

Za'kiyah House Housing Inc.

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

Za'kiyah House Housing

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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.

Za'kiyah House Housing Inc.

Project Start Date (from Grant Proposal)*

05/01/2024

Project Start Date (Actual)*

05/15/2024

Grant Information

Grant Amount Awarded*

\$30,000.00

Award Amount Spent*

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

No

Population Served

Number of Program/Project Participants (Proposed)*

100

Number of Program Participants (Actual)*

165

Number of Participants Ages 0-17 (Actual)*

0

Number of Participants Ages 18-30 (Actual)*

67

Number of Participants Ages 30+ (Actual)*

98

What neighborhoods do your project participants represent?*

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

East Liberty

Homewood North

Homewood South

Homewood West

Lincoln-Lemington-Belmar

Manchester

Middle Hill

Upper Hill

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 4

Zone 5

Work Conducted

Proposed Project/Program Activities*

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

Offer workshops that equip returning citizens with tools for a healthy lifestyle amid reentry stressors.

2 healing retreats and workshops between 5/2024 and 12/2024 with a goal of 10 at each.

Provide burial support for 3 families

Organize a holiday drive to reach 10 orphaned children by Jan 1 2025.

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?

The following organizations provided content as guest speakers at workshops: University of Pittsburgh - Community Engagement Center in Homewood, including our workforce development counselor, health programming, youth education, and more

Michelle Ouafik providing art therapy

People In Need program and what it offers

Stacy Brown Allegheny County Department of Health

Training on overdose prevention

Sheila Clemons from Capable Caring Hands

Dmitra Gideon from Write Pittsburgh. Participants reflected on the value of workshops being the access to organizations in the community.

We also collaborated with Alliance for Police Accountability on outreach events. This relationship has strengthened and enriched our ability to reach the community, and worked alongside with five organizations giving out free information for voting and services.

The information shared through community in the STV cohort meetings has given some creative solutions to ongoing challenges.

Status of Project Plan*

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

On Sept 28 and November 4 we ran 8 hour long workshop intensives with 15 participants which included a 1/2 hour break and is a format more aligned with what we have found to be accessible to participants who are navigating the myriad challenges of re-entry.

We provided burial support for three families so far, casket, and food for repast and one family who needed basic support because the deceased was the primary income for her 4 kids.

We held one healing meeting for Come Heal with Me and have been active on our social media community group. Come Heal with Me has provided support at burials, volunteering to serve and clean up at funerals and repasts.

Proposed Outcomes*

To impact decision making by providing drug-free alternatives for reducing stress, coping, establishing healthy social circles, achieving basic needs, and confronting other incentives for drug-use, we will offer workshops that equip returning citizens with tools for a healthy lifestyle amid reentry stressors. Our goal is 30 participants by Jan 1, 2025.

To increase reach and retention of participants we will increase reentry workshop offerings by 20%, and increase stipends received by participants by 50%, with a goal of 20 participants attending 100% of courses by Jan 1, 2025.

To reduce violence extending back into the community and support community in healing we will foster positive coping methods with 2 healing retreats and workshops between 5/2024 and 12/2024 with a goal of 10 at each.

To lessen the stressors of those impacted by homicide we will provide burial support for 3 families and organize a holiday drive to reach 10 orphaned children by Jan 1 2025.

Progress*

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

We participated in Alliance for police Accountability's Love Days as Come Heal with Me, we tabled at 12 events in communities. This was an opportunity to touch people in the projects with Come Heal with Me. Each event saw 100-200 people.

The task of organizing workshops has been able to transfer to staff who is coordinating speakers, agenda and partnerships.

We also spent time pursuing a PCCD Violence Interruption and Prevention grant for Come Heal with Me using the time allotted and partnerships we are building through the STV cohort.

We were successful in engaging our clients with staff tuned in to their needs: We pivoted to creative activities that opened doors to conversation and processing through laughter. We had so much success with this we have started focusing on staffing the men's house and including this kind of creative expression in workshops. Upon completion of the third workshop we will compile data from exit surveys to quantify the impact of these activities.

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.

This project has made impacts in reducing retaliation by being in families lives. People talk about wanting to get back at those that caused the death and we talk to them about ways to overcome that feeling and also the challenges that make life complicated and overwhelming after a sudden death. After one death, the grandma took custody of the children but had nothing for them. Because of the mutual aid model we are providing, she wouldn't have to rob, or steal. One girl was at University and wasn't able to continue because of lack of funds her family situation had developed. Finding a matching grant for our contribution, we are keeping a kid in school, someone who wasn't eligible for Pittsburgh promise, because of the school she attended. This would keep her in school, another African American kid in school, discovering her identity outside of the violent community to which she would return. Infusing small amounts of money in the right places allows people to get out of the cycles of violence, away from criminal activity to get that seed money, and pursue the opportunities that allow them to have other options for their lives.

Learning and Adapting

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

Because of family deaths and illness, unforeseen needs presented by county contracts and clients, the program management capacity was limited and program support staff stepped in to create activities to keep residents busy, keep their morale high and create healthy community in their living environment. Over the summer months, we shifted to respond to the interest and areas of success for our clients. We began twice weekly therapeutic sessions, Motivational Mondays and Wind-down Wednesdays, designed to facilitate conversation, positive and motivational thinking, and resource sharing in an informal setting. The clients responded very well, as we are finding fun is a great vehicle for connection, reflection and receptiveness to new ideas and resources. We also hosted 3 family picnics, and 2 field trips.

Challenges

Describe any ongoing challenges.

One challenge has been collecting data from Come Heal with Me, since it is so sensitive a group we have been exploring ways to collect information without prying or causing further trauma from the participants. This is ongoing work and we are committed to creative strategies to do this.

We would love to have more people at workshops especially those not already residing in our houses. We see this outreach improving when we start canvassing with APA, and being able to accommodate larger groups when we move into the church.

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&oid=101637342679599276330&rtpof=true&sd=true

2024 STV Budget Midterm Reporting Form B.xlsx - Exempt.pdf

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.

*

We had great feedback about the workshop. It felt amazing. Most of the people participating were offenders, and were really excited to make connections with people now that they were on the outside trying navigate life. The speakers we had were instant connections for participants to build relationships and resources. One person was killed leaving their 4 children to a grandparent. The grandparent had no resources to care for these children other than their love. Zakiyah House provided a small minigrant to allow this family to buy the this they needed to care for the children, to provide them with clothes, and presents for the holidays.

Photos and Digital Clips

Please attach any photos or videos illustrating your work.

Verification

Name of Organizational Representative Completing Report*

Lindsey Scherloun

Title of Organizational Representative*

Grantwriter

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*

12/31/2024

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- 2024 STV Budget Midterm Reporting Form B.xlsx - Exempt.pdf

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]Za'kiyah HouseGrant Process [4]Stop the ViolenceTotal received to date (US \$): [6]\$30,000.00

Grant Start / End Dates: [2]16-May-24 to 31-Dec-24Report Period: [5]16-May-24 to 31-Dec-24

Approved Grant Amount: [3]\$ 30,000 (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]
Other	\$ 8,000	\$ 12,000		\$ 12,000	-\$ 4,000	Facilitation and coordination of workshops and retreats - internal and contracted.
General Operations	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000	Coordination of workshops and retreats - staff hours
Materials and/or Supplies	\$ 8,000	\$ 3,400	\$ 2,000	\$ 5,400	\$ 2,600	Participant Support - \$3,400 at APA collaborative events, 1,000 in participant support for each of 2 workshops
General Operations	\$ 6,000	\$ 0		\$ 0	\$ 6,000	Space Rental for workshops was provided in-kind
Other	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,250	\$ 0	\$ 2,250	\$ 2,750	Burial Support
Subtotal Direct Costs	\$ 30,000	\$ 18,650	\$ 3,000	\$ 21,650	\$ 8,350	
Indirect Costs	\$ 1,818	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,818	we paid for the indirect costs with other funding sources
Totals	*\$ 31,818	\$ 18,650	\$ 3,000	\$ 21,650	\$ 10,168	

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]

Lindsey Scherloun Grantwriter

Date:

12/30/2024

E-mail Address: [13]

development@zakiyahhouse.com

Phone Number: [14]

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