

# The Chicago Fund for **SAFE and PEACEFUL** **COMMUNITIES**

## **2019 Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities Funding Announcement March 7, 2019**

Recognizing the potential for a spike in violence in Chicago during the summer months, the Partnership for Safe and Peaceful Communities, a coalition of funders committed to aligning their grant making to support proven and promising approaches to reducing gun violence, will once again administer the *Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities*, a \$1,000,000 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 framework<sup>1</sup> 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 the number and rate of shootings and homicides: Austin, Auburn Gresham, Chatham, Chicago Lawn, Englewood, West Englewood, Gage Park, East Garfield Park, West 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, Washington Park, West Pullman, and Woodlawn.

The application for funding is available at [https://cct.smartsimple.com/s\\_Login.jsp](https://cct.smartsimple.com/s_Login.jsp). The application deadline is April 10, 2019. Grant awards will be announced on May 13, 2019. Checks will be distributed on May 22, 2019. All activities must be completed by October 31, 2019.

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<sup>1</sup> 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>

## 2019 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 40 funders committed to aligning their grant making to support proven and promising approaches to reducing gun violence, will once again administer the *Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities* (Fund).

The \$1million Fund offers rapid-response grant opportunities designed to support activities by nonprofit organizations that build community cohesion and promote safety and peace. 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 gun violence in Chicago, 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 respond 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 **with annual operating budgets no larger than \$500,000** 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, West Englewood, Gage Park, East Garfield Park, West 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, Washington Park, West Pullman, and Woodlawn 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. 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:

- April 10, 2019      The application deadline
- May 13 , 2019      Grant awards will be announced
- May 22, 2019      Checks will be distributed
- October 31, 2019    Completion of all activities

## **How it will work - funding and oversight**

The Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities is a collaborative fund housed at the Chicago Community Trust (CCT). Each member funder has provided its funding in accordance with its respective processes and agreements.

Oversight: An Advisory Council has been established to make grant recommendations. Members include:

- Deborah E. Bennett, Senior Program Officer, Polk Bros. Foundation, Chair
- Madalyn Frigo, Grants Manager, Pritzker Pucker Family Foundation
- Anna LauBach, Director, Special Initiatives, McCormick Foundation
- Anna Lee, Program Officer, The Chicago Community Trust
- Tawakalitu Mitchell, Senior Program Officer, MacArthur Foundation
- Christy Prah, Program Officer, Crown Family Philanthropies
- Teresa Prim, Principal, Prim Lawrence Group
- Leslie Ramyk, Executive Director, Conant Family Foundation

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

Use of Funds: Funds 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 and budget through the CCT grants management system, addressing the following:

- Community(ies) 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 residents and law enforcement
- Budget for requested funds
- Total annual operating budget of requesting organization

The application will be available at [https://cct.smartsimple.com/s\\_Login.jsp](https://cct.smartsimple.com/s_Login.jsp). An in-person technical assistance (TA) session to help guide organizations through the application process will be held on March 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 am at the MacArthur Foundation, 140 S. Dearborn, 17<sup>th</sup> floor. Attending the TA session is not a requirement to apply for funding. Accommodations for people with special needs will be provided upon request.

Applications will be considered through **April 10, 2019**.

## **Reporting**

Each applicant will be asked to submit an online final report through Grants Central. [https://cct.smartsimple.com/s\\_Login.jsp](https://cct.smartsimple.com/s_Login.jsp)

- Who and how many were impacted?
- What was achieved?
- How were the activities aligned with the 7FP?
- What lessons were learned?
- What, if anything, did not work and why?
- How the money was spent compared to submitted budget?

## **Evaluation**

An independent evaluation will be conducted. Its purpose will be to assess the reach, activities, and impact of the Fund. Application and reporting materials will be shared with the evaluator. Grantees will be requested to participate in evaluation methods, which may include surveys, interviews, or program observations.

## **Funding Decisions**

Funding decisions will be announced on May 13, 2019 with grants awarded by May 22, 2019.

## **Meetings to Network and Share Lessons Learned**

Successful applicants will be asked to meet twice - during and at the conclusion of the grant period - to share their experiences with the funders and their peers. These meetings will provide opportunities to communicate lessons learned and inform future decisions about the Fund. Special accommodations will be provided as needed.