

Trade Institute of Pittsburgh

*2023-2024 City of Pittsburgh STOP the
Violence Community Investment Grants*

Trade Institute of Pittsburgh

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FollowUp Form

City of Pittsburgh STOP the Violence Mid-Year Progress Report

The City of Pittsburgh established the STOP the Violence grants as part of the City's comprehensive approach to ending violence. Through the STOP the Violence Community Investment Fund, the City partnered with your organization to build new insights and stride toward our mutual goals. Thank you for your efforts to take proactive steps with individuals who exhibit risk factors for violent behavior, support those individuals to overcome the risk factors, avoid violence, and lead healthy and productive lives.

With these grants come the expectations of midterm and final reports. This interim report provides space for your organization to tell the City about the progress of your originally-stated activities, outcomes, and goals. It also offers an opportunity to share any challenges and triumphs thus far. This critical feedback helps us:

1. Keep focused on the investment made and the anticipated project results;
2. Understand if our grantees are on track for success to bring about their anticipated project results (midterm reports), and
3. Analyze our work, learn from your experiences, and make choices for the future.

WHAT SHOULD I INCLUDE IN MY REPORT?

This report should include grant-related activities and projects from when your organization received funds through the first six months.

We are interested in knowing

1. what you did;
2. what you learned;
3. what questions your work answered, and what questions remain;
4. what follow-up work do you plan to do?

When reading the narrative report, we understand that no project proceeds entirely as planned. Some strategies work better than hoped; others do not. An honest assessment of what worked and what did not gives us additional context to gauge the impact of the grants and consider the implications for future collaboration.

Put your project into a larger context of reflection and interrogate its assumptions and method. Your report should include these considerations.

1. How did your strategies and design work?
2. What might you or others do differently in the future?
3. What do you see now about your problem or question that would press you to do things differently?
4. Progress and Results: Please briefly describe (in 300 words or fewer) the key actions, activities, or products resulting from the grant funding, as well as any resulting benefit to the organization or the people it serves.
5. Please explain any significant variance from your planned use of funds as stated in your grant proposal. For example, have there been changes in your project timeline or expenditures?
6. Please describe the challenges the funded project encountered, and explain how you overcame them (or plan to overcome them).
7. Photos, Stories, Social Media Posts/Reels, and Testimonials: Your participant/event stories, reels, and photographs provide a critical piece of the puzzle for us. They give us the materials needed to inspire others to engage, celebrate, and continue to support your violence prevention and intervention efforts.

Organization Name*

Please enter the name of your project/program in the box below.

Trade Institute of Pittsburgh

Project Start Date (from Grant Proposal)*

01/01/2024

Project Start Date (Actual)*

01/01/2024

Grant Information

Grant Amount Awarded*

\$65,000.00

Award Amount Spent*

Has your organization spent the awarded STOP the Violence funds in their entirety?

Yes

Population Served

Number of Program/Project Participants (Proposed)*

130

Number of Program Participants (Actual)*

133

Number of Participants Ages 0-17 (Actual)*

0

Number of Participants Ages 18-30 (Actual)*

40

Number of Participants Ages 30+ (Actual)*

93

What neighborhoods do your project participants represent?*

Central Business District (also known as Downtown and the Golden Triangle)

Chateau

East Hills

East Liberty

Garfield (The Valley, The Hilltop)

Homewood North

Homewood West

Larimer

Lincoln Place

Lincoln-Lemington-Belmar

Participant Contact Information*

Our team maintains a list of complete names, addresses, and contact information for all or almost all of the program participants in the project/initiative.

Yes

Police Zone Served*

Zone 5

Work Conducted

Proposed Project/Program Activities*

Provide a list of project activities/initiatives from your proposal.

Community Engagement:

January

1/20/24 Youthplaces Career Fair

1/31/24 Reach Inc. Youth Tour

February

2/2/24 Sto-Rox High School tour

2/2/24 Urban Academy High School presentation

2/10/24 Latino Community Center College Fair

2/13/24 Westinghouse High School Career Fair

2/14/24 Obama High School Career Fair
 March
 3/12/24 Zone 5 Community Police Meeting
 April
 4/2/24 Pittsburgh Promise Career Fair
 4/23/24 Reentry Resource Fair
 4/26/24 ACAR Reentry Summit
 May
 5/8/24 Parole and Probation Reentry Fair
 5/16/24 Garfield Jubilee Youth Presentation
 5/28/24 Duquesne Area School District Fair
 5/29/24 North Allegheny Area High School Career Fair
 June
 6/5/24 DSC Spring Youth Event
 6/8/24 Future Forward College and Career Fair
 July
 7/11/24 Reach Homewood Stop the Violence Cookout
 August
 8/6/24 Lincoln Lemington City of Pittsburgh National Night Out
 September
 9/25/24 Propel High School Resource Fair
 October
 10/15/24 Phase 4 Tour
 10/16/24 SCI Mercer Reentry Fair
 10/22/24 SCI Forest Reentry Fair
 10/23/24 SCI Cambridge Springs Reentry Fair
 November
 11/04/24 SCI Fayette Reentry Fair
 11/05/24 SCI Greene Reentry Fair
 11/06/24 Garfield-Bloomfield Youth College and Career Program Fair
 11/13/24 Environmental Charter School Tour
 December
 12/12/24 SCI Mercer Presentation
 In-house Activities
 - One-on-one life coaching 45 minutes per student weekly
 - One-on-one therapy sessions for acute mental health cases (averaging four/week)
 - Referrals to drug & alcohol treatment and Resolve/Western Psyche

Collaborations

Please comment on the collaborations presented in your project proposal. Did you collaborate as anticipated in the proposal?

Circumstances to consider:

- Have roles and responsibilities shifted?
- What unanticipated changes did you experience?
- What impact does the collaboration make on the project and the population served?
- What circumstances would improve collaboration among STOP the Violence grantees?

Among events listed above, TIP participated in the City of Pittsburgh National Night Out. While it rained, and most of the events were canceled, LLEH proceeded with the event, and it had a nice turnout. (See attached

photo.) TIP partnered with the Homewood YMCA on a neighborhood-wide Juneteenth event. Our Community Engagement Coordinator (CEC) gathered all the key partners for monthly events and coordinated the performers, entertainment, event permits, food, and any additional equipment needed. We welcomed the following performers, artists, and speakers: DJ Hoodie Tre (TIP Alum), Saxophone player Calvin Stemley, Hill Dance Academy Theater (HDAT), Balafon, African Drumming and Dance, Mayor Gainey, Jason Rivers, and Rev. Cornell Jones. We plan to make next year's Juneteenth even larger, with more community partners and performances.

The CEC role did not change. TIP's therapist did experience cancer that caused a few months of leave; however, the Life Coach stepped in to cover her sessions while she was out. While we did not experience unanticipated changes, we saw a significant increase in enrolled students. Collaboration has been strong among grantees, especially with Forbes Funds' capacity-building help. Given the small size of many of the recipient organizations, it might be helpful to offer administrative assistance with reporting requirements -- perhaps a shared bookkeeper, grant-writer, or admin? Thanks!

Status of Project Plan*

What activities/events from your proposed project plan have been implemented?

TIP students and staff start each morning in the Circle, offering gratitude, sharing stories, and reflecting. The Circle is based on the Sanctuary Model, in which individuals who have experienced adversity or trauma come together in a safe and healing space. Program staff model healthy communication and boundaries and demonstrate a commitment to nonviolence, self-care, and regulation of emotions. In this trauma-informed setting, students share what they are thankful for or what may worry them in a judgment-free group setting. In addition to Circle, all TIP students receive extensive case management, drug and alcohol, anger management, and one-on-one coaching. All of these elements have been implemented.

We are excited to report that we hired an African American therapist from the Homewood community. Reflecting the community TIP serves, she has been able to build trust with our students, assist them while enrolled, and, in coordination with the Community Engagement Coordinator (CEC), develops an ISP with scheduled counseling sessions and a retention plan for each graduate.

Proposed Outcomes*

Outcomes included student and alum testimonials on the impact of counseling and support on their lives. Through the Alumni Council, we have received feedback on program supports and suggested changes/improvements.

Quantitatively, the therapist and the CEC have tracked individual sessions with students and graduates through detailed case notes. The therapist works with students to establish mental health goals and holds them accountable up to one-year post-graduation. The CEC establishes an "Individual Success Plan" for each graduate related to their employment goals. The therapist and CEC track the number of individuals served, and the number of lives improved using FileMaker Pro database. Key outcomes tracked include students enrolled, graduated, and employers served. Key outcomes tracked include program attendance, skills gained, students improved, students employed in the 2nd quarter from completion, and students employed in the 4th quarter from completion.

Progress*

Please provide an overview of the project achievements/highlights to date. Provide any appropriate data supporting your statements.

Project achievements include monthly outreach events and presentations (see above), the formation of an Alumni Council with by-laws, officers, and agendas (serving as a feedback mechanism between alum and staff), the hiring of our full-time therapist, and our first-ever Alumni Wall of Fame Gala featuring Dr. Yusef Salaam as keynote speaker. See full video here: <https://vimeo.com/1033989206/11f8a8f3a6>.

As a result of the CEC's outreach, we saw our class size increase, especially among high school graduates. Additionally, our waitlist went from 35 to 175 due to robust outreach. The CEC facilitated monthly Alumni Council meetings and monthly Alumni Workshops on mental health (each workshop featured a community leader on the topic and had between 10 - 25 alumni in attendance).

Do you believe that your project or program impacted violence?*

Do you believe that your project or program contributed to violence prevention or violence intervention rates in the communities served?

Yes

What has this project done to reduce or prevent violence?*

1. Describe your actual outcomes.
2. Describe the impact of your project.

We believe our project reduced or prevented violence by increasing workforce opportunities for individuals with significant barriers to employment. Through our CEC, we strategically reached out to marginalized communities to share about our program and the job skills and employment opportunities we provide. As a result of this outreach, we saw a significant increase in our waitlist (from 35 to 175) and an increase in the number of enrolled and graduated students (from 109 enrolled and 91 graduated in 2023 to 133 enrolled and 102 graduated in 2024).

We believe our project reduced or prevented violence by increasing access to mental health supports, thereby de-escalating mental health issues. TIP's Gratitude Circle each morning is foundational to the program and serves as an opportunity to share grief, trauma, and successes in a group setting of peers. Our Life Coach and Therapist provide trauma-informed counseling to every student who enters the program (45 minutes per week for each student, additional support on an as-needed basis).

Learning and Adapting

Are there any changes to any aspect of your proposed plan? If "Yes", please explain.*

While there will not be any changes to our community outreach or mental health counseling, we have recently launched TIPX, a transitional jobs program. TIPX offers time-limited, paid work experience to graduates not quite ready to enter the workforce. Through TIPX, participants will earn a self-sufficient wage while having additional time with TIP staff to develop their professional skills and to receive case

management before permanent placement with an employer partner. The goals of this pilot initiative include: skill-building, workforce preparedness, community impact, earned revenue, and a steady paycheck.

Challenges

Describe any ongoing challenges.

TIP is meant for our most vulnerable neighbors. We meet our students where they are and provide holistic, wrap-around supports to empower them to overcome their barriers. An ongoing challenge for *some* of our students is that our 11-week program is not enough time to address all of their barriers, and yet they can not continue to remain in unpaid programming. To help solve this challenge, we launched TIPX (see above) and we plan to continue to grow our alumni programming. Based on feedback from alumni requesting small business and entrepreneurial support, we plan to submit a proposal through the DCED to offer our alum micro grants and business assistance.

Budget

Current Budget Overview*

1. Click here to download the Budget Reporting Form.
2. Complete the form.
3. Upload the completed form. https://www.grantinterface.com/Documents/Download/f17c57b0-f6cc-4be9-a9d5-2dce30b11bcbhttps://docs.google.com/document/d/1jM3sEoOobpMJQUC8W-irhCr_7KXZVtRM/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=101637342679599276330&rtpof=true&sd=true

STV Financial Report .xlsx

Share Your Story

For services supported in whole or in part by your **STOP the Violence** grant, share a story about a client (without sharing any personally-identifying information), service, or community initiative that could be shared with other stakeholders.

*

When Sean heard about TIP, he was unemployed, not getting job offers, depleting his savings, and struggling with addiction. Sean was ready for change, but his anxiety could be severe. But by week five, Sean was awarded Floor Captain and Student of the Week - honors that students usually earn later in the program. In his own words, "I had been in college and dropped out. Later, I got an ADHD and Autism Spectrum Disorder diagnoses. When I toured TIP for the first time, I thought this sounded good for a "normal person." I didn't think of myself as "normal," and I was unsure TIP would be a good fit for me due to my anxiety. But I needed a change, and I liked learning a trade. The first three days were hard. I was worried I would never get the hang of it, but I did not want to disappoint myself or my parents. I became more comfortable once I knew what to expect and had the routine down. When Mr. Rich, our masonry instructor, first complimented my work, I felt proud. I was terrified about that first morning Gratitude Circle. Public speaking is not my thing AT ALL, but after the first time, it got easier. Everyone speaks up and shares their stories, and Circle became something I looked forward to – it is a calming start to the day. The program flew by after week five. My classmates said

they were proud of me for opening up about my diagnosis. Coming here was a saving grace. I got a new perspective. I am thankful I had this opportunity, and I won't let anything stop my progress."

Photos and Digital Clips

Please attach any photos or videos illustrating your work.

STV Pics.docx

Verification

Name of Organizational Representative Completing Report*

Maggie Beldecos

Title of Organizational Representative*

Chief Operating Officer

Authorization*

By entering your signature information above and clicking "*I agree.*" you certify that: I certify, to the best of my knowledge, that all information included in this report is correct. The tax-exempt status of this organization (*or fiscal sponsor organization*) is still in effect.

I agree.

Date of Submission*

01/06/2025

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- STV Financial Report .xlsx
- STV Pics.docx

Grant Financial Report

This is a protected worksheet. Complete only those sections that are shaded. See additional instructions below, indicated by corresponding number.

Organization: [1] Grant Process [4] Total received to date (US \$): [6]

Grant Start / End Dates: [2] to Report Period: [5] to

Approved Grant Amount: [3] (in US\$)

Budget Category [7]	Approved POISE Fdn Budget [8]	Amount Spent in Previous Periods [9]	Amount Spent in Current Period [10]	Total Spent to Date	Unexpended Balance	Please explain significant budget variances where indicated [11]
General Support	\$ 65,000	\$ 0	\$ 42,651	\$ 42,651	\$ 22,349	
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	
Subtotal Direct Costs	\$ 65,000	\$ 0	\$ 42,651	\$ 42,651	\$ 22,349	
Indirect Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	
Totals	\$ 65,000	\$ 0	\$ 42,651	\$ 42,651	\$ 22,349	

The line-by-line budget should match those specified in your proposal.

A red "***" indicates that you must include an explanation of the budget variance. This variance will require Foundation approval.

By submission of this report you hereby certify that the individual submitting this report is authorized to submit it on behalf of your organization, that the organization is in compliance with the requirements of the grant letter, and that any funds expended have been expended in accordance with the purposes of the grant.

Name and Title: [12]

Date:

E-mail Address: [13]

Phone Number: [14]

Grant Financial Report

Instructions

1. Enter the organization's legal name.
2. Enter the approved start and end dates of the grant.
3. Enter the approved grant amount.
4. Enter your grant program or process for which you received funding.
5. Enter the current reporting period from and to dates.
6. Enter the total amount of POISE Foundation funds received through the end of the reporting period. Specify amount in US\$.
7. Select Budget Categories which match your proposed grant budget. Select categor(ies) from drop down menu on right of cell
8. Enter the approved POISE Foundation budget for each budget category. All figures should be reported in US\$.
9. Enter the sum of amounts spent in each budget category for all previous reporting periods. All figures should be reported in US\$.
10. Enter the amount spent in each budget category for this reporting period. All figures should be reported in US\$.
The total spent to date and unexpended balances will be computed automatically.
11. If the expended amount in a budget category significantly exceeds the total direct costs by 35%, an explanation is required.
Lines requiring explanations will be indicated by a RED "**".
12. Enter the name and title of the individual who certified the information contained in the report.
13. Enter the e-mail address for that person.
14. Enter the phone number for that person.







