

## Youth Enrichment Services, Inc.

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

### *Youth Enrichment Services, Inc.*

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### *Ms. Lori Crawford*

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## FollowUp Form

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### *City of Pittsburgh STOP the Violence Mid-Year Progress Report*

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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.*

Youth Enrichment Services, Inc.

**Project Start Date (from Grant Proposal)\***

05/01/2024

**Project Start Date (Actual)\***

05/06/2024

***Grant Information***

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**Grant Amount Awarded\***

\$45,000.00

**Award Amount Spent\***

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

No

***Population Served***

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**Number of Program/Project Participants (Proposed)\***

1150

**Number of Program Participants (Actual)\***

850

**Number of Participants Ages 0-17 (Actual)\***

650

### Number of Participants Ages 18-30 (Actual)\*

100

### Number of Participants Ages 30+ (Actual)\*

50

### What neighborhoods do your project participants represent?\*

Allegheny Center  
Allegheny West  
Bedford Dwellings  
Bloomfield  
Carrick  
Central Lawrenceville  
Central Northside (Mexican War Streets)  
Central Oakland  
Crawford-Roberts  
Duquesne Heights  
East Allegheny (also known as Deutschtown)  
East Hills  
East Liberty  
Garfield (The Valley, The Hilltop)  
Hazelwood  
Highland Park  
Homewood North  
Homewood South  
Homewood West  
Larimer  
Lincoln Place  
Lincoln-Lemington-Belmar  
Lower Lawrenceville  
Manchester  
Mount Oliver  
New Homestead  
North Point Breeze  
Northview Heights  
Perry North (also known as Observatory Hill)  
Perry South (also known as Perry Hilltop)  
Shadyside  
Upper Lawrenceville  
West End

### 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 3

Zone 5

## Work Conducted

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### Proposed Project/Program Activities\*

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

YES proposed engaging youth in our Teen Council, hosting our third annual Teen Violence Prevention Symposium, and YES was additionally able to reach a larger population of elementary aged youth through our Fun Fitness Involving Sports and Health (FFISH) program outreach and trainings.

Text from our application includes:

Collective Impact Ecosystem members and teen council members (TCMs) have prioritized continual support for youth navigating the justice system due to their increased risk of violence. TTCC prioritizes socioemotional development (SED), literacy for postsecondary success, and accessible community care where partnering organizations compliment services, resource share, distribute data effectively, and meet community needs. TTCC requires recruitment, training, and onboarding. Youth self-select skill and career tracks to bolster engagement and retention rates. Up to 150 youth will complete interest and skill surveys, receive best in class VP, leadership, SED, and peer mentorship training and career exploration. YES' annual Teen VP Summit (TVPS) engages an additional 350-500 youth from partner organizations. TCMs facilitate events reaching 300-500 community members. TTCC's timeline: Q1 - lay foundation with youth, partners solidify data/resource sharing systems; Q2 - service/content programming including VP training and SED sessions; Q3 - workforce development, TVPS and youth research symposium; Q4 - VP programming, resource sharing and data analysis with partners.

## 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?

Roles have not shifted nor has YES experienced any unanticipated changes. Our collaborating partners offer more capacity than what YES alone possesses to move violence prevention efforts forward. STV grantee collaboration would improve with more intentional engagement beyond learning circles, a better understanding of what everyone is working on, and a clearer sense of where the gaps are in service provision.

YES' Collective Impact Violence Prevention Partnership (CIVPP) was created in 2022 out of an acknowledgement that entities in our region are not able to address gun violence on their own. Over the last two years, stakeholders from 65 organizations have met regularly through monthly meetings and quarterly

convenings to actualize the 8 Big Ideas our Teen Council Members identified during their violence prevention strategic planning process.

Key partners also include the keynote speakers, presenters, and facilitators for YES' Teen Violence Intervention Symposium including Mayor Ed Gainey; Dr. Alison Culyba of UPMC Children's Hospital Division of Adolescent & Young Adult Medicine; Umme Salim-Beasley head Coach of Women's Gymnastics at Rutgers University; Lakeesha Eure Deputy Mayor for Public Safety in Newark, NJ; Pastor Shirley Lyle Educational Director at UPMC; Senator Jay Costa PA State Senate Minority Leader; and Dean Eboni Zamani-Gallaher, University of Pittsburgh School of Education. The event emcees were Marcell Johnson and Yusef Shelton from Back2Purpose.

## Status of Project Plan\*

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

YES implemented everything from our proposal including hosting our violence intervention symposium, facilitating violence-related courses and research projects, engaging our Teen Council members with additional training, and teaching SEL and resiliency skills through our FFISH initiative. YES' 3rd annual Violence Intervention Symposium was themed "Break the chain, unite for peace" and was focused on building youth ambassadors for non-violence. Hosted on July 8th and 9th, 2024 at William Pitt Union, this year's symposium shifted from a prevention lens to an intervention lens. Youth attendees rotated through 8 of the following training sessions: Youth Action in Community Resilience; The Check In; All the Essential Life Skillz to Pay the Billz; Communication as Violence Intervention; Making the Most of Mentoring; Using Social Media for Violence Intervention; On Second Thought; Trauma and Empowerment; Recognizing the Signs of Trauma and Mental Health as the Root Cause of Violence; Cooking for Life and Health; Trauma to Trust; and Mindset: Confidence, Affirmations, Self-Esteem.

In addition to co-planning the Symposium, YES' Teen Council also advanced through the 8 Big Ideas for Addressing Gun Violence which they created through their strategic planning process. These 8 Big Ideas are:

- Create a Job Fair to connect teens to minority business owners (achieved)
- Provide safe spaces for teens to engage in social activities after school (achieved)
- Create programs for teens to build skills in conflict mediation (achieved)
- Provide opportunities for teens to learn overall coping skills (achieved)
- Create opportunities to connect people to a grief counseling program (in progress)
- Create collaborations between teens and community councils and parent groups so that they can help each other (in progress)
- Initiative a gun buy-back program targeted to teens (future focus)
- Create opportunities for collaboration with the police departments (in progress)

## Proposed Outcomes\*

YES proposed to bolster social protective factors, strengthen conflict resolution and life skills, and mitigate barriers to success for youth and families disproportionately affected by violence. We do so by leveraging community partnerships to maximize violence prevention (VP) efforts.

## Progress\*

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

YES met all goals below:

90% of youth complete 90% of eligible surveys with at least a 90% satisfaction rate & show positive growth in skill/content competency post tests;  
90% of youth attend at least 90% of available curriculum, mentorship, & community engagement sessions;  
90% of teen council sessions and strategic plan metrics are successfully completed within allotted time;  
Youth report skill building content mastery, positive experiences, meaningful mentorship engagement, & decrease in risk taking behaviors;  
Youth share instances of self advocacy, prosocial decision making, increased self efficacy, & see a meaningful more equitable future for themselves in PGH;  
Collaborating service providers & mentors provide content specific metrics which YES jointly analyzes;  
Quarterly & annual project reports to funders, stakeholders, & the community offer opportunities for engagement & long term change;  
Youth arrest rates & corresponding adjudication data provide longitudinal project insights.

### 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.

YES' violence prevention and intervention efforts have built youth capacity to identify risk factors for escalating behaviors, intervene when peer violence is at the verge of happening, and access healthier coping mechanisms for processing their experiences with community violence. Youth are equipped with tools to serve as community ambassadors for nonviolence. YES continues to mobilize Teen Council Members to steward community change and advocate for their peers. YES also continues to engage with over 60 community members and organizations through our Collective Impact Ecosystem Violence Prevention Partnership. YES is engaging with youth as youth as elementary school, a crucial time for increasing youth resistance to peer based challenges and to instill a sense of belonging capable of deterring harmful decision making. YES has engaged over 800 youth in the first half of this programming year and is set to surpass the proposed 1150 youth. YES' commitment to violence prevention as an agency, among our partners, and with a critical mass of students continues to steward the new generation of youth leaders equipped to choose nonviolence.

## Learning and Adapting

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

No

## Challenges

Describe any ongoing challenges.

YES is continually reminded that the need for violence intervention and prevention support exceeds the capacity of a single organization. YES is witnessing and contributing to concerted efforts for violence reduction in the city, and is seeing progress, yet there is a long way to go before violence is an anomaly rather than a routine occurrence. Youth continue to report to YES staff that they feel more equipped to intervene when behaviors are escalating around them, while also relaying that they wish there was more they could do to shift social dynamics so that their peers had “longer fuses” and were no longer so on edge and easily triggered towards perpetuating violence.

## *Budget*

### **Current Budget Overview\***

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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](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 Budget Reporting Form B.xlsx - Exempt.pdf

## *Share Your Story*

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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.

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A youth who was initially apprehensive about attending the Teen Violence Prevention Symposium ultimately decided to attend and afterward confided in staff that their initial apprehension was anticipating that it would be another waste of time where adults were lecturing youth without them getting anything from it. They shared their decision to not only stay through Day 1 activities but to return for Day 2 activities was made based on the quality of the experience they had and the sense of belonging and ownership over the conversation that they felt was available to them and fellow youth.

### **Photos and Digital Clips**

Please attach any photos or videos illustrating your work.

YES POISE STV Midyear Report Pictures.pdf

## ***Verification***

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### **Name of Organizational Representative Completing Report\***

Lori Crawford

### **Title of Organizational Representative\***

Director of Development

### **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\***

01/11/2025

## File Attachment Summary

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### *Applicant File Uploads*

- STV Budget Reporting Form B.xlsx - Exempt.pdf
- YES POISE STV Midyear Report Pictures.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] Community Empowerment Association, Inc. Grant Process [4] ACH \$45,000.00

Grant Start / End Dates: [2] 01-May-24 to 30-Apr-25 Report Period: [5] 01-May-24 to 31-Dec-24

Approved Grant Amount: [3] \$ 45,000 (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]
General Operations	\$ 45,000	\$ 0	\$ 29,914	\$ 29,914	\$ 15,086	
		\$ 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	
<b>Subtotal Direct Costs</b>	\$ 45,000	\$ 0	\$ 29,914	\$ 29,914	\$ 15,086	
Indirect Costs		\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 45,000</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 29,914</b>	<b>\$ 29,914</b>	<b>\$ 15,086</b>	

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.

Name and Title: [12] T. R. Byrdsong  
President

Date: 1/9/2025

E-mail Address: [13] TRByrdsong@ceapittsburgh.org

Phone Number: [14] 412-371-3689

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### **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.



