Maryland
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION AND POLICY

Violence Intervention and Prevention Advisory Council Meeting

April 15, 2024
12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
In-Person
Subject: Presentation and Funding Updates

Council Goals and Objectives

- To develop recommendations that guide the implementation of the Violence Intervention and Prevention Program (VIPP) fund as established by the Public Safety and Violence Prevention Act of 2018 (House Bill 432/Chapter 148).
- To support the establishment of outcome-based performance measures relating to awarded programs published on the legislatively required filterable data display.
- To review applications and recommend programs for funding based on best- and/or most promising practices for health and hospital-based violence reduction strategies, specifically gun violence, in Maryland.
- To provide oversight on the allocation of funds to evaluate the efficacy of funded programs.

Participating Members:

Dorothy Lennig	**Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP)**	**Chair**
Kathryn Montgomery	University of Maryland, Baltimore	Higher Education
Lisa Spicknall	Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)	Gun Violence
Patti Norris	Annapolis Police Department	Police
Joseph Richardson	University of Maryland, College Park	Higher Education

Staff:
James 'Jim' Rhoden, Assistant Director of the Centers of Excellence, GOCPP
Tatiana Reyes, Policy and Advocacy Coordinator, Centers of Excellence, GOCPP
Emily Archer, Program Manager, GOCPP

Guests:
Elise White, Director of Action Research, Center for Justice Innovation
Amanda Cissner, Director of Research Writing, Center for Justice Innovation

Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions

A. Call to order
   a. The meeting was called to order at **12:05 p.m.** by **Jim Rhoden, Assistant Director of the Centers of Excellence**, Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy.
B. Council members and third-party evaluators' introductions
C. Minutes from the January 24, 2024 meeting were approved.

II. Presentation: Third-Party Evaluators

A. Chapter 148 (HB 432) requires that "an evaluation of the efficacy of evidence-based health programs or an evidence-informed health program that receives funding under paragraph (1)(I) of this subsection shall be undertaken by an independent, third-party researcher selected by the council." In efforts to inform council members of the evaluation progress, the Centers for Justice Innovation, Inc. presented the team's proposed evaluation design highlighting underlying assumptions, initial findings, and implications. Based on the team's initial findings, a modified version of the evaluation design was introduced to best fit the funded sites for FY24. A copy of this presentation was shared with council members following the meeting.

III. Updates

A. **FY25 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA):** Council members were informed that the FY25 VIPP NOFA reflects an earned interest of $188K to the total amount available to award (subgrants), and the application now reflects $2,768,000 available. Council members were reminded that the FY25 NOFA was released on Thursday, Mar 14, 2024, and applications are due on Friday, May 10, 2024, by 11:59 p.m. Council members were further reminded of the expectation to review applications following this date. Finally, council members were informed that an applicant technical assistance call was held on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. by the Office. Slides from this meeting are located on the Office website under "additional documents" on the VIPP webpage.

A. **Programs:** The VIPP Grant Program Manager provided an overview of recent grantee site visits that have been conducted, highlighting the purpose and outcomes of each site visit. Council members were then informed of educational opportunities provided to FY24-funded recipients such as "The Bureau of Justice Assistance's (BJA) "Catalyst for Change, Approaches to CVI" webinar.

B. **Educational Opportunities:** Council members were reassured that the Office is still in discussion with the Maryland Statistical Analysis Center and Maryland State Police for an overview of gun violence in Maryland. At this time, a council member shared the "Annapolis Homicide & Gun Violence Dashboard."

IV. Q&A and Recommendations

A. Council members provided positive feedback on the evaluators' presentation.

V. Other Business

A. The Office is still waiting for 6 appointees to fill vacancies on the Council.

B. Future meetings are as follows:
- July 24, 2024 (in-person)
- October 16, 2024 (in-person)

VI. Adjournment

A. The meeting was adjourned by **Jim Rhoden** at **1:25 p.m**.