

NATIONAL OFFICES OF
**VIOLENCE
PREVENTION
NETWORK**

2023 REPORT



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Introduction

The National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform (NICJR), along with Advance Peace, the Center for American Progress, and Cities United, has worked to create and provide technical assistance to offices of violence prevention (OVPs, also known as offices of neighborhood safety and other names) throughout the country for more than 15 years. This national initiative is premised on the notion that safety should not be the exclusive responsibility of policing and the criminal justice system, and that investments should be made in less invasive interventions, prevention, and the promotion of healthy lifestyles and communities.

In early 2020, NICJR surveyed more than 20 current OVPs and local violence prevention government agencies, including entities in Oakland and Los Angeles, CA; Indianapolis, IN; New York, NY; Newark, NJ; Washington, DC; and more. Through the survey, both small and large cities and counties clearly indicated that they would benefit from a national learning community focused on increasing their expertise and effectiveness in violence prevention. As a result, NICJR and partners established the National Offices of Violence Prevention Network (NOVPN).

Launched in 2021 with 21 member agencies, the NOVPN hosts virtual and in-person member convenings; provides training and presentations on effective violence reduction practices; coordinates cross-OVP learning exchanges and site visits; offers leadership and management development; and supports OVPs in growing their capacity for data collection and reporting, fund development, and media relations. The Network also supports the creation of new OVPs in jurisdictions interested in developing such agencies.

NICJR previously published a National Offices of Violence Prevention Network Report based on information gathered through the 2020 OVP survey. This landscape scan served to promote transparency and shed light on existing infrastructures and investments being made in violence reduction efforts across the country. The National OVP Network has grown to now nearly 40 jurisdictions who are NOVPN members. Thus this report offers an updated and expanded overview of the NOVPN, with specific information about member agencies that responded to a brief survey.

National OVP Network Agencies

	Jurisdiction	Population ¹	OVP Annual Budget	OVP FTEs
1	Atlanta, GA	498,715	\$270,000	1.5
2	Baltimore, MD	585,708	\$25,000,000	39
3	Cleveland, OH	372,624	\$4,657,799	21
4	Harris County, TX	4,731,145	\$3,500,000	20
5	Indianapolis, IN	887,642	\$300,000 ²	68
6	Jacksonville, FL	949,611	N/A	11
7	King County, WA	2,269,675	\$12,000,000	5
8	Lake County, IL	714,342	\$1,000,000	1
9	Los Angeles County, CA	10,014,009	\$12,000,000	25
10	Mecklenburg County, NC	1,115,482	\$400,000	1
11	Minneapolis, MN	429,954	\$11,600,000	18
12	Newark, NJ	311,549	\$15,000,000	35
13	Philadelphia, PA	1,603,797	\$35,000,000	28
14	Portland, OR	652,503	\$2,100,000	8
15	Ramsey County, MN	552,352	\$2,500,000	13
16	Richmond, CA	116,448	\$4,000,000	18
17	State of Illinois	12,812,508	\$250,000,000	15
18	St. Louis, MO	301,578	\$2,000,000	17
19	St. Paul, MN	311,527	\$1,405,760	8
20	Stockton, CA	320,804	\$2,000.00	14
21	Washington, DC Office of Gun Violence Prevention	689,545	\$1,400,000	6
22	Washington, DC Office of Neighborhood Safety & Engagement	689,545	\$36,500,000	105

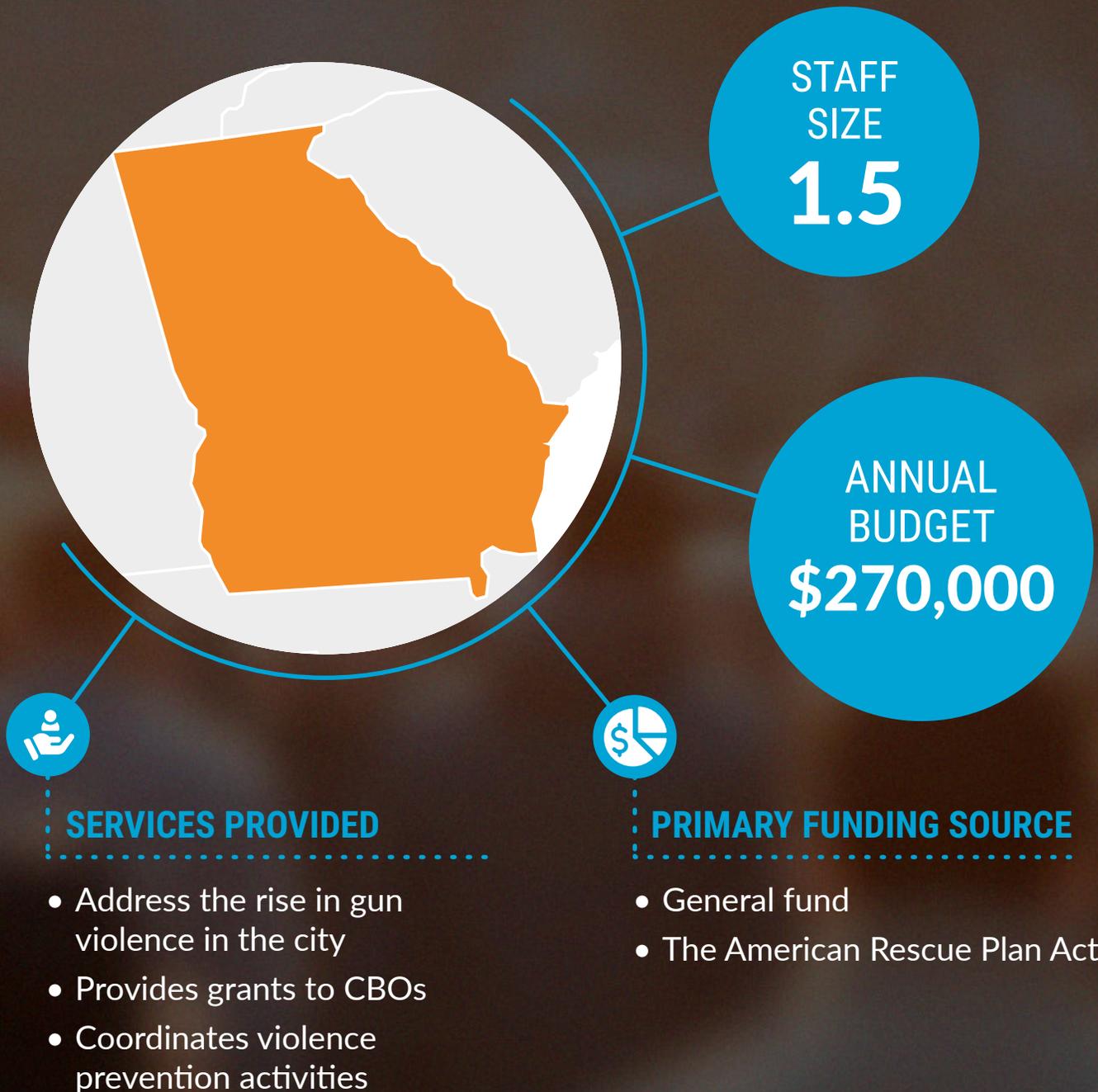
¹ All census data were retrieved from the US Census Bureau 2020 Census.

² Does not include ARPA funds, which pays for most of the 68 staff.

Atlanta, GA

Office of Violence Reduction

Mayor's Office



[Visit Website](#)



Atlanta, GA

Office of Violence Reduction

The Atlanta Office of Violence Reduction was established in 2021 and has an annual budget of \$270,000, with funding from the City General Fund and the American Rescue Plan Act. There are 1.5 full-time equivalents (FTEs) in the agency, including a Director (1 FTE) and a Deputy Director (0.5 FTE). Housed in the Atlanta Office of the Mayor, the Office of Violence Reduction’s mission is to address the rise in gun violence in the city, coordinate citywide violence prevention and reduction efforts, and manage Cure Violence grants to local community-based organizations (CBOs).³ These grants were significantly bolstered in 2021, when the Mayor of Atlanta pledged \$5,000,000 of the City’s ARPA funding toward violence prevention programs such as Cure Violence.⁴ Strategies such as street outreach / violence interruption, mentoring / case management, and hospital-based violence intervention are all in use by the Office and/or the City.



³ Director, Mayor's Office of Violence Reduction

⁴ Mayor Bottoms Names Director of Mayor's Office of Violence Reduction and Violence Prevention Program Expanded to Two Locations

Baltimore, MD

Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement

Mayor's Office



[Visit Website](#)

Baltimore, MD

Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement

The Baltimore Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE) was established in 2020 and has an annual budget of approximately \$25,000,000. Funding sources for the Office are the City General Fund and various grants funding, including funding from a \$50,000,000, three-year ARPA grant.⁵ The 39 funded FTEs in the agency include 35 filled positions and four vacant positions. Housed within the Mayor's Office in Baltimore, MONSE's mission is to empower community partners and City agencies to play a more active role in the co-production of public safety and prevention of violence through a trauma-responsive, healing-centered, and equity-based approach for the benefit of all Baltimoreans.⁶ This work is rooted in a holistic approach to neighborhood health and safety and informed by community input. MONSE was developed through extensive community engagement that included 36 community input sessions with around 13,000 individuals. Ongoing engagement efforts include listening tours, surveys, and biannual youth summits.

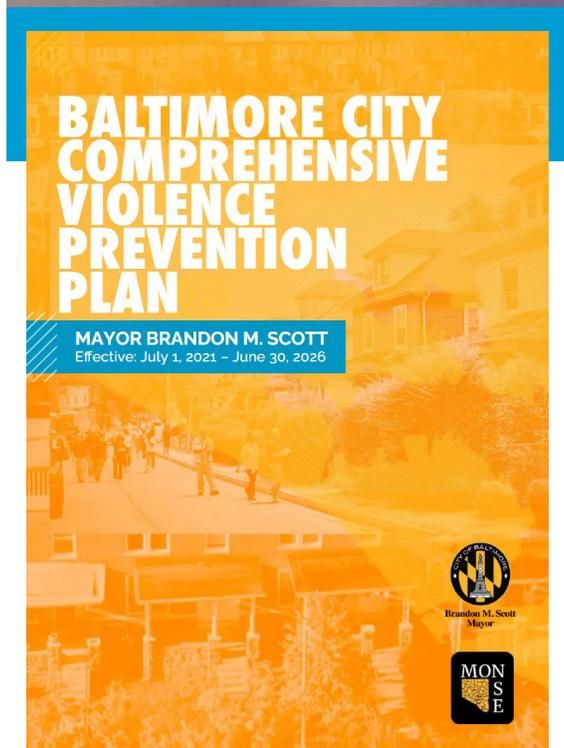
MONSE activities to date have included pre-arrest youth diversion, reentry services, victim services, community violence intervention, and policy development and research. MONSE is involved in implementation of the City's Group Violence Reduction Strategy, manages the City's Violence Prevention Taskforce, and oversees the Baltimore Public Safety Accountability Dashboard.⁷ Notably, in July 2021, the Mayor and MONSE released a comprehensive violence prevention plan.⁸ In addition to coordinating violence prevention activities across City agencies and community partners, the Office provides direct services as well as grants to CBOs. Strategies such as GVI / CeaseFire, street outreach / violence interruption, mentoring / case management, employment assistance, fellowship opportunities, and hospital-based violence intervention are all in use by MONSE and/or the City.

⁵ American Rescue Plan Act Funding Announcement

⁶ Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement

⁷ Baltimore Public Safety Accountability Dashboard

⁸ Baltimore City Comprehensive Violence Prevention Plan



Cleveland, OH

Office of Prevention, Intervention, and Opportunity for Youth and Young Adults

Mayor's Office



[Visit Website](#)



Cleveland, OH

Office of Prevention, Intervention, and Opportunity for Youth and Young Adults

The Cleveland Office of Prevention, Intervention, and Opportunity for Youth and Young Adults was established in 2017 and has an annual budget of \$4,657,799. The Office is funded through the City's General Fund and various grants. There are 21 FTEs in the agency, with 10 current vacancies. Housed in the Office of the Mayor, the Office of Prevention, Intervention, and Opportunity for Youth and Young Adults is committed to addressing the root causes of violence based on a public health model and ultimately improving the overall health, wellbeing, and quality of life of youth, their families, and communities.

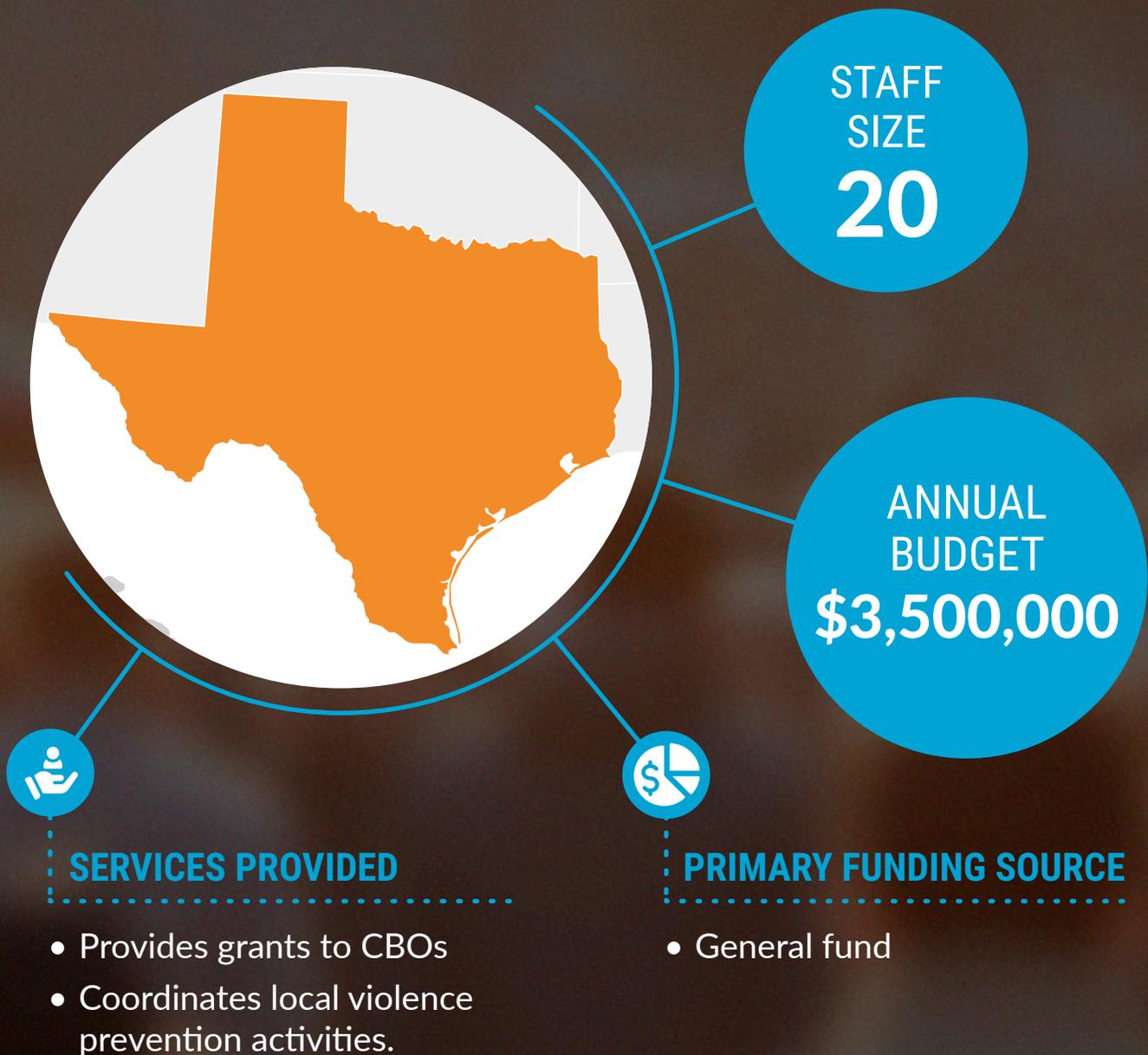
The Office is playing a key role in developing the City's first long-term comprehensive violence prevention plan. The upcoming launch of the plan is slated to involve neighborhood engagement and

resident input. The Office's other activities to date have included transitioning recreation centers into trauma-informed care resource centers; providing neighborhood-based social support specialists to help residents with basic needs and referral services; and providing programming in the areas of education, health and wellness, career readiness, the arts, and sports and recreation. The Office provides grants to CBOs, offers direct services, and coordinates local violence prevention activities. Strategies such as street outreach / violence interruption, mentoring / case management, employment assistance, youth diversion and enrichment, and hospital-based violence intervention are all in use by the Office and/or the City.⁹

⁹ Cleveland targets \$2.7M toward youth jobs, keeping them out of trouble and aiding re-entry when they falter

Harris County, TX

Community Health and Violence Prevention Services



[Visit Website](#)

Harris County, TX

Community Health and Violence Prevention Services

The Community Health and Violence Prevention Services Division within the Harris County Public Health Department was created in 2021 and has an annual budget of \$3,500,000. The main funding source for the Division is the City's General Fund. There are 20 FTEs in the Division, including 17 filled positions and three vacant positions. The Division's mission is to provide strategic direction, oversight, and implementation to address the root causes of violence through a public health approach.¹⁰ The Division was developed with public input gathered through community engagement meetings, health fairs, and mobile health villages with business owners, residents, law enforcement, and other relevant stakeholders.

The Community Health and Violence Prevention Services Division provides grants to CBOs and coordinates local violence prevention activities such as the Holistic Assistance Response Teams (HART).¹¹ Launched in 2022, HART aims to reduce unnecessary law enforcement or hospital interventions for non-emergency 911 calls by dispatching unarmed first responder teams trained in behavioral health and on-scene medical assistance to aid residents experiencing homelessness, behavioral health issues, or non-emergency health or social welfare concerns. The Division continues to engage the community for input in the development and implementation of pilot programming such as HART. Other strategies in use by the Division and/or the County include street outreach / violence interruption and hospital-based violence intervention.



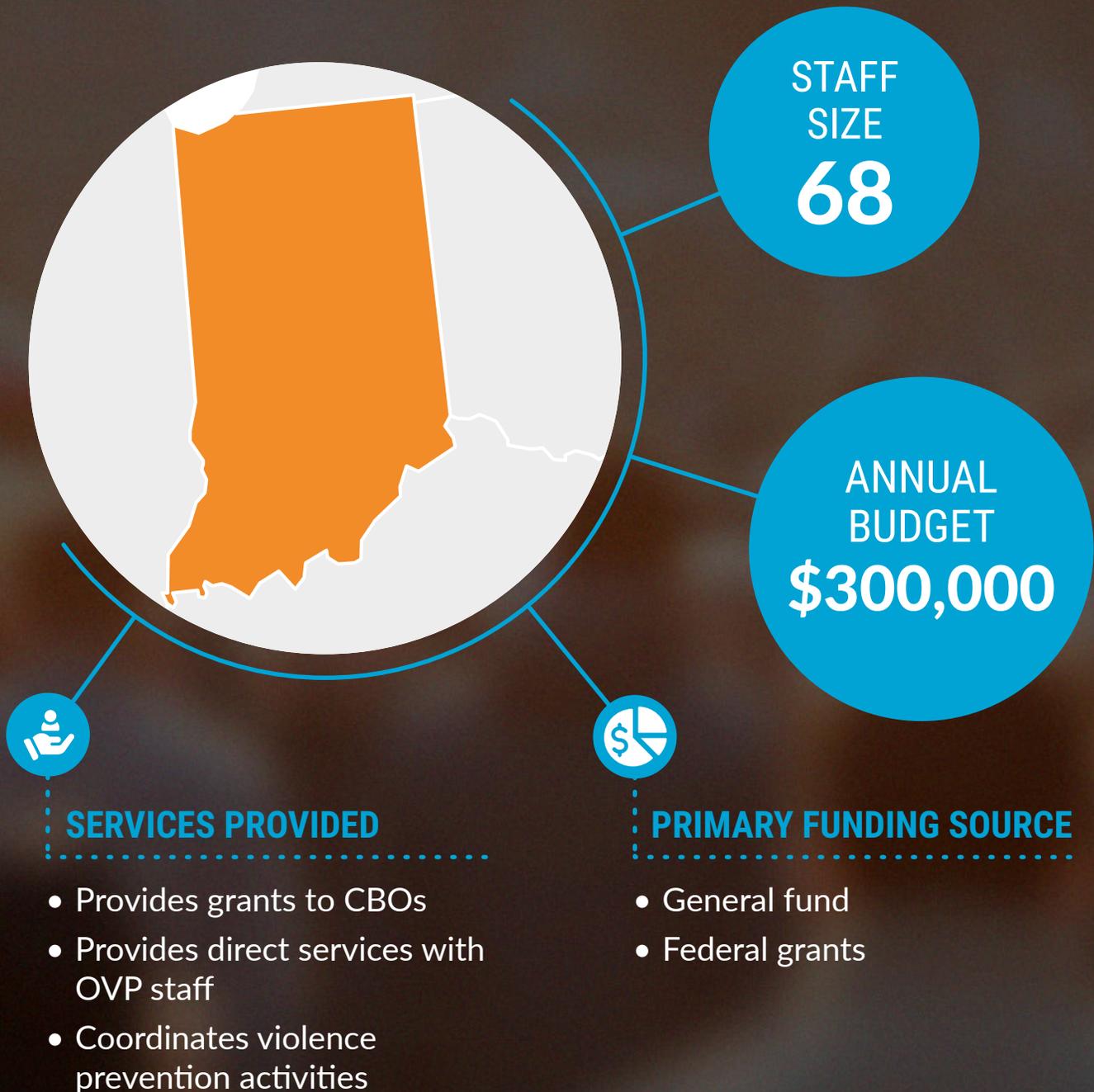
¹⁰ [Community Health and Violence Prevention Services Overview](#)

¹¹ [Holistic Assistance Response Teams](#)

Indianapolis, IN

Office of Public Health and Safety

Mayor's Office



[Visit Website](#)

Indianapolis, IN

Office of Public Health and Safety

The Indianapolis Office of Public Health and Safety was established in 2018 and has an annual budget of \$300,000. The main funding sources for the Office are the City General Fund and American Rescue Plan Act grant funding, including funding from a three-year, \$37,500,000 ARPA grant. Housed in the Office of the Mayor, the Office of Public Health and Safety includes 56 FTEs, with 10 current vacancies. The Office's mission is to address root causes of crime and reduce violence in Indianapolis neighborhoods.

The Office of Public Health and Safety convenes public safety and public health agencies with community partners to execute policy efforts in the areas of violent crime reduction, criminal justice reform, offender re-entry, food security, and homelessness.¹² The Office manages the Indy Peace Fellowship, an 18-month Advance Peace offshoot that involves cognitive behavioral therapy and stipend distribution for individuals at highest risk for violence.¹³ The Office also coordinates local violence prevention activities and provides grants to CBOs. Such grants include the Community-Based Violence Prevention Partnership and the Community Crime Prevention Grant Program, both of which provide funding for grassroots organizations working to prevent violence through evidence-based programming.¹⁴ The Office's ongoing community engagement efforts include resource fairs and a series of outreach events in Indianapolis communities that have been most affected by gun violence. More broadly, strategies such as GVI/CeaseFire, street outreach / violence interruption, mentoring / case management, and fellowship opportunities are all in use by the Office and/or the City.

¹² Office of Public Health and Safety

¹³ Indy Peace Fellowship

¹⁴ Violence Reduction



Office of Public Health and Safety



Jacksonville, FL

Office of Grants and Contract Compliance

Mayor's Office



[Visit Website](#)



Jacksonville, FL

Office of Grants and Contract Compliance

The Jacksonville Office of Grants and Contract Compliance was established in 2020 within the Office of the Mayor. There are 11 FTEs in the Office, with one vacancy. Funding sources for the Office are the City's General Fund and grant funding. The mission of the Office of Grants and Contract Compliance is to promote collaboration between City departments, foster cross-sector partnerships, and provide grant funding to increase the City's capacity and capability to provide services to residents.¹⁵ The Office's work includes awarding grants to CBOs, coordinating violence prevention activities, and engaging in policy development and research. To date, the Office has implemented a Cure Violence program, reentry services, GED classes, vocational training, job placement, afterschool programming, and recreational community events.

Violence reduction strategies in use by the Office and/ or the City include street outreach / violence interruption, mentoring / case management, employment assistance, fellowship opportunities, and hospital-based violence intervention. One notable project is the Community-Based Crime Reduction Program, which works to reduce crime, improve public safety, and increase mutual trust between law enforcement and community stakeholders through the implementation of initiatives that address economic and community development, education, housing, and health disparities in vulnerable communities.¹⁶

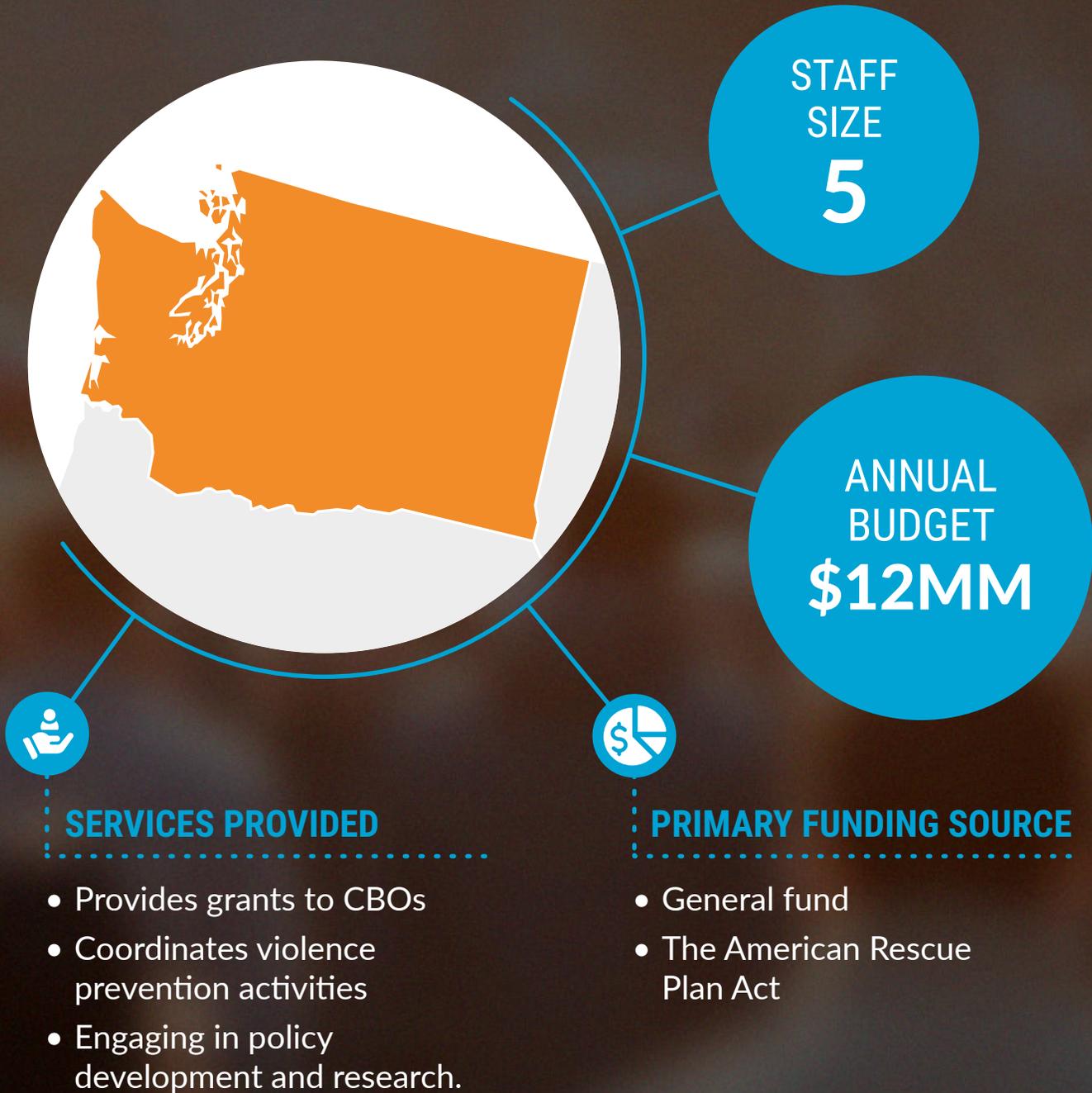
¹⁵ Office of Grants and Compliance

¹⁶ Community Based Crime Reduction Program

King County, WA

Regional Gun Violence Community-Based

Seattle and King County Public Health Department



[Visit Website](#)



King County, WA

Regional Gun Violence Community-Based



The Regional Approach to Gun Violence Initiative in Seattle and King County was established in 2020 and has an annual budget of \$12,000,000, with funding from the General Fund and the American Rescue Plan Act. Housed in the Seattle and King County Public Health Department, the Regional Approach to Gun Violence Initiative currently has five FTEs. The Regional Approach to Gun Violence seeks to prevent and eliminate gun violence, ensure equitable health outcomes for all by providing life-affirming care and resources to the individuals and families who are most impacted by unjust systems, and support a regional approach to community-led gun violence reduction.¹⁷ To develop the Regional Approach to Gun Violence, the City and County partnered with Cities United and coordinated with local community leaders to create a community safety and wellbeing plan. The City and County continue to engage the community through an ongoing partnership with 13 local CBOs that assist in managing the Regional Approach.

Through the Regional Approach, the City and County provide grants to CBOs, coordinate violence prevention activities, and engage in policy development and research. To date, the Regional Approach has implemented the Seattle Community Safety Initiative, a safe passage program, critical incident response, life coaching, hot spot remediation, family healing and restoration, and community engagement events.¹⁸ More broadly, through the Regional Approach and other related efforts, the City and County are employing multiple strategies to reduce violence such as street outreach / violence interruption, mentoring / case management, employment assistance, and hospital-based violence intervention.

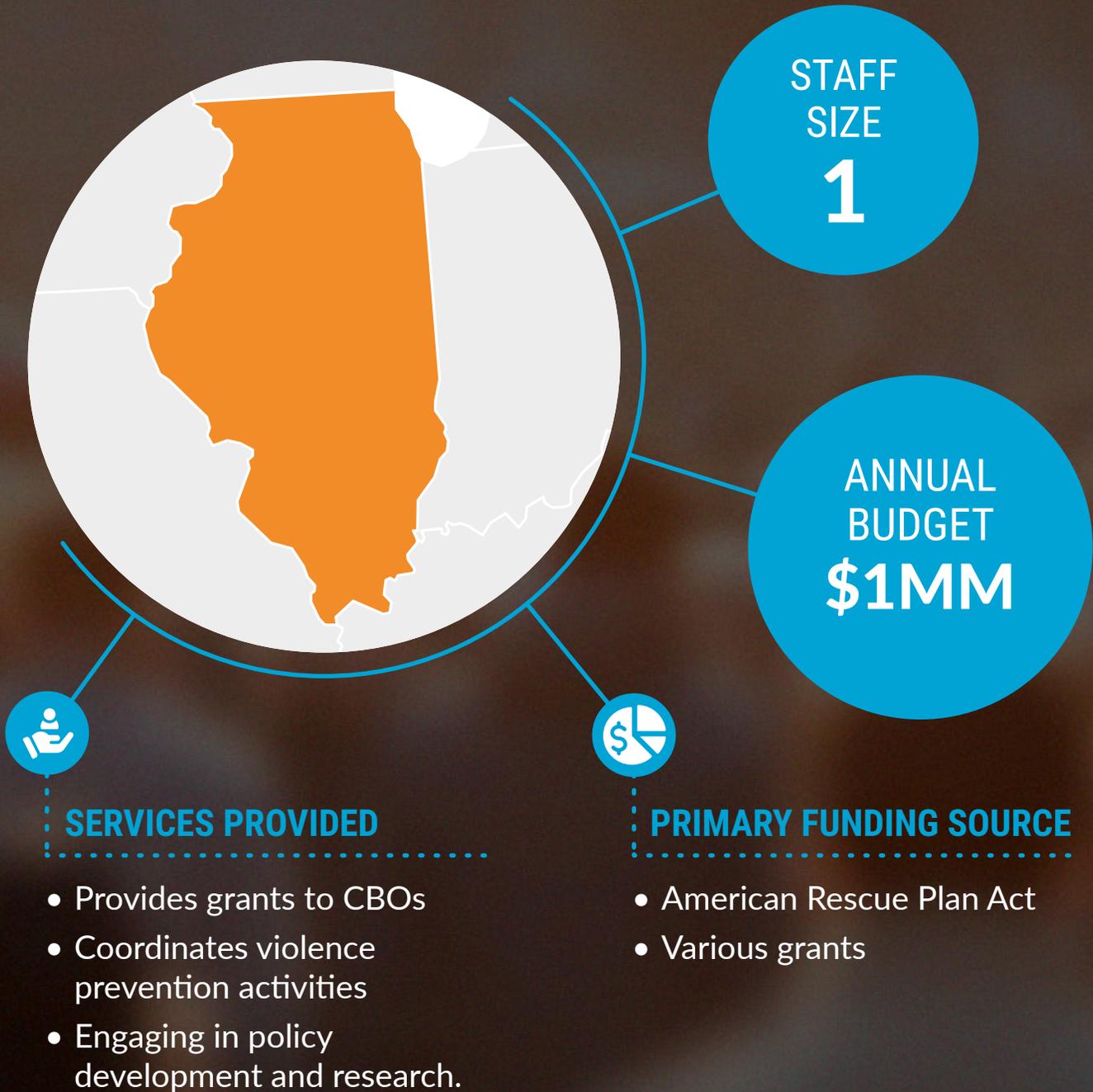
¹⁷ [Regional Gun Violence Community-Based Resource Guide](#)

¹⁸ [Regional Gun Violence Community-Based Resource Guide](#)

Lake County, IL

Gun Violence Prevention Initiative

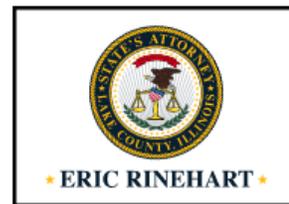
Lake County State's Attorney's Office



[Visit Website](#)

Lake County, IL

Gun Violence Prevention Initiative



The Gun Violence Prevention Initiative in Lake County was established in 2021. The Initiative has an annual budget of \$1,000,000, with funding from the American Rescue Plan Act and other grants. There is one FTE in the Initiative, the Director. Housed in the Lake County State's Attorney's Office, the mission of the Initiative is to partner with the community and law enforcement to address the root causes of gun violence, implement proven short-term and long-term strategies, and immediately interrupt cycles of gun violence.¹⁹ Through the Gun Violence Prevention Initiative, the Office provides grants to CBOs, coordinates violence prevention activities, and engages in policy development and research. The County's first Community Violence Interruption program, which involves the use of violence interrupters to work with high-risk individuals, was implemented in 2022.²⁰ Strategies such as GVI/CeaseFire, street outreach / violence interruption, diversion programming, mentoring / case management, employment assistance, fellowship opportunities, and hospital-based violence intervention are all in use by the Office and/or the County.

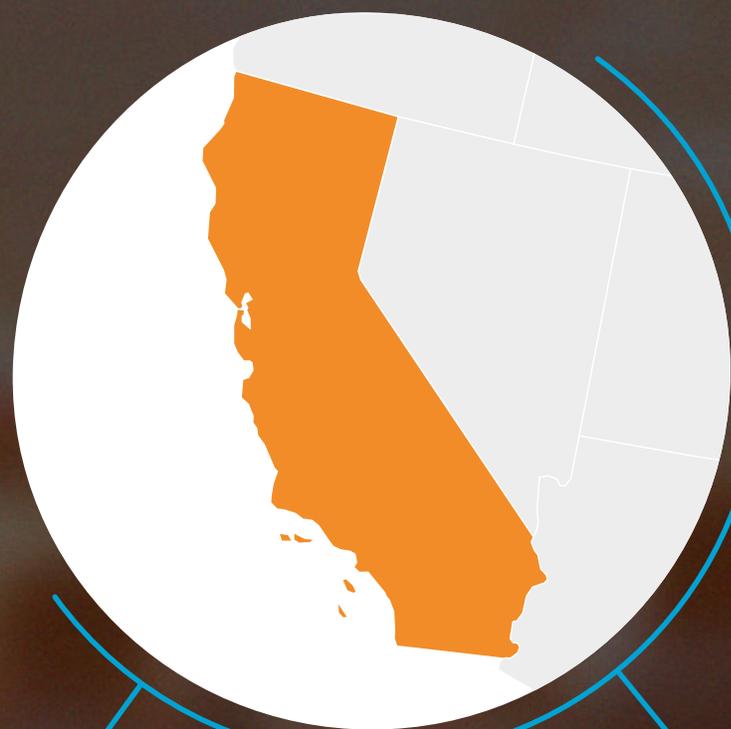
¹⁹ Gun Violence Prevention Initiative

²⁰ Gun Violence Prevention Initiative

Los Angeles County, CA

Office of Violence Prevention (OVP)

County's Department of Public Health



STAFF
SIZE
25

ANNUAL
BUDGET
\$12MM



SERVICES PROVIDED

- Provides grants to CBOs
- Coordinates violence prevention activities
- Engaging in policy development and research.



PRIMARY FUNDING SOURCE

- City's General Fund
- Special tax
- One-time ARPA grant allocation of \$25,000,000

[Visit Website](#)

Los Angeles County, CA

Office of Violence Prevention (OVP)



The Los Angeles Office of Violence Prevention (OVP) was established in 2019 through a board motion by the LA County Board of Supervisors.²¹ The OVP has an annual budget of approximately \$12,000,000,²² with funding from the City's General Fund, a special tax, and a one-time ARPA grant allocation of \$25,000,000. Housed in the County's Department of Public Health, the OVP has 25 FTEs and five part-time positions.

The Los Angeles County Office of Violence Prevention works to strengthen coordination, capacity, and partnerships to address the root causes of violence, advance policies and practices that are grounded in race equity, prevent all forms of violence, and promote healing across all communities. The OVP was developed with significant community input via countywide listening sessions, interviews with subject matter experts, and surveys in communities with high rates of violence. The Office continues to ensure community engagement through the Community Partnership Council, which provides guidance and recommendations on strategic plans, equitable resource allocations, and policy and advocacy efforts. Additional community engagement efforts

include Community Action for Peace Networks, which engage communities with the highest rates of violence,²³ as well as the Peer-to-Peer Violence Prevention Learning Academy.

The Office provides grants to CBOs, coordinates violence prevention activities, and engages in policy development and research. The OVP also monitors the trends and circumstances of violent deaths affecting Los Angeles County to inform decision makers and program planners about strategies to prevent and intervene in violence in the community, at home, and in the workplace. To date, the Office has implemented community violence intervention, crisis response, a Gun Violence Prevention Platform, a Storytelling Project that uplifts the voices of survivors, a Parks After Dark program, a Trauma Prevention Initiative that aims to reduce the disproportionate impact of violence and trauma among Black and Latino communities of South Los Angeles,²⁴ and Regional Violence Prevention Coalitions. Strategies such as street outreach / violence interruption, mentoring / case management, capacity building / community engagement, and hospital-based violence intervention are all in use by the Office and/or the County.

²¹ Motion by Supervisors Sheila Kuehl and Mark Ridley-Thomas

²² Office of Violence Prevention Structure and Strategic Plan

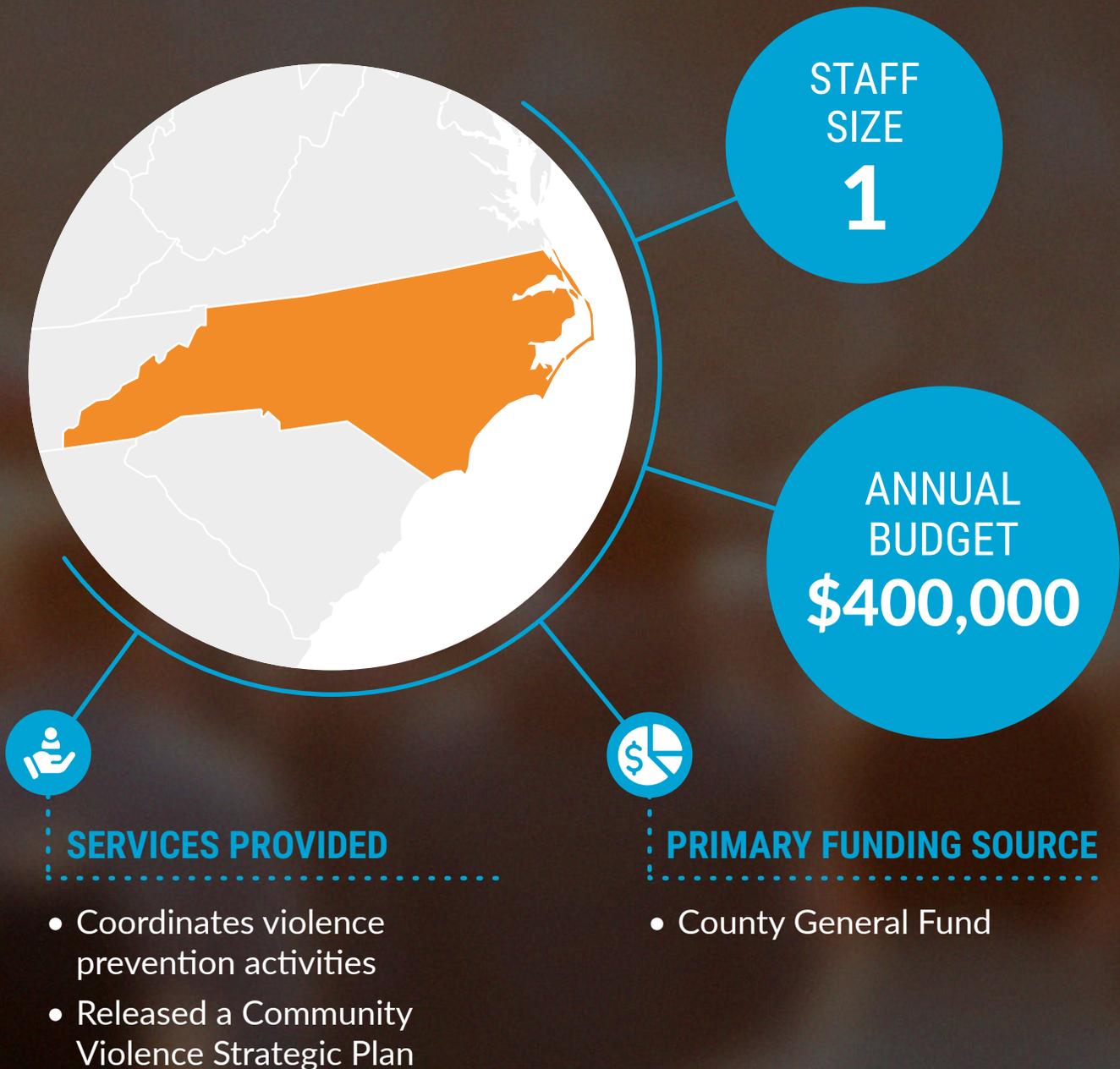
²³ TPI Overview

²⁴ Trauma Prevention Initiative Achievement Report

Mecklenburg County, NC

Office of Violence Prevention

Department of Public Health



[Visit Website](#)

Mecklenburg County, NC

Office of Violence Prevention

The Office of Violence Prevention in Mecklenburg County was established in 2020 and has an annual budget of \$400,000, with funding from the County General Fund. There is one FTE in the Office of Violence Prevention. Housed in the Department of Public Health, the Office's mission is to coordinate violence prevention efforts throughout the County, reduce violence by collaborating with the community, and build healthier communities.²⁵ The Office mainly coordinates violence prevention activities, and it recently released a Community Violence Strategic Plan (FY2023-FY2028). This Plan details the burden of community violence and describes existing initiatives that address violence.²⁶ Strategies in use by the Office and/or the County include street outreach / violence interruption and hospital-based violence intervention. Ongoing community engagement efforts include the Carolina Violence Prevention Collaborative, a regional coalition of community-based organizations, businesses, and service providers that work to break the cycle of violence through innovative solutions focused on advocacy and collective impact.²⁷



²⁵ Violence Prevention

²⁶ [The Way Forward: Mecklenburg County Community Violence Strategic Plan FY2023 – FY2028](#)

²⁷ [Carolina Violence Prevention Collaborative](#)



Minneapolis, MN

Office of Violence Prevention (OVP)

City's Office of Community Safety



STAFF
SIZE
18

ANNUAL
BUDGET
\$11,6MM



SERVICES PROVIDED

- Coordinates violence prevention activities
- Engaging in policy development and research.
- Builds the capacity of small grassroots CBOs
- Oversees the Youth Connection Center



PRIMARY FUNDING SOURCE

- General fund
- Various grants

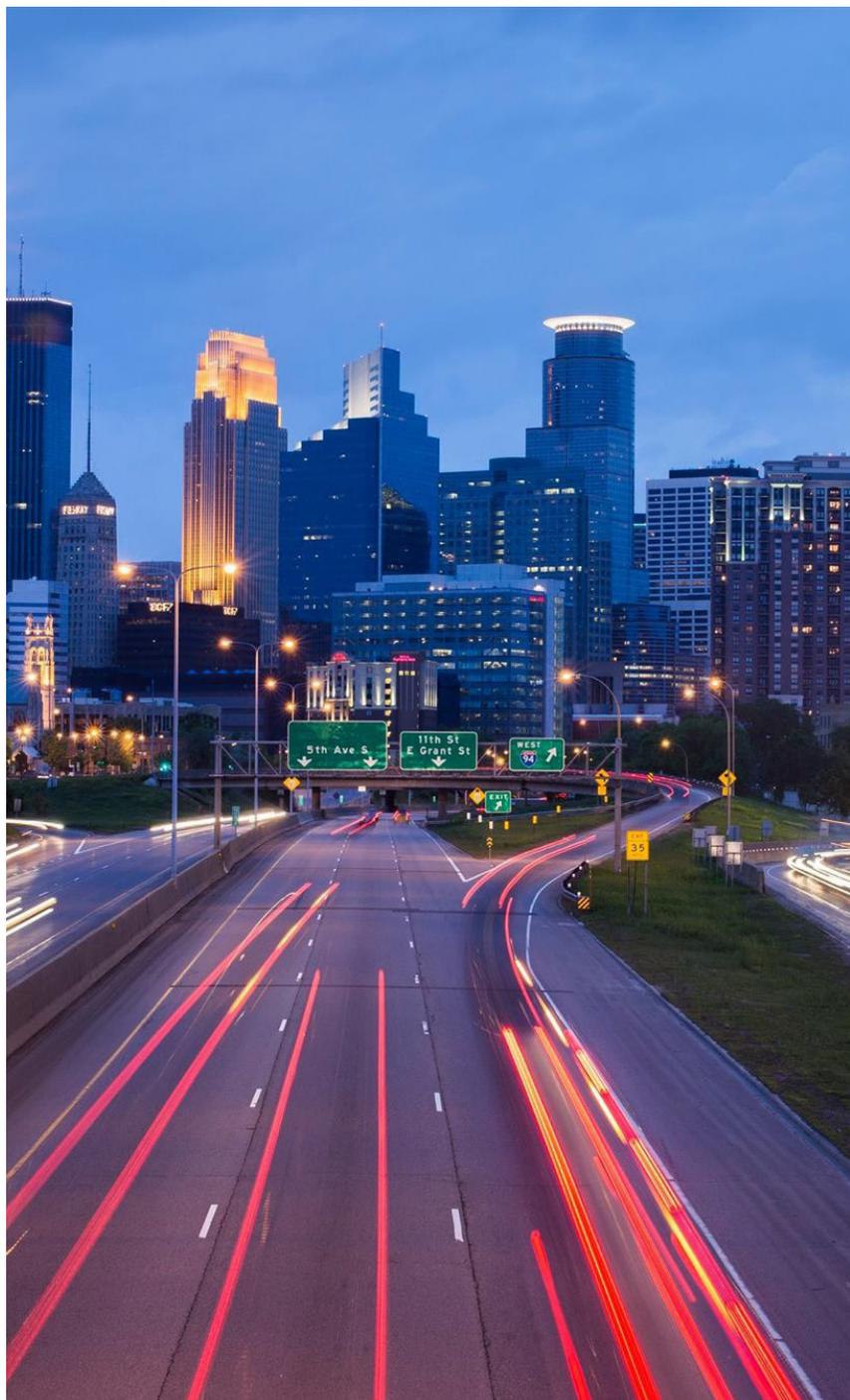
[Visit Website](#)

Minneapolis, MN

Office of Violence Prevention (OVP)

The Minneapolis Office of Violence Prevention (OVP) / Department of Neighborhood Safety was established in 2018 through a City Council ordinance.²⁸ Housed within the City's Office of Community Safety, the OVP has an annual budget of \$11,600,000, with funding from City's General Fund and various grants. There are 18 FTEs in the Office, including 14 filled positions and four vacant positions.

The Minneapolis OVP uses a community-focused, public health approach to reduce the impact of violence on communities. The Office undertakes considerable community engagement to inform the development of their programming and policies, including youth focus groups, community dialogue events, monthly youth violence prevention meetings, and guidance from a Violence Prevention Steering Committee consisting of relevant stakeholders and community members.²⁹ The OVP coordinates violence prevention activities and engages in policy development and research. Through the Violence Prevention Fund, the Office also builds the capacity of small grassroots CBOs by funding their innovative violence prevention and intervention approaches. Additionally, the OVP oversees the Youth Connection Center, which provides supportive services and referrals as well as community-based aftercare for individuals ages 10–17 who encounter law enforcement for low-level offenses. More broadly, strategies such as GVI/CeaseFire, street outreach / violence interruption, mentoring / case management, and hospital-based violence intervention are all in use by the Office and/or the County.



²⁸ Amending Title 11, Chapter 214 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Health and Sanitation: Health Department

²⁹ Minneapolis Blueprint for Action to Prevent Youth Violence

Newark, NJ

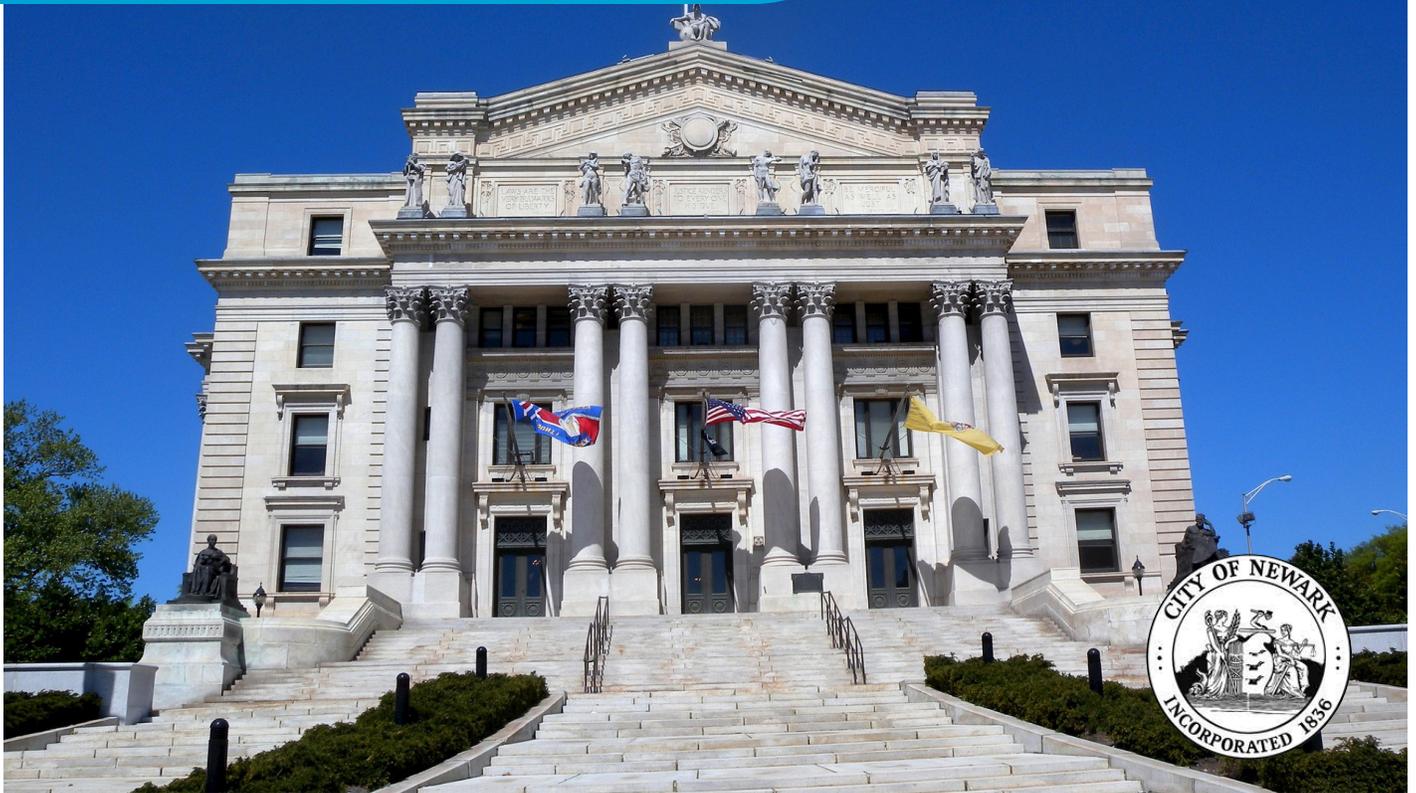
Office of Violence Prevention and Trauma Recovery

Mayor's office and the Office of the City Administrator



Newark, NJ

Office of Violence Prevention and Trauma Recovery



The Newark Office of Violence Prevention and Trauma Recovery was established in 2020 through a City Council ordinance. The Office has an annual budget of \$15,000,000, with funding from the City's General Fund, the American Rescue Plan Act, and 5% of the City's Public Safety Budget.³⁰ There are 35 FTEs in the agency. Housed in the Office of the Mayor and the Office of the City Administrator, the mission of the Office of Violence Prevention and Trauma Recovery is to address factors that lead to crime and violence and to assist survivors of violence as they recover from trauma.³¹

The Office of Violence Prevention and Trauma Recovery awards grants to CBOs, coordinates local violence prevention activities, provides direct

services, and engages in policy development and research. The Office oversees the Safe Summer Academy, which aims to provide alternate pathways to at-risk youth and adults exposed to the criminal justice system, as well as the Newark Community Street Team, which provides relentless outreach and intervention for high-risk individuals.^{32,33} The Office's Community engagement efforts include community walks, rallies, and recreational activities like the Halsey Street Festival.³⁴ Strategies such as GVI/ CeaseFire, street outreach / violence interruption, mentoring / case management, employment assistance, and hospital-based violence intervention are all in use by the Office and/or the City.

³⁰ Mayor Baraka's Office of Violence Prevention Kicks Off Summer Academy for At-Risk Juveniles and Adults

³¹ Mayor Baraka's Office of Violence Prevention Kicks Off Summer Academy for At-Risk Juveniles and Adults

³² Mayor Baraka's Office of Violence Prevention Kicks Off Summer Academy for At-Risk Juveniles and Adults

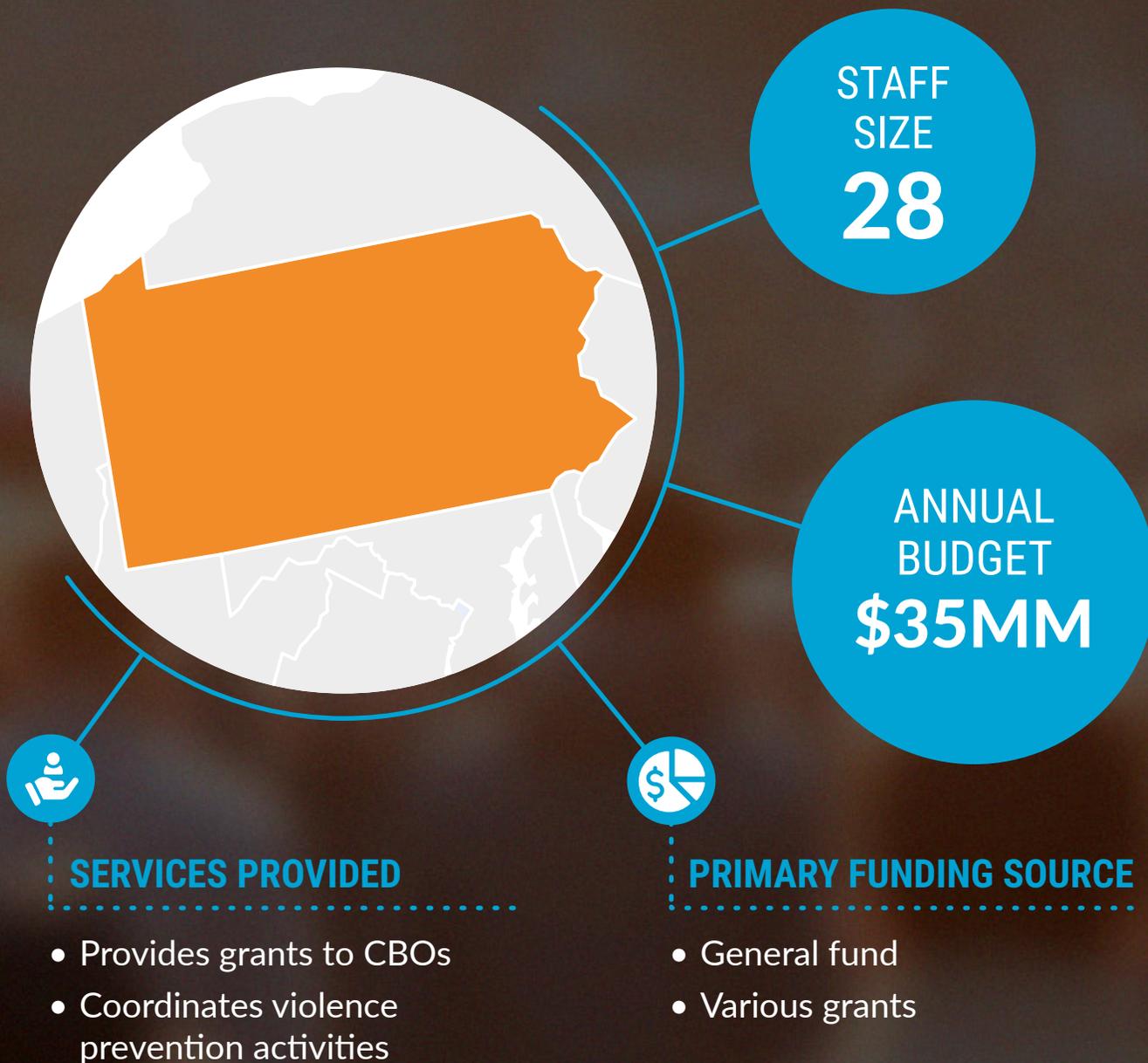
³³ Newark Community Street Team

³⁴ Office of Violence Prevention and Trauma Recovery

Philadelphia, PA

Office of Violence Prevention

City Manager's Office



[Visit Website](#)

Philadelphia, PA

Office of Violence Prevention



The Philadelphia Office of Violence Prevention was established in 2017 and has an annual budget of \$35,000,000, with funding from the City's General Fund and various grants. Housed in the City Manager's Office, the Office of Violence Prevention has 28 FTEs. The mission of the Office of Violence Prevention is to implement strategies and initiatives to prevent, reduce, and end violence in Philadelphia.³⁵ The Philadelphia Office of Violence Prevention is particularly focused on addressing gun violence and creating safer communities by partnering with community organizations to implement the Philadelphia Roadmap to Safer Communities and providing community alternatives to violence.³⁶ The OVP also supports local efforts such as the Community Crisis Intervention Program, Violence Prevention Partnership, and Group Violence Intervention.³⁷ Equally important, the Office provides grants to CBOs and coordinates local violence prevention activities. Community engagement efforts have included a series of community listening tours to learn more about Philadelphia residents' attitudes towards neighborhood gun violence and the City's efforts to combat it.³⁸

Strategies such as GVI/CeaseFire, Cure Violence, street outreach / violence interruption, and mentoring / case management, are all in use by the Office and/or the City. The City recently expanded the capacity of many anti-violence models through Targeted Community Investment Grants and Community Expansion Grants. Expanded strategies include the Philadelphia Crisis Line and Community Mobile Crisis Teams.³⁹ The City is also set to launch the Rapid Employment and Development Initiative, based on a Chicago program that works to engage those at highest risk of violence through cognitive behavioral methods, access to paid work, and professional development support.⁴⁰

³⁵ [Office of Violence Prevention](#)

³⁶ [Office of Violence Prevention](#)

³⁷ [Office of Violence Prevention](#)

³⁸ [City Continues Community Listening Tour for Remainder of Summer](#)

³⁹ [Our plans and investments for making a safer city for all of us](#)

⁴⁰ [READI Chicago](#)

Portland, OR

Office of Violence Prevention

City's Office of Management and Finance
within the Community Safety Division



[Visit Website](#)

Portland, OR

Office of Violence Prevention

The Portland Office of Violence Prevention was established in 2006 and has an annual budget of \$2,100,000, with support from the City's General Fund and various grants. There are eight FTEs in the agency, one of which is vacant. The Office of Violence Prevention is housed within the City's Office of Management and Finance within the Community Safety Division. The Office views gun violence as a public health problem. Its approach to that problem is based on a shared understanding that violence is a virus that can be prevented and treated. As a result, the Office of Violence Prevention engages in three main lanes of work:

- The **Primary Prevention Lane** aims to prevent violence before it occurs, focusing on upstream efforts that address root causes that contribute to long-term gun violence reductions. It consists of efforts to promote healthy development in the general population.
- The **Secondary Prevention Lane** focuses on treating immediate injury and harm resulting from violent incidents. Early interventions or response to an immediate threat of violence/conflict (also called selective prevention) involve assistance for individuals who are at increased risk for violence. Mentoring programs and conflict-mediation assistance are examples of these services.
- The **Tertiary Prevention Lane** refers to a range of activities aimed at addressing the medium and long-term effects of violence and abuse, including therapy and other rehabilitation efforts. This lane consists of intensive services for individuals who have engaged in some degree of violent behavior, with the aim of preventing a recurrence or escalation of aggression.



The Office coordinates violence prevention activities, provides direct services, engages in policy development, and provides grants to CBOs. The OVP oversees Street Level Outreach Workers, who are violence interrupters that engage in relentless outreach with youth ages 8-18 who are at high risk of being involved in violence through afterschool programming, mentoring, and community recreation events in violence hot spots.⁴¹ The OVP also employs a Community Engagement Specialist who acts as liaison between the OVP and the community and who works to strengthen relationships with community-based groups, residents, elected officials, and law enforcement. This position also collects and shares data regarding gun violence, organizes events for the community, and supports events hosted by partners or community members. The OVP's ongoing community engagement efforts include the Community Peace Collaborative, a monthly public forum that brings together a group of relevant stakeholders, community-based organizations, and community members to coordinate resources and hold space for community voices on important issues surrounding violence.⁴² More broadly, strategies in use by the Office and/or the City include GVI/ CeaseFire, street outreach / violence interruption, mentoring / case management, youth diversion programming, restorative justice, reentry services, and hospital-based violence intervention.

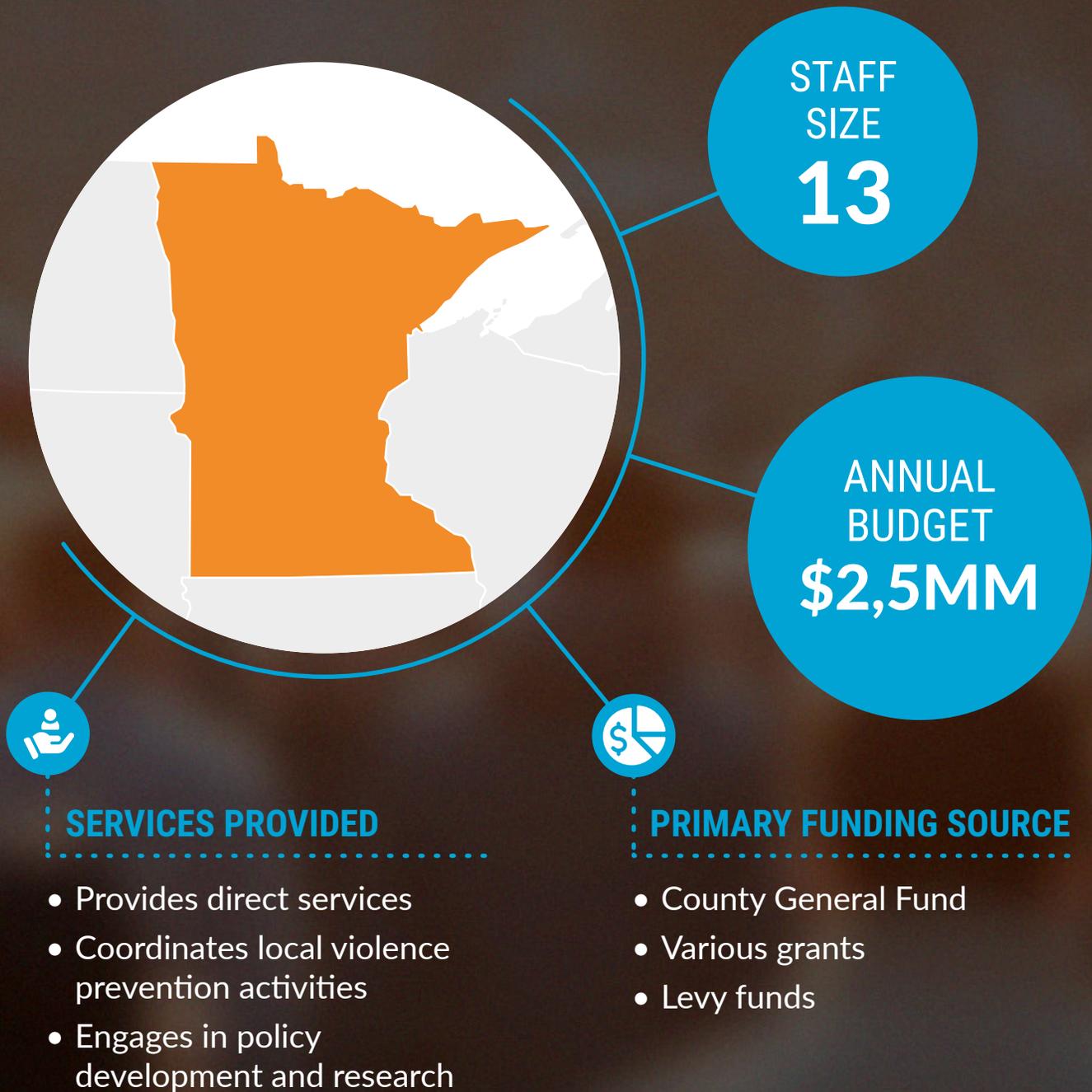
⁴¹ [Programs and Services](#)

⁴² [Community Peace Collaborative](#)

Ramsey County, MN

The Healing Streets Project

County Manager's Office



Ramsey County, MN

The Healing Streets Project



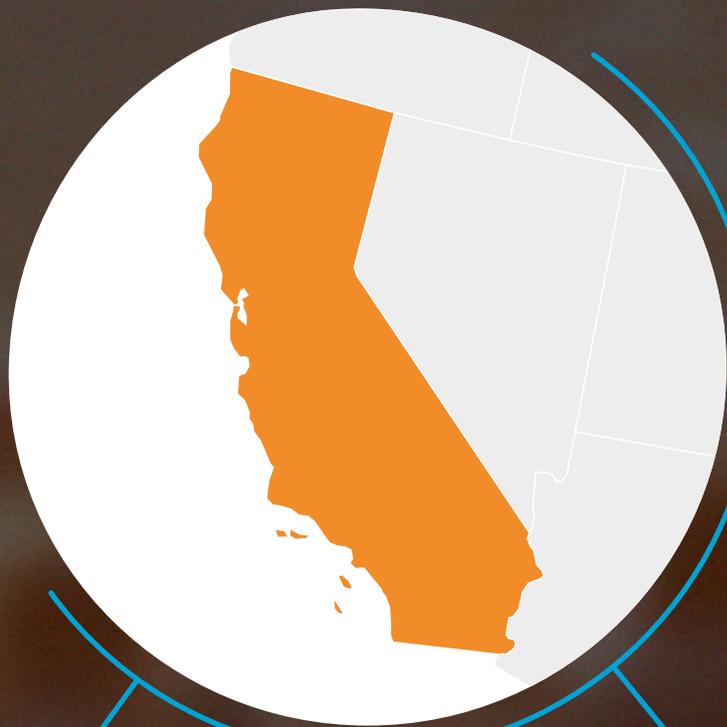
The Healing Streets Project in Ramsey County was created in 2019 and has an annual budget of \$2,500,000, with funding from the County General Fund, various grants, and levy funds. Housed in the County Manager's Office, the Healing Streets Project has 13 FTEs, including eight filled positions and five vacant positions. The Project's mission is to reduce and put a stop to retaliatory and reciprocal gun violence. To this end, the Project provides direct services, coordinates local violence prevention activities, and engages in policy development and research. An evaluation of the Healing Streets Project is currently underway. More broadly, strategies such as street outreach / violence interruption, victim-centered services, mentoring / case management, and a hybrid of the Advance Peace model are all in use by the County.



Richmond, CA

Office of Neighborhood Safety

City Manager's Office



STAFF
SIZE
18

ANNUAL
BUDGET
\$4MM



SERVICES PROVIDED

- Coordinates violence prevention activities
- Provides direct services



PRIMARY FUNDING SOURCE

- General Fund
- California Violence Intervention and Prevention grant

[Visit Website](#)

Richmond, CA

Office of Neighborhood Safety



The Office of Neighborhood Safety in the City of Richmond, CA was established in 2007. The Office has an annual budget of \$4,000,000, with funding from the City's General Fund and a California Violence Intervention and Prevention grant. There are 18 FTEs in the agency. The Office of Neighborhood Safety is responsible for directing gun violence prevention and intervention initiatives that foster greater community well-being and public safety and achieving tangible reductions in firearm-related assaults and deaths.⁴³ The Office was developed through two years of robust community engagement. Strategies such as street outreach / violence interruption, mentoring / case management, and fellowship opportunities are all in use by the Office and/or the City.

The Richmond Office of Neighborhood Safety coordinates violence prevention activities and provides direct services, including through the Peacemaker Fellowship. This Fellowship interrupts gun violence by providing transformational opportunities to young men involved in lethal firearm offenses and placing them in a high-touch, personalized fellowship. By working with and supporting a targeted group of individuals at the core of gun hostilities, the Peacemaker Fellowship bridges the gap between anti-violence programming and a hard-to-reach population at the center of violence in urban areas, thus breaking the cycle of gun hostilities and altering the trajectory of these men's lives.⁴⁴ ONS also uses neighborhood change agents who conduct daily sweeps of their communities to identify and intervene with those at highest risk for being involved in violence.⁴⁵ ONS's successful model resulted in a more than 70% reduction in homicides in the City and has been replicated in other cities through Advance Peace.⁴⁶ The efficacy of the Office's work is supported by numerous robust evaluations, including a Process Evaluation overseen by the National Council on Crime and Delinquency and an evaluation of Advance Peace's Peacemaker Fellowship.⁴⁷

⁴³ [Office of Neighborhood Safety](#)

⁴⁴ [New and Emerging Models of Community Safety and Policing](#)

⁴⁵ [BSCC CalVIP Cohort 4 Proposals: Richmond](#)

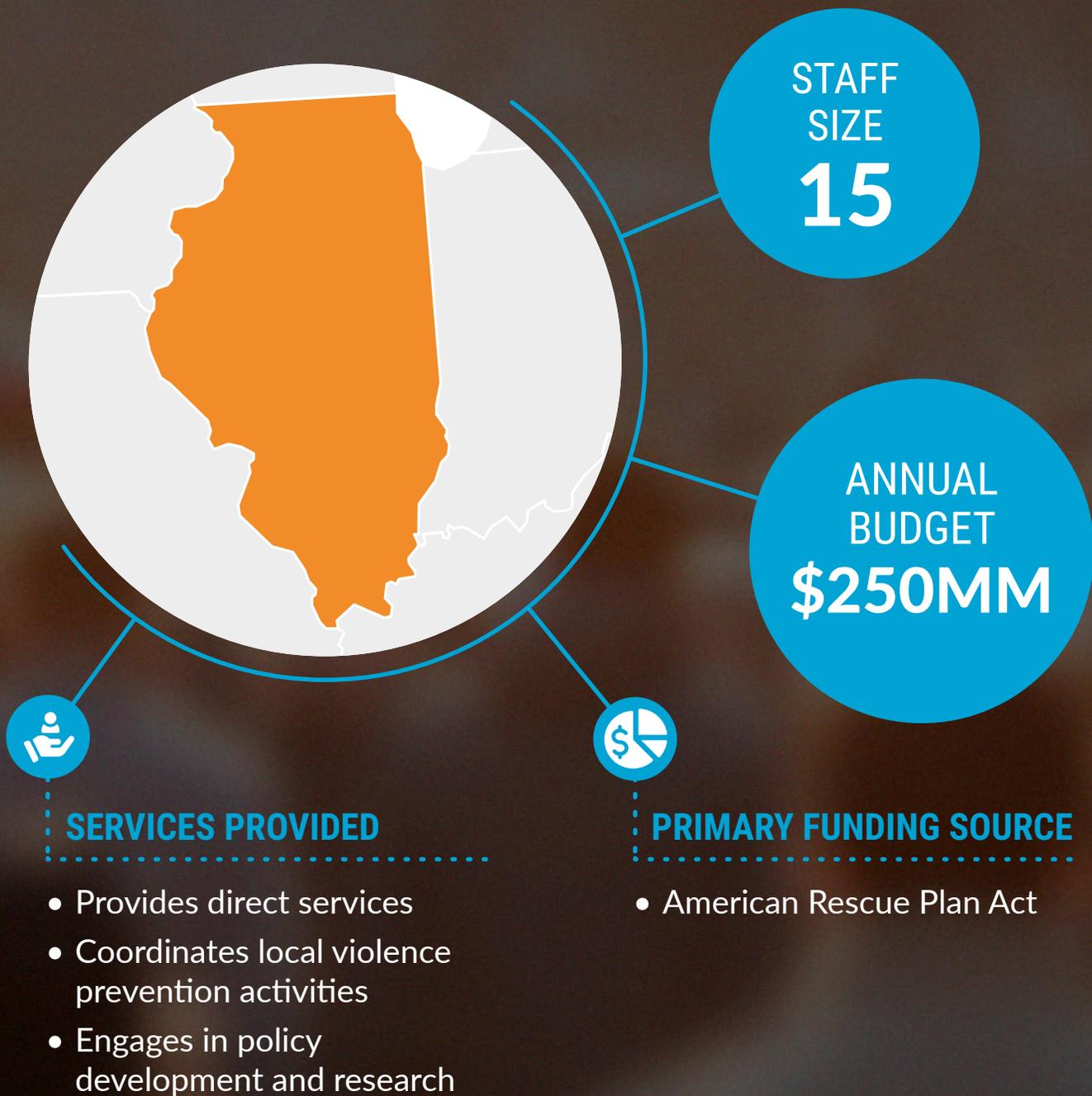
⁴⁶ [Firearm and Nonfirearm Violence After Operation Peacemaker Fellowship in Richmond, California, 1996–2016](#)

⁴⁷ [Process Evaluation for the Office of Neighborhood Safety](#)

State of Illinois

Illinois Office of Firearm Violence Prevention

Governor's Office



State of Illinois

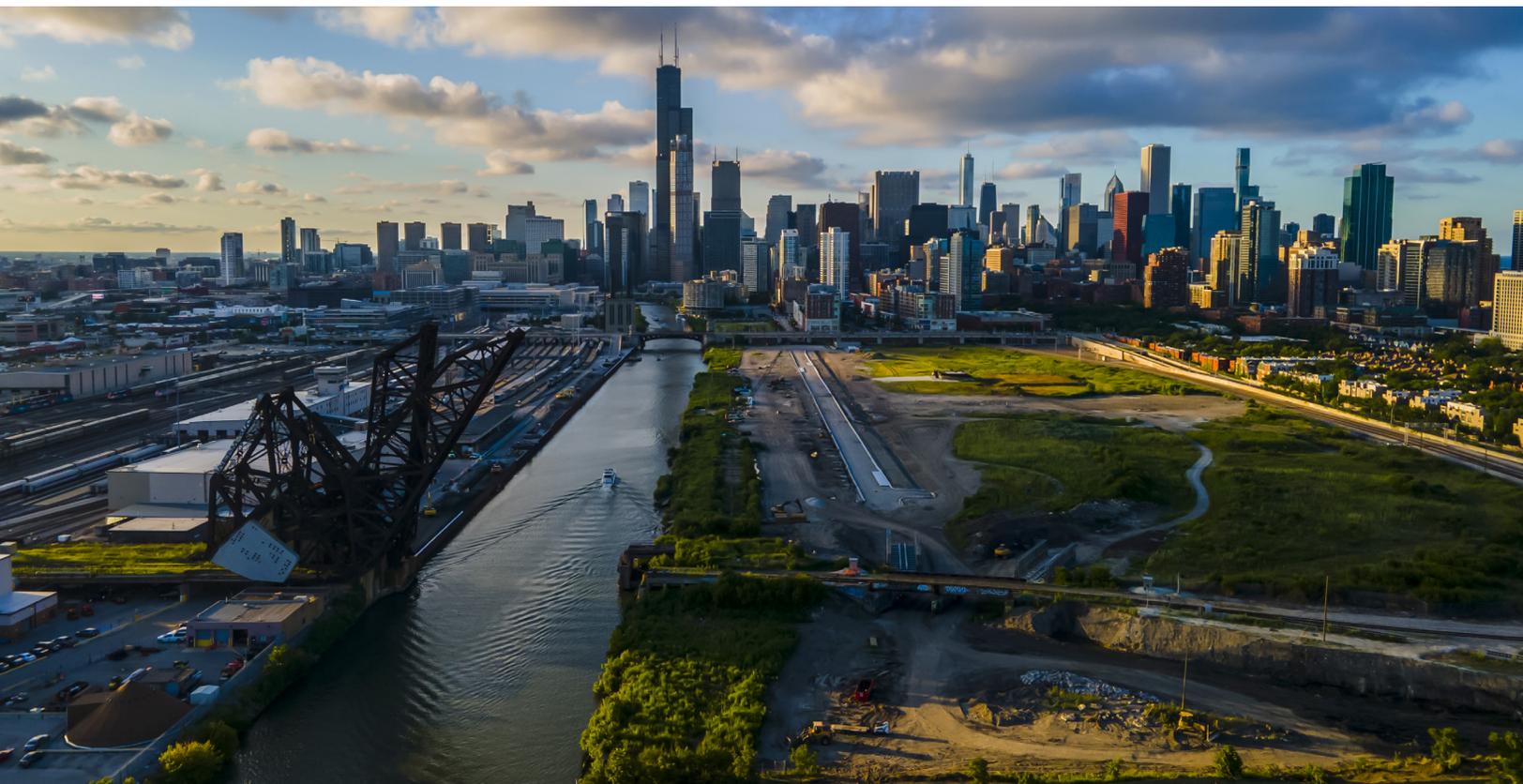
Illinois Office of Firearm Violence Prevention

The Illinois Office of Firearm Violence Prevention was established in 2021 through the Reimagine Public Safety Act.⁴⁸ The Office has an annual budget of \$250,000,000, with the American Rescue Plan Act as its main source of funding. The Office has a total of 15 funded FTEs, two of which are currently filled. The Office of Firearm Violence Prevention is housed in the Governor's Office, within the Department of Human Services. The Office's mission is to address the statewide public health emergency that is firearm violence through increased community capacity to address root causes of violence, provide those most at risk with access to evidence-based and trauma-informed services, and advance equity and racial justice.⁴⁹

⁴⁸ [Office of Firearm Violence Prevention](#)

⁴⁹ [About the Office of Firearm Violence Prevention](#)

The Illinois Office of Firearm Violence Prevention provides grants to CBOs, coordinates violence prevention activities, and engages in policy development. Strategies such as street outreach / violence interruption, mentoring / case management, employment assistance, trauma-informed care, and hospital-based violence intervention are all in use by the Office and/ or the State. Community members were engaged during the development of the Office through a town hall with legislators, community-based organizations, and community members. Ongoing community engagement efforts include Local Advisory Councils, which provide recommendations on allocation for violence prevention resources across 16 cities in Illinois and 26 communities in Chicago that experience high levels of firearm violence.



St. Louis, MO

Office of Violence Prevention

City's Department of Public Safety



[Visit Website](#)

St. Louis, MO

Office of Violence Prevention

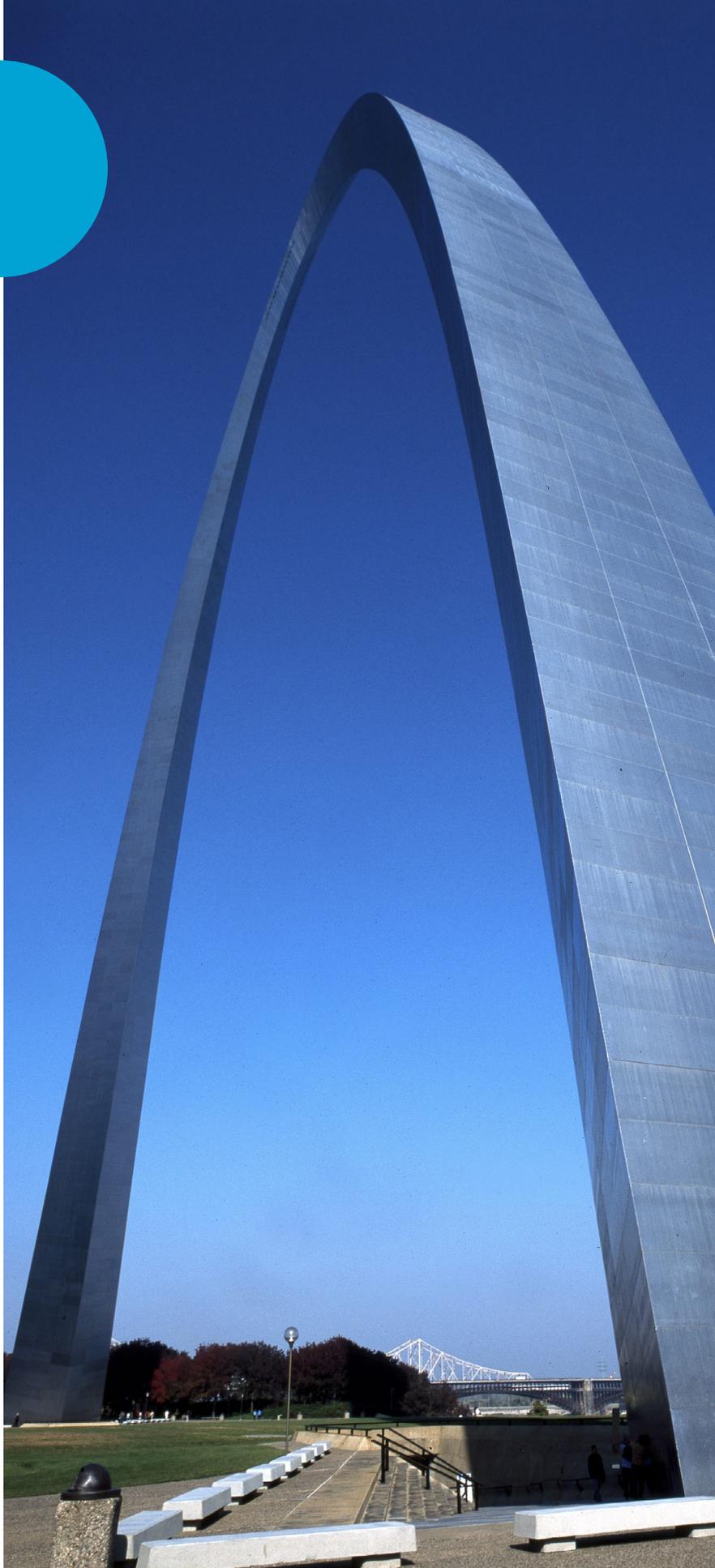
The St. Louis Office of Violence Prevention was established in 2022 through a City Board Bill.⁵⁰ The Office has an annual budget of \$2,000,000, with funding the City General Fund as well as from a \$20,500,000 in American Rescue Plan Act grant. There are 17 FTEs in the agency, including eight filled positions and nine vacant positions. Housed in the City's Department of Public Safety, the Office of Violence Prevention coordinates public safety resources and community violence intervention programs to make St. Louis neighborhoods safer.⁵¹ The Office also provides grants to CBOs and engages in policy development.

The Office of Violence Prevention's main initiatives include a Cure Violence program, a crisis response team that provides an alternative to 911 calls, community violence intervention involving violence mediation and restorative justice in hot spots among high-risk individuals, and reentry programs that offer case management and pretrial screenings.⁵² More broadly, strategies such as street outreach / violence interruption, mentoring / case management, employment assistance, fellowship opportunities, and hospital-based violence intervention are all in use by the Office and/or the City. In developing the OVP, the Mayor's Office conducted numerous Public Safety Town Halls to gauge public sentiment and obtain community input. Ongoing community outreach efforts for programming include community workshops with justice-impacted youth and families that directly inform juvenile justice reform policy.

⁵⁰ Board Bill Number 65 | Session 2022-2023

⁵¹ Office of Violence Prevention

⁵² Office of Violence Prevention Initiatives



St. Paul, MN

Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS)

Mayor's Office and the City Attorney's Office



STAFF
SIZE
8

ANNUAL
BUDGET
\$1,405,760



SERVICES PROVIDED

- Provides grants to CBOs
- Coordinates violence prevention activities
- Engages in research



PRIMARY FUNDING SOURCE

- General fund
- American Rescue Plan Act
- Various grants

[Visit Website](#)

St. Paul, MN

Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS)



SAINT PAUL
MINNESOTA

The St. Paul Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS) was established in 2021 and has an annual budget of \$1,405,760, with funding from the City General Fund, the American Rescue Plan Act, and various grants. There are four FTEs in the agency, including the Director, Manager of the Neighborhood Safety Community Council, Administrative Assistant, and a Management Assistant (vacant). Housed in the Mayor's Office and the City Attorney's Office, the ONS leads the advancement of the City's Community-First Public Safety framework through the coordination of Community-First investments, including gun, youth, and group violence prevention strategies as well as alternative response.⁵³ The Community-First Public Safety Framework involves:

- enhancing the capacity of public safety systems;
- improving community connectivity and support;
- leveraging research and data to inform policy and strategies;
- collaborating to create shared expectations, processes, and outcomes; and
- designing public spaces for safety.

The ONS provides grants to CBOs, coordinates local violence prevention activities, and engages in research. This work is informed by input from the Neighborhood Safety Community Council, which is overseen by the ONS and engages community residents, local stakeholders, and public safety representatives to assist in creating strategy and directing resources.⁴³ One of the Office's main initiatives is Project PEACE, a methodical, individualized gun violence intervention that connects gun violence-involved individuals with evidence-based, community-led programming and wraparound supports. More broadly, strategies such as GVI/CeaseFire, street outreach / violence interruption, mentoring / case management, and employment assistance are all in use by the ONS and/or the City.

⁵³ Office of Neighborhood Safety

Stockton, CA

Office of Violence Prevention

City Manager's Office



STAFF
SIZE
14

ANNUAL
BUDGET
\$2MM



SERVICES PROVIDED

- Provides grants to CBOs
- Coordinates violence prevention activities



PRIMARY FUNDING SOURCE

- General Fund
- California Violence Intervention
- Prevention Grant funding

[Visit Website](#)

Stockton, CA

Office of Violence Prevention



The Stockton Office of Violence Prevention was established in 1999 and has an annual budget of \$2,000,000. Funding sources for the Office are the City's General Fund, California Violence Intervention and Prevention Grant funding, and a special tax known as Measure A.⁵⁴ There are 14 funded FTEs in the initiative, three of which are vacant, as well as two part-time positions, one of which is vacant. Housed in the City Manager's Office, the OVP works to significantly reduce gang/group gun violence within the city of Stockton, using data-driven partnerships, programs, and strategies. Strategies such as GVI/CeaseFire, street outreach / violence interruption, victim-centered services, mentoring / case management, employment assistance, and hospital-based violence intervention are all in use by the Office and/or the City.



The Office of Violence Prevention coordinates local violence prevention activities and provides grants to local CBOs. Two of the Office's main programs are Operation Ceasefire and Operation Peacekeeper. Based on Boston's revolutionary gun violence reduction strategy model, Stockton's Operation Ceasefire is a collaborative effort between government officials, community and faith-based organizations, and the Stockton Police Department to improve outcomes among those at the highest risk of being involved in violence.⁵⁵ Early in its implementation, this strategy reduced homicides in Stockton by 43%.⁵⁶ Operation Peacekeeper, established in 1998, utilizes outreach workers known as "peacekeepers" to engage with young people at the highest risk of being involved in gun violence.⁵⁷ Peacekeepers collaborate with CBOs, faith-based organizations, and other partners to provide this population with resources including conflict resolution, mediation, mentoring, and intensive case management, with the goal of reducing gun violence in the city.⁵⁸ The OVP's ongoing community engagement efforts include daily Peacekeeper operations, where staff canvass the city and liaison with high-risk individuals; Data Cafe events, which provide a public forum to present OVP program data and outcome statistics;⁵⁹ and community-wide food distribution events.

⁵⁴ Transactions and Use Tax Measure A Citizens' Advisory Committee Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2017-2018

⁵⁵ Office of Violence Prevention Operation Ceasefire August 2020 Final Local Evaluation Report

⁵⁶ Operation Ceasefire and the Safe Community Partnership

⁵⁷ Operation Peacekeeper

⁵⁸ Office of Violence Prevention

⁵⁹ Office of Violence Prevention Data Cafe Event

Washington, DC Office of Gun Violence Prevention

Office of Gun Violence Prevention (OGVP)

Office of the City Administrator



STAFF
SIZE
6

ANNUAL
BUDGET
\$1,4MM



SERVICES PROVIDED

- Provides grants to CBOs
- Coordinates violence prevention activities
- Engages in policy development and research



PRIMARY FUNDING SOURCE

- District's General Fund

[Visit Website](#)

Washington, DC Office of Gun Violence Prevention

Office of Gun Violence Prevention (OGVP)

The Office of Gun Violence Prevention (OGVP) in Washington, DC, was established in 2022 and has an annual budget of \$1,400,000, with funding from the District's General Fund. There are six filled FTEs in the OGVP. Housed in the Office of the City Administrator, the OGVP provides grants to CBOs, coordinates violence prevention activities, and engages in policy development and research. To ensure alignment with community needs and priorities, OGVP staff attend community meetings each week that are organized by local CBOs, government agencies, and residents. The Office is also currently developing formal channels for community input.

The main objectives of the OGVP are to coordinate the Building Blocks DC initiative and prevent gun violence through policy, accountability, community engagement, and data/research. Building Blocks DC is a District-wide approach to prevent and reduce gun violence in the 151 blocks that have the most gun violence.⁶⁰ This initiative involves reentry programming, youth services, behavioral health services, economic opportunities, an immediate shooting response, improvement of physical spaces, and community violence intervention.⁶¹ More broadly, strategies such as street outreach / violence interruption, mentoring / case management, employment assistance, and hospital-based violence intervention are all in use by the Office and/or the District.



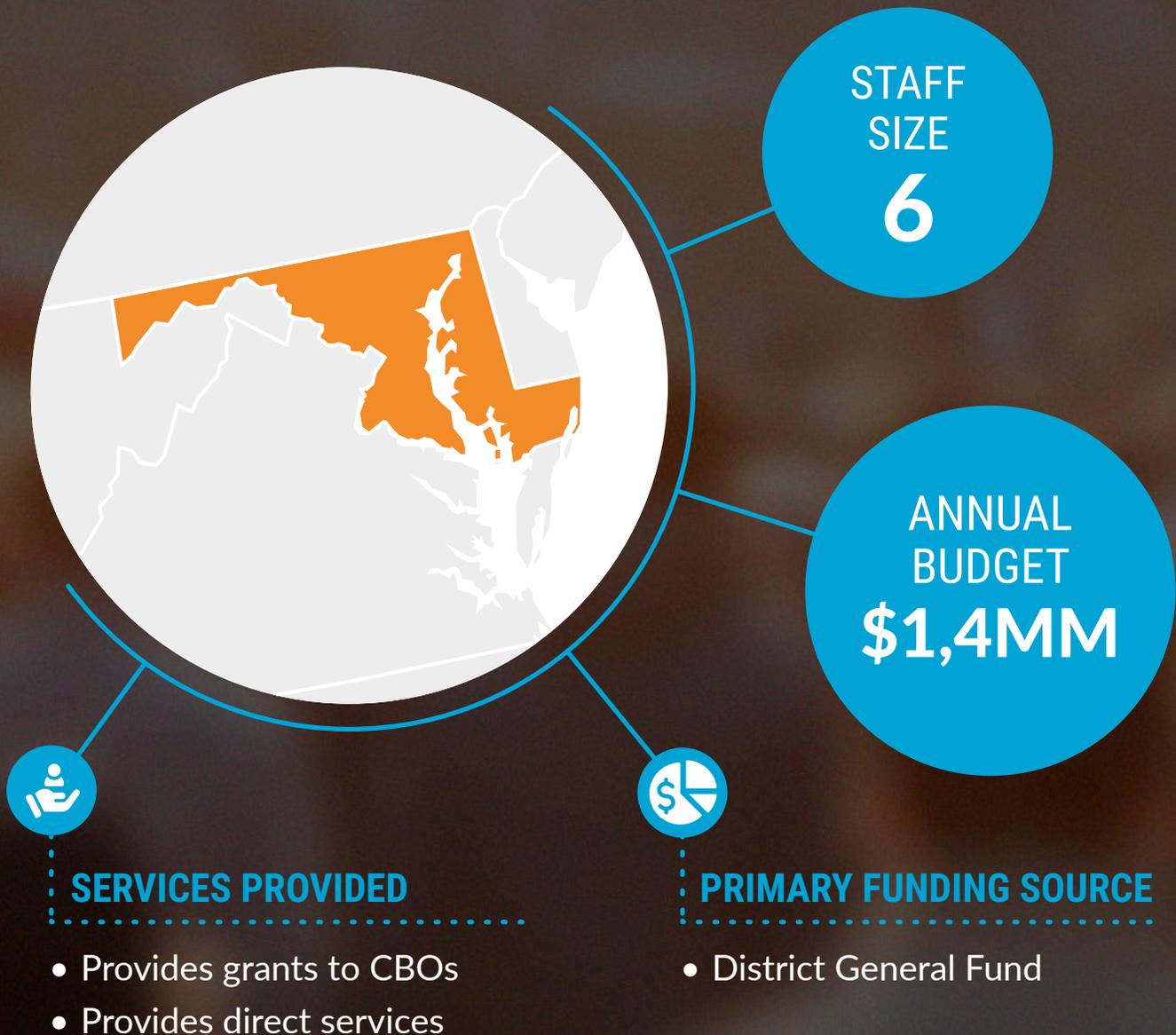
⁶⁰ Office of the City Administrator
⁶¹ Building Blocks DC



Washington, DC Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement

Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (ONSE)

Office of the Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice



[Visit Website](#)

Washington, DC Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement



Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (ONSE)

The Washington, DC Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (ONSE) was established in 2017 through the Neighborhood Engagement Achieves Results Act.⁶² ONSE has 105 FTEs and an annual budget of \$36,500,000, with funding from the District General Fund. Housed in the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice, ONSE awards grants to CBOs and provides direct services. The mission of ONSE is to foster community-based strategies to help prevent violence and increase public safety.⁶³ These strategies are rooted in a public health approach to violence prevention, recognizing that reducing crime is not accomplished through law enforcement alone.⁶⁴ Specific strategies include:⁶⁵

- **Violence Intervention and Prevention Program:** ONSE contracts with local CBOs and Violence Interrupters to help reduce violence by establishing a strong presence in communities with high levels of violence. This program partners with residents, government agencies, and CBOs to reduce violence by building relationships with individuals and families most at risk of being directly affected by gun violence.
- **Pathways Program:** This transitional employment program focuses annually on up to 50 individuals at the highest risk of being involved in violence, using a health-based approach to provide support in the areas of employment, education, mental health, conflict resolution, and housing stability. ONSE Caseworkers and Credible Messengers also provide long-term support to every Pathways Program participant.
- **Family and Survivor Services:** This program is utilized as the framework for the District's emergency critical response planning in reaction

to all homicides and any shootings suspected of being gang/crew related. Through the facilitation of cross-agency critical response teams, ONSE immediately connects families to government programs and services such as support groups and workshops on stress management and self-care.⁶⁶

- **Promotion of Economic Opportunity:** The ONSE team connects residents with housing, entrepreneurial, and economic opportunities through job fairs, community outreach, violence interventions, and mobile resources. In partnership with the Department of Employment Services and the Department of Small and Local Business Development, ONSE ensures that those most overlooked have a fair shot at these economic opportunities.
- **School-Based Initiative:** The ONSE Leadership Academy is a school-based pilot initiative focusing on positive youth development in partnership with local schools. The Academy aims to promote school and community safety and alleviate barriers to success for the highest-risk students. The Academy team collaborates with school administrators, teachers, and professionals to conduct this critical work.⁶⁷

ONSE also engages in ongoing community outreach through a specialized Community Outreach Team that organizes events in priority neighborhoods to build community, promote resources, and share helpful information to make communities safer.⁶⁸ The Community Outreach Team encourage togetherness within neighborhoods, motivating them to be tight-knit communities and assisting them with activities such as safety walks and patrols.⁶⁹

⁶² [Neighborhood Engagement Achieves Results Act](#)

⁶³ [Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement](#)

⁶⁴ [Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement](#)

⁶⁵ [Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement](#)

⁶⁶ [Family and Survivor Support](#)

⁶⁷ [School-Based Initiative](#)

⁶⁸ [Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement](#)

⁶⁹ [Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement](#)

NATIONAL OFFICES OF
VIOLENCE
PREVENTION
NETWORK

2023 REPORT