



## Commission on Community Gun Violence Intervention and Prevention

**Date: November 8, 2022**

**Time: 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM**

**Location: Room 1E in Legislative Office Building and [Zoom](#)**

- I. Commissioner Juthani convened the meeting
  - a. Reminded the Commission members to continue to meet and participate with their subcommittees between Commission meetings.
  - b. Reiterated the due dates of the subcommittee report drafts and review; Draft reports due 11/29 and reports will be compiled by DPH staff for Commission review by December 7<sup>th</sup>.
  - c. Next Commission meeting is set for December 14, 2022.
- II. Approve Meeting Minutes: Jeremy Stein motioned to accept the minutes and Carl Schiessl seconded the motion. Approved by the Commission with one abstention.
- III. Public Comment – no comments received from the public, in person or virtual.
- IV. Subcommittee Report Outs:
  - a. **RFP Grant Criteria and Award Subcommittee** – Colleen Violette, one of the co-chairs, gave the update. Met twice since the last Commission meeting. Draft RFP was circulated among the subcommittee for feedback. Commissioner wants to see it after Thanksgiving holiday, but will share with only those Commission members who will not be applying for grant funding.
  - b. **Partnerships, Programs, Stakeholder, and Community Engagement Subcommittee** - Chief Karl Jacobsen, NHPD, one of the co-chairs, gave update of subcommittee activities. Met a couple of times since the last Commission meeting. Put out a format for convening stakeholder involvement listening/feedback forums and a format to solicit written testimony on the impact violence has on the community. Will compile and submit findings for the Commission. Had one listening session with stakeholders in New Haven and will have another on November 22 at Dixwell Ave. Other big cities in the state will also be convening listening sessions with stakeholders.
  - c. **Data Evaluation and Analysis of Grant-funded Programs Subcommittee** –Mike Makowski and Kerri Raissian gave the update. Identified 2 data sources to be available for reporting purposes: CHIME 2021 for hospitalization and ED data for nonfatal injuries and the CT Violent Death Reporting System. Also, creating a “wish list” of data sources. Kerri R. discussed evaluation process of the grantees. Wants data be collected in a

similar way across the grantees if possible. Helping them do that to make comparisons and to look for opportunities to strengthen the program. Commission discussion ensued regarding data collection by funded programs, aligning that with aggregate level data that the Commission collects, for determining progress and outcome measures proposed by the grantees.

- d. Commissioner wants to make the latest RFP draft available for Commission to review around Thanksgiving. The Commission is planning for applicant meeting prior to the application deadline - for interested applicants. Will have resources available for them to use to identify evidence-based or evidence-informed practices. Technical assistance can be provided to make sure it is inclusive. Plan is for programs to get support before applying and support for the funded programs awarded the grants.

**e. Sustainability – Financial and Legislative – Subcommittee:**

Dr. Brad Richards from DSS gave overview of the CVP benefit for VPP reimbursement. Member-driven for people impacted by community violence (doesn't include IPV), be referred by a licensed clinician and referred to a certified VPP. DSS is enrolling entities that oversee a larger group. Need to be a Medicaid eligible provider. State Plan Amendments to CMS – in process for CT.

Discussed evaluating this VPP reimbursement program –Is this impacting the community effectively? What is the effect on the members and CBOs providing the services? Dr. Richards is sending the Commission the slide deck of the eligibility for groups/organizations to enroll.

Jeremy Stein discussed the “Pre-meeting Huddle” with Marc Pelka (OPM) and Patrick Hulin (OTG)

- Byrne SCIP (i.e., Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program) fund - New program geared more towards the Courts but there are aspects for education of extreme risk orders/risk warrants. Mainly used to prevent suicide. \$2.5M to CT. Deadline is Dec. 12.
- Safe Communities Act – through the Department of Justice. Guidance not available yet.
- Earmarks for community gun violence. Commissioner asked about the congressional earmarks for community gun violence prevention.
- Break the Cycle of Violence Act – Passed the house in September; \$5M in anti-violence programs, additional \$1.5M for workforce development.

In RFP– Looking at the funding of the organization and how much is already available for gun violence intervention and prevention? Look back is 1-2 years.

Susan Logan gave a broad overview of the \$2.5M in ARPA and the \$400K state General Fund funding. Awards will be for about \$88,000 per grantee (for 7 grantees) per year for a 3 year period. Close collaboration with awardees and technical assistance provided. Other costs are for grants administration, expansion of HVIPs in CT through the CT HVIP Collaborative, and evaluation of state and community funded violence prevention programs. State General Funds will be used to hire 2 new staff at DPH to run the CVP program at DPH.

End of Subcommittee updates.

At the last Commission meeting – the Commissioner asked for suggestions for presenters. Recommendations are:

- Brita Roy who has a new innovative project in New Haven
- L.J. Punch from St. Louis who is a trauma surgeon
- Emily Wong
- Marcella Newman-Smith
- Administrators of violence prevention programs in other states/cities; such as Oakland, CA and New Jersey programs.
- David Muhammed, national OVP

V. Preparation for Year-End Progress Report

- a. Subcommittee templates for reporting – Overview of the subcommittee progress report format
- b. Progress Report to the state legislature due January 1, 2023
  - i. Subcommittee progress reports due November 29, 2022
  - ii. Draft progress report reviewed December 7, 2022

VI. Next meeting is Wednesday, December 14th 9 am-11 am. This meeting will be in person at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1B – OR – via Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87279926723?pwd=Y1NTblBVQTlIVWx0dWRhOWF6WUhhEQT09>

Minutes drafted by Susan Logan (CTDPH); 12/11/22