

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2023-177

A RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SUBRECIPIENT  
AGREEMENTS WITH VARIOUS ENTITIES

(Equity and Engagement Department – ARPA Community Gun  
Violence Reduction Blueprint Public Programs)

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHAMPAIGN,  
ILLINOIS, as follows:

**Section 1.** That the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute a subrecipient agreement in a form approved by the City Attorney between the City of Champaign and each of the following agencies not to exceed the amounts set forth below:

FY 2023/24 Blueprint Program Subrecipients	
Carle Foundation Hospital (ARPA)	\$200,000
Crime Stoppers (ARPA)	\$100,000
DREAAM Academy (ARPA)	\$216,000
First Followers (ARPA)	\$686,841
Housing Authority of Champaign County – YouthBuild (ARPA)	\$150,000
STEAM Genius (ARPA)	\$117,331
Trauma and Resilience Initiative (ARPA)	\$452,704
Stephen’s Family YMCA “Y on the Fly” (ARPA)	\$285,129
East Central Illinois – Youth For Christ (ARPA)	\$106,000

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2023-177

PASSED:

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

**REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL****FROM: Dorothy Ann David, City Manager****DATE: November 3, 2023****SUBJECT: EXPLANATION OF COUNCIL BILL NO. 2023-177**

**A. Introduction:** The purpose of this Council Bill is to authorize the City Manager to enter into subrecipient agreements for FY 2023/24 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Community Violence Reduction Blueprint programs with the following agencies: Carle Foundation Hospital for \$200,000, Crime Stoppers for \$100,000, DREAAM Academy for \$216,000, East Central Illinois Youth For Christ for \$106,000, First Followers for \$686,841, Housing Authority of Champaign County YouthBuild Program for \$150,000, STEAM Genius for \$117,331, Trauma and Resilience Initiative for \$452,704 and Stephen's Family YMCA (Y on the Fly) for \$285,129.

**B. Action Requested:** The Administration recommends approval of this Council Bill.

**C. Prior Council Action:**

- On December 14, 2021, staff provided Council with a [SS-2021-037](#) Proposed Community Gun Violence Reduction Blueprint.
- On January 18, 2022, the Council approved [Council Bill 2022-001](#) to establish a new City Department entitled the Equity and Engagement Department. This department is led by a director, serving as the Chief Equity Officer for the City, reporting directly to the City Manager. Within the Equity and Engagement Department, the Community Safety and Justice division was established to lead and coordinate Blueprint implementation.
- On February 15, 2022 at the Regular Council Meeting, Council approved Council Bill [2022-019](#) A Resolution Adopting a Council Policy Regarding Community Gun Violence Reduction Blueprint and Codifying Such Policy.
- On February 25, 2022, Council adopted [Council Bill 2022-024](#) authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract in the amount of \$78,800.00 for an 18-month period beginning on March 1, 2022 with SU Institute Health and Education, Evaluation, Assessment and Research LLC of Savoy, Illinois for evaluation design and consulting services in connection with the Community Gun Violence Reduction Blueprint.
- On February 25, 2022, Council approved [Council Bill 2022-025](#) authorizing subrecipient agreements for FY 2022/23 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Community Violence Reduction Blueprint programs with the following agencies: Carle Foundation Hospital (\$200,000), Champaign Unit 4 Schools (\$526,620), Crime Stoppers (\$100,000), DREAAM Academy (\$216,000), East Central Illinois Youth For Christ (\$106,000), First Followers (\$686,841), Housing Authority of Champaign County YouthBuild Program (\$150,000),

STEAM Genius (\$117,900), Trauma and Resilience Initiative (\$452,704) and Youth and Family Peer Support Alliance (\$135,900).

- On October 18, 2022, Council approved [Council Bill 2022-164](#) authorizing a subrecipient agreement in the amount of \$218,103 for a 12 month period beginning on October 8, 2022 with Stephen's Family YMCA for afterschool/weekend youth development programming in connection with the CGVRB.
- On December 20, 2022, Council approved [Council Bill 2022-202](#) authorizing a subrecipient agreement in the amount of \$45,373 for a 12-month period with Vision to Succeed, LLC for positive youth development programming in connection with the CGVRB.
- On February 21, 2023, Council approved [Council Bill 2023-019](#) approving the intergovernmental agreement with the State of Illinois, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority for the Blueprint.
- On September 19, 2023, staff provided Council with a [SS-2023-020](#) Community Gun Violence Reduction Blueprint Update.
- A list of prior Council actions related to community anti-violence initiatives can be found in Attachment A of this report.

#### **D. Summary:**

- The Blueprint includes three goals and recommendations for specific areas to be addressed through existing City-community partnerships, while other service areas will require the identification of new service provider partners.
- Blueprint partners have collaborated closely with staff to address gun violence and its root causes. They are involved in the implementation of the Community Gun Violence Reduction Blueprint, through collaboration and effective program implementation.
- During the Champaign City Council Study Session on September 19th, staff provided an update on the first year of the Community Gun Violence Reduction Blueprint. The Council approved funding for the second year, supporting the Blueprint partners.
- The Administration seeks approval to enter into subrecipient agreements with the following public service partners: Carle Foundation Hospital, Crime Stoppers, DREAAM Academy, East Central Illinois Youth for Christ, First Followers, Housing Authority of Champaign County YouthBuild Program, STEAM Genius, Trauma and Resilience Initiative and Stephen's Family YMCA (Y on the Fly).

#### **E. Background:**

**1. Community Gun Violence Reduction Blueprint.** The Champaign City Council has been actively engaged in initiatives aimed at reducing and deterring gun violence since 2015. Central to these efforts is a commitment to collaborative projects with partner agencies, utilizing a focused deterrence model, and extending support to victims of violence, all outlined within the Council's overarching goals. The significance of these efforts was underscored by community input during discussions surrounding the allocation of federal COVID relief funds under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Suggestions from the community emphasized the urgent need for violence prevention programs, youth initiatives, safe communal spaces, social programs, and robust victim support systems. Consequently, gun violence response emerged as

one of the priorities for the allocation of these funds, reflecting the city's dedication to addressing this pressing issue. The development of the Community Gun Violence Reduction Blueprint was deeply rooted in a foundational philosophy focusing on addressing the root causes of community gun violence. Grounded in research provided by the Educational Fund to Stop Gun Violence (EFSGV), the Blueprint recognizes income inequality, poverty, underfunded public housing, under-resourced public services, struggling educational institutions, limited opportunities, feelings of hopelessness, and easy access to firearms among high-risk individuals as core contributors to the crisis. This comprehensive approach underscores the city's commitment to promoting racial equity, with a specific focus on community gun violence within the newly established Equity and Engagement Department.

On September 19th, the Champaign City Council received a comprehensive update on the Community Gun Violence Reduction Blueprint, covering financial, operational, and evaluation aspects. During this session, the Council provided directives, approving rebudgeting for Blueprint partners, endorsing second year subrecipient agreements, and endorsing the continuation of efforts into the subsequent phases of evaluation with the SU Institute of HEEAR.

To address identified gaps, the Council approved the administration's recommendation to implement new initiatives. This involved enhancing internal processes within the Equity and Engagement and Community Safety Justice Division, in addition to continuing the implementation of the Community Gun Violence Reduction Blueprint. Furthermore, they authorized the establishment of an emergency fund and the introduction of an electronic tracking system for case management purposes. They also approved the development of a 'Request for Proposals' process to address identified service gaps.

**Blueprint Partners.** The staff from the Equity and Engagement Department actively sought information such as staffing patterns, filled positions, unfilled positions, target population, and the number of participants to ensure that programs are up to date. They reached out to Blueprint partners to confirm the current financial and operational status of subrecipient agreements. Additionally, they worked on addressing any additional gaps in services that might have existed.

**2. Subrecipient Agreements Under Goal 1: Prevent/Reduce Gun Violence and Promote Safety.** The proposed partners will implement the following programs and services through the subrecipient agreements.

- a. Carle Foundation Hospital \$200,000.** Carle Foundation Hospital hired two full-time social workers to integrate a 24/7 Emergency Department social work team. The hospital will maintain this staffing level in the emergency room with full-time social workers. This is part of an ongoing initiative, where Carle will continue its partnership with the Trauma and Resilience Initiative (TRI) to connect impacted individuals and families with essential resources. These resources, aimed at addressing underlying risk factors for violence, include services such as: emergency/transitional/relocation housing, healing and emotional support, conflict mediation, legal and victims' rights assistance, health advocacy, and other necessary long-term safety planning support.

**b. DREAM \$216,000.** Driven to Reach Excellence and Academic Achievement for Males (DREAM) will continue the implementation of Hope for the Future, a program that started in 2022. The program model will expand current services and further develop two key program areas: Wellness programming for all and Community-based gang prevention, utilizing a three-tiered approach. Our focus remains on outcomes related to child well-being, violence prevention, trauma healing, and addressing holistic needs.

**i. Tier One (1) – Wellness Programming for All** will provide free to low-cost programming for 100 children at Garden Hills Academy every Saturday year-round from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Activities will include:

- Physical health Programming
- Cultural Arts Programming
- Community Drill Team Program
- Social Emotional Learning

**ii. Tier Two (2) – Focused, Community-based Gang Prevention** will engage 12 middle school Black/African American boys involved in and/or at risk of being in the mental health and juvenile justice systems. Participants will be identified through a variety of sources including parent and youth interviews, social histories, and school discipline data.

Gang prevention services will be implemented year-round in community-based settings, led by Champaign residents who will be trained in mentoring, life coaching, healing circles, restorative justice, and healing-centered engagement. Prevention services will include:

- Intensive one-on-one mentoring (two to three contacts per week between mentor and mentee)
- Culturally relevant behavioral interventions (healing circles, cultural awareness)
- Athletic programming
- Case management to address chronic barriers (such as food insecurity, academic underachievement, and mental health)

**iii. Tier Three (3)– Intensive Services for Disconnected/Out of School Youth** is designed to reach, teach, and empower youth ages 14 – 18 with intensive educational, vocational and behavioral services to address the social and educational disparities faced by this targeted population.

Hope for the Future will support a youth-led wraparound plan to address and improve educational and life skill developmental needs. Intensive services will be comprehensive and coordinated across systems and will include:

- High school completion
- Post-secondary educational planning
- Job training and placement
- Life skills

- Substance abuse support
  - Counseling
  - Life coaching and Driver's education
- c. **East Central Illinois Youth For Christ On Track "Lunch Crew" Program \$106,000.** East Central Illinois Youth For Christ will provide youth development programming to Champaign Unit 4 students through the On Track "Lunch Crew" Program, a combined tech mentoring program that meets during lunch periods at five Champaign Unit 4 Schools. This program engages young people through applied learning activities in radio controlled (RC) motorsports and sound design engineering. Participating students will also receive additional academic support as indicated as needed through referrals. The On Track Program will coordinate program services with STEAM Genius.

This partnership will support the following activities:

- i. **Staff Responsibilities:** the Part-Time Program Coordinator holds a central role, overseeing all activities, monitoring individual student progress, and providing personalized academic support through tailored tutoring sessions. Additionally, two Part-Time Tutors act as mentors, offering vital academic support, nurturing positive behavior, and facilitating practical learning experiences, like assembling RC cars. Their approach is not only educational but culturally responsive, fostering an inclusive and supportive learning environment for all students.
- ii. **Accept referrals for student participation from Unit 4 teachers, staff, and administration.**
- iii. **Serve a total of 30-50 students at each of the following locations:**
  - Edison Middle School
  - Franklin Middle School
  - Jefferson Middle School
  - Central High School
  - Centennial High School
- iv. **Meet with students Monday – Friday**
  - Lunch periods – 40 minutes
  - YFC will provide lunch.
- v. **East Central Illinois Youth for Christ will collaborate with STEAM Genius in the following ways:**
  - Accept referrals from the On Track Afterschool Program
  - Extend referrals to the On Track Afterschool Program
  - Provide additional support at special events.

**d. First Followers Non-Mandated Mentoring \$473,110.** First Followers uses a peer mentoring model to train formerly incarcerated individuals to become mentors to other formerly incarcerated participants through their GoMAD (Go Make A Difference) program. First Followers will maintain the support to an 18-month program with a tiered approach to incentivized payments, with participants receiving stipends for participation and engagement with the program. The levels of payment will increase with continued engagement and upon reaching milestones set by participants and First Followers staff. The program is a non-mandated intensive mentoring intervention designed for individuals who have been identified as the most active firearm offenders in the Champaign-Urbana area. First Followers will provide the following services:

**i. 1 (FTE) Community Supervisor to provide services.**

**ii. 24-hour Case Management**

- Identifying and recruiting participants
- Receive and respond to referrals from partners.
- Mentorship includes multiple daily contact with staff.
- Creating life map/developing goals
- Assistance with social service system navigation including housing, education, employment, transportation, financial, etc.
- Support regarding family/relationships/social network
- Mental Health Service (New Pilot Program)

**iii. Partnerships with social service organizations**

- GED preparation
- Anger management
- Healthcare services
- Recreational services
- Transportation
- Substance abuse counseling
- CBT and other counseling services

**iv. Excursions**

- Annual trips to different cities
- Completing community service projects
- Attending or presenting at conferences
- Meeting with government officials
- Meeting with rivals

**e. First Followers Community Re-Entry for Formerly Incarcerated Persons \$213,731.** First Followers will collaborate with corrections, parole, probation, and other reentry service providers to implement and expand on reentry programs by doing the following:

**i. (1 FTE) In Reach Coordinator to work with inmates and individuals on parole and probation during and after their incarceration.**

- ii. **Pre-release: Collaborate with IDOC to implement release planning protocol and activities, to include:**
    - Needs/risk assessment while incarcerated
    - Case-management services such as designing transition plan
    - Literacy classes, GED classes, peer tutoring, adult basic education, and pre apprenticeship training
    - Job readiness training, including apprenticeships, communication and problem-solving skills, guides for job searches
    - Mentoring for offenders during incarceration
  - iii. **Post-release: Develop and implement comprehensive case management and referral plans that directly address criminogenic risks and needs including:**
    - Educational, literacy, and employment/vocational services
    - Substance use disorder treatment and services
    - Provision of basic support for up to 12 months post-release from Re-entry Specialist
    - Address access to housing
    - Support healthy family functioning and relationships through parenting classes and relationship classes
    - Collaboration between community- and faith-based organizations and corrections, community supervision, law enforcement, and other local reentry stakeholders
    - Coordinated supervision and services for ex-offenders, including physical health care and comprehensive housing and mental health care
    - Public benefits assistance, TANF/welfare/public benefits agencies
    - Transportation assistance
    - Assistance with obtaining/replacing documents
- f. **HACC YouthBuild Program \$150,000.** The YouthBuild program serves at-risk and disadvantaged youth between the ages of 16 and 24 who are high school dropouts, adjudicated youth, youth aging out of foster care, youth with disabilities, homeless youth, and other disconnected youth populations. Through this agreement, YouthBuild program will assist fifteen (15) participating youth in obtaining the following:
- High school diploma
  - National Center for Construction Education and Research Certification (NCCER)
  - Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10 Training
  - Monthly stipends
  - Various other career readiness certifications
  - Equipment and uniforms
  - Supportive services, including job placement and 12 months of follow up
- g. **STEAM Genius \$117,331.** STEAM Genius Lovin U Tour is an educational enrichment and gun violence prevention program that is designed to continue exposing and connecting young people to a pathway of career opportunities and leadership



development. The program equips students with dreams, confidence, and skills necessary to pursue their aspirations, all while fostering relationships across diverse social groups to prevent social tensions that can lead to conflict and violence. During the tour, students will be introduced to cutting-edge technologies designed to capture their attention, followed by insights into Street College and other local enrichment programs to further their development.

Street College, a pivotal part of this initiative, prepares students for higher education through STEM/STEAM-based applied learning activities. The Lovin' U Tour stops at 13 grade schools, four middle schools, and three high schools, including Novak Academy in Champaign, IL. The assemblies will specifically target students in grades 4-12. At each school, the engaging Lovin' U Assembly will actively involve classrooms in activities. To enhance ongoing engagement, the Lovin' U team will leave enticing equipment such as high-end RC cars, drones, and DJ equipment for select faculty to use.

From November 2023 through October 2024, the Lovin' U Tour, led by STEAM Genius, will visit every Champaign Unit 4 school and conduct dynamic assemblies for students in grades 4-12. These assemblies will feature DJ sessions and introductions to high-end RC cars, drones, and go-carts, emphasizing design and engineering concepts. The interactive sessions will encourage problem-solving and nurture creative thinking to inspire the students' inner genius, motivating them to participate in local enrichment activities.

During these assemblies, students will collaborate with peers, fostering relationships across social circles. The program instills in students the confidence to pursue their dreams and builds connections across diverse social groups, thereby preventing social tensions and conflicts.

This program is designed to benefit all students in Champaign Unit 4, spanning from grades 4-12. The program team includes:

- 1 Chief Curriculum Officer. Responsible for designing curriculum tailored to each school and age group, developing teaching materials, and training presenters. Additionally, the Chief Curriculum Officer serves as the Master of Ceremonies for assemblies.
- 1 Program Coordinator. Oversees interactions with school administration, manages staff and assembly setup, collects programming data, and compiles reports for the Project Administrator.
- 2 Project Engineers. These professionals deliver program instructions, offer support in curriculum development and implementation, and mentor Junior Project Engineers and program participants.
- 2 Junior Project Engineers. Assists Project Engineers in instruction and participant mentorship. Junior Project Engineers gain exposure to STEM and STEAM careers, contributing to their personal career development.

**h. Trauma and Resilience Initiative \$452,704.** The Trauma & Resilience Initiative (TRI) will use trauma-informed, strength-based approaches and other community defined methods to provide culturally, ethnically, and linguistically responsive outreach and engagement services to individuals, families and communities affected by violence. This partnership will support the following activities:

**i. Education and Evidence Based Trauma Specific Training**

- Integrative Treatment of Complex Trauma for Adolescents
- Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
- Seeking Safety
- I-Care and Strong Families
- Youth Trauma Center
- Start 2 Heal

**ii. Awareness Raising through community engagement, education, and forums.**

- Continued participation, involvement, and support for the Community Violence Response Team (CVRT), assisting with the Neighborhood Safety meetings and other community meetings. This includes assistance with meeting facilitation, recruiting, and ensuring small group meeting facilitators, preparation of the post-meeting data/evaluation report, and the community needs assessment data. (Monthly/as needed)

**iii. Healing and Emotional Support**

- 6-8 contractual peer supporters able to provide linkage and engagement, stress management, mentoring and resiliency building support – based on family needs.
- Provide coverage for Community Violence Response Team (CVRT) and Hear 4 U (a youth-specific number) 24-7, every day of the year. The CVRT and Hear 4 U numbers are available for crisis emotional support and linkage to resources.
- 6-8 part-time coordinated community response/responders who will be available to provide emotional and practical support (Psychological First Aid) at the hospital or at other community spaces/events. TRI will ensure volunteers have completed the requisite background checks, confidentiality, and mandated reporter training.
- 8-10 contractual therapists who are available to provide evidence-based trauma specific services and support.

**iv. Case Management and Referral**

- Convening and staffing a monthly (or more frequently as needed) collaboration meeting to address the needs of individuals and families impacted by gun violence, to improve our cross-system collaboration and to ensure that the community's needs are addressed effectively and efficiently.
- Wraparound facilitation and coordination for 35 individuals and families with complex needs i.e., those with multiple system involvement; those with too few resources/social or service connections; or those who need financial resources (flex funds) to be stabilized.

- Manage the flex funds and work closely with the flex fund subcommittee to ensure that funds are used effectively and in adherence to TRI policies/rules.

**v. Service Navigation**

- Accompany to civil or criminal court
- Case status updates (law enforcement, prosecutor, court)
- Victim/witness preparation
- Victim advocacy in navigating the health care system
- Education, awareness, and accompaniment to medical visits etc.
- Hospital, medical, or emergency services
- Intervention with employer/creditor/ landlord/academic institution
- Immigration assistance
- Mental health services
- Safety services
- TANF/welfare/public benefits agencies
- Language services
- Corrections (i.e., probation, parole, or correctional facility staff)

**i. Stephen's Family YMCA (Y on the Fly) \$285,129.** The Y on the Fly will have 3 different dimensions of programming. They are:

- Delivering a “Y without walls” summer programming experience directly to communities in Champaign. Y on the Fly creates recreational accessibility and programming to children who are socioeconomically and geographically disadvantaged through free and accessible summer youth programs. Y on the Fly will partner with a number of other community partners in delivering engaging curriculum and activities. Some of those partners include 4-H, WILL, University of Illinois Police, Ghetto Genius-Hip Hop Express, Champaign Police, and more. Y on the Fly has used a mobile design with 2 YMCA vans to deliver programs and services to youth in neighborhoods throughout communities that currently are unable to take full advantage of YMCA programs and services. Our 2024 sites include Town Center, Country Brook, and two other communities that have not been identified for summer 2024 (continually evaluating sites for most impact, etc.).
- Provide after-school programming at our Springfield Avenue location. This program targets ages K – 5th grades. Y on the Fly creates learning opportunities, recreational accessibility and programming to children who are socioeconomically and geographically disadvantaged through free and accessible after school youth programs. This partnership with the City of Champaign will allow on-site programming to serve youth in the Springfield Ave./Kenwood Rd. community, including Country Brook and Champaign Park Apts. This neighborhood has been identified through the Community Gun Violence Reduction Blueprint as being impacted by community gun violence. This space will be staffed by YMCA after school staff and will be available to 25-30 kids daily from 3pm-6pm. This program has a minimal \$20/month fee to help families with accountability, but this fee can be waived if families need financial assistance.

- Additionally, the 2422 West Springfield location will be available on weekends and made available for use by Blueprint partners as needed. This is intended to be a space that encourages community collaboration and problem solving.

This partnership will support the following activities:

- Children in grades K-5 receive daily after school programming, M-F. They will receive a snack each day. Programming will last from school dismissal until 6pm.
- Hire 5 part-time employees for after-school programming. (One of these employees, which is a new position for the 2023-24 school year, will be a coordinator and coordinate academic improvement, family communication, enrichment, and outreach for the program).
- The funding also pays for a director to implement and oversee programming, community connections with families, neighborhoods, and blueprint partners. This position is evolving into more of a leadership position and because of the growth of the program, Yon the Fly programming requires more time for the director to pull away from the day-day programming and execute strategy and relationship building at a higher level.
- Provide summer programming for children in four underserved communities in and around Champaign. Daily programming will be delivered by 12 Y on the Fly staff. (This is additional in this proposed subrecipient agreement for 2024)
- Provide swim lessons and safety around water programming for Y on the Fly participants. (This was a pilot in 2023 and will grow in 2024)
- Purchase ongoing culturally competent materials and supplies that meet the developmental needs of children.
- Host special events like Cocoa with a Cop, Back to School Event, as well as other events that help build community, trust, and relationship in Champaign.
- Purchase games, arts and crafts, and other enrichment activities.
- Provide staff training to deal more effectively with trauma, student learning, and more.
- Provide an after-school curriculum that assists with SES learning.
- Provide enriching field trips and transportation throughout the community for after-school and summer programming.
- Provide staff coverage to allow Blueprint partners to use, Yon the Fly space at 2422 W. Springfield Ave. on Saturdays.

### **3. Subrecipients Under Goal 2: Enhance community engagement and support.**

- a. Crime Stoppers \$100,000.** Crime Stoppers will increase the cash reward from \$1,000 to \$2,500 for anonymous tips that lead to the arrest of an individual using a gun during the commission of a felony crime in Champaign County. Crime Stoppers will offer a cash reward of \$5,000 for anonymous tips that lead to the arrest of an individual using a gun in a homicide.

**4. Program Descriptions.** The proposed programs/activities to be funded include:

<b>Partner Agency</b>	<b>Funded Program</b>	<b>Impacted Population</b>
Carle Foundation Hospital	Hospital Based Intervention Program	Individuals and families impacted by gun violence
Crime Stoppers	Illegal Gun Bounty Program	Champaign County residents
DREAAM	Hope for the Future Program	Garden Hills youth, “high risk” males, disconnected youth ages 14-18
East Central Illinois Youth for Christ	On Track Program Lunch Crews	Champaign Unit 4 middle and high school youth
First Followers	Non mandated mentoring	Active firearm offenders and individuals at risk for being involved in gun violence
First Followers Community Re-Entry	Pre-release and post-release support	Formerly incarcerated community members
HACC YouthBuild Program	YouthBuild Program	At risk and disadvantaged youth between the ages of 16 and 24 who are high school dropouts, adjudicated youth, youth aging out of foster care, youth with disabilities, homeless youth, and other disconnected youth populations

STEAM Genius	The STEAM Genius Lovin U Tour is an educational enrichment and gun violence prevention program designed to expose and connect young people to a pathway of career opportunities and leadership development.	Champaign Unit 4 K through 12 <sup>th</sup> grade
Trauma and Resilience Initiative	Direct response for gun violence victims and their families, support for trauma training and awareness	Individuals, families and neighborhoods directly impacted by trauma
Stephen's Family YMCA (Y on the Fly)	Y on the Fly delivers a "Y without walls" programming experience directly to communities outside of the Y's current service areas. This experience delivers food, education, books, games, physical activity, swim safety lessons, and enrichment activities that are designed to encourage learning and inspire imagination.	Neighborhoods identified through the CGVRB as a neighborhood impacted by community gun violence, Youth and families experiencing mental, emotional or behavioral health issues

**5. Next Steps.** These programs for fiscal year 2023/24 are scheduled to commence in fall 2023 and will run until December 2024. The next steps involve moving forward with rebudgeting for Blueprint partners and completing second year subrecipient agreements. Subrecipients are mandated to meet with designated staff from the Equity and Engagement as well as the Finance Department. Their responsibilities include reviewing and completing the monthly performance reporting template, meeting at least quarterly with project evaluators to discuss metrics for evaluating program impact and providing necessary assistance for data collection during service provision. Additionally, they are required to meet monthly with staff to discuss capacity and service delivery challenges and participate in regular coordination meetings with other ARPA fund recipients facilitated through the Equity and Engagement Department.

In the fall of 2023, staff will initiate a Request for Proposals (RFP) process, allowing community agencies to submit proposals for the remaining components of the Community Gun Violence Reduction Blueprint and identified service gaps from year one assessment. Areas requiring RFPs include educational, vocational, and life skills outreach strategies for both adults and youth, faith-based mentoring, case management and counseling supports, victim legal services, family programming, and after school/weekend youth programming (including large apartment complexes). Furthermore, the next steps involve the development of parameters for the newly approved emergency fund, and an electronic tracking system for case management purposes will be implemented.

## **F. Alternatives:**

- 1.** Approve this Council Bill authorizing the City Manager to enter into subrecipient agreements for the FY 2023/24 ARPA Community Gun Violence Reduction Blueprint partnerships with the following agencies: Carle Foundation Hospital for \$200,000, Crime Stoppers for \$100,000, DREAAM Academy for \$216,000, East Central Illinois Youth for Christ for \$106,000, First Followers for \$686,841, Housing Authority of Champaign County YouthBuild Program for \$150,000, STEAM Genius for \$117,331, Trauma and Resilience Initiative for \$452,704, and Stephen's Family YMCA (Y on the Fly) for \$285,129.
- 2.** Do not approve the Council Bill and provide further direction to staff.

## **G. Discussion of Alternatives:**

**Alternative 1** would approve this Council Bill authorizing the City Manager to enter into subrecipient agreements for the FY 2023/24 ARPA Community Gun Violence Reduction Blueprint partnerships with the following agencies: Carle Foundation Hospital for \$200,000, , Crime Stoppers for \$100,000, DREAAM Academy for \$216,000, East Central Illinois Youth for Christ for \$106,000, First Followers for \$686,841, Housing Authority of Champaign County YouthBuild Program for \$150,000, STEAM Genius for \$117,331, Trauma and Resilience Initiative for \$452,704, and Stephen's Family YMCA (Y on the Fly) for \$285,129.

### **a. Advantages**

- Supports the City Council Goal "Our City Keeps Our Community Safe" and provides a mechanism to address gun violence as a priority.
- Supports evidence based best practices to address community gun violence.
- Would allow for innovative approaches to address race and equity both internally and citywide to improve the health and well-being of residents.
- Strengthens collaboration between local government, law enforcement and community partners addressing gun violence.
- Helps to "connect the dots" of comprehensive Blueprint by linking the efforts of community-based organizations.
- Facilitates an organized structure to address community gun violence.
- Supports law enforcement crime data analysis approach to solving gun related crimes.
- Promotes a community engagement approach to strengthen the City's commitment to public safety.
- Supports capacity building efforts in community-based organizations working to address gun violence.
- Allows for culturally responsive service provision.

## **b. Disadvantages**

- The use of ARPA funds is only available for two years and the City would need to find other recurring funding to sustain these investments long-term.

**Alternative 2** would allow for further direction from Council on other opportunities to advance the community's efforts to deter gun violence.

## **a. Advantages**

- Specific advantages would depend on direction provided by Council.
- City Council could provide alternative direction that would more effectively address the gun violence crisis.

## **b. Disadvantages**

- Significant shifts in programming may affect the momentum achieved over the last several years and the partnerships put in place to identify high-risk individuals and to provide intervention and support services.

**H. Community Input:** Through the Community Coalition, the community and public receive regular updates on community violence initiatives. At monthly Coalition meetings, held on the second Wednesday of each month, individuals and community representatives engage in interactive discussions with representatives from law enforcement, City departments, and agencies engaged in responding to gun violence and community trauma. Additionally, in 2021, the Community Coalition's Community Violence Response Team organized Neighborhood Safety Meetings at Bethel AME Church, the American Legion, Champaign Park Apartments and the Leonhard Center. Feedback included the need for trauma training and support, the importance of police engagement in impacted neighborhoods, support for youth and their families, the need for additional meeting times/dates outside of conventional business hours and the need for more proactive communications.

Public input was provided on December 14, 2021, when staff presented the proposed [Community Gun Violence Reduction Blueprint](#).

Recommendations outlined in this report for coordination with Blueprint partners have been in response to discussions with the community partners, initiative participants, youth and families. Also, many residents have expressed concerns about the increase in community gun violence through direct contacts with Council and staff as well as via email and telephone calls. On September 19th, during a Study Session for the Champaign City Council, the Equity and Engagement Department provided an update on year one of the Community Gun Violence Reduction Blueprint. City staff presented the progress made during the first year of the program. During the Study Session, community members shared their comments on the impacts and expressed a positive response to the Community Gun Violence Reduction Blueprint. The Council also provided direction regarding second-year funding for Blueprint partners and addressing gaps in services.



The public will have an additional opportunity to provide input at the Council meeting when this topic is discussed.

**I. Budget Impact:** Contracts considered with this Council Bill require \$2,314,005 of the FY 23/24 ARPA funds. The subrecipients to be funded are Carle Foundation Hospital for \$200,000, Crime Stoppers for \$100,000, DREAAM Academy for \$216,000, East Central Illinois Youth for Christ for \$106,000, First Followers for \$686,841, Housing Authority of Champaign County YouthBuild Program for \$150,000, STEAM Genius for \$117,331, Trauma and Resilience Initiative for \$452,704, and Stephen’s Family YMCA (Y on the Fly) for \$285,129.

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Requested Amount</b>
Carle Foundation Hospital (ARPA)	\$ 200,000
Crime Stoppers (ARPA)	\$100,000
DREAAM Academy (ARPA)	\$216,000
East Central Illinois Youth for Christ	\$106,000
First Followers (ARPA)	\$686,841
Housing Authority of Champaign County – YouthBuild (ARPA)	\$150,000
STEAM Genius (ARPA)	\$117,331
Trauma and Resilience Initiative (ARPA)	\$452,704
Stephen’s Family YMCA “Y on the Fly” (ARPA)	\$285,129
<b>ARPA Funding Total for Year Two</b>	<b>\$2,314,005</b>

**J. Staff Impact:** City staff across the organization have spent over 4,000 hours over the past year implementing gun violence intervention initiatives and participating in various meetings, building the Blueprint and related activities. The Community Relations Manager, 2 Justice Victim Advocates, 2 Impact Outreach Workers, Deputy Police Chief, Lieutenant of Investigations and Chief of Police, all play an active role in coordination and implementation of the City’s gun violence deterrence activities.

In addition, staff from the Legal Department, Finance Department, and Equity and Engagement Department have spent over 500 hours preparing and reviewing subrecipient agreements, meeting with Blueprint partner organizations, and providing follow-up as needed.

Prepared by:

Reviewed by:

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### **Prior City Council Actions to Address Community Violence:**

- At the January 27, 2015, City Council Study Session, staff presented the Community Coalition Long-term Sustainability Model ([SS 2015-004](#)). Council directed staff to work with members of the Coalition Executive Committee to transition coordination of the Coalition to the Champaign County Mental Health Board.
- On November 25, 2015, City Council received an Information Only memorandum, “Police Department Implements New Approach to Address Violence”.
- In Council goal setting for 2015-2017, Council identified “Our City Promotes Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods” as Goal 3 [Council Bill 2016-004](#).
- At the April 12, 2016, City Council Study Session, staff presented the CU Fresh Start Gun Violence Deterrence Initiative ([SS 2016-017](#)). Council directed staff to continue working with the Community Coalition and CU Fresh Start Multi-Disciplinary Team to develop and implement the proposed model and approach of the CU Fresh Start initiative to address gun violence in Champaign County.
- By adopting [Council Bill 2016-214](#), Council approved the City of Champaign entering into an Interagency Grant Agreement with the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program, for an amount of \$127,028 with local matching contribution of \$67,000 from the Champaign County Mental Health Board to cover the costs of a case manager assigned to the Prairie Center (now Rosecrance).
- On May 16, 2017, City Council adopted [Council Bill 2017-105](#), approving a change order to a contract for professional services with Institution Builders Inc. increasing the not-to-exceed amount from \$17,000 to \$35,000. This contract formed part of the City’s obligations under the grant agreement to ensure that planning activities included research and analysis of crime data.
- On October 3, 2017, Council adopted [Council Bill 2017-191](#) and [Council Bill 2017-192](#) and authorized the continuation of a Program Coordinator position for the CU Fresh Start Initiative, subject to the continued receipt of grant funding to cover the cost of this position.
- At the October 17, 2017, City Council Study Session ([SS 2017-042](#)), staff presented the CU Fresh Start Gun Violence Deterrence Initiative Phase 1 Evaluation Report and Council directed staff to continue working with the steering committee to implement the initiative.
- On November 17, 2017 the Council approved [Council Bill 2017-217](#) and [Council Bill 2017-218](#) to receive \$159,303 in grant funding from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program as well as amend the fiscal year 2017 / 2018 annual budget revenues and expenditures by \$107,547 in the General Fund.
- On January 5, 2018, the Council adopted [Council Bill 2018-001](#), adopting 2017-2019 City Council Vision and Goals, including the goal “Our City Ensures Public Safety” again featuring an action item to initiate and support programs to reduce gun violence.
- On April 17, 2018 Council adopted [Council Bill 2018-046](#) to authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement for professional services between the City of Champaign and Institution Builders Inc. in the not-to-exceed amount of \$22,740 to cover costs of research and data analysis for CU Fresh Start.
- At the November 20, 2018, City Council Study Session ([SS 2018-046](#)), staff presented a summary of Year 2 activities to Council and Council directed staff to continue working with the steering committee to implement the initiative.

- In March of 2019, staff presented for City Council approval of a grant agreement in the amount of \$182,936 to be awarded through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. The grant of \$182,936 is a combination of funds rolled over from year two equaling \$103,284 and a new grant award of \$79,652.
- On September 3, 2019, the Council approved [Council Bill 2019-147](#), [Council Bill 2019-148](#), [Council Bill 2019-149](#) authorizing a two percent increase in City Food and Beverage Tax and amending the Budget and Salary and Staffing Ordinance to create a recurring Community Relations Specialist position to serve as project manager for CU Fresh Start.
- On September 27, 2019, the Council approved [Council Bill 2019-169](#) authorizing an agreement for professional services between the City of Champaign and First Followers, Inc. in the not-to-exceed amount of \$53,800 to cover the cost of providing mentoring, job retention coaching, behavior change counseling and a life skills based curriculum to Champaign County residents who are participating in the CU Fresh Start Initiative.
- On December 13, 2019, the Council approved [Council Bill 2019-212](#) adopting 2019-2021 Council goals, including “Our City Keeps Our Community Safe” featuring a key action about gun violence deterrence.
- On February 21, 2020, staff provided Council with [SS 2020-006](#) CU Fresh Start Gun Violence Initiative Year 3 Update and Future Implementation.
- On January 22, 2021, staff provided Council with [SS 2021-003](#) 2019-2021 City Council Goals Progress Report.
- On December 7, 2021, the Council approved [Council Bill 2021-162](#) adopting the City Council Vision and Goals for the 2021-2023 Council Term.