

# National OVP Network

## August 2025 Newsletter

### Welcome New Members

### Event Calendar



Join us in welcoming the [Delaware State Governor's Office of Gun 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.](#)

- 8/21/25: Q3 Virtual Convening - For Directors and OVP Data Leads Only
- 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

## In the News



[Louisville Youth Philanthropy Council, Office of Violence Prevention hold youth summit](#)

[Officials: Most major crime categories in Toledo see decline in 2025](#)

[Columbus Office of Violence Prevention launches citywide safety campaign](#)



[Baltimore City recorded fewest youth homicides in a decade during first half of 2025](#)

[These Miami ZIP codes saw steep drops in gun homicides. A report credits community programs](#)

[Delaware public safety leaders attend roundtable to discuss gun violence prevention efforts](#)

## OVP Spotlight



NOVPN sends a big hat tip to the [Columbia, SC, Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement \(ONSE\)](#)! ONSE coordinates the City's efforts through a comprehensive, data-driven strategy that centers evidence-informed practices and strong collaboration with residents, government agencies, law enforcement, service providers, and community partners. In June, ONSE hosted a powerful series of workshops and activities focused on key issues such as firearm safety and storage, conflict resolution, internet safety, youth development, and bullying. The Office also launched Power Up: Peace Mode, an interactive six-week program designed for youth at risk of being impacted by gun violence. This series builds both soft and hard skills through engaging, reliable, and hands-on activities, meeting young people where they are while helping to lead them toward brighter futures.

## On the Front Lines



Join us in applauding the [Urban Peace Movement \(UPM\)](#) in Oakland, CA! UPM leads efforts to empower Oakland's youth, particularly those most impacted by violence and incarceration. Through its Healing Centered Youth Organizing model, UPM combines leadership development, policy advocacy, community healing, and initiatives for systemic change rooted in social justice. These programs build self-confidence, foster healing, and cultivate a culture of peace, strengthening opportunities for safer communities. UPM also drives community-based initiatives such as Heal R Town, which hosts healing circles to build resilience, Scratch and Fade, which blends wellness with cultural expression, and the DetermiNation Black Men's Group, which uplifts young Black men in leadership and justice work. Together, these efforts reflect UPM's commitment to addressing the root causes of violence while creating pathways for healing and empowerment.

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

## TTA Tip of the Month



Securing funding for both office and community-based work is a critical responsibility of an OVP director. Start by assessing and mapping what current revenue/funding streams already exist in your government structure and jurisdiction, including local budget allocations, state and federal grants, special taxes/funds, or philanthropic sources. From there, you can build a smart, targeted strategy, such as developing new and cultivating existing relationships with funders and decision makers and leveraging data to bring in the resources your office needs to do this work right. Be thoughtful about your pursuit of national philanthropic funding and intentional in pursuing funding that is aligned with your goals and needs, and remember that funding follows impact.

## Grant Opportunities

- Check out these funding opportunities and resources:
- [Kaiser Permanente Center for Gun Violence Research and Education 2025 Funding Opportunity](#) (Due 9/3; focus: research projects that advance evidence-informed clinical care models to address community firearm violence or firearm suicide)
  - [William T. Grant Institutional Challenge Grant](#) (Due 9/15; focus: reduce inequalities in youth outcomes, including in the justice system, through university research partnerships with public or nonprofit agencies)
  - 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:
- [Office of Violence Prevention Program Manager, Portland OVP - Portland, OR](#)
  - [Program Director, GVPJR, Joyce Foundation - Chicago, IL](#)
  - [Executive Director, Cleveland Peacemakers, Inc. - Cleveland, OH](#)
  - [Community Resilience Team Lead, Office of Community Health and Safety - Pittsburgh, PA](#)
  - [Deputy Executive Director, Research Innovation, Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice - NYC](#)

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

## Thank you to our Funders and Partners!

