

Phase 4 Learning Center, Inc.

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

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FollowUp Form

Quarter Three Activities Update

Greetings, STOP the Violence grantees!

As the City of Pittsburgh prepares to update our stakeholders on the impact of this process, we need to gather some evaluation-focused information about your programs. Please answer the following survey about your services and activities from the third quarter following receipt of your grant award.

Thank you!

Organization Name*

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

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Did you spend any of your STOP the Violence grant funds during this period?*

Yes

How did you spend the funds?*

Please check all categories that apply.

Program Supplies

General Operations

If you chose "other", please describe.

Tell us how many people your organization/group served from the following age groups during this period.

Ages 0-17*

15

Ages 18-30*

6

Ages 30+*

0

Programs and Services*

Provide a brief description of any programs or services your organization or group provided in alignment with your STOP the Violence proposal.

P4:247 delivered impactful programs aligned with our STV proposal, focusing on youth empowerment and violence prevention:

Tech Launch: Offering at-risk youth hands-on cybersecurity training and industry certifications, this program opened doors to high-growth careers, providing meaningful alternatives to violence.

P4:247 CommUNITY: Engaged youth in positive, community-focused activities, including fitness, mentorship, and theater. Stories From the Heart explored trauma, peer pressure, and violence, fostering awareness and resilience.

Voices for Change Media Program: Through podcasting and video, youth expressed their views on violence and social issues, using creative advocacy as a tool for change.

HBCU Tour: We hosted a Black College Tour in partnership with Best Buy and UNCF, promoting educational pathways and career exploration as alternatives to violence.

These programs provide critical skills, support, and community engagement, empowering youth toward safer, productive lives.

Did you partner with any other organizations or groups during this period?*

Yes

Did your organization intentionally engage officers from the Pittsburgh Police during this period?*

No

Did you use STOP the Violence logos in marketing and media (social or traditional)?*

Yes

Give a brief description of your STOP the Violence during this period*

During this period, our STOP the Violence initiative focused on providing youth with safe, constructive outlets and career pathways to prevent violence. Key programs included the Tech Launch Cybersecurity Pre-Apprenticeship, equipping participants with industry certifications for high-demand careers; and the P4:247 CommUNITY Anti-Violence Campaign, engaging youth in mentorship, fitness, and a youth-led play, Stories From the Heart, to address trauma and social pressures. The Voices for Change Media Program empowered young people to share their perspectives on gun violence through podcasting and video. Additionally, our HBCU Tour exposed youth to higher education opportunities, promoting college as a viable, violence-free future path. Together, these programs offered skills, mentorship, and community support, steering youth toward positive growth.

Is your organization planning any public activities in the next few months?*

Yes

If "yes", please provide a brief description.

Youth Media Showcase –Planning on a showcase for youth to present videos, podcasts, and digital art centered on anti-violence themes.

Does your organization need capacity-building support?*

Yes

On what areas of focus would you like your capacity-building support?

Fundraising

Share Your Stories*

Upload a clip or provide text to share one or more specific stories (please avoid using full names of clients/participants) that illustrates the impact of your work.

STV Pittsburgh PSA.mov

One young man, "Roman", joined our program with a background marked by challenging circumstances, including limited job prospects and exposure to violence in his community. Through our Tech Launch Cybersecurity Pre-Apprenticeship, he gained skills in cybersecurity, eventually earning his first certification. Roman shared that the training opened doors he'd never considered before, giving him hope and ambition for the future. Now employed as a junior IT technician, he's using his skills to support his family, avoid negative influences, and inspire younger peers to pursue similar paths. His journey reflects how tech education can provide both economic mobility and a meaningful alternative to violence.

Another powerful story from our HBCU Tour involves a young participant, "Darius", who had never considered college an option. Darius joined the tour feeling uncertain about his future, but as he visited some of the HBCU campuses down south, he felt a deep sense of belonging, pride and connection. Meeting with students and alumni who shared his background, he saw a path forward for himself in higher education for the first time.

After hearing from alumni about career opportunities and the supportive, inclusive community at HBCUs, Darius expressed newfound motivation to apply to college. Inspired by the tour, he plans to pursue studies in computer science, realizing that education can be both a tool for his growth and a means to contribute positively to his community. His experience on the HBCU Tour exemplifies how exposure to higher education can shift perspectives and provide a hopeful alternative to violence.

One young participant, "Jalen", found his voice through our Voices for Change Media Program. Initially shy and hesitant to speak about his experiences, Jalen struggled to cope with the impact of violence he'd witnessed in his neighborhood. But as he began creating videos, he found a powerful outlet for his emotions and stories.

"Jalen" helped write and direct the PSA video. He chose to address how gun violence affects young people's mental health, using narrative and personal reflections to convey the deep toll it takes on families and friendships. This process helped Jalen not only process his own feelings but also gave him confidence and purpose, knowing this message could inspire others to seek peaceful resolutions. His journey, as well as the others who worked on it, demonstrates the healing and empowering potential of video creation as a medium for self-expression and social change.

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- STV Pittsburgh PSA.mov