

The Chicago Fund for SAFE and PEACEFUL COMMUNITIES

2017 Funding Announcement April 13, 2017

Recognizing the potential for a spike in violence in Chicago during the summer months, the Partnership for Safe and Peaceful Communities, a coalition of philanthropic organizations, will once again administer the *Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities*, an \$800,000 fund to support activities by nonprofit organizations that build community cohesion and promote safety and peace. A rapid-response process has been established to receive and review short proposals, and quickly award grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

To qualify, applicants are strongly encouraged, but not required, to propose activities that adhere to the Seven Field Principles (7FP) model, an evidence-based framework¹ that has been successful in fostering strong communities and reducing violence (outlined below). For more information see <http://whgbetc.com/carl-bell-youth-violence.pdf>. Collaboration among community organizations is also strongly encouraged as the 7FP model is more effective when implemented in a comprehensive and coordinated way.

The following community areas have been prioritized for support based on data compiled by the University of Chicago Crime Lab for highest number and rate of homicides: Austin, Auburn Gresham, Chatham, Chicago Lawn, Englewood, Gage Park, Garfield Park, Greater Grand Crossing, Humboldt Park, Lower West Side (Pilsen), New City (Back of the Yards), North Lawndale, Roseland, South Chicago, South Lawndale (Little Village), South Shore and Washington Park.

The application for funding is available at www.safeandpeacefulchi.com. The application deadline is May 4, 2017. Grant awards will be announced on May 17, 2017. Checks will be distributed on May 25, 2017. All activities must be completed by October 31, 2017.

¹ Dr. Carl Bell, "Preventing Violence: Lessons from Chicago," *Clinical Psychiatry News*, May 6, 2003.
<http://www.mdedge.com/clinicalpsychiatrynews/article/58668/depression/preventing-violence-lessons-chicago>

2017 Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities

Statement of Purpose

Recognizing the potential for a spike in violence in Chicago during the summer months, the Partnership for Safe and Peaceful Communities, a coalition of philanthropic organizations, will once again administer the *Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities* to support activities by nonprofit organizations that build community cohesion and promote safety and peace.

The \$800,000 fund offers rapid-response grant opportunities designed to support community-based actions and activities that make neighborhoods safer. It has been created in direct response to the many people and grassroots organizations that are taking on-the-ground action in their neighborhoods.

While the participating philanthropic organizations are already engaged in larger, long-term efforts to help address the problem of violence prevention and community safety, this Fund is purposely intended to provide highly-targeted, immediate support to smaller, neighborhood-based groups over the summer. The Fund is not meant to be a quick fix to the broad and complex problem of violence nor is it a substitute for the intensive and wide ranging efforts already underway or planned to develop responses to the many root causes of the challenge.

Who is eligible?

The Fund will award grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000 to nonprofit organizations engaging in activities that build community cohesion and promote safety and peace. Applicants are strongly encouraged, but not required, to propose activities that adhere to one or more of the Seven Field Principles (7FP) model, an evidence-based framework with the following components, which has been successful in fostering strong communities and reducing violence:

1. **Create a sense of community** through programs and activities that are based on community members' ideas for how to reduce violence. These programs should build relationships and networks among residents, families, schools, nonprofits, churches, businesses, etc.
2. **Share knowledge across generations** by providing models, tools and techniques for learning. These programs, such as mentoring and leadership development, will give community members access to new skills and information.
3. **Create a sense of connectedness** by engaging large numbers of community members in group activities. These activities will allow for neighbors, business, schools, etc. to come together and collectively take part in positive, proactive community events such as back-to-school rallies, peace walks and runs, neighborhood festivals, arts activities and pro-social youth programs, .

4. Provide opportunities **to learn social and emotional skills** through activities such as leadership development workshops, peace circles, and volunteering that promote positive communication.
5. **Improve the self-esteem and self-efficacy** (sense of power) of youth in the community by providing opportunities for leadership, employment and skill-building.
6. **Build relationships between youth and adults** through activities that create a safe haven or space for youth.
7. **Minimize trauma** by connecting community members with caregivers and support services such as psychoeducation workshops and block parties with service providers.

Collaboration among community organizations is strongly recommended as the 7FP model is more effective when implemented in a comprehensive and coordinated way. Activities that promote constructive relationships between police and community residents are encouraged but not required.

Organizations working in Austin, Auburn Gresham, Chatham, Chicago Lawn, Englewood, Gage Park, Garfield Park, Greater Grand Crossing, Humboldt Park, Lower West Side (Pilsen), New City (Back of the Yards), North Lawndale, Roseland, South Chicago, South Lawndale (Little Village), South Shore and Washington Park are invited to apply.

The Fund will consider applications from groups, agencies, and organizations with a valid 501(c)3 designation or that have a 501(c)3 fiscal sponsor whose interests are consistent with the goals of the Fund to support grassroots, community-based solutions that make Chicago neighborhoods safer. *Funds may not be used to support or advocate for the purchase or use of guns as part of any response.*

Eligible recipients must conduct programming and activities in the target communities and have a valid letter from the IRS recognizing the applicant as a section 501(c)3 organization, or designate a fiscal sponsor with a valid 501(c)3 designation. Criteria for funding will include the proposed activities and degree to which they follow the 7FP framework, the track record of the applicant, extent of collaboration with others and willingness to share information and plans.

The timeline is as follows:

- May 4, 2017 The application deadline
- May 17, 2017 Grant awards will be announced
- May 25, 2017 Checks will be distributed
- October 31, 2017 Completion of all activities

How it will work - funding and oversight

The Chicago Community Trust has established the Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities as a collaborative fund. Each interested funder will provide its funding in accordance with its respective processes and agreements.

Oversight Through Advisory Council: An Advisory Council will be established to make recommendations on grants from the Fund. The Council will be led by Polk Bros. Foundation Senior Program Officer, Deborah E. Bennett. Other Advisory Council participants are:

- Jessyca Dudley, Program Officer, Joyce Foundation
- Anna LauBach, Director, Special Initiatives, McCormick Foundation
- Anna Lee, Program Officer, The Chicago Community Trust
- Tawakalitu Mitchell, Program Officer, MacArthur Foundation
- Susana Stoll, Grants Manager, Pritzker Traubert Family Foundation
- Sana Jafri, Program Officer, Hive Chicago Fund for Connected Learning

Grant Amount: Grants from the Fund will range from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

Use of Proceeds: Proceeds may be used for activities that build community cohesion and promote safety and peace. The grant agreement will contain a provision that the funds will not be used to support or advocate for the purchase or use of guns as part of any activity.

Form of Proposal: Organizations requesting funds must submit a short proposal through Grants Central, a grants management system, plus the budget, addressing the following:

- Community to be served
- Qualifications of the applicant, including existing programming and success to date
- Planned activities, expected participants, community partners and anticipated outcomes
- Chicago Police Department collaboration (if applicable)
- How the activities will contribute to building community cohesion and/or improving relationships with law enforcement and residents
- Budget for requested funds

The application will be available at www.safeandpeacefulchi.com. Additionally, in-person technical sessions to help guide organizations through the application process are being provided. Information regarding the time and place of those sessions will be available [online](#). Attending a session is not a requirement of applying for funding. The same information will be shared at each session, so it is not necessary to attend more than one session. If special accommodations are needed for attending a session, please let the Fund know by emailing info@safeandpeacefulchi.com.

Applications will be considered through **May 4, 2017**. The donors may extend the time in which activities may occur at their discretion. Additional review cycles may occur based on funding availability.

Reporting

Each applicant will be asked to submit a report (not to exceed one page) on the following:

- Who was impacted?
- What was achieved?
- How are the activities aligned with the 7FP?
- What lessons were learned?
- What, if anything, did not work and why?
- How the money was spent as against the budget?

Funding Decisions

Funding decisions will be announced on May 17, 2017 with grants awarded by May 25, 2017.

Meeting to Share Plans and Information about Activities

Successful applicants will be asked to meet at the conclusion of activities to share their experiences with the funders and their peers so that lessons learned can benefit other participants and be used to inform decisions about the Fund in the future. Special accommodations will be provided as needed.