



# AGENDA REPORT

**TO:** Edward D. Reiskin  
City Administrator

**FROM:** Guillermo Cespedes  
Chief, Violence Prevention

**SUBJECT:** DVP Violence Intervention Additional  
Grants Fiscal Year 2021-2022

**DATE:** July 2, 2021

City Administrator Approval 

Date: July 22, 2021

## RECOMMENDATION

**Staff Recommends That City Council Adopt The Following Pieces of Legislation:**

- 1. A Resolution Amending City Council Resolution No. 88654 C.M.S. To Increase The Amount Of Grant Agreements With Existing Violence Intervention Program Service Providers And To Award A New Grant Agreement To Progressive Transitions Inc. For The Provision Violence Intervention Services For A Total Grant Amount For Fiscal Year 2021-22 Not To Exceed Nine Million Eight Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$9,815,000)**
- 2. A Resolution Awarding Grant Agreements To Private Non-Profit Entities To Conduct Town Nights Violence Intervention Events Through Out The City Of Oakland For A Fifteen-Month Term Beginning July 1, 2021 And Ending September 30, 2022 In A Total Amount Not To Exceed One Million Five Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,550,000) And**
- 3. A Resolution Awarding A Professional Service Agreement In An Amount Not To Exceed Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) To Bright Research Group Inc. To Provide Training And Technical Assistance From July 1, 2021 Through June 30, 2022; And**

**Authorizing The City Administrator To Renew The Agreement With Bright Research Group Inc. On The Same Terms For One Additional One-Year Term For A Total Contract Amount Not To Exceed Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$600,000), Without Returning To Council.**

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an overview of the additional violence intervention and prevention programs the Department of Violence Prevention (DVP) recommends for implementation with general purpose funds (GPF) appropriated in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-23 two-year budget

City Council  
July 26, 2021

adopted on June 24, 2021. The DVP currently administers violence intervention funds through grant agreements with 23 nonprofit and public agencies and by providing direct services within the City to individuals at highest risk for violence. It further provides detail on additional services and requests authorization to add funds to a subset of the approved agreements along with three new grant agreements for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-2022, at an approximate amount of \$2,805,000.

The Department of Violence Prevention recommends that additional funding be added to nine grant agreements previously approved for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 as well as three new grant agreements. The additional funding will provide for:

- Doubling the number of Violence Interrupters;
- More funding to support victims of Intimate Violence;
- Expanded Culturally and Linguistically appropriate gender-based violence services for multi-lingual advocacy;
- 24-hour bedside advocacy for victims of gender-based violence;
- Emergency Housing for Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth; and
- Town Nights to activate Oakland's parks and neighborhood streets at 6-7 sites

In addition, to support these efforts with training and technical assistance, DVP seeks to add funds to a Professional Services Agreement with Bright Research Group for a total amount not to exceed \$300,000 per year in Fiscal Years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.

## **BACKGROUND / LEGISLATIVE HISTORY**

***Oakland Unite 2019-2021 Spending Plan:*** The strategies in the Oakland Unite 2019-2021 Spending Plan centers on the belief that Oakland can move towards safety, healing and growth by working in close partnership with people and communities at the center of violence.

The Safety and Services Oversight Commission (SSOC) and City Council approved the current Spending Plan in winter 2018 (Resolution No. [87477](#) C.M.S.) which was informed by and aligned with the larger citywide planning process related to the Department of Violence Prevention.

Following discussion of a new proposed spending plan in December 2020, the City Council requested an extension of the current awards of violence prevention grant agreements to provide time for additional community input before returning to City Council with a new spending plan by June 30, 2021 (Resolution No. [88466](#) C.M.S.). The DVP Strategic Spending Plan for Fiscal Years 2022-2024 was presented to the Public Safety and Services Oversight Commission (SSOC) on May 24, 2021 and the Public Safety Committee on June 8, 2021. Following discussion, the item was continued to the July 13, 2021 Public Safety Committee meeting with instructions to prepare a supplemental report to include any additional funds appropriated to DVP during the two-year budget process. (Resolution pending).

***Current Grant Agreements:*** On June 18, 2019, City Council passed Resolution No. 87756 C.M.S., which awarded grant agreements to multiple violence intervention service providers selected through the Request for Proposal (RFP) process for a one-year term beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020. A renewal year was approved by City Council in June 2020 to extend approved grant agreements with non-profit and public agencies, selected through the 2019 RFP process, to provide violence prevention and intervention services to run from July 1,

2020 through June 30, 2021 (Resolution No. 88120 C.M.S.). In May 2021, City Council approved an additional year of grant funding for the current fiscal year from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. (Resolution No. 88654 C.M.S.).

**Department of Violence Prevention:** On June 20, 2017, City Council approved the creation of a new Department of Violence Prevention (Resolution No. 13451 C.M.S.). The mission of the DVP is to dramatically reduce violent crime and serve communities impacted by violence to end the cycle of trauma. Oakland Unite activities transitioned into the DVP and under the direction of the Chief of Violence Prevention in FY 2020-21.

## **ANALYSIS AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES**

Oakland has experienced a dramatic rise in gun and gender-based violence during the pandemic, in 2020, Oakland suffered a dramatic uptick to 102 homicides compared to 75 in 2019. The last time Oakland eclipsed 100 killings was 2012, when it was ranked the third most dangerous city in the nation by violent crime rates. From June to December 2020, Oakland experienced over 100 shootings each month and female-identified shooting victims increased by 77%. If trends continue, Oakland is on track to see its worst year of violent crime since the early 2000s with 65 homicides in the first six months of 2021. A surge in gender-based violence against women, girls and gender non-conforming people included a significant uptick in calls to Oakland's 24-hour domestic violence hotline when the local shelter-in-place orders went into effect in 2020. Requests for services rose 36% from mid-March to end of June 2020 and the increase in need for services continues.<sup>1</sup>

**Recommendation:** DVP recommends increasing current grant agreements for nine grantees and new grant agreements with three additional non-profit agencies to serve Oakland residents for Fiscal Year 2021-2022. The agencies listed below in **Table 1** and **Table 2**<sup>2</sup> were selected based upon past performance and have demonstrated effective implementation of violence intervention and prevention programs and services. Funded intervention and prevention strategies include:

**Expanding the agencies providing Violence Interruption (VI)** and locating VI teams in neighborhoods experiencing the highest rates of shooting and homicide including Deep East Oakland and Central East Oakland. This includes additional funding to support families impacted by homicide.

**More funding to support victims of Intimate Violence** to meet the increased demand for services and legal advocacy experienced during the pandemic. Included in this effort are flexible funds to support the immediate needs of individuals and families in crisis.

**Expanded Culturally and Linguistically appropriate services** for victims of gender-based violence designed to reach marginalized, immigrant communities (i.e. Latin American and Southeast Asian) and remove barriers to accessing support.

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<sup>1</sup> Family Violence Law Center, 744 people served from mid-March to end of June 2020 as compared to 557 in during the same time-period in 2019. Data reported on March 20, 2021.

<sup>2</sup> Due to the need for Town Nights programming in Summer 2022, the grant periods for the grants detailed in Table 2 will be 15-months to account for an additional quarter (through September 2022).

**Establish 24-hour Bedside Advocacy** at hospitals and community clinics to provide support for victims of sexual violence and intimate partner violence.

**Expand Emergency Housing for Commercially Sexually Exploited (CSE) Youth** along with supportive services to provide CSE youth with a temporary safe place for individuals to stabilize and connection to care that addresses their unique needs.

**Table 1** details the agency name and additional grant award amounts for the community-based providers that will perform the identified services, by strategy area.

**TABLE 1: DVP Violence Intervention Grants- General Purpose Fund (FY 2021-2022)**

<b>ADDITIONAL FY 2021-2022 GRANT AMOUNTS</b>			
<b>Agency Name</b>	<b>Additional Amount</b>	<b>FY2021-22 Renewal</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth Intervention</b>			
Covenant House California	\$200,000	\$ 200,000	\$400,000
Motivating, Inspiring, Supporting and Serving Sexually Exploited Youth, Inc.	\$55,000	\$315,000	\$370,000
Bay Area Women Against Rape	\$50,000	\$235,000	\$285,000
Progressive Transition(s), Inc.	\$100,000	-	\$100,000
<b>Family Violence Intervention</b>			
The Family Violence Law Center <sup>3</sup>	\$450,000	\$600,000	\$1,050,000
<b>Shooting and Homicide Response</b>			
Youth ALIVE!	\$400,000	\$1,060,000	\$1,460,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,255,000</b>		

**Town Nights** to activate Oakland’s parks and neighborhood streets and serve as outlets for community members to come together and connect in safe, positive spaces to build community, nurture relationships and promote peace on the days and nights when violence happens most in the neighborhoods most impacted. Town Nights will take the form of celebrations in parks, block parties, or other community gatherings designed to nurture cross-racial, cross-cultural and cross-generational relationships, as a prevention strategy, *before* violence or crisis happens. In response to the data showing spikes in shooting and homicides prior to and during the winter holiday months as well as the summer months, DVP anticipates programming across 6-7 sites in Winter 2021 and Summer 2022.

<sup>3</sup> This grant will include a sub-award intended for Mujeres Unidas y Activas.

**Table 2** details the agency name and additional grant award amounts for the community-based providers that will plan and implement Town Nights. To implement summer, evening programming, the term of these agreements will be July 2, 2021 to September 30, 2022.

**TABLE 2: DVP Violence Intervention Grants with Town Nights- General Purpose Fund**

<b>ADDITIONAL FY 2021-2022 GRANT AMOUNTS</b>			
<b>Agency Name</b>	<b>Additional Amount</b>	<b>FY2021-22 Renewal</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Community Healing/Violence Interruption/Town Nights</b>			
Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice	\$350,000	\$175,000	\$525,000
Roots Community Health Center	\$350,000	\$325,000	\$675,000
TRYBE Inc. <sup>4</sup>	\$450,000	-	\$450,000
<b>Community Healing/Town Nights</b>			
Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency <sup>5</sup>	\$100,000	\$550,000	\$650,000
Black Cultural Zone Community Development Corporation	\$100,000	-	\$100,000
Movement Strategy Center (Fiscal sponsor for Urban Peace Movement Oakland)	\$200,000	\$350,000	\$550,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,550,000</b>		

\*Activities for these agreements will continue through Summer 2022.

In addition, DVP seeks authorization to contract with Bright Research Group (BRG) for professional services to provide training and technical assistance to the expanded grantee network. BRG was selected through a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) seeking individuals and agencies to provide a range of Professional Services, including Training and Technical Assistance, that was issued in partnership with other divisions of the Human Services Department on March 15, 2019. BRG will develop a training plan and coordinate trainings in topics that may include: family systems approach, life coaching certification, multi-generational healing, gender-based violence, trauma-informed and restorative practices, and male allyship. DVP previously allocated \$212,500 for training and the addition of general purpose funds will bring the total amount to \$300,000, which will exceed \$250,000 requiring City Council authorization.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

**Total Projected Expenses:** Approval of the proposed resolution will authorize the City Administrator to include additional funds in grant agreements with nine community based organizations to provide violence intervention and prevention services along with three new grant agreements. The total projected cost of these efforts for FY 2021 – 2022 is \$2,805,000 to accommodate Town Nights summer programming in Summer 2022, the grant period for a portion of this amount, not to exceed \$1,550,000 will be from July 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022.

<sup>4</sup> This grant will include a sub-award intended for Homies Empowerment.

<sup>5</sup> This grant will include a sub-award intended for Adamika Village, Inc.

In addition, funds will be added to the professional services agreement with Bright Research Group in an amount not to exceed \$87,500 for training and technical assistance for the DVP staff and network of providers. With the addition of these funds the total amount- \$300,000 will exceed \$250,000, requiring City Council authorization.

**Funding Sources:** The primary funding sources for this request is General Purpose Funds (1010) appropriated to DVP in the FY 2021-23 Biennial Budget, per City Council Amendments, and Measure Z Funds (2252) appropriated in the FY2021-23 Biennial Budget per the Mayor's Proposal.

Staff recommends, that any unexpended Measure Z balances be placed into the reserve fund in Measure Z – Violence Prevention and Public Safety Act of 2014 Fund (2252), Violence Prevention Administration (70211), and Measure Z Service Reserve Project (1004313); and any unexpended GPF balances be held in a project to be determined in the General Purpose Funds (1010).

### **PUBLIC OUTREACH / INTEREST**

Focus groups for each strategy were conducted during March and April 2021 as part of the DVP's series of community engagement town halls and focus groups. In addition, following extensive outreach and research completed by its advisory committees, the Reimagining Public Safety Task Force included specific recommendations to City Council to increase funding for the community violence interventions and gender-based violence responses included in this report.

Due to the urgency of this report, DVP will present these recommendations to the SSOC at their July 26, 2021 evening meeting.

### **COORDINATION**

This report and legislation have been reviewed by the Office of the City Attorney and Budget Bureau.

### **PAST PERFORMANCE, EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP**

**Evaluation Efforts:** The Safety and Services Act requires an annual evaluation to be conducted by a third-party independent evaluator. The purpose of the evaluation is to ensure that the City effectively uses funds on permitted activities that have the greatest impact in helping Oakland progress towards the Safety and Services Act objectives. Results from current and future evaluation continue to inform program implementation.<sup>6</sup>

The organizations recommended for additional funding have performed well in the past, as detailed in during the renewal recommendation process. For more details about grantee's past performance, please see the report and attachments accompanying the DVP Violence

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<sup>6</sup> For more details on past evaluation efforts, please see the Agenda Report for DVP Grant Renewals included in the May 18, 2022 Public Safety Committee agenda.

Intervention Renewals for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 available on the May 18, 2022 Public Safety Committee agenda.

### **SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES**

**Economic:** Providing programs for Oakland residents affected by violence will improve their economic stability by linking them to organizations and services geared to produce positive outcomes for youth and young adults. Breaking the cycle of violence has the potential to save dollars in medical care, police services, and incarceration costs, among other costs.

**Environmental:** By expanding social services to and improving opportunities for those most impacted by violence, marginalized communities are made safer, healthier, and stronger. Safer neighborhood conditions contribute to the growth and revitalization of our Oakland communities, including efforts to preserve or improve the quality of the physical environment.

**Race & Equity:** DVP violence intervention programs help youth, young adults, and families who have been disproportionately impacted by violence and trauma, especially Black, Latinx and other communities of color as well as women who have survived violence, gain more equitable access to opportunity- by improving school performance, expanding employment opportunities, and providing critical support services such as legal advocacy, crisis response, and case management.

### **ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

Staff Recommends That The City Council Adopt The Following Pieces Of Legislation:

1. A Resolution Amending City Council Resolution No. 88654 C.M.S. To Increase The Amount Of Grant Agreements With Existing Violence Intervention Program Service Providers And To Award A New Grant Agreement To Progressive Transitions Inc. For The Provision Violence Intervention Services For A Total Grant Amount For Fiscal Year 2021-22 Not To Exceed Nine Million Eight Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$9,815,000)
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For questions regarding this report, please contact Guillermo Cespedes, Chief, at 510-238-2916.

Respectfully submitted,



Guillermo Cespedes (Jul 22, 2021 08:58 PDT)

GUILLERMO CESPEDES  
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