

Request for Proposals

Coming Together Partnership Gun Violence Prevention Change-Maker Grant



The **Coming Together Partnership to Prevent Gun Violence** is pleased to announce the following Request for Proposals from community nonprofit (501 (c) (3)) agencies or schools.

We are offering a limited number of mini-grants of \$500 to \$1,000 to agencies to encourage the development of programs or activities that involve developing youth (ages 11 through 24) in becoming “change-makers” in preventing gun violence. Funding is available only for projects in Milwaukee County. *NOTE: Preference will be given to those agencies that participated in the Dec. 10, 2014 Coming Together Summit and to those gun violence prevention proposals that look to develop “change-makers.”*

Background: The Coming Together Partnership seeks to build a dialogue between youth and adults so that they may come together in action to prevent gun death and injury in Milwaukee County. The Coming Together Partnership involves the Community Advocates - Milwaukee Brighter Futures Initiative; City of Milwaukee Health Department - Office of Violence Prevention; the Medical College of Wisconsin - Violence Prevention Initiative; and Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin - Project Ujima.

Proposal Vision: Proposals should seek to develop actions that build off the “change-maker” theme of the “Coming Together” community summit held on Dec. 10, 2014. The Coming Together Change-Maker Grants are designed to encourage agencies to develop youth who can lead and participate meaningfully in efforts to prevent gun violence in their neighborhoods and the community as a whole.

Eligibility: Any nonprofit (501 (c) (3)) agency or school entity with preference given to those that participated in the Dec. 10, 2014 Summit. The Partnership agencies (listed in “Background” paragraph) above are not eligible to apply.

Program Guidelines: Funds from this mini-grant are intended to support agencies in inspiring youth to become leaders in advancing violence prevention efforts. The funds may be used for activities led by youth that promise to work toward preventing gun violence among their peers, within their neighborhood, in their school or in the community as a whole. Adults – either community volunteers or agency staff – may be involved in the project as long as the program is created or led by youth. Projects that involve collaboration between agencies are encouraged.

The following are some examples of the types of activities that may be funded:

Training sessions to develop youth leaders in gun violence prevention
Activities that engage youth in affecting policies
An art exhibit dramatizing gun violence prevention
A series of youth get-togethers
A community forum and/or neighborhood meeting

Audio-visual projects
Incentives for youth in promoting prevention activities
Speakers and/or costs of presentations
Resource fairs

Definition of Change-Maker: Change-makers take initiative on an issue they care about, influence their peers and the community at large and create positive change. Proposals should have a Change-Maker focus and could

involve such efforts as building a network, engaging groups of young people, partnering with adult groups, developing connections with community resources, and using creativity to spread the message.

(IMPORTANT: Mini-grant funds may be used to supplement other funding as long as the mini-grant funds are in addition to already planned agency funding and are dedicated to specific expenditures that meet the above goals. Funds may NOT be used for lobbying activities!)

Past Projects: The following projects were funded in the first series of mini-grants awards (\$400 to \$750) during 2014:

Holton Youth and Family Center for its participation in the march scheduled for Saturday, April 12, to inaugurate The Bridge Project;

Project Ujima for a neighborhood march and rally on preventing gun violence;

Artworks for Milwaukee for a youth-led project that developed a music video with a theme of preventing gun violence;

Neu-Life Community Development for its 7th Annual Art Show, "The Art of Peace;"

Running Rebels to assist in developing a video as part of "The Bridge Project;"

Serve 2 Unite for its "Gun Free Community" program being held in partnership with Westside Academy

Required Outcomes:

A report must be submitted thirty (30) days after the completion of the project that outlines the results of the activities, number of participants, approximate ages of participants, how the project developed change-makers in gun violence prevention, and how well the activity met its goals as stated in its proposal for the Change-Maker grant.

Participating agencies must be prepared to make a presentation at the 3rd Annual Coming Together Summit (tentatively planned for late 2015) on the successes and challenges faced in conducting the funded activity, The format and nature of the presentation must be coordinated with representatives of the Coming Together Partnership.

Timeline:

- Request for proposals to be published in early January 2015.
- Awards will be announced in the week of March 23-27, 2015.
- All funded programs to be completed by about Aug. 31, 2015.
- Final reports due 30 days after completion of program.
- Participation in the 3rd Annual Coming Together Summit in late 2015.

Filing Requirements:

- Proposals must be completed using the attached application, with no additional pages or add-ons. A cover letter limited to one-page providing additional information is permitted, but not required. No letters of endorsement or support may be submitted. An original and three (3) copies of the proposal are required.
- **Completed submissions due by 5 p.m., Monday, February 23, 2015 at the office of Community Advocates, 728 N. James Lovell St., Milwaukee WI 53233. Attn: Coming Together Partnership**

For questions, contact Ken Germanson at keng@communityadvocates.net or 414-270-2977.