

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5003

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to build safer, thriving communities, and save lives, by investing in effective community-based violence reduction initiatives, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 27, 2023

Mr. HORSFORD (for himself, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. FROST, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. MENG, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. BROWN, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. KILMER, Mr. MCGARVEY, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COSTA, Ms. NORTON, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TRONE, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, and Ms. PORTER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to build safer, thriving communities, and save lives, by investing in effective community-based violence reduction initiatives, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the  
3 “Break the Cycle of Violence Act”.

4 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents of  
5 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Findings.

Sec. 3. Definitions.

**TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Sec. 101. Community-based violence intervention program grants.

Sec. 102. Office of Community Violence Intervention.

Sec. 103. Community Violence Intervention Advisory Committee.

Sec. 104. Creation of a National Community Violence Response Center.

Sec. 105. Sense of Congress regarding services for victims of violent crime.

Sec. 106. Authorization of appropriations.

**TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

Sec. 201. Improving approaches for communities to thrive (IMPACT) grants.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Community violence is a significant public  
9 health, public safety, and community infrastructure  
10 concern nationwide, and is a leading cause of death,  
11 injury, and trauma for people in the United States.  
12 Community violence also disrupts employment and  
13 hinders a community’s social and economic develop-  
14 ment. Today, gun violence is the leading cause of  
15 death for America’s youth.

16 (2) From 2010 to 2021, over 233,000 people  
17 were murdered in the United States. Hundreds of  
18 thousands more were hospitalized or treated in

1 emergency departments after surviving life-changing  
2 gunshot injuries and other violent assaults.

3 (3) In 2020, the Nation suffered the largest  
4 single-year spike in homicides on record, driven  
5 largely by record spikes in fatal shootings. As of  
6 2021, 80 percent of all homicides in the United  
7 States are committed with a gun.

8 (4) Communities across the Nation experience  
9 enormous disparities in safety that are driven by in-  
10 equitable social and structural determinants of  
11 health. Interpersonal shootings are disproportion-  
12 ately concentrated in neighborhoods harmed by past  
13 and present racial discrimination, segregation, red-  
14 lining, disinvestment, mass incarceration, and con-  
15 centrated poverty, and this violence's toll falls over-  
16 whelmingly on people of color, especially young  
17 Black and Brown men and boys and their loved  
18 ones. From 2015 to 2020, Black children and teens  
19 were more than 12 times as likely to be shot to  
20 death as their White peers. Hispanic children and  
21 teens and Native American children and teens were  
22 both about 2.6 times as likely to be shot to death  
23 as their White peers. Over this period, 72 percent of  
24 children murdered before their 18th birthday were

1 people of color, and more than 50 percent were  
2 Black.

3 (5) Black boys and men make up less than 7  
4 percent of the population in the United States, but  
5 account for more than 50 percent of all gun homi-  
6 cide victims each year. Violence is responsible for  
7 nearly half of all deaths among Black boys and  
8 young men, ages 15 through 24, meaning the par-  
9 ents of a Black son in this age group are as likely  
10 to lose their child to homicide as nearly every other  
11 cause of death combined.

12 (6) This violence imposes enormous human, so-  
13 cial, and economic consequences. Studies show that  
14 gun violence has a national economic cost of  
15 \$557,000,000,000 annually. The Director of the  
16 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Divi-  
17 sion of Violence Prevention presented research to  
18 Congress demonstrating that “youth living in inner  
19 cities show a higher prevalence of post-traumatic  
20 stress disorder than soldiers” in the Nation’s war-  
21 time military. While the vast majority of these young  
22 people resiliently persevere, people who have been  
23 victims of violence are at substantially higher risk of  
24 being violently reattacked or killed. Additionally,  
25 both direct and indirect violence exposure have been

1 associated with a host of poor health outcomes, in-  
2 cluding chronic illness, anxiety, depression, and sub-  
3 stance misuse.

4 (7) When properly implemented and consist-  
5 ently funded, coordinated, community-based strate-  
6 gies that utilize trauma-responsive care and inter-  
7 rupt cycles of violence can produce lifesaving and  
8 cost-saving results in a short period of time without  
9 contributing to mass incarceration. These strategies  
10 identify those at the highest risk, coordinate individ-  
11 ualized wraparound resources, provide pathways to  
12 healing and stability, and monitor and support long-  
13 term success. Many cities have substantially reduced  
14 community violence in recent years by implementing  
15 various combinations of these strategies, which in-  
16 clude the following:

17 (A) Community outreach programs, which  
18 hire violence intervention and prevention spe-  
19 cialists who have established relationships, re-  
20 latable lived experiences, and credibility with in-  
21 dividuals in their communities at high risk of  
22 violence and connect them with intensive coun-  
23 seling, mediation, peer support, and social serv-  
24 ices in order to reduce their risk. Evaluations  
25 have found that these programs, particularly

1 when integrated into wider networks of sup-  
2 portive services, are frequently associated with  
3 significant reductions in gun violence. A recent  
4 study of the Safe Streets Baltimore looked at  
5 data from 2007 to 2022 and found that this  
6 strategy was associated with a statistically sig-  
7 nificant 23 percent reduction in nonfatal shoot-  
8 ings.

9 (B) Hospital-based violence intervention  
10 programs (referred to in this section as  
11 “HVIP”), which work to break cycles of vio-  
12 lence by leveraging credible violence interven-  
13 tion and prevention specialists to provide inten-  
14 sive counseling, peer support, case management,  
15 mediation, and social services to patients recov-  
16 ering from gunshot wounds and other violent  
17 injuries. Research has shown that violently in-  
18 jured patients are at high risk of retaliating  
19 with violence themselves or being revictimized  
20 by violence in the near future. Evaluations of  
21 HVIPs have found that patients who received  
22 HVIP services were often less likely to be con-  
23 victed of a violent crime and less likely to be  
24 subsequently reinjured by violence than patients  
25 who did not receive HVIP services.

1           (C) Group violence interventions provide  
2 tailored social services and support to group-in-  
3 volved individuals at highest risk for involve-  
4 ment in community violence. This intervention,  
5 which must be trauma-informed, culturally re-  
6 sponsive, and community driven to be most suc-  
7 cessful, includes a process for community mem-  
8 bers to voice a clear demand for the violence to  
9 stop and narrowly focused enforcement actions  
10 against those who continue to engage in acts of  
11 serious violence. The approach coordinates law  
12 enforcement, service providers, and community  
13 engagement efforts to reduce violence in ways  
14 that do not contribute to mass incarceration.

15           (D) Violence interruption and crisis man-  
16 agement, which respond to potentially violent  
17 incidents to mediate conflicts or to scenes where  
18 violence has occurred to offer trauma-informed  
19 services and community supports to survivors  
20 and others exposed to violence. These strategies  
21 help to prevent retaliatory violence and promote  
22 healing and well-being. Programs that include  
23 these components have reported deescalating  
24 dozens of disputes that were highly likely to end  
25 in lethal violence.

1           (8) Access to job and entrepreneurship training,  
2           apprenticeship, and technological and digital literacy  
3           programs are effective tools in reducing community  
4           violence. A 2012 University of Pennsylvania study of  
5           13 high-violence schools in the Chicago area found  
6           “well-targeted, low-cost employment policies can  
7           make a substantial difference”, and the city’s most  
8           violent neighborhoods saw a 43 percent drop in vio-  
9           lent-crime arrests of participants in a youth job pro-  
10          gram.

11          (9) Individualized wraparound services and op-  
12          portunities include housing support, financial assist-  
13          ance, reentry services, legal assistance, therapeutic  
14          services, grief counseling or targeted victim services,  
15          and skill building based on the needs of survivors or  
16          individuals at the highest risk of community vio-  
17          lence. Leveraging the relationships of violence inter-  
18          vention and prevention specialists, these services are  
19          used in the context of structured, person-centered  
20          peer mentorship that facilitates personal trans-  
21          formation by meeting people where they are and of-  
22          fering to help participants change the trajectories of  
23          their lives.

24          (10) The past year has had a disproportionate  
25          impact on youth unemployment, with 2,900,000



1 more unemployed youth in mid-2020 compared with  
2 pre-2020 levels. Simultaneously, the 2020 recession  
3 accelerated an already increasingly digital and auto-  
4 mated workforce, and youth must attain the digital,  
5 technological, and other technical skills necessary to  
6 thrive in the future of work. While jobs in the cus-  
7 tomer service and food industry could fall by  
8 4,300,000 between 2018 and 2030, health care and  
9 science, technology, engineering, and math occupa-  
10 tions could grow more now than ever.

11 (11) Intentional and sustained investments in  
12 community-based violence reduction strategies can  
13 reverse recent increases in homicides, help to heal  
14 impacted communities, and reduce the enormous  
15 human and economic costs of community violence,  
16 without contributing to mass incarceration.

17 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

18 In this Act:

19 (1) **COMMUNITY VIOLENCE.**—The term “com-  
20 munity violence”—

21 (A) means nonfatal firearm injuries, ag-  
22 gravated assaults, homicides, and other acts of  
23 life-threatening interpersonal violence com-  
24 mitted outside the context of a familial or ro-  
25 mantic relationship; and

1 (B) does not include acts of violence moti-  
2 vated by political beliefs.

3 (2) ELIGIBLE UNIT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—

4 The term “eligible unit of local government” means  
5 a municipality or other local government that—

6 (A) for not less than 2 out of the 3 cal-  
7 endar years preceding the date on which an ap-  
8 plication for a grant is submitted under section  
9 101—

10 (i) experienced 35 or more homicides  
11 per year; or

12 (ii) experienced 20 or more homicides  
13 per year and had a homicide rate that was  
14 not less than double the national average;  
15 or

16 (B) has a compelling need to address com-  
17 munity violence, as determined by the Sec-  
18 retary, based on high levels of homicide relative  
19 to other localities within the same State.

20 (3) OPPORTUNITY YOUTH.—The term “oppor-  
21 tunity youth” means individuals who—

22 (A) have attained 16 years of age but not  
23 yet attained 25 years of age; and

24 (B) are not—

- 1 (i) enrolled in education or training on  
2 a full-time or part-time basis; or  
3 (ii) employed on a full-time or part-  
4 time basis.

5 **TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF**  
6 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

7 **SEC. 101. COMMUNITY-BASED VIOLENCE INTERVENTION**  
8 **PROGRAM GRANTS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and  
10 Human Services (in this title referred to as the “Sec-  
11 retary”) shall award grants to eligible entities to support,  
12 enhance, and replicate coordinated community violence  
13 intervention.

14 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to seek a grant  
15 under this section, an entity shall be—

16 (1) a community-based, nonprofit organization  
17 that—

18 (A) serves the residents served by an eligi-  
19 ble unit of local government; and

20 (B) has a track record of providing com-  
21 munity-related activities or support program in-  
22 novation in communities of color; or

23 (2) an eligible unit of local government.

24 (c) LIMITATION.—Of the amount made available to  
25 carry out this title for a fiscal year, not more than 15

1 percent of such amount shall be made available to eligible  
2 units of local government.

3 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—A grant awarded under this  
5 section shall be used to implement coordinated com-  
6 munity violence intervention initiatives, through co-  
7 ordinated, community-based strategies.

8 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—A community violence  
9 intervention initiative implemented using grant  
10 funds awarded under this section shall—

11 (A) be primarily focused on providing cul-  
12 turally competent, community-based violence  
13 intervention services to the portion of a grant-  
14 ee’s community who are, regardless of age,  
15 identified as being at high risk of being victim-  
16 ized by, or engaging in, community violence;  
17 and

18 (B) use strategies that—

19 (i) are evidence-informed and have  
20 demonstrated promise at reducing commu-  
21 nity violence without contributing to mass  
22 incarceration;

23 (ii) utilize trauma-responsive care and  
24 interrupt cycles of violence;

1 (iii) expand economic opportunity  
2 through new jobs, educational opportuni-  
3 ties, or training programs; and

4 (iv) are primarily focused on individ-  
5 uals at high risk of being victimized by, or  
6 engaging in, community violence.

7 (3) COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS.—

8 (A) ELIGIBLE UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERN-  
9 MENT.—Each eligible unit of local government  
10 awarded a grant under this section shall dis-  
11 tribute not less than 75 percent of such grant  
12 funds to one or more of the following:

13 (i) A community-based organization  
14 or nonprofit organization.

15 (ii) A public agency or department  
16 that is primarily dedicated to the preven-  
17 tion of violence or to community safety,  
18 but is not a law enforcement agency.

19 (B) HOSPITALS.—Each hospital awarded a  
20 grant under this section in the hospital's capac-  
21 ity as a community-based, nonprofit organiza-  
22 tion described in subsection (b)(1) shall dis-  
23 tribute not less than 90 percent of such grant  
24 funds to one or more of the following:

1 (i) A community-based organization  
2 or nonprofit organization that provides di-  
3 rect services to individuals who have been  
4 victimized by community violence.

5 (ii) Direct program staff.

6 (iii) Individual subcontractors who  
7 provide direct program-related services.

8 (e) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—Each applicant  
9 for a grant under this section shall submit a grant pro-  
10 posal, which shall, at a minimum—

11 (1) describe how the applicant proposes to use  
12 the grant to implement a coordinated community vi-  
13 olence intervention initiative in accordance with this  
14 section;

15 (2) describe how the applicant proposes to use  
16 the grant to promote or improve coordination be-  
17 tween relevant agencies and community organiza-  
18 tions in order to minimize duplication of services,  
19 complement other community violence intervention  
20 efforts, and achieve maximum impact;

21 (3) provide evidence indicating that the pro-  
22 posed community violence intervention initiative  
23 would likely reduce community violence or address  
24 the trauma and collateral consequences for individ-

1 uals at high risk of being victimized by, or engaging  
2 in, community violence;

3 (4) describe how the applicant plans to ensure  
4 the community violence intervention initiative is im-  
5 plemented in a manner that is—

6 (A) evidence-informed; and

7 (B) coordinated with the programs and ac-  
8 tivities of other entities for addressing commu-  
9 nity violence; and

10 (5) in the case of a unit of local government ap-  
11 plicant, demonstrate strong support from community  
12 partners with experience engaging individuals at  
13 high risk of being victimized by, or engaging in,  
14 community violence, as demonstrated by—

15 (A) the development of a community steer-  
16 ing committee that—

17 (i) provides advice and assistance to  
18 the locality in administering grants award-  
19 ed under this section; and

20 (ii) is composed of individuals who  
21 substantially reflect local populations im-  
22 pacted by community violence, including  
23 survivors of community violence and indi-  
24 viduals with expertise in culturally com-

1           petent and trauma-informed approaches to  
2           reducing community violence; and

3           (B) letters of support from individuals,  
4           such as—

5                   (i) the mayor or chief executive officer  
6                   of the unit of local government; and

7                   (ii) the director of one or more com-  
8                   munity-based organizations that provide  
9                   services to individuals at high risk of being  
10                  victimized by, or engaging in, community  
11                  violence.

12          (f) **PRIORITIZATION.**—In awarding grants under this  
13 section, the Secretary shall give preference to applicants  
14 whose grant proposals demonstrate the greatest likelihood  
15 of reducing community violence in the target area without  
16 contributing to mass incarceration.

17          (g) **GRANT DURATION.**—A grant awarded under this  
18 section shall be for a 4-year period.

19          (h) **GRANT AWARD.**—The amount awarded to an ap-  
20 plicant under this section shall be commensurate with—

21                  (1) the scope of the proposal; and

22                  (2) the demonstrated need for additional re-  
23 sources to effectively reduce community violence in  
24 the applicant’s community.

25          (i) **MATCHING FUNDS REQUIRED.**—



1           (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
2           graphs (2) and (3), the Federal share of each grant  
3           awarded under this section shall be 90 percent of  
4           the eligible costs incurred by the grant recipient.

5           (2) EXEMPTION FROM REQUIREMENT.—Para-  
6           graph (1) shall not apply to a grant awarded to a  
7           community-based organization described in sub-  
8           section (b)(1).

9           (3) WAIVER.—The Federal share of a grant  
10          awarded to a unit of local government (that is an el-  
11          igible entity under subsection (b)(2)) may be up to  
12          100 percent if the Secretary determines there is  
13          good cause to waive the Federal share requirement  
14          under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

15          (j) REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date  
16          on which the first 4-year grant period under this section  
17          ends, the Secretary shall publish a report identifying best  
18          practices for grantees under this section to implement  
19          community-based violence intervention initiatives.

20          (k) REWARDING SUCCESS.—

21                 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may reserve  
22                 not more than 10 percent of the funds appropriated  
23                 for a fiscal year to carry out this title for supple-  
24                 mental incentive funds to be distributed to grantees

1 outside the competitive grant process in accordance  
2 with paragraph (2).

3 (2) DISTRIBUTION OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—

4 The Secretary may distribute amounts reserved  
5 under paragraph (1), in the discretion of the Sec-  
6 retary, to grantees under subsection (a) that have—

7 (A) implemented the grant for not less  
8 than 2 years;

9 (B) demonstrated exceptional commitment  
10 and progress toward implementing the grantee's  
11 community violence reduction initiative; and

12 (C) shown that the grantee would likely  
13 achieve more substantial reductions in commu-  
14 nity violence with additional Federal funding.

15 (3) FEDERAL SHARE.—Subsection (i) shall not  
16 apply to any amounts distributed to a grantee under  
17 this subsection.

18 (4) EXPLANATION OF DISTRIBUTION.—Upon  
19 distributing supplemental incentive funds to a grant-  
20 ee, the Secretary shall publish a statement on the  
21 website of the Department of Health and Human  
22 Services that clearly explains the basis for the deci-  
23 sion to award such funds to a particular grantee.

24 (l) EVALUATION AND INTENSIVE SITE IMPLEMENTA-  
25 TION SUPPORT.—The Secretary may reserve not more

1 than 8 percent of the funds appropriated for a fiscal year  
2 to carry out this title for the purpose of—

3 (1) contracting with or hiring intensive site im-  
4 plementation providers with experience implementing  
5 community violence intervention strategies;

6 (2) providing grants to applicants under sub-  
7 section (a) that provide training and certification to  
8 community violence intervention and prevention pro-  
9 fessionals in order to expand the field and build ca-  
10 pacity of frontline workers and other providers; and

11 (3) contracting with independent researchers to  
12 evaluate the implementation, performance, and im-  
13 pact of selected initiatives supported by the grants  
14 made under this section, which evaluations shall be  
15 made publicly available on the website of the De-  
16 partment of Health and Human Services.

17 (m) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—A grantee re-  
18 ceiving a grant under this section shall use the grant to  
19 supplement, and not supplant, the amount of funds the  
20 grantee would otherwise dedicate to a community violence  
21 intervention initiative.

22 **SEC. 102. OFFICE OF COMMUNITY VIOLENCE INTERVEN-**  
23 **TION.**

24 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish  
25 within the Department of Health and Human Services,

1 the Office of Community Violence Intervention (in this  
2 title referred to as the “Office”), to be headed by a direc-  
3 tor.

4 (b) DUTIES.—The Secretary shall delegate to the Di-  
5 rector of the Office responsibility for implementing the  
6 provisions of this title.

7 (c) RESERVATION.—Of the amount made available to  
8 carry out this title for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall  
9 reserve not more than 5 percent for the administrative ex-  
10 penses of the Office.

11 **SEC. 103. COMMUNITY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION ADVI-**  
12 **SORY COMMITTEE.**

13 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish  
14 a Community Violence Intervention Advisory Committee  
15 (in this title referred to as the “Advisory Committee”) to  
16 provide advice and assistance to the Secretary and Office  
17 in carrying out this title, including—

- 18 (1) development of grant solicitations;
- 19 (2) raising awareness about grant solicitations  
20 among potentially eligible units of government and  
21 organizations;
- 22 (3) selection of grant proposals;
- 23 (4) selection of grantees to receive supplemental  
24 funds in accordance with section 101(l); and

1           (5) formation of the National Community Violence Response Center under section 104.

2  
3           (b) MEMBERS.—In appointing members of the Advisory Committee, the Secretary shall—

4  
5           (1) appoint the members from among individuals with expertise implementing or evaluating community violence intervention initiatives;

6  
7  
8           (2) include a representative with expertise in workforce development selected by the Secretary of Labor;

9  
10  
11           (3) ensure the membership of the Advisory Committee reflects a commitment to culturally competent and trauma-informed approaches to preventing violence among individuals at high risk of violence; and

12  
13  
14  
15  
16           (4) ensure that the members of the Advisory Committee include substantial representation of communities of color disproportionately impacted by community violence.

17  
18  
19  
20 **SEC. 104. CREATION OF A NATIONAL COMMUNITY VIO-**  
21 **LENCE RESPONSE CENTER.**

22           (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish  
23 and operate a National Community Violence Response  
24 Center (referred to in this section as the “Center”).

1 (b) DUTIES.—The Center shall have the following  
2 roles and responsibilities:

3 (1) ASSESSMENT; TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

4 The Office and the Center, with the advice of the  
5 Advisory Committee, shall—

6 (A) develop a four-tier taxonomy to assess  
7 the maturity of community violence infrastruc-  
8 ture among grantees under section 101; and

9 (B) provide technical assistance to grant-  
10 ees under section 101 in the implementation of  
11 coordinated community violence intervention  
12 funded through the grant.

13 (2) INTENSIVE SITE IMPLEMENTATION SUP-  
14 PORT.—The Center shall—

15 (A) develop intensive site implementation  
16 support for each of the four tiers to maximize  
17 the effectiveness of the development of commu-  
18 nity violence initiatives;

19 (B) develop intensive site implementation  
20 support for each eligible unit of local govern-  
21 ment that is a grant recipient to assess the con-  
22 tours of the community violence within the ju-  
23 risdiction and identify relevant community-  
24 based interventions that may be successful at  
25 preventing future community violence; and

1 (C) provide ongoing support to community-  
2 based organizations to facilitate site infrastruc-  
3 ture building, program implementation and op-  
4 eration, and quality improvement assistance.

5 (3) DATA COLLECTION.—

6 (A) POLICIES.—The Office and the Center  
7 shall develop data collection policies for grant  
8 recipients that measure safety, community  
9 health, opportunity youth engagement, eco-  
10 nomic development, and recidivism.

11 (B) ASSISTANCE.—The Center shall assist  
12 grant recipients in establishing data collection  
13 systems and practices, and collect data from the  
14 grant recipients.

15 (4) RESEARCH COORDINATION.—

16 (A) ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY COUN-  
17 CIL.—The Center, in consultation with non-  
18 profit, nongovernmental organizations and re-  
19 searchers whose primary expertise is in commu-  
20 nity violence, shall establish a Community Vio-  
21 lence Research Advisory Council (in this para-  
22 graph referred to as the “Research Advisory  
23 Council”)—

24 (i) to coordinate research on commu-  
25 nity violence; and

1                   (ii) to report to the Congress on any  
2                   gaps on issues related to community vio-  
3                   lence.

4                   (B) MEMBERSHIP.—The Research Advi-  
5                   sory Council shall include representatives  
6                   from—

7                   (i) all Federal agencies that fund re-  
8                   search on community violence; and

9                   (ii) the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

10                  (C) DUTIES.—The Research Advisory  
11                  Council shall provide advice and assistance to  
12                  the Center to—

13                  (i) develop a coordinated strategy to  
14                  strengthen research focused on community  
15                  violence education, prevention, and inter-  
16                  vention strategies;

17                  (ii) track and report all Federal re-  
18                  search and expenditures related to commu-  
19                  nity violence; and

20                  (iii) identify gaps in community vio-  
21                  lence research, governmental expenditures  
22                  on community violence issues, and prom-  
23                  ising strategies that have not yet been rig-  
24                  orously evaluated.

25                  (5) CONFERRAL.—



1 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Center shall estab-  
2 lish a biennial conference to include—

3 (i) grantees and providers of intensive  
4 site implementation support in the commu-  
5 nity violence field that receive funding  
6 under this title or title II; and

7 (ii) other key stakeholders.

8 (B) TOPICS.—The topics to be addressed  
9 at the biennial conference shall include—

10 (i) the administration of grants;

11 (ii) challenges and gaps in community  
12 violence intervention initiatives;

13 (iii) strategies for overcoming such  
14 challenges and gaps;

15 (iv) promising practices in the field;

16 and

17 (v) emerging trends.

18 (C) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days  
19 after the conclusion of each biennial conference,  
20 the Center shall publish a comprehensive report  
21 that—

22 (i) summarizes the issues presented  
23 during the conference and what, if any,  
24 policies the Center intends to implement to  
25 address those issues; and

1                   (ii) is made available to the public on  
2                   the Center’s website and submitted to the  
3                   Congress.

4                   (6) CAPACITY BUILDING AND FOSTERING INNO-  
5                   VATION.—The Center shall—

6                   (A) promote expansion and development of  
7                   the field of community violence intervention and  
8                   prevention, including fostering collaboration, in-  
9                   formation sharing, and dissemination of best  
10                  practices among practitioners, providers of in-  
11                  tensive site implementation support, and pro-  
12                  grams and individuals working in the same re-  
13                  gions or States, including the identification and  
14                  dissemination to the public of best practices for  
15                  addressing community violence;

16                  (B) develop a plan for expanding providers  
17                  of intensive site implementation support in the  
18                  field of community violence intervention and  
19                  prevention;

20                  (C) develop a plan for identifying innova-  
21                  tive community violence intervention and pre-  
22                  vention strategies that are in need of further  
23                  research and evaluation; and

24                  (D) develop a plan for providing ongoing  
25                  intensive site support to organizations imple-

1           menting community violence intervention and  
2           prevention strategies.

3           (7) REPORTING.—The Center shall annually  
4           provide a report to the Congress addressing topics to  
5           include—

6                   (A) national trends in community violence  
7                   statistics;

8                   (B) a summary of the activities of the Cen-  
9                   ter and the Office under this title; and

10                   (C) recommendations for improving the  
11                   national response to community violence.

12 **SEC. 105. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING SERVICES FOR**  
13 **VICTIMS OF VIOLENT CRIME.**

14           It is the sense of Congress that—

15                   (1) community-based violence intervention pro-  
16                   grams have shown effective results as a strategy in  
17                   reducing the risk of reinjury of, or retaliation by,  
18                   victims of community violence, and promoting vic-  
19                   tims' recovery and well-being;

20                   (2) young men, boys, girls, and women of color  
21                   are disproportionately victimized by community vio-  
22                   lence, but are frequently underserved by victim serv-  
23                   ice providers; and

24                   (3) States and territories should consider using  
25                   funding provided through the Crime Victims Fund

1 to support community-based violence intervention  
2 initiatives that provide services for direct and sec-  
3 ondary victims of community violence at high risk  
4 for reinjury and involvement in community violence.

5 **SEC. 106. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

6 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Depart-  
7 ment of Health and Human Services to carry out this title,  
8 in addition to any amounts otherwise authorized to be ap-  
9 propriated or made available to the Department of Health  
10 and Human Services for such purpose—

11 (1) \$300,000,000 for fiscal year 2024;

12 (2) \$500,000,000 for fiscal year 2025; and

13 (3) \$700,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026  
14 through 2031.

15 **TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF**  
16 **LABOR**

17 **SEC. 201. IMPROVING APPROACHES FOR COMMUNITIES TO**  
18 **THRIVE (IMPACT) GRANTS.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Labor (in this  
20 section referred to as the “Secretary”) shall award grants  
21 to eligible entities for year-round job training and work-  
22 force programs authorized under section 129(c)(1) of the  
23 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
24 3164(c)), with the elements described in section  
25 129(c)(2)(C) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(c)(2)(C)), for

1 opportunity youth in communities disproportionately af-  
2 fected by gun violence for the purposes of connecting op-  
3 portunity youth to in-demand occupations.

4 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to seek a grant  
5 under subsection (a), an entity shall be—

6 (1) a community-based, nonprofit organization  
7 that—

8 (A) serves the residents served by an eligi-  
9 ble unit of local government;

10 (B) has a track record of providing com-  
11 munity-related activities or support program in-  
12 novation in communities of color;

13 (C) focuses on training technical skills to  
14 prepare opportunity youth for in-demand occu-  
15 pations;

16 (D) provides—

17 (i) training for opportunity youth who  
18 are basic skills deficient; and

19 (ii) soft skills training that enables  
20 opportunity youth to engage successfully in  
21 work culture;

22 (2) an Indian Tribe or an agency primarily  
23 serving Native Americans;

24 (3) an entity that carries out activities author-  
25 ized under the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-

1       tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) that has a focus  
2       on opportunity youth;

3               (4) a federally or State recognized apprentice-  
4       ship program;

5               (5) an accredited community college; or

6               (6) an eligible unit of local government.

7       (c) REPORTING.—The Secretary shall require grant-  
8       ees under this section to report to the Secretary on pri-  
9       mary measures funded under this section for—

10              (1) entry into job training, education, appren-  
11       ticeship, skilled trades training, or other paid and  
12       unpaid work experiences that have as a component  
13       academic and occupational education programs; and

14              (2) changes in overall school enrollment, unem-  
15       ployment, or weekly earnings for opportunity youth  
16       participating in activities of the respective grantee.

17       (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

18              (1) BASIC SKILLS DEFICIENT.—The term  
19       “basic skills deficient” means an individual who—

20                      (A) is a youth and has English reading,  
21       writing, or computing skills at or below the 8th  
22       grade level on a generally accepted standardized  
23       test; or

24                      (B) is unable to compute or solve prob-  
25       lems, or read, write, or speak English, at a level

1           necessary to function on the job, in the individ-  
2           ual’s family, or in society.

3           (2) IN-DEMAND OCCUPATION.—The term “in-  
4           demand occupation” means an occupation described  
5           in section 3(23)(A)(ii) of the Workforce Innovation  
6           and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102(23)(A)(ii)).

7           (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry  
8           out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated  
9           \$1,500,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2024  
10          through 2031, to remain available until expended through  
11          fiscal year 2031.

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