

Updated on 7/11/24

FAQs for MCVI-CBI Grant

Does the grant target gun violence only? Would a proposal addressing domestic violence have a chance? **Unfortunately, this opportunity is only eligible for community gun violence and specifically for organizations serving individuals directly involved in gun violence.**

Will HRiA have an organizational budget cutoff for eligibility? **No, there is no organizational budget cutoff.**

If an organization is doing work in multiple spaces, would Randolph be eligible for the grant? **We cannot fund work outside of the named eligible geography.**

Is suicide considered violence? **Suicide is the leading cause of gun violence in MA and one of the leading causes in the country but this specific grant focuses on community violence intervention.**

Can funding go towards creating a position or increasing hours for staff to be able to participate? **Yes.**

Would an application be stronger with cbo collaborative partners as part of the application? **The strength of the work is what we'll be looking at. It's about the impact and the capacity needed and how thoroughly this is detailed.**

Does the data support you mention include creating a management system for youth identification, outreach, contact, enrollment, case management, education, housing, employment and behavioral health? **Yes.**

Is there a priority on certain age group? Juveniles up to 21, etc? **There is no particular age group that we are looking to prioritize but high rates of violence by age group are most often over 20 years old and that can be pointed out in proposals.**

Is there an outside team scoring applications? **Yes.**

Are these federal pass through dollars? **Yes.**

Are there locations that are more of interest to fund? **No.**

Would investing in a case management system be allowable?

Yes, as it is a part of your infrastructure, it is allowable.

Can we propose training for our reentry staff outside of HRIA as part of our proposal? **Yes, be sure to articulate how capacity in this way can be helpful.**

How many national convening/training should we travel budget for over the 24 months? How many of staff will be expected to travel? **There is one required national convening, this will come out of your budget. All others will be taken care of.**

Is expanding to new city considered capacity building? **Yes, staffing can be considered capacity building.**

Can we apply as a collaborative? **Yes, but one organization has to be registered as a 501c3 and that will be the org funds are sent to.**

How can we write out our budget as a collaborative? **Each organization should have a budget that equals the collaborative's total budget for transparency and to show where/how funds are being distributed. Prioritize funds where the most capacity is needed.**

Will we be penalized for exceeding the number of words? **No, you will not be penalized.**

Can we site the community profile in our application or will we need to site the exact references? **Yes, the community profile can be sited.**

What types of equipment goes under indirect costs? **Indirect Costs are administrative expenses related to overall general operations and are shared among projects and/or functions. Examples include executive oversight, accounting, grants management, legal expenses, utilities, and facility maintenance.**

What is direct intervention? **If your mission is specific to the proven risk population, it is direct intervention. Organizations must either:**

Currently conduct direct interventions that engages proven-risk individuals most likely to be directly impacted by gun violence

OR:

Plan to use these funds to deepen their engagement of proven-risk priority populations to reduce gun violence through direct intervention

Will any trainings be provided to grantees? **Yes, our organization will provide training around capacity building to grantees.**

Can a brand new/start-up org apply for this grant? **You need to be in the process of intervention to have a compelling application.**

Do we have to be a 501c3 to apply? **Your organization doesn't have to be a 501c3 but you will need to partner with an org that is to act as your fiscal conduit because funds have to be distributed to a 501c3 organization.**

What are some examples of “lived experience” we can outline in the qualifications section? **Gun violence, gun violence intervention, prison, gang membership, survivors of violence in community.**

How detailed will we need to be around “lived experience” for the application? **You don't need to be super specific (names, etc.) but be descriptive of the lived experience you're writing about.**

Does the total award 250,000 need to be divided evenly over the three years? or can we start off in year one with a larger portion and decrease in year 2 and 3? **The award does not need to be evenly divided. You'll see that the total award duration is 24 months, but this is spread over 3 years. Year 1 is nine months (Oct-June 31.) Year 2 is a full calendar year of 12 months, and Year 3 is three months (July- Sept.) There is no expectation that the award is divided evenly over these time periods.**

Generally, costs are either:

One-Time-Costs: This is common to occur at the start of the award period (purchasing supplies, new software/licenses/systems, conducting staff training), but may also happen intermittently based on events or trainings.

On-going costs: these are generally consistent expenses, like salary or local travel that would occur throughout the entire award

Regardless of the cost type, it does not need to be equally divided.

It states under personnel that it is limited to staff providing direct services. Our collaborative was thinking of hiring a project manager. Would this not qualify? **A project manager whose role was to oversee the work you are delivering in this grant would fall under personnel. It would be up to you whether their entire salary is covered in this grant award or if you would want other funding to cover some of it.**

There are three orgs in the collaborative. We are thinking of doing 10% for admin cost to the lead org. Can we do this? and if so where should I put this? and do I need to spread it out across the three years? **The lead organization could include up to (maximum) 15% for indirect expenses on the budget. Indirect Expenses are a line item at the bottom of the budget and these are essentially “Administrative Expenses” that the organization would incur (utilities, rent, back-end office work, administration time for invoicing/ expense reporting, etc). Each year, you can have up to 15% of your total Direct Costs under the line “Indirect”. You can certainly add a 10% indirect rate instead of 15%, or change the rate each year. The total award of \$250k is the same, regardless of what your indirect rate is. This means if you choose a lower indirect rate, you will have higher direct costs.**

Please define what is thought to be a small organization that can have the cash drawdown and what’s considered large on reimbursement only? **If your organization has cost reimbursement contracts that you have already done, we ask that you to continue with doing cost reimbursement.**

If we are looking at including a consultant as part of our budget, and we would know the topic area and the type of expertise we’re looking for, but we don’t necessarily have an individual identified or contract in place—Is that enough to include in the budget? **Yes, it’s okay to say, “Consultant to be named later.”**

Please give some clarity on sections 4 and 5’s word count requirement on the application? **For sections 4 and 5 there is a discrepancy in the Narrative Template word limit (1000 words total per section, 250 words per question) and the online application word limit (1000 words per question). We are unable to change the online application, and thus will allow up to 1000 words per question. However, please don’t feel obligated to write more than 250 words per question—you will not be disadvantaged for sticking closely to the original word limit.**