



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

City of Greenville, South Carolina

Agenda Item No.

16c

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council
FROM: John F. McDonough, City Manager

Ordinance/First Reading Ordinance/Second & Final Reading Resolution/First & Final Reading Information Only

AGENDA DATE REQUESTED: August 9, 2021

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION CAPTION:

RESOLUTION TO DOCUMENT THE REQUIRED GOVERNING BODY REVIEW OF THE CITY OF GREENVILLE'S SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

SUMMARY BACKGROUND:

This Resolution authorizes the City Manager to apply for a FY2021 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (Local Solicitation) program award from the Department of Justice (DOJ) to support the Greenville Police Department's GRAVITY (Gang Reduction and Violence Intervention Targeting Youth) program.

IMPACT IF DENIED:

The City will not apply for the grant award.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

None.

REQUIRED SIGNATURES

Department Director

DocuSigned by:

Howie Thompson

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DocuSigned by:

Matt Edjed

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City Attorney

DocuSigned by:

Michael S. Pitts

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DocuSigned by:

City Manager

John F McDonough

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A RESOLUTION

TO DOCUMENT THE REQUIRED GOVERNING BODY REVIEW OF THE CITY OF GREENVILLE’S SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Justice Assistance is accepting applications in response to the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Local Solicitation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Greenville is requesting, by way of the application packet attached hereto as Exhibit A, the FY2021 Byrne JAG formula allocation be used to support the Police Department’s GRAVITY (Gang Reduction and Violence Intervention Targeting Youth) program; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned Bureau of Justice Assistance solicitation would assist the City in providing counseling and mentoring services to GRAVITY participants to help reduce recidivism and violent behavior; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Justice requires certification from the City Manager of compliance with 34 U.S.C. § 10153(a)(5) for acceptance of said grant on the form attached hereto as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, submitting an application in response to the aforementioned solicitation requires review and support from the City’s governing body; and

WHEREAS, the grant program narrative is posted on the City of Greenville Police Department webpage;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA, City Council has completed the required Governing Body Review of the City of Greenville’s application and supports the proposed project; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Manager is authorized to execute the FY2021 Certification of Compliance with 34 U.S.C. §10153(a)(5) form in conjunction therewith.

RESOLVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2021.

MAYOR

Attest:

CITY CLERK

EXHIBIT A

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program**FY 2021 Local Solicitation****Program Narrative for Category 2 - Eligible Allocation Amounts of \$25,000 or More****A) Description of the Issue**

The City of Greenville, South Carolina is a city of roughly twenty-nine square miles with a population of approximately 71,000. The city is located within the county of Greenville, with an area of 795 square miles and a population of approximately 520,000. It is the most populous county in the state of South Carolina. The Greenville Police Department (GPD) provides a variety of public safety services, including mobile patrol, crime prevention, crime investigations, warrant details, and traffic enforcement for the City of Greenville. Greenville has several communities where gun violence and group/gang activity are active. Investigations indicate that the majority of homicides and shots fired for the last three years have a group component.

The actions and long-term operation of these groups has a detrimental influence on children becoming involved in these groups. To help mitigate this influence, GPD established the Gang Resistance and Violence Intervention Targeting Youth (GRAVITY) program five years ago. GRAVITY is a component of the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) program addressing violent crime. GRAVITY seeks to mitigate gang influences through mentoring, counseling, and facilitating programs for at-risk children including Cops on the Court (an interactive basketball program in which GPD officers, dressed in gym clothes, play basketball with community youth) and the Officer Allen Jacobs Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) summer camp. GRAVITY works in Greenville's communities to address the needs of families while partnering with the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) to provide

services and resources to children in order to minimize involvement with groups and the criminal justice system later in life. Working with service providers, the Greenville County School District and DJJ, 75 children (aged 12-18) have been referred to GRAVITY. It is recognized that this is a small percentage of children that are influenced by group behavior and, the goal for FY2021 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funding is to reach more children in need.

GRAVITY partners with outside counseling and mentoring services that work specifically with at-risk children. In prior years, these services were provided by volunteers and sustained through donations, which severely restricts the number of children that can be served each year. This grant request seeks to use GPD's local JAG allocation (\$31,926) to increase counseling and mentoring resources for at-risk children by contracting with local organizations to provide these services. The City of Greenville is currently undertaking a procurement/bid process to identify counseling and mentoring services to support this increased capacity. The anticipated outcome from using these contracted services is that GPD will be able to support more than fifteen children per year and provide more than 1,000 hours of these vital services. Additionally, supporting local at-risk youth in this manner and building on the working partnerships already established under GRAVITY underscores a Bureau of Justice Assistance Area of Emphasis to invest JAG funds in efforts that build strong, sustained partnerships with community residents and organizations to support Community Violence Intervention.

B) Project Design and Implementation

The project entails working with at-risk children who have been referred to GPD's GRAVITY program either through the DJJ, as a victim of or participant in crime, or through referral from the Greenville County School District. The GRAVITY coordinator develops a plan to coordinate counseling, mentoring, and evaluation and reports back to DJJ at periodic intervals. The GRAVITY coordinator also communicates with service providers and, when

necessary, the school district and families to ensure the program is meeting the needs of the child and that the child is succeeding. To coordinate information easily and effectively between service providers and monitor the progress of each child in the program, the GRAVITY coordinator uses Charity Tracker software. JAG funding will enable GPD to contract with service providers for counseling and mentoring needs for GRAVITY participants. These providers will evaluate and develop a treatment plan for each child. The amount of time or interactions will vary from child to child. Providers will be paid on an hourly basis for the time they work with each child. GPD estimates that as many as 1,145 hours of counseling and mentoring services can be provided to at-risk children with JAG funding. JAG funding also will support the purchase of additional licenses for Charity Tracker software to accommodate the new service providers and to facilitate outcome reporting.

GRAVITY represents a partnership between law enforcement, health care, and social services agencies to support at-risk youth of all ages. Over the course of the past five years, through GRAVITY and its emerging PSN program, GPD has developed and sustained working partnerships with a myriad of community stakeholders to respond more holistically to the problems associated with gang activity. For example, since 2019, representatives from GPD, the DJJ, SC Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services, Greenville County Solicitor's Office, US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, US Attorney's Office for the District of SC, and the Greenville County Sheriff's Office have convened to discuss active groups and to coordinate a response (what can be done now to close the gaps in how we investigate, follow-up, charge, and prosecute those individuals committing violent crime and holding communities hostage and influencing children). The result has been the dismantling of three active violent groups. GPD also has met with clergy, community centers, re-entry organizations, the Greenville Chamber of Commerce, and the Urban League of the Upstate.

In 2020, Greenville City Council established the Citizens Advisory Committee for Public Safety in response to the national dialog on policing. GPD was actively involved with presenting data, analysis, and policies for review to the committee, and the City conducted a survey to understand residents' perceptions regarding policing within the city. The outcome of the committee is a set of recommendations related to use of force, policy and general order modifications, training, and hiring. GPD addressed these recommendations, and the result is more transparency of police operations, improved dialog between police and community members, an environment of collaboration, and a greater emphasis on sustaining programs like GRAVITY. To this end, JAG funds will support the widely community-supported GRAVITY program and its participants with much needed counseling and mentoring services.

C) Capabilities and Competencies

As described previously, a critical partner for GRAVITY is DJJ. GPD will continue to maintain this working relationship as well as rely on its network of partnerships with other vested community stakeholders (described in section B) to support this project.

In addition to its established partnerships, GPD is well-positioned to carry out this project using its existing framework for the GRAVITY program. Five years in the making, this program, which to date has served more than 70 individuals, is supported by Yvonne Davis, a full-time Gang Intervention Program Coordinator. GPD also has the expertise of Dr. Eleazer Hunt, a subject matter expert on Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) and Focused Deterrence. He was hired to lead GPD's Strategic Planning and Analysis Division.

In addition to Cops on the Court and the G.R.E.A.T. Summer Camp, which is a one-week summer camp for rising 4th and 5th graders in Greenville County Schools that teaches violence prevention and life-skills for resisting gangs; GRAVITY offers help for parents of at-risk youth, help for gang members, and referrals to partner programs. GPD's experience managing these

various programs, all of which are a part of the GRAVITY initiative, underscores its ability to effectively maximize JAG funds to deliver important counseling and mentoring services to more Greenville youth.

D) Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures –

GPD is National Incident-Based Response System (NIBRS) compliant. Specific performance data that demonstrates the results of the work carried out under this award will be facilitated through GPD's Strategic Planning and Analysis Division. Specifically, performance data (using Charity Tracker software) will be kept and reported on each child that is referred to GRAVITY and will include: the assistance received, number of hours of mentoring/counseling, participation in other resources/programs, and status with DJJ. Due to the sensitive nature of the data, reporting will be at an aggregated level and nothing to identify a specific child will be included. The overall increase in the number of GRAVITY participants assisted under this award also will be tracked.

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program

FY 2021 Local Solicitation

Budget Summary for Category 2 - Eligible Allocation Amounts of \$25,000 or More

Budget Summary

A. Personnel	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
B. Fringe Benefits	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
C. Travel	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
D. Equipment	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
E. Supplies	<u>\$ 301.00</u>
F. Contracts/Consultants	<u>\$28,625.00</u>
G. Other Costs	<u>\$ 3,000.00</u>
Total Program Costs:	<u>\$31,926.00</u>

Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative**A. Personnel \$0.00**

Name and Position	Computation	Cost

No funds requested.

B. Fringe Benefits \$0.00

Name and Position	Computation	Cost

No funds requested.

C. Travel \$0.00

Item	Computation	Cost

No funds requested.

D. Equipment \$0.00

Item	Computation	Cost

No funds requested.

E. Supplies \$296.00

Item	Computation	Cost
Miscellaneous office supplies	1 x \$301.00	\$301.00
Total		\$301.00

To support meetings between the GRAVITY Coordinator, counseling and mentoring service providers, Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) representatives, members of Greenville County School District, and community partners, a miscellaneous supply budget is included. This small portion of funds will be used to purchase supplies such as pens, pencils, paper, and flip charts. Meeting spaces will be provided by the hosting organization at no charge.

F. Contracts/Consultants \$28,625.00

Name of Contract/Consultant	Services Provided	Computation	Cost
To be determined by a City of Greenville competitive (Request for Proposals) bid process	One on one counseling and mentoring to youth in the GRAVITY program	1 hour @ \$25.00 per hour for 1,145 hours	\$28,625.00
Total			\$28,625.00

The City of Greenville is currently using a request for proposals (RFP) bid process to identify consultants to support the counseling and mentoring needs for its GRAVITY program. These services are integral to the initiative's intervention component. The goal of intervention is to help youth participants in GRAVITY to reduce recidivism and violent behavior by addressing social and behavioral issues that may lead to adjudication through the criminal justice system.

The Intervention Team consists of the GRAVITY Coordinator, Clinical Counselor, and the Outreach/Mentor Coordinator. Working together, this team will create a case management plan that offers comprehensive and customized services to youth ages 12 through 18, and their family members. These services include outreach/mentoring, cognitive behavioral counseling, and educational/vocational support. This approach helps youth and their families mitigate gang influences and helps improve the quality of life in our communities.

The RFP bid process will ensure that contracted services meet the needs of GRAVITY and youth, providers have all appropriate insurances and licenses, and establish a set rate per hour for contracted services. The hourly rate will be inclusive of overhead needed by the provider to conduct services. Based on prior counseling and mentoring services used for GRAVITY, GPD estimates the hourly rate to be \$25 per hour, providing approximately 1,145 hours of services to identified youth. However, this rate is subject to change depending on the outcome of the bid process.

G. Other Costs \$3,000.00

Item	Computation	Cost
Charity Tracker Software Licensing	5 licenses @ \$300 each x 2 years	\$3,000.00
Total		\$3,000.00

The GRAVITY Coordinator coordinates information between service providers using the Charity Tracker software. This software allows appropriate case information to be shared efficiently and confidentially and helps the GRAVITY Coordinator monitor the progress of each child in the program. The software will allow progress reports to be generated that can be used to report on participant progress. Additional licenses are needed to accommodate new counseling and mentoring service providers.

EXHIBIT B

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

**Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program FY 2021 Local Solicitation
Certifications and Assurances by the Chief Executive of the Applicant Government**

On behalf of the applicant unit of local government named below, in support of that locality’s application for an award under the FY 2021 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (“JAG”) Program, and further to 34 U.S.C. § 10153(a), I certify to the Office of Justice Programs (“OJP”), U.S. Department of Justice (“USDOJ”), that all of the following are true and correct:

1. I am the chief executive of the applicant unit of local government named below, and I have the authority to make the following representations on my own behalf as chief executive and on behalf of the applicant unit of local government. I understand that these representations will be relied upon as material in any OJP decision to make an award, under the application described above, to the applicant unit of local government.
2. I certify that no federal funds made available by the award (if any) that OJP makes based on the application described above will be used to supplant local funds, but will be used to increase the amounts of such funds that would, in the absence of federal funds, be made available for law enforcement activities.
3. I assure that the application described above (and any amendment to that application) was submitted for review to the governing body of the unit of local government (e.g., city council or county commission), or to an organization designated by that governing body, not less than 30 days before the date of this certification.
4. I assure that, before the date of this certification— (a) the application described above (and any amendment to that application) was made public; and (b) an opportunity to comment on that application (or amendment) was provided to citizens and to neighborhood or community-based organizations, to the extent applicable law or established procedure made such an opportunity available.
5. I assure that, for each fiscal year of the award (if any) that OJP makes based on the application described above, the applicant unit of local government will maintain and report such data, records, and information (programmatic and financial), as OJP may reasonably require.
6. I have carefully reviewed 34 U.S.C. § 10153(a)(5), and, with respect to the programs to be funded by the award (if any), I hereby make the certification required by section 10153(a)(5), as to each of the items specified therein.

Signature of Chief Executive of the Applicant Unit of Local Government

Date of Certification

Printed Name of Chief Executive

Title of Chief Executive

Name of Applicant Unit of Local Government