These historic investments in community violence intervention strategies support community infrastructure and expand the role of community partners as a complement to law enforcement.

Amy Solomon, Assistant Attorney General

In Fiscal Year 2022, the Biden–Harris Administration launched the Community–Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative (CVIPI), a landmark federal grant program tailored to community-driven safety solutions. Administered by the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP), the initiative represents an unparalleled federal commitment to comprehensive and evidence informed community violence intervention (CVI) strategies that strengthen safety by interrupting patterns of violence in the lives of the highest-risk individuals.

CVI is recognized as a vital complement to policing and a central pillar of the Administration's Comprehensive Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gun Crime and Ensure Public Safety and the Department of Justice's Comprehensive Strategy for Reducing Violent Crime. CVI strategies focus on engaging the small group of people who are most likely to participate in or be victimized by violence through trusted credible messengers. By leveraging collaborative cross-sector partnerships, CVI models can deliver lifesaving supportive services designed to address trauma, disrupt cycles of violence, and build bridges to opportunity among a community's highest-risk members.
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OJP has awarded nearly $200 million in CVIPI grants, which are funded in part through dedicated resources from the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act. CVIPI grants directly support 76 communities nationwide as they develop, implement, assess, and sustain evidence-informed violence intervention approaches. To maximize the impact on community safety, CVIPI pairs grant awards with intensive training and technical assistance (TTA) for sites, and supports rigorous evaluations that grow the evidence base around what works in violence intervention. CVIPI is also investing in intermediary organizations that deliver sub-awards and capacity building assistance to smaller community-based organizations that might otherwise face barriers to accessing critical federal resources. Finally, CVIPI offers no-cost TTA to jurisdictions that did not receive federal funding, helping to ensure that every community can access the hands-on support they need to stop shootings and save lives.

CVIPI is administered through a collaboration between OJP’s Bureau of Justice Assistance, National Institute of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and Office for Victims of Crime. For additional information on the initiative, including updates on funding availability, please visit: https://www.ojp.gov/program/cvipi

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