

For Immediate Release

Youth At The Center
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\$150,000 Investment in Youth Violence Prevention by City of Cincinnati Announcing the Community Grantees

Youth At The Center, in coordination with the City of Cincinnati, is excited to announce the 10 organizations funded to advance their youth violence prevention initiatives. These 10 organizations will implement their projects designed to promote youth violence prevention with a total investment of \$150,000.

Each of the projects will serve in one or more of the ten Cincinnati neighborhoods identified: West End, Over-the-Rhine, Walnut Hills, Avondale, East Price Hill, Westwood, Winton Hills, Evanston, West Price Hill, and Bond Hill. In addition, Youth At The Center will provide each grantee training, resources, and capacity building support to strengthen their organization.

The Grantees

Children's Law Center: Expand capacity to provide free, high-quality, individualized legal services for youth (generally up to age 25) that will reduce youth violence

Cincinnati Black Theatre Company: Develop a youth-led documentary entitled "A Day in the Life of Violence" creating a platform for youth to speak frankly about violence they've seen or experienced

Cincinnati Peace Movement: Launch a community-based, anti-violence literacy program called "I CAN" for students ages 9-18 providing a reading club and establishing anti-violence healing circles

Mentoring Young Men: Provide essential skills to young men, focusing on risk assessment, planning, financial literacy, and gun safety

Queen City Youth Development Program: Expand the Leading For Influence strategic initiative that builds confidence and trains teen leaders to step up and confront violence in their schools and neighborhoods

R.E.A.L. Truth Inc.: Provide a Youth Firearm Safety and Violence Prevention Program for youth ages 5-17 that would sharpen awareness about the danger of mishandled firearms and age-appropriate firearm safety and training

Save Our Youths: Kings and Queens: Establish a traveling support group for youth impacted by violence designed to build hope, develop leadership, and build positive relationships with community leaders

Sweet Sistah Splash: Launch Cincinnati Young Entrepreneurs Business Mentorship Program for youth ages 14-19 teaching them the ins and outs of running their own business designed to increase knowledge, skills, and self-esteem

Winton Hills Community Violence Reduction Project: Establish two 10-week multidisciplinary programs for youth (elementary, middle, and high school paths) focused on conflict resolution, managing feelings, and building positive relationships

Xcellence Ignited: Provide opportunity for young people ages 12-21 to learn soft skills and various job skills that will allow youth to launch a business and generate an income

Background

In July 2021, following the tragic shooting at Smale Riverfront Park, the Mayor of Cincinnati requested the City Manager deploy the Manager's Advisory Group ("MAG") to engage in a problem-solving project in service to youth in the City of Cincinnati. Specifically, the Mayor requested that the MAG's problem-solving project focus on how to disrupt violence impacting Cincinnati's youth. The City of Cincinnati issued an RFP for a lead organization to develop and facilitate a mini-grant program to support violence prevention activities in specific Cincinnati neighborhoods impacted by gun violence, and to support capacity building for the small neighborhood-based organizations engaged in such violence prevention work. Youth At The Center was selected to serve as the lead agency to manage the funding opportunity and capacity building supports.

Youth At The Center's mission is to advance opportunities for children, youth, and young adults to be seen, heard, and valued as the next generation of leaders in our community. Youth At The Center engages existing youth serving organizations to create intentional learning and leadership communities that support and equip young people with the knowledge, skills, and awareness they need to safely and successfully navigate their respective paths to adulthood.

For more information, contact Shawn Jeffers at shawn@youthatthecenter.org or visit www.youthatthecenter.org/grant