduction in violent crime, including, but not limited to, addressing criminal gangs and the felonious possession and use of firearms and projects that support innovative cooperative efforts and partnerships between federal, state, and local law enforcement engaged in a unified approach led by the U.S. Attorney in all 94 districts to identify and prevent violent crime. The program’s effectiveness depends on the cooperation and partnerships of local, state, tribal, and federal agencies and the communities they serve engaged in a unified approach led by the U.S. Attorney (USA) in all 94 districts. Acting decisively at all levels (federal, state, local, and tribal) will help reverse a rise in violent crime and keep American citizens safe. PSN provides the critical funding, resources, and training for law enforcement, prosecutors, and their PSN teams to combat violent crime and make their communities safer through a comprehensive approach to public safety that marries targeted enforcement efforts with community engagement, prevention, and reentry efforts. Note: This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law," and complies with Part 200 Uniform Requirements - 2 CFR 200.210(a)(14). CA/NCF

The goals of these plans are to decrease gun violence and aggressively prosecute those who commit crimes with firearms.

Funding

One grant will be awarded to a program within the City of Buffalo, in either Zone C or E of the Buffalo Police Department in the Western District of New York, and a second grant of $89,509 will be awarded to a research partner who must be a member of the Western District of New York PSN Task Force and Strategic Action Plan Team. The two-year grant cannot exceed $244,509.

Additionally, BJA may provide support to the selected grantees through training, technical assistance, and workshops to better support the efforts of PSN Task Forces.
Program Goals

The grant is to support the Project Safe Neighborhoods Task Force efforts to reduce gun violence within the district. This grant aims to enhance current efforts to increase clearance rates of gun violence in Buffalo, NY. Towards that end, this project aims to do the following:

1. Form a multi-agency task force to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to increase clearance rates for gun crimes.

2. Have a 6 month planning period to identify best practices and develop an appropriate investigation protocol to increase clearance rates. This period will also be used to produce the BJA required Strategic Action Plan (SAP).

3. Implement an innovative, comprehensive, evidence-based project to increase clearance rates for gun assaults in the City of Buffalo.

4. Implement a rigorous experimental design research evaluation to document project impact and serve as a model for replication in other cities.

The goals of this program are:

1. Increased clearance rates for gun assaults in the City of Buffalo, NY.

2. Removal of high risk offenders from the streets of Buffalo.

3. Increased prosecution rates for gun crimes.

4. Decreased crime in Buffalo crime hotspots.

5. Enhanced administration of justice in the City of Buffalo.

6. Increased community confidence in law enforcement.

7. A protocol in place that can be replicated in other cities.
Eligibility

The following types of organizations are eligible to submit a proposal:

- Private research firms or experts.
- Colleges and universities.
- Nonfederal government agencies.
- Nonprofit organizations.

In addition, Sub-awardee One must be an agency extremely knowledgeable about Buffalo Police Department Zone C or Zone E, to focus on three design elements of the proposal on that catchment area of Buffalo NY where homicides by shootings and non-fatal shootings occur most frequently. These three elements include: Leadership, Partnership, and Prevention.

Note: The costs anticipated would be primarily the relevant Police Department’s anticipated overtime, targeted personnel salary and fringe costs. No spending would occur until completion of the PSN Task Force’s Strategic Action Plan (SAP); with six months of no-spend predicted, or July 2019 spenddown start date expected. Spending will be on anticipated costs of awarded police department overtime, targeted personnel salary and fringe. Approximately 60% of award after admin for these elements of the proposal.

The relevant design elements for the Research Partner, Sub-awardee Two, will be Targeted Prioritized Enforcement, Partnership, and Accountability. The research partner must be familiar with the strategic alliance goals and objectives, and have the specific expertise, knowledge, and capacity to carry out the nonfatal shooting reductions in violence strategy and aid in implementation of the protocols developed by the PSN team, as well as work with the Buffalo POC for data collection of the implementation and research design that utilizes an experimental design (randomized, control group vs. protocols developed in SAP) and be a member of the PSN Task Force.

Note: Approximately 40% of the award after admin for these elements of the proposal.
Submission Outline

Proposals must be submitted using the following outline. Use no more than twenty (20) double-spaced pages.

- Describe the Problem
- Describe Organizational Capacity: expertise and background of the organization that makes it qualified to carry out this program.
- Describe the strategy to be employed to meet the purpose and goals of this initiative, including all major activities to be performed and the timeframes for each.
- Describe how the organization will address PSN design features including Leadership, Prevention, Partnership (Sub-awardee 1) or Targeted Prioritized Enforcement, Partnership, and Accountability (Sub-awardee 2).
- Describe the resources available to meet the goals of this initiative.
- Describe the methods to be used to measure success in achieving the stated goals.
- Outline the budget for the project including summaries and general breakdowns of all personnel costs, supplies, contracts and professional services, equipment, and travel expenses. (Please budget funds to attend at least one national technical assistance conference and one regional conference.)

Submitting the Proposal

The RFP is posted on both the United Way of Greater Rochester and the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County websites. The RFP will be posted on February 15, 2019.

You may submit your proposal to:

Jennifer Cathy, LMSW
United Way of Greater Rochester
75 College Avenue
Rochester, NY 14607

OR

Email the proposal to Jennifer.cathy@uwrochester.org

Proposals must be postmarked or received via email or hard copy no later than March 15, 2019 at 5:00PM. Proposals received after that time will not be accepted.
Contact Information

Questions related to this request for grant proposals may be addressed to Jennifer Cathy at 585-355-7842 or Jennifer.cathy@uwrochester.org

Selection Process

A committee of three prior US Attorneys will review the proposals and select a grantee with scoring based on the criteria outlined in Appendix A. The United Way of Greater Rochester will notify the applicants of the final decision and will inform BHA of the planned sub-awards for approval. Rochester Institute for Technology, the administering agency for this program, will then contact the selected grantee with information related to the completion of any required contracts and forms.
### Appendix A. Draft Rubric to Review Subaward Applicants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Draft Rubric to review subaward applicants</th>
<th>Police Department subaward 1</th>
<th>Researcher subaward 2</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>US Attorney-chosen PSN Target area:</strong> Buffalo, NY</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Capacity,</strong> including specific expertise and knowledge of crime in Buffalo NY, non-fatal shootings and homicides, intel by Buffalo Police department following investigations by the homicide unit, knowledge of patrol patterns and catchment areas in Buffalo NY with highest rates non-fatal shootings and homicides.</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Leadership (POC, Police Department)</strong> specific expertise and knowledge of crime in Buffalo NY, non-fatal shootings and homicides, intel by Buffalo Police department following investigations by the homicide unit, knowledge of patrol patterns and catchment areas in Buffalo NY with highest level of gun violence. Must be a member of the PSN Task Force developing SAP.</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Partnerships (POC, Police Department)</strong> Must have extensive expertise and intel by Buffalo Police department following investigations by the homicide unit, knowledge of patrol patterns and catchment areas in Buffalo NY with highest level of gun violence. Must be a member of the PSN Task Force developing SAP.</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Targeted Prioritized Enforcement (Researcher for analysis and on-site research for data, must be member of the task force and planning team for SAP).</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prevention (POC, Police Department)</strong> Must have ability to apply the design element based on the other design factors (intelligence and capacity to implement the design of the intervention based on leadership, partnerships, and inclusion in the Task Force and Planning team for the SAP)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Partnerships (POC, Police Department)</strong> Must have extensive expertise and intel by Buffalo Police department following investigations by the homicide unit, knowledge of patrol patterns and catchment areas in Buffalo NY with highest level of gun violence. Must be a member of the PSN Task Force developing SAP.</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Accountability (Researcher will analyze the data using the experimental design and random assignment and generate the analysis of the results of the non-fatal shootings with the intervention and the control group and submit results to federal reporting systems in conjunction with the POC. Must be member of the task force and planning team for SAP).</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Alliance with Strategic Initiative- member of the Task Force, member with extensive knowledge of the planning meetings strategic goals objectives and methods of the PSN Buffalo Project</strong></td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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**Total Score** | **100%** | **100%**