

Creating Safe, Equitable & Thriving Communities Fund Policy Committee

June 24, 2021, 11-12 p.m.

Voting Members Present: Ashley Balius, Noreen Bush, Anne Carter, Brad Hart, Nancy Humbles, Lemi Tilahun, Stacey Walker, Mary Wilczynski

Guests: Pramod Dwivedi

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

Excused/Absent: Okpara Rice, Dale Todd

AGENDA	DETAILS
<p>Group Violence Intervention Update</p>	<p>The Group Violence Intervention stakeholders group met with the National Network for Safe Communities from 10-11:10. This group includes the SET Policy Committee and additional community stakeholders.</p> <p>Implementation has been going very well. A few comments from key stakeholders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Network for Safe Communities liaison Deb Higen commented that she is “so impressed with Cedar Rapids,” and “can’t say enough about Rachel’s leadership” as well as other partners. “This is one of the really great cooperative sites that I’ve seen and I’ve been doing this for 9 years!” “You are ahead of the curve.” • Chief Jerman commented that “things are going extremely well,” ... “I’d even say outstanding.” • Captain Long expressed that the police recognize that they can’t arrest their way out of gun violence, and while law enforcement is an important component of community safety, the community partnership is important. This process is addressing underlying needs and wants of people – who are often “just kids.” • Rachel shared that it is a privilege to work with so many diverse partners – the police, probation/parole, and community members – who want to reduce violence and care for the community. This process is giving community members hope. • Emily Blomme at Foundation 2 reflected that the police have been great partners, and that Foundation 2 is working to train staff on the crisis phone support related to group violence. <p>The stakeholders asked Deb for clarification about the role of call-ins vis-à-vis custom notifications – why do call-ins when customs are working so well? Deb responded that call-ins are for adults only and help set shared expectations. It includes a similar message – that they are part of the community and there are services for them. But the group nature of call-ins helps create a bigger “trickle down” effect.</p>

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	<p>Kat Bevins, who is providing support and outreach coordination through Central City Development Corporation, shared current stats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 88% of attempted custom notifications were successfully delivered, with over ¾ of those accepting or expressing interest in receiving additional services. <p><i>The stakeholders who are not Policy Committee members dropped off the call, along with Dale Todd who had a prior commitment.</i></p>
Fall Grant Cycle	<p>Karla convened the Policy Committee meeting at 11:15. She explained the proposed plan for the fall grant cycle. The Community Foundation is planning to use a Request for Proposals (RFP) process to identify 1-3 organizations or collaborative partnerships to implement and sustain the Support & Outreach components of GVI. There will be \$200,000 available. Applications should address one or more of the following components, along with the proportion of funding that we anticipate it will need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antiviolence Messaging Components (30-40% of overall funding) – Support and outreach providers deliver a credible moral message against violence and make a genuine offer of help for those who want it. • Case Management Components (30-40% of overall funding) – Collaborates with GVI stakeholders, Support & Outreach Workers and Social Service Providers and provides case management for residents who are at very high risk of violent victimization and offending by gun violence. • Training & Development Components (15-25% of overall funding) – Provides training around trauma informed care, cognitive behavioral therapy, culturally responsive care, restorative practices, multi-sector collaboration/coalition building for GVI stakeholders. Strategic and technical assistance accessing local, state, and federal funding to sustain GVI components. • Crisis Response Components (5-15% of overall funding) – GVI trained staffing of 24/7 Hotlines, Helplines, and Mobile Crises Unit response. <p>Rachel will host two planning sessions. Proposals will be due on Friday, October 1, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.</p> <p>The Policy Committee unanimously agreed that this was the right approach for the fall cycle.</p>
SET Future	<p>As a SET Policy Committee, we still need to be laser focused on implementing Group Violence Intervention. But as we start to understand the trajectory for supporting and sustaining GVI, we should also begin to think about what we will work on next. The SET Task Force report included multiple goals and systems that could be addressed through the Creating SET Communities Fund. Karla reviewed the history of how we selected violence reduction as our first effort, and shared some considerations for how we might select our next topic. This includes screening factors such as 1) adherence to the original task force report, 2) potential for high impact, 3) partnership opportunities, etc. This meeting was intended to just introduce the topic. The next conversation will occur at our last 2021 meeting in late November/December.</p>
SET Policy Committee composition	<p>As we complete our first three-year cycle as a SET Policy Committee, Karla shared some thoughts about committee rotation options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding partners would continue to select their voting members (6).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community members could be considered in classes of membership with 3-year terms and a 1-term limit. However, to avoid a large-scale turnover, we could begin rotation 1-2 at a time. <p>In addition, it has been helpful to have a combination of elected and staff representation from our funding partners to ensure good communication flow. The Community Foundation proposes the use of ex officio members to fill out participation, depending on the voting members of the funding partners.</p> <p>This conversation will continue at a future meeting.</p>
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 1 p.m.