

DeKalb County Government

Started at: 12/3/2024 03:57 PM - Finalized at: 12/6/2024 11:23 AM

Page: Applicant Information

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), with support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Injury Control and Prevention (NCIPC), is accepting applications for the 2024-2025 *Youth and Community Violence Prevention Action Teams (VPAT)*.

The project aims to support new or existing action teams to develop plans that:

1. Build capacity to implement evidence- based/evidence-informed violence prevention and intervention strategies, in particular strategies that seek to address the community conditions, and social and economic systems, that can increase risk of violence (see page 59 of [CDC's Community Violence Prevention Resource for Action](#)).
2. Reframe youth and community violence as a public health issue within their community.
3. For action teams previously funded by NACCHO under cooperative agreement 6 NU38OT000306-05-06 with CDC: Build upon the momentum and progress by enhancing existing strategies or introducing new approaches that address emerging challenges, strengthen partnerships, or deepen community engagement.

All necessary information regarding the project and application process may be found in the [RFA](#).

Applications must be submitted through this online submission form no later than **December 6, 2024, at 5:00 pm E.T.** No applications will be accepted by fax, email, or postal mail.

Applicants will be notified of their status on or about **December 19, 2024**.

If you experience any problems with the application, please contact NACCHO's Injury and Violence Prevention team; ivp@naccho.org

Please review the CDC guide, [Preferred Terms for Select Population Groups & Communities](#), for information on adjusting language to be less stigmatizing. Specifically, sections on [substance use and corrections & detention terminology](#) that applicants may find helpful in choosing language in the narrative sections of the application.

Applicants should consider the degree to which lengthy and inflexible contract approval processes exist when determining a fiscal administrator that is the applicant organization (i.e., prime applying entity). In order to receive the full amount of funds, prime entities will need to enter into an initial contract with NACCHO that covers activities through July 31, 2025. Upon applicant's request and approval by NACCHO and CDC, the initial contract may receive a no-cost extension through September 30, 2025 via contract modification. Applicants that are unable to sign the draft contract or subsequent contract modification within 30 days of receipt may not be the best-situated entity to serve as the fiscal administrator. Applicants should also consider fiscal administrators that are well situated to support the management and delegation of funds to support project activities and partners, especially any line items related to incentives for community engagement activities.

First Name

Ilma

Last Name

Hodge

Organization/Agency

DeKalb County Government

Position/Title

Senior Fiscal Officer

Email address

iohodge@dekalbcountyga.gov

Phone #

+1 678-313-0328

Address

30 Warren St SE
Atlanta Georgia 30317-2267 US

Are you the project contact?

No

If no, who is the primary contact for this project?

Debra Furtado

Project contact email address

dlfurtado@dekalbcountyga.gov

Project contact phone number

+1 404-386-4774

The team lead should be a person or an entity that has relationships across multi-sector team members and holds the trust of the community, especially those who are most impacted by firearm violence. The entity of the team lead may also serve as the fiscal administrator and contracting entity, but is not required to. If they are different, they will have to liaise to support the invoicing process to ensure satisfactory deliverables are submitted based upon the Scope of Work outlined in section III to allow NACCHO to disburse payment according to the invoicing schedule.

First Name

Debra

Last Name

Furtado

Organization/Agency

DeKalb County Government

Position/Title

Human Services Administrator

Email address

dlfurtado@dekalbcountyga.gov

Phone #

+1 404-386-4774

Address

30 Warren St SE
Atlanta Georgia 30317 US

Organization Type

Other governmental agency

Jurisdiction served

County

Name of city, county or counties served

DeKalb County, cities served Atlanta and Decatur and 11 other cities

Size of population served

Large: 500,000+

Geographic Region

East South Central

Degree of urbanization

2- Counties in metro areas of 250,000 to 1 million population

Page: Community Context

This section will be scored based on the completeness of the information provided, the extent of your understanding of your community, and demonstration of need in your community. Each of the following components must be addressed:

Prevalence of Violence

DeKalb County is one of the largest metropolitan counties in Georgia. According to the 2020 U.S. Census DeKalb has a population of 757,718 and is the most diverse county in the state of Georgia. In 2023 DeKalb County had 4,038 aggravated assaults and 124 homicides and 23.6 homicides per capita. From 2022 to 2023 DeKalb incurred: 138 homicides, 2022; 124 homicides for 2023 (slight decrease) and 3962 aggravated assaults in 2022 and an increase in 2023 of 4038 aggravated assaults. Breakdown by age is not included but forthcoming.

Grady Hospital, Trauma 1 hospital serving metro Atlanta, has a Hospital Violence Intervention Program as part of the current BJA grant called IVYY, Interrupting Violence for Youth and Young Adults. In 2024 to current date, IVYY provided services for 70 DeKalb youth age 14-24 and the youngest served was 13 and oldest was 24. All were gun shot wound victims who survived and are part of the IVYY program working with H.O.P.E. Hustlers, crime prevention partner, with violence interrupters in the community. In addition the IVYY program assesses adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) for each patient with trauma as a main issue. Current Community Violence Intervention Program (CVIP) grant includes H.O.P.E. Hustlers and IVYY as partners and specifically both target youth 14-24. Approximately 25 percent of the DeKalb population is 18 years of age or younger. Youth have Grady hospital for access to care and the IVYY program is focused on GSW youth.

Community Impact

Covid caused many issues for DeKalb youth and all youth. Violence among youth increased during the Covid years and it continues today which is why the CVIP and the Grady Hospital IVYY program are essential to decrease youth violence in DeKalb County in addition to VPAT. The good news is hot spots have been mapped and the CVIP team is assessing root causes with the community assessment and pilot crime prevention program with H.O.P.E. Hustlers. VPAT is needed to gain youth feedback.

In addition the asset mapping phase of the CVIP project will show strengths and weaknesses in the areas of need so resources and wrap around services may be addressed. Also, the team is working in the high schools in hot spot areas. S.A.F.E. Centers are being set up to provide wrap around services for high-risk youth.

One issue that must be addressed is to involve youth in the discussion of youth violence prevention. That is why this VPAT grant is needed so the CVIP may listen to youth and focus on solving issues and finding ways to decrease youth violence. One result of the CVIP project is the team looked at hot spots and extended stay hotels where youth who are unhoused live and found the extended stay hotels have an abundance of violent crime and they are located in hot spots. We now see the correlation with being unhoused and the proximity to violent crime. Good news is we know the problem, we also know not to put families in those hotels and are addressing the violent crime issue.

Leveraging Strengths

Our community's greatest strengths include elected officials, commissioners and CEO who support the Community Violence Intervention Plan and are looking to the departments such as Human Services and others including law enforcement to come together and recommend solutions.

Another strength is our community partners both internal and external. Partners for the CVIP project include of course Grady Hospital as well as Emory Hillandale, Police, DA's Office, Public Defender's Office, Department of Public Health, Juvenile Court and community based organizations such as H.O.P.E. Hustlers and other nonprofits, The work being done includes academic partners including Georgia State University and Emory University who provide criminal justice researchers and academics who guide the process.

Another key strength is the community and School District. After one of the community assessments a high school student stated that the Cure Violence Global model, that treats violence as a public health issue, gave her hope. The community gets the model and the efforts to implement the model. Having support from the community is essential to being successful in implementing changes. First the problem is identified, second the problem is confirmed and the root causes are ascertained and solutions begin to be implemented. The people who live in the communities often have the best solutions and this VPAT will enable us to find out more of what the youth in the communities served think and ideas they have for solutions to violent crime in neighborhoods. During the Midnight Basketball program this summer youth were surveyed and a majority stated more programs like Midnight Basketball are needed. More parks are needed and better lighting - all community model ideas - that can and must be implemented. The greatest strength is asking the youth for their ideas and empowering them to help the government and community based organizations to implement the solutions.

Intended Populations of Focus

This project will center on youth age 14-19 in DeKalb County School District high schools. Currently the DeKalb County School District has 26,864 high school students in the 14-19 age group. This project plans to focus on students in McNair and Redan high schools as there are S.A.F.E. Centers in both high schools.

McNair has 737 students and Redan has 1047. This project will focus on 20 high-risk youth already engaged with the S.A.F.E. Center at each high school for a total of 40 students and students will be added as determined by the School District social workers. The S.A.F.E. Centers provide various rooms with counseling, food services, pantry, clothing and a quiet or peace room for students. The concept is to provide key wraparound services for students with trained staff including social workers to focus on social determinants of health and work to resolve issues and provide needed services and support including working with families and parents.

In addition, this project will focus on 30 students who are part of the County's Youth Commission who represent all DeKalb High Schools. The purpose of working with the Youth Commission is to discuss youth violence and focus on ideas to prevent such violence using the CDC framework for prevention model as the current work being done looks at violence as a public health issue. We treat violence as a public health issue. Hot spots have been identified in the County with 15 hot spots and 4 hot spot clusters. Both high schools, McNair and Redan, are located in hot spots and students affected by gun violence are lacking in most if not all social determinants of health.

The project would create the action teams at each high school and work with the Youth Commission as another team. Currently a needs assessment is being conducted at both high schools. The DeKalb County Public Health Department will be engaged to determine classes to be offered following the CDC model focusing on societal and community factors.

Community Context and Needs

As the Community Violence Intervention Plan (CVIP) team has progressed with the current BJA grant to develop a CVIP plan, the team uncovered root causes. First, the CVIP project determined where violent crime is happening with 15 hot spots and 4 clusters created. This is DeKalb County Police Department data analyzed by Georgia State University and Cure Violence Global researchers. Second, a community assessment was conducted in the hot spots by Cure Violence Global (CVG) to determine if indeed the data for the hot spots is correct and found that focus group meetings supported the data. Third, a hospital violence prevention program, IVYY, Interrupting Violence for Youth and Young Adults, was created in phase three and the last phase is to conduct asset mapping to uncover the strengths and weaknesses in the hot spot areas.

What has been ascertained with the IVYY program and hot spots is youth in the IVYY program are incurring a lack of social determinants of health. Root causes contribute to youth and community violence include a lack of housing or no housing stability, food insecurity and with the asset mapping phase we are in with the current CVIP grant, it is evident there is a lack of grocery stores in the hot spot areas; as well as a dearth of services and loss of jobs. In addition, IVYY team members have found that there is a lack of transportation in the hot spot communities contributing to poverty as people are unable to get to jobs and/or services including grocery stores.

There is also a lack of health services. Grady Memorial Hospital is the largest Trauma 1 hospital in the state of Georgia but it is not accessible to many even though it serves DeKalb and Fulton Counties. The CVIP plan is focused on other community hospitals and one is Emory Hillandale located in a hot spot and they started a hospital violence prevention program in 2024 to serve people in their community and prevent violent crime as well as focus on social determinants of health.

Existing landscape

Current programs include the BJA Community Violence Intervention Plan (CVIP). This grant has enabled the Human Services Department team to partner with over 15 internal and external organizations including the DeKalb Police Department, DA's Office, Department of Public Health, Juvenile Court as well as GSU, Emory/Grady, CVG and H.O.P.E. Hustlers. The grant has 4 phases to include: research and determination of hot spot areas with high violent crime, community assessment, creation of the hospital violence prevention program, IVYY and asset mapping as the last phase.

This year the Board of Commissioners allocated dollars for the CVIP team to conduct a pilot program to address crime in the hot spot areas. H.O.P.E. Hustlers was engaged to conduct community events in hot spots areas such as apartment complexes and parks and to work with youth in high schools. Two high schools have been indentified, McNair and Redan and a needs assessment is being conducted with 20 students at each high school to determine need for wrap around services and classes. Focusing on societal and community factors. Challenges include indentifying high risk youth and barriers include having access to students. The action team for this project would work with the students at schools and help determine needs and the team would work with the County DPH and violence interrrupters to teach classes. This project would enable our team to continue the pilot program work through the current school year.

Existing Partnerships

Yes

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This VPAT project will enable our CVIP team to engage more youth in the overall violence prevention work being conducted in the county. The CVIP team includes internal/external partners & community based organizations. This project will engage the Youth Commission with 30 high school students working with the CVIP team to develop a youth violence prevention training model. The key is having youth on the team giving feedback and keeping the adults on the correct violence prevention path.

Potential growth

This VPAT project is a perfect fit for the current CVIP project. First, VPAT will enable the pilot program work to continue for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year through July 2025. Currently funding for the pilot runs out in December 2024.

Second, GSU School of Social Work MSW students selected the DeKalb Human Services CVIP project as one of their intern projects in 2025 to develop a violence prevention training module for youth. The VPAT project would strengthen the work of the team which includes the Youth Commission to guide the MSW students as they develop a training module, related to the societal strategy.

Most importantly VPAT will enable the work being done by H.O.P.E. Hustlers in McNair and Redan high schools to thrive and focus on the community and societal violence prevention factors. Both high schools also have Human Services team members, social worker and CVIP assistant project manager & the School District's social workers as guides with the high-risk students. The DeKalb Department of Public Health is being engaged to determine the classes focused on societal issues including learning how to manage social media and conflict resolution which is cause of gun violence. People argue and rather than finding a conflict resolution, firearms are used and people are critically injured or die. Community prevention strategy is a perfect fit since this work focuses on schools and neighborhoods and parks which play a major role as youth hang out at parks.

Page: Action Team Composition

Local elected government official representative

[Download File](#)

Is this an election year for the elected official submitting the LOS?

No

Form of local government

Other (open text)

Other (open text)

CEO/Commission form of government

Action Planning Coalition

[Download File](#)

Proposed Action Planning Team

The proposed action planning (VPAT) team represent a diverse group of current and new CVIP members. In addition we would add 3-5 youth with a couple from the Youth Commission and 2-3 from McNair and Redan high schools who are high-risk youth part of the S.A.F.E. Center programs and have lived experience with violence in the community. Dr. Topalli, criminologist with GSU, has been working with our team for 2 years and he brings a wealth of criminal justice knowledge. In addition we have our Public Health Department as well as social workers, both on our team with Ms. Butler and Ms. Revels with the School District. We include the Commissioner and her staff as well as members of community based organizations with H.O.P.E. Hustlers who have direct experience with community violence. Both Ms. Hill and Ms. Furtado have direct project management experience with the current CVIP grant. PALS and Juvenile Courts may add members who have direct community violence experience.

Strengthening the Action Planning Team

This VPAT project is perfect in that it will enable and require us to engage youth who live in the hot spot communities and have direct experience with community violence. Ms. Clemons, Director IVYY, will add much value on the Action Team and her team and H.O.P.E. Hustlers may add team members who have specifically been gun violence victims and have gone through the IVYY program.

This project gives us an opportunity to expand our reach and community engagement to focus on youth who live and work in areas that have high violent crime. Additionally, this project enables us to work more with the Youth Commission with 30 high school students who have wealth of knowledge of their high school in various parts of DeKalb County.

We need better partnerships with youth and the key with VPAT is it will enable us to build those much needed partnerships.

Youth engagement plan

Currently H.O.P.E. Hustlers and the CVIP team have been in the hot spot communities with community events from July to December 2024. The events enabled the CVIP to provide services and resources to youth.

Youth Engagement Plan will include working directly with the Office of Youth Services to partner with the 30 students on the Youth Commission who attend DeKalb County High Schools. In addition, the plan includes working with the School District and high schools with S.A.F.E. Centers specifically McNair and Redan and both are located in hot spots with high violent crime. Youth who attend the S.A.F.E. Centers will be recruited as members of the Action Team.

In addition, there may be youth who are part of the PALS Midnight Basketball Program (over 100 youth) who are high-risk and victims or have been involved in gun violence. The Juvenile Court staff assist in recruiting youth for Midnight Basketball and will be engaged to assist with this project.

Page: Contract Information

Selected applicants will be required to identify and designate an agency to enter into a contract with NACCHO for the submission of the deliverables specified in the contract and serve as a fiscal agent for the project. NACCHO expects you as the applicant to review and agree to the NACCHO [standard contract language](#). If any items cannot be accepted, these issues should be noted in track changes/comments on the standard contract language and uploaded.

The information below will help to begin the contracting process immediately upon selection.

The applicant has read NACCHO's standard contract language and provided a copy to the individual with signing authority at your organization for advanced consideration.

Yes

Requested Language Modifications to the Standard Contract Language

No File Uploaded

Do you have prior experience in Federal Contracting?

Yes

Have you completed a Single Audit?

Yes

Vendor Information Form

[Download File](#)

W-9[Download File](#)**Certification of Non-Debarment**[Download File](#)**FFATA**[Download File](#)**SAM.gov**[Download File](#)**Page: Budget (NOT Scored; NOT Weighted)**

Refer to the [budget](#) and [budget narrative](#) templates. Each applicant may request up to \$50,000 to support project activities. The budget should span the ten months from January 1, 2025 to July 31, 2025 (please note the contract will be retroactively effective but may not be fully executed by the start of the period of performance on January 1, 2025). If granted a no-cost extension, the budget will be resubmitted during the contract modification process for a new project period end date of September 30, 2025.

Activities supported directly by project funding will be constrained by allowable costs under CDC guidelines. Funds may not be used for equipment purchases. Please see Appendix A for a list of unallowable costs.

Budget[Download File](#)**Budget Narrative**[Download File](#)**Fringe and Indirect Documentation**

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Incentives Justification[Download File](#)