

National OVP Network

April 2025 Newsletter

From the Director

Greetings, Network members!

As we step into the second quarter of the year and move forward with the execution of the [NOVPN Strategic Plan](#), I'm proud to reflect on the powerful momentum we've built together. In Q1, the NOVPN laid a solid foundation for our work, formalizing our internal operations, finalizing jurisdictional assignments, launching our data reporting initiative, and releasing the first-ever [Offices of Violence Prevention Toolkit](#). These milestones reflect our intentional focus on stability, clarity, and purpose as we continue meaningful engagement with every jurisdiction in our Network.

Looking ahead, Q2 will bring even more exciting advancements. We're developing a national repository of training and technical assistance providers to better coordinate support across the Network, preparing to launch the NOVPN Dashboard to highlight your work and track trends in real time, and continuing our convenings to keep collaboration at the heart of everything we do.

We're proud to be in partnership with each of you.

In community,

Shantay Jackson
Director, National Offices of Violence Prevention Network



Welcome New Members

Event Calendar

Join us in welcoming the [Washington State Office of Firearm Safety and Violence Prevention](#) to the Network!



Find all important Network events here! **NOTE: Events are invitation only. Let us know if you haven't received an invitation.**

- 5/22/25: Q2 Virtual Convening
- 6/26/25 - 6/27/25: Eastern/Mid-Atlantic Regional Convening, Philadelphia, PA
- 8/21/25: Q3 Virtual Convening
- 9/9/25 - 9/11/25: Annual Convening, St. Louis, MO
- 10/16/25 - 10/17/25: Midwestern Regional Convening, Cleveland, OH
- 11/13/25 - 11/14/25: State Convening, Providence, RI
- 11/20/25: Q4 Virtual Convening

NOVPN National Convening



Network members and partners, mark your calendars now for the fourth annual in-person National Offices of Violence Prevention Network Convening!

In the News



[Homicides in St. Louis are the lowest they've been since 2005.](#)

[Columbus invests in street-level anti-violence program.](#)

[Hochul signs 3 gun violence prevention bills into law.](#)



[Car repair for Kia Boz: Project Unseedy, police department focus on curbing youth violence.](#)

[Advocates work to reduce Austin-area gun violence through hospital-based violence intervention.](#)

[Gov. Pritzker Highlights Progress Reducing Gun Violence in Chicago.](#)



NOVPN sends a big hat tip to the [St. Louis, MO, Office of Violence Prevention!](#) Since its founding in July 2022, the OVP has played a central role in coordinating public safety efforts and investing in community-driven violence intervention and youth diversion programs. Thanks to the OVP's strategic approach and deep community partnerships, St. Louis is seeing a historic drop in violence. Homicides in the first three months of 2025 are at their lowest level in two decades, and overall crime has decreased by 28% compared to the same period last year. This is what transformative public safety looks like.



Join us in applauding [Operation Good](#) in Jackson, MS! Operation Good is driving change in Jackson by tackling violence at its roots and uplifting the communities most impacted by violence and poverty. Operation Good engages directly with residents to understand and respond to the causes of violence, providing violence intervention, conflict mediation, mentorship, neighborhood cleanup, access to food and other necessities, and more. Backed by a \$50,000 grant from the Jackson Office of Violence Prevention and Trauma Recovery, and a \$250,000 grant from NICJR's Community Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative (CVIPI), Operation Good is expanding its impact by deploying credible messengers to interrupt cycles of violence and build safer, stronger communities. Thank you, Operation Good, for your impactful work!

Proud of one of your OVP's on-the-ground partnerships? [Tell us about it!](#)



One of the most critical components of long-term sustainability for any office of violence prevention is investing in the people doing the work. This work is tough, it's emotionally taxing, urgent, and deeply personal. That's why we must be intentional about fostering a healthy organizational culture rooted in trust, transparency, and open communication. When leaders model this behavior and take care of their teams, they strengthen our impact.

Grant Opportunities

Check out these funding opportunities:

- [William T. Grant Foundation Research Grants on Reducing Inequality](#) (LOI due 5/7; focus: research on reducing youth inequality, calls out juvenile justice as an area of interest)
- [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Systems for Action](#) (Due: 6/4; focus: systems alignment interventions that have the potential to dismantle or disrupt the health effects of systemic racism)
- [Walmart Spark for Good Local Grants](#) (Quarterly deadlines, next due: 7/15; focus: local organizations that meet the unique needs of communities where Walmart operates; note: Both 501(c)3 nonprofits and government entities are eligible)
- [Kaiser Permanente Center for Gun Violence Research and Education 2025 Funding Opportunity](#) (Due 7/3; focus: research projects that advance evidence-informed clinical care models to address community firearm violence or firearm suicide)
- Search [Candid's Philanthropy News Digest](#) for national and local private grant opportunities

Job Board

Here are some violence reduction-related positions that are open within the Network:

- [Commissioner, Save Our Community - Toledo, OH](#)
- [Director, Office of Violence Prevention - Boston, MA](#)
- [Program Manager, Violence Intervention Team - Birmingham, AL](#)
- [Youth Engagement Program Manager, Office of Violence Prevention and Trauma Recovery - Jackson, MS](#)
- [Domestic Violence Program Director, Solid Ground - Seattle, WA](#)
- [Technical Assistance Coordinator, Urban Peace Institute - Los Angeles, CA](#)
- [Director of Outreach, Suicide Prevention Initiatives at Johns Hopkins University - Washington DC](#)
- [Violence Prevention Program Manager, Office of Violence Prevention - New Haven, CT](#)

Got an opening? [Share it with us!](#)

