

Updated on 4/18/24

FAQs

Should the two-page requirement count the applicant information that we collect in the online system and the template? **No, the applicant information will not count toward the two-page limit.**

Is the link to download in the application portal the same as the template on the website? **Yes, both link the same template. Please reach out if you have issues accessing the template.**

I saw this grant opportunity and am wondering if a FQHC would be eligible or a likely candidate? **Yes, an FQHC would be an eligible candidate if you are looking to expand existing violence intervention work.**

What if we work in multiple of the eligible communities, can you work across more than one on this grant? Example, Holyoke and Springfield. **Absolutely! Communicate to us the locations you're working in. If working in both eligible and non eligible locations be sure to prioritize the eligible communities.**

What do you all consider small organizations? **Organizations working with under \$5-10 million dollars, and community based organizations who have a 501(c3) with a hand full of staff.**

What's the expectation of how the funds will be spent on capacity building? Are there trainings you will provide that we pay for or do we need to research and contract on our own? **We will provide a large set of trainings, technical systems and other capacity building activities that grantees will be contracted to participate in so you will receive funds to support your program work.**

Is a program eligible if they are partially funded through Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance/ VOCA grants? **We believe that you are but we will have to double check to be sure that DOJ is comfortable with that. For now, file the LOI and if we receive any information that deviates from our current understanding we will share that information with everyone.**

Will the LOI be used as a screening tool? Meaning do we need to be "invited" to submit the RFP based on your review of the LOI?

The LOI is not required or a screening tool. We encourage you to complete the LOI so that we get a better understanding as an organization and get to know and the work you do.

We are a small organization with a staff of ten and we need to hire staff to collect data on the effectiveness of our Restorative Justice activities in County Houses of Correction and of course circle trainings in Boston, Lowell, Brockton. Is this an eligible expense? **Yes, this is an eligible expense.**

What types of organizational capacity building would NOT be eligible? **Anything that violates list of ineligible expenditures: extensive travel, office expansion, new office equipment, etc.**

Will you provide data from the targeted cities on at risk populations? **We're providing profiles of eligible cities, not necessarily of specific populations. Please note that we are centering proven-risk populations.**

Does the grant allow for training activities to expand the diversity of the population we wish to serve? **Yes, this is an eligible use.**

Where can a copy of the slides used during the webinar be found for reference? **Slide deck and webinar recording will be available on the webpage: <https://hria.org/tmf/massachusetts-community-violence-intervention-capacity-building-initiative-grant-program/>**

Can we include dollars to train community partners to best work with this population? Also for training more credible messengers to become the re-entry navigators? **Absolutely, that can include partners and broadening the number of people who are able to do the work with your organization.**

We currently work with trafficking victims and the immigrant community - I just want to clarify this falls within the population you consider eligible? **This will be eligible for consideration if you can highlight how gun violence overlaps with trafficking victims and the immigrant community.**

What's the approximate weekly/monthly time commitment for staff attendance at trainings over the course of the grant? **We're still developing this but it will depend on the assessment we do with your organization so timelines will depend on your specific needs. The expectation is that you have folks being paid to be apart of capacity building.**

Is this strictly a nonprofit movement? Or can a for profit business that is interested in outreach be eligible? **Dollars will have to flow through a 501(c)3 so you're encouraged to partner and apply with a nonprofit 501(c)3.**

If LOI is not completed how will we know when RFP is released? **When the RFP is released it will be announced on the website and information on the RFP will be shared with everyone who registered and received the announcement about the grant program. Still, we encourage you to complete the LOI so that we get to know your organization's work and can give the best review for those who submit the RFP.**

How is the money awarded? Do we submit receipts before being reimbursed? Or will we receive a certain amount ahead of time? **We are working on two possibilities: We'd like to create agreements to give some money upfront and then have milestones by which organizations are receiving payments. Because these are federal dollars there will be a requirement to provide information and documentation on all expenses.**

What is the standard for "evidence based" approach? **We believe in the evidence that our communities are putting forward in the work that they do. If you're doing evidence based that is supported by the feds, great but if you're doing community evidence and you can show good ideas and promising practices, we'll take that too.**