

Creating Safe, Equitable & Thriving Communities Fund Policy Committee

April 8, 2021, 12-1 p.m.

Voting Members Present: Ashley Balias, Noreen Bush, Anne Carter, Okpara Rice, Lemi Tilahun, Dale Todd

Guests: Pramod Dwivedi

Community Foundation staff: Les Garner, Rachel Rockwell, Karla Twedt-Ball

Excused/Absent: Nancy Humbles, Brad Hart, Stacey Walker

AGENDA	DETAILS
Welcome	
Updates	<p>Rachel emailed an update of activity for the past year, and provided additional details about the GVI work and upcoming activities.</p> <p>The GVI implementation continues. The law enforcement workgroup has launched weekly shooting reviews and the focus is now on establishing the support & outreach workgroup. Rachel continues to meet weekly with the National Network for Safe Communities for technical assistance on implementation issues, which includes a virtual gathering with other GVI communities. Three key elements emerge from those conversations: 1) It is important that everyone communicates the same message with high-risk individuals – “We want you safe, alive, and out of prison. This behavior has to stop. Law enforcement will stop you if you don’t stop yourself.” 2) Moms are credible messengers to deliver this message. And 3) Rachel cannot be the project manager and the support/outreach coordinator. Rachel’s role is as project manager during the launch phase. A support and outreach coordinator provides connection to and communication among the GVI services that are offered in the community and supports the case manager infrastructure. We will need to consider how the fall grant cycle can address the need for support and outreach coordination.</p>
Fall Grant Cycle	<p>Our fall 2020 grants helped us build out some of the GVI infrastructure. As the implementation continues, we will use the fall grant cycle to strengthen the community supports for GVI. This is likely to include the support and outreach coordination mentioned above. Our grant application will seek applicants that are connecting to the GVI work, prioritizing applications that keep building community skill and experience with the components that will lead to successful implementation.</p> <p>The committee discussed the need for summer programming. After some conversation, we agreed that our grant dollars should remain focused on GVI implementation, but that the community should be made aware of available summer programming. Karla will reach out to our partners to see if anyone is working on this.</p>

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	We will provide an application draft at the June meeting, and launch publicity in July for an October 1 deadline.
Community Presence	<p>Karla raised the question of how we, as a SET collaborative, respond to the community when there is a SET-related incident. She shared three examples that could be considered in framing an approach: 1) As a group working on building an equitable community, do we have a role to speak up when racists incidences happen – such as the Bever Avenue situation? 2) We are working to reduce violence. Should we take a stance on policy issues, such as the handgun permit issue? 3) And at the core of our current work, we are trying to reduce gun violence, so what do we do or say when someone is shot and killed? It is better to discuss this in advance than during a situation.</p> <p>In the committee discussion, it was clear that we should focus on the third situation at present, and perhaps address the other two situations at a later date. Karla proposed that we take a partnership approach the includes the Community Foundation and a representative from each funding partner that can jointly respond to the community with a message that communicates our shared grief that the situation occurred, our work to interrupt a cycle of violence, supports for high-risk individuals, and hope for the future. While the whole community looks for a response during times of crisis, the families directly impacted look for leaders to reach out to them to offer condolence and to feel seen and heard.</p> <p>We will revisit this conversation going forward with some concrete steps we can take for a coordinated response.</p>
Adjourn	The committee adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

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