

District of Nebraska
FY 2018/2019 Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN)
Award # 2018-GP-BX-0012

District of Nebraska, Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN): *PSN Research Partner*

The Grants Administration Department, on behalf of the City of Omaha (CITY) is interested in receiving proposals from qualified vendors to identify and develop strategies to stop the spread of gun and gang violence by detecting and interrupting conflicts, identifying and treating the highest risk individuals, and changing social norms.

Because of the importance and effectiveness of implementing evidence-based practices, PSN strongly encourages partnership with a research entity – either from within the local law enforcement community or through academic institutions to help identify crime trends, develop targeted enforcement strategies, and measure the effectiveness of the program. The City of Omaha is seeking to enter into an agreement for such services.

Recognizing that crime problems, including felonious possession and use of a firearm and/or criminal gang violence, illegal drug sales and distribution and other related violent crime, vary from community to community, PSN requires a commitment to tailor the program to the local crime issue, and to be data informed.

A research partner is someone who has received formal training in research and evaluation methods and has applied those skills in criminal justice settings. They tend to have advanced quantitative and qualitative skills as well as significant training in criminological theory. As experts in their fields, research partners tend to be well versed in relevant crime control and prevention literature and also tend to be aware of the state-of-practice in criminal justice.

Research partners are most frequently found in university and college criminology, criminal justice, sociology, public policy, and urban affairs programs. Research partners can also be found in private research or consulting firms, research centers, and in state and local agencies.

Goals of the selected applicant:

- Identify target gun violence problem;
- Establish goals and measurable objectives;
- Collect and analyze data to develop a dynamic, real-life, operationally meaningful picture of gun crime in the district (or target area), including analyzing the following for homicides, non-fatal shootings, robberies, and/or aggravated assaults:
- Present findings to community groups, policymakers, and other constituents;
- Identify relevant crime control and prevention theories, as well as best practices;
- Assist PSN task force design strategies that take advantage of the opportunities presented by the data;
- Develop a logic model: that is, provide a written description of how the activities and components of the strategy relate to each other and to the goals and objectives you are trying to accomplish;
- Develop measures to determine whether the strategy is meeting its goals and objectives;
- Develop an evaluation design to determine whether the program is having its intended impacts;

- Communicate evaluation findings and data on key indicators early and often to improve the strategy;
- Assist PSN task force with reporting requirements of the Department of Justice.

Contractor's qualifications will include the following:

- Work with and in support of the PSN task force as a whole, not any one of the agencies, and thus can be an independent and objective voice in the task force;
- Well known and respected community members;
- Experienced in working with multiple data sets and are set-up to deal with the privacy and confidentiality issues combining data may raise;
- Conduct quantitative analyses of data and trained in qualitative analysis methods in addition to quantitative methods;
- Trained theorist(s), who can bring a broader perspective to compliment the practitioner team;
- Trained evaluators, who can assist in designing measurable interventions, and measure them.
- A qualified research partner must not only have research skills, but must also have specific experience in working with practitioners and programs. While experience working in a criminal justice/law enforcement setting is not a requirement for a research partner, experience working with criminal justice/law enforcement programs is.

Procurement Contract Category: PSN Research Partner

Award Ceiling: \$38,242

Interested applicants must complete the City of Omaha, 2018 Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN) Competitive Grants Application form. Applications submitted in any other format will not be eligible. The applicants in this category must also submit a resume, references from directors of programs the researcher has worked with before, and at least one example of the research partner's work such as a published report.

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District of Nebraska, Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN): *PSN Forensic Firearms Testing*

The Grants Administration Department, on behalf of the City of Omaha (CITY) is interested in receiving proposals from qualified vendors to identify and develop strategies to stop the spread of gun and gang violence by detecting and interrupting conflicts, identifying and treating the highest risk individuals, and changing social norms through PSN Strategy Goal #3: *Increase Federal and State prosecutions of violent armed criminals.*

The City of Omaha will issue one or more procurement contracts for forensic firearms tests to assist in the development of the Prosecutor's case. This will assist with tying gang members to weapons that are often carried by offenders and transported in cars with multiple occupants. Forensic firearms testing will be conducted by a certified laboratory that works directly with local law enforcement on a regular basis. The cost of forensic firearm tests vary depending on the amount of DNA tested. According to historical data available, the initial DNA reference sample test may be followed by additional swabs from different areas of the item tested to establish possession. Additional gun swab tests in addition to the reference sample test cost are anticipated an allowable in the computation of a budget.

The selected applicant will provide accurate and authoritative scientific information needed by law enforcement agencies in reducing violent crime and protecting the public. The most important component of a forensic science facility is its professional scientific staff.

Common skills for work in the forensic science field:

- Knowledge of fundamental forensic principles and concepts:
- Knowledge of principles of ethical conduct necessary for forensic work, including the need for a neutral/objective position, extracting both probative and exculpatory information, and making impartial judgments during the entire investigation (recognition, collection, analysis and evaluation of evidence).
- Awareness of the principles of using tested and validated methodologies, documenting methodologies in standard operating procedures, and remaining an independent finder of scientific results.
- Awareness of sources of bias in scientific procedures and knowledge of techniques to mitigate them.
- Awareness of the limitations of the tools used in the forensic field of expertise, and ability to ensure that they are fit-for-purpose at any one time.
- Awareness of the need for continuing education and training.

Procurement Contract Category: Forensic Firearms Testing

Award Ceiling: \$10,000

Interested applicants must complete the City of Omaha, 2018 Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN) Competitive Grants Application form. Applications submitted in any other format will not be eligible. Additionally, applicants in this procurement category should submit proof of their qualifications and credentials. Credentials for both the laboratory and practitioners should be submitted.

District of Nebraska
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District of Nebraska, Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN): *PSN Director of Operations (PSNDO)*

The Grants Administration Department, on behalf of the City of Omaha (CITY) is interested in receiving proposals from qualified vendors to identify and develop strategies to stop the spread of gun and gang violence by detecting and interrupting conflicts, identifying and treating the highest risk individuals, and changing social norms through coordination of PSN Task Force efforts.

JOB OVERVIEW

Under direction of the U.S. Attorney and the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Task Force, the PSN Director of Operations will oversee the collaboration and cooperation with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, criminal justice and community-based partners. This is a grant-funded position responsible for helping ensure fulfillment of the PSN goals and objectives, as funded by the Department of Justice under the Project Safe Neighborhood program.

The PSN Director of Operations (PSNDO) will:

- Co-lead the PSN Task Force in collaboration with the U.S. Attorney's Office;
- Perform firearm traces;
- Review gun cases in coordination with local law enforcement;
- Enter information in the ATF's National Tracing Center eTrace system;
- Prepare felony gun indictment packets for consideration by the Incident Review Team;
- Coordinate prosecution referrals between the County Attorney's Office and the U.S. Attorney's Office;
- Participate in the Strategic Action Plan (SAP); and
- Coordinate the tracking of program outcome measures.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

With the guidance of the U.S. Attorney and assistance of the Omaha Police Department, the Lincoln Police Department, Sarpy County Law Enforcement, Nebraska State Patrol, the selected research partner, and the State of Nebraska Offices of Probation, Parole, and Violence Prevention, the PSN Director of Operations will:

- Coordinate targeted enforcement sweeps in crime hot spot areas in Omaha
- Provide gun case screening, firearms tracing and tracking
- Prepare felony indictment packets Incident Review Team
- Facilitate collaboration meetings and data sharing between partner agencies
- Submit data to the research partner
- Provide quarterly progress reports based on the PSN Project Time and Task Plan

SKILLS, ABILITIES & QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree
- Professional experience in a law enforcement field
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, with ability to work well across a wide cross- section of the community

- Strong knowledge of law enforcement and criminal justice system policies and procedures
- Ability to develop and enhance strong partnerships
- Knowledge of the Internet, Microsoft Office and Microsoft Database Systems
- Commitment to public safety, community improvement, and the goals and objectives of the PSN Violent Gang and Gun Crime Reduction Program
- Reliable transportation and ability to travel long distances
- Ability to work some nights and weekends
- Background check required

Procurement Contract Category: PSN Director of Operations

Award Ceiling: \$27,000

Interested applicants must complete the City of Omaha, 2018 Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN) Competitive Grants Application form. Applications submitted in any other format will not be eligible. Additionally, applicants in this procurement category should submit proof of their qualifications and credentials. Along with the application, please submit a resume and two professional references. Applicants should expect that an in-person interview will be conducted as part of the selection process for this award.

District of Nebraska
FY 2018/2019 Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN)
Award # 2018-GP-BX-0012

District of Nebraska, Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN): *Gang Intelligence & Information Sharing*

The Grants Administration Department, on behalf of the City of Omaha (CITY) is interested in receiving applications from qualified vendors to identify and develop strategies to stop the spread of gun and gang violence by detecting and interrupting conflicts, identifying and treating the highest risk individuals, and changing social norms through PSN Strategy Goal #2: *Utilize Gang Intelligence to Strengthen Enforcement Operations*.

The City of Omaha will issue one or more subawards to PSN Nebraska law enforcement agencies to enhance gang intelligence information sharing with the Omaha PSN Working Group and select PSN Task Force members. Gang intelligence will support specialized overtime operations. Law enforcement agencies receiving subawards under this solicitation will protect gang intelligence information from unauthorized access, apply access privileges, and segregate sensitive information as necessary.

The work involves the gathering, compilation, analysis and dissemination of data relevant to crime, crime patterns, and crime trends specific to the areas of focus of the PSN NE Work Group. It involves preparing schedules for targeting suspected locations likely to experience criminal activity so that surveillance, interdiction, and apprehension efforts may be planned. It also involves analyzing crime information to assist ongoing PSN investigations and enhance the likelihood of solution of crime cases.

The successful applicant will analyze gang intelligence, including social media information; 2) synthesize disparate sources of gang intelligence; 2) maintain and update gang database records, including entering new gang members and deleting old records; 3) prepare reports for dissemination to the Gang Unit, outside law enforcement agencies, and the Incident Review Team; and 4) present at monthly Incident Review Team meetings.

Outcome Measures:

- Quantity of gang intelligence obtained from the community;
- Quantity of new gang members identified and entered into the gang database;
- Number of intelligence bulletins prepared for the Incident Review Team.

Subaward Category: Gang Intelligence & Information Sharing

Award Ceiling: \$5,000

Interested applicants must complete the City of Omaha, 2018 Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN) Competitive Grants Application form. Applications submitted in any other format will not be eligible.

District of Nebraska
FY 2018/2019 Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN)
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District of Nebraska, Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN): *Prosecutor Training & Travel*

The Grants Administration Department, on behalf of the City of Omaha (CITY) is interested in receiving applications from qualified candidates to identify and develop strategies to stop the spread of gun and gang violence by detecting and interrupting conflicts, identifying and treating the highest risk individuals, and changing social norms through PSN Strategy Goal #3: *Increase Federal and State prosecutions of violent armed criminals.*

The City of Omaha will issue one or more subawards to PSN Nebraska attorney's offices in the Omaha Target Area to enhance training of prosecutors working on gang and gun crime cases. By offering training e.g. digital prosecutor training and innovations in prosecution training courses offered through the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA), it is reasoned that prosecutors will gain skills and understanding in current issues and trends.

Subaward Category: Prosecutor Training & Travel

Award Ceiling: \$4,000

Interested applicants must complete the City of Omaha, 2018 Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN) Competitive Grants Application form. Applications submitted in any other format will not be eligible.

Please see the City of Omaha Summary of Grant-Funded Travel Policy for Non-City Personnel for detailed information on calculating grant-funded travel:

https://finance.cityofomaha.org/images/Budget_Accounting_Grant_Docs/12_Feb_2019_Grant_Files/Grant_Funded_NON-CITY_PERSONNEL_Travel_updated_2-12-19_1.pdf

PSN Competitive Subaward & Procurement Contract Overview

The City of Omaha will conduct a competitive application process for District of Nebraska FY 2018 Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) subawards and procurement contracts. Funding will be available for the following PSN anti-gun/gang violence initiative program strategy areas:

- Goal #1: Reduce violent gun and gang crime through a comprehensive crime reduction strategy in targeted in high crime areas;
- Goal #2: Utilize gang intelligence to strengthen enforcement operations and prevent gun and gang violence;
- Goal #3: Increase Federal and State prosecutions of violent armed criminals.
- Goal #4: Conduct community outreach campaign and foster strategies and grassroots community initiatives to combat crime.

The City of Omaha will serve as the fiscal agent, receiving federal funds and then making competitively selected subawards or procurement contracts to each project or entity that will carry out each component of the strategy. The competition process was designed by the District of Nebraska Subrecipient Grant Award Selection Committee and approved by the District of Nebraska PSN task force.

The competitive application process will determine subrecipients for PSN funds in line with the priorities and strategies identified by the District of Nebraska PSN task force.

Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants must operate in the target Patrol Districts and/or work with targeted at-risk offenders that frequent the target Patrol Districts. State or local government entities must certify compliance with 8 U.S.C. § 1373 and submit a supplemental questionnaire regarding their entity's communication practices with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Eligible applicants for the purposes of the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) anti-gun/gang violence initiative program strategy implementation are:

- Goal #1: local law enforcement, probation, and parole agencies
- Goal #2: local law enforcement
- Goal #3: prosecuting attorneys
- Goal #4: non-profit organizations, with an emphasis on gang/gun violence intervention

Applicants must demonstrate their ability to implement the PSN anti-gun/gang violence initiative program strategy in a cost-efficient, effective, and cooperative manner. Proposed costs and activities must be allowable, allocable, necessary, reasonable, and follow Ceasefire operation best practices. Applicants must detail how proposed costs and activities relate to and advance the goals and objectives of the PSN anti-gun/gang violence initiative program strategy.

Applicants should detail their capabilities and competency to implement programs in collaboration with other entities and collect program outcome measures. Applicants must participate in all PSN Task Force, Omaha PSN Working Group, and PSN Incident Review meetings. Applicants must adhere to all FY 2018 PSN grant special conditions.

Requirements

The Part 200 Uniform Requirements are the requirements set out at 2 C.F.R. Part 200, as adopted and modified by the Department of Justice at 2 C.F.R. Part 2800. Pursuant to the (DOJ) Part 200 Uniform Requirements, including the awarding-agency authority described in 2 C.F.R. 200.330, all OJP recipients, as well as all subrecipients of an OJP award **at any tier**, are to follow this guidance.

A subrecipient is required to–

- Provide appropriate progress reports and financial reports to the recipient.
- Be accountable to the recipient for how it uses the federal funds provided under the subaward.
- Follow applicable federal rules regarding financial management, internal controls, cost principles, and audit requirements.
- Collect and provide performance data for the recipient to include in its reports to OJP. As with recipients, a subrecipient may not earn a profit.

An applicant should anticipate that if it fails to submit an application that contains all of the specified elements, it may negatively affect the review of its application; and, should a decision be made to make an award, it may result in the inclusion of award conditions that preclude the recipient from accessing or using award funds until the recipient satisfies the conditions.

Moreover, an applicant should anticipate that an application the City determines is nonresponsive to the scope of the solicitation, or that the City determines does not include the application elements designated in the solicitation as critical, will neither proceed to peer review, nor receive further consideration.

Budget Requirements

Detailed Computations and Allowable Costs:

The applicant should provide the detailed computation for each budget line item, listing the total cost of each and showing how it was calculated by the applicant. For example, costs for personnel should show the annual salary rate and the percentage of time devoted to the project for each employee paid with grant funds. The applicant should present a complete itemization of all proposed costs for the full period of performance expected for the completion of the project. For questions pertaining to budget and examples of allowable and unallowable costs, see the DOJ Grants Financial Guide at <https://ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/index.htm>

Narrative Justification for Every Cost:

The applicant should include a thorough and clear description of every cost listed in the "Narrative" section for each budget category. The City of Omaha expects proposed budgets to be complete, cost effective, and allowable (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities).

An applicant should demonstrate in the narrative how it will maximize cost effectiveness of award expenditures in particular to justify the proposed costs in relation to potential alternatives to achieving the same project goals. The narrative should explain how the applicant estimated

and calculated all costs, and how those costs are necessary to the completion of the proposed project.

Required Forms:

Forms for certifications from prospective subrecipients under FY2018 PSN Program:

- Government Entity: https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/pdf/18PSN_1373_Subcert_govt.pdf
- Public Institution of Higher Education: https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/pdf/18PSN_1373_Subcert_IHE.pdf

Application Review Information

The City of Omaha is committed to ensuring a fair and open process for making awards. The City reviews each application to make sure the information presented is reasonable, understandable, measurable, and achievable, as well as consistent with the solicitation.

The following paragraphs are applicable to applicants for competitive funding:

Peer reviewers will review the applications submitted under the solicitation that meet basic minimum requirements. For purposes of assessing whether an application meets basic minimum requirements and should proceed to further consideration, the City of Omaha screens applications for compliance with those requirements. Although specific requirements may vary, the following are common requirements applicable to all solicitations:

- The application must be submitted by an eligible type of applicant.
- The application must request funding within programmatic funding constraints.
- The application must be responsive to the scope of the solicitation.
- The application must include all items designated as "critical elements."
- Refer to the solicitation document for the list of the critical elements.

Peer review panels will evaluate, score, and rate applications that meet basic minimum requirements. The City will use external peer reviewers to assess applications on technical merit using the solicitation's review criteria. An external peer reviewer is an expert in the subject matter of a given solicitation who is not a current City of Omaha employee. Peer reviewers' ratings and any resulting recommendations are advisory only, although reviewer views are considered carefully. Other important considerations for the City include geographic diversity, strategic priorities, and available funding, as well as the extent to which the Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative accurately explain project costs that are reasonable, necessary, and otherwise allowable under federal law and applicable federal cost principles.

Review Criteria:

- Statement of the Problem & Understanding of PSN Program Strategy Goals (10 percent)
- Program Design & Implementation (35 percent)
- Capabilities & Competencies (30 percent)
- Plan for Collecting Required Data (15 percent)
- Budget & Detailed Budget Narrative (10 percent)

Generally, the following paragraphs are applicable to all applicants:

Pursuant to the Part 200 Uniform Requirements, before award decisions are made, the City also reviews information related to the degree of risk posed by the applicant. Among other things to help assess whether an applicant has a satisfactory record with respect to performance, integrity, and business ethics, the City checks whether the applicant is listed in SAM as excluded from receiving a federal award.

City of Omaha Grants Management Handbook:

The City of Omaha Grant Administration Division is responsible for various state and federal grant programs. The Grants Management Handbook was prepared to assist subrecipients comply with state and federal grant requirements.

https://finance.cityofomaha.org/images/Budget_Accounting_Grant_Docs/12_Feb_2019_Grant_Files/Omaha_Grants_Management_Handbook_updated_2-12-19_1.pdf

Project Safe Neighborhood:

Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) is designed to create and foster safer neighborhoods through a sustained reduction in violent crime, including, but not limited to, addressing criminal gangs and the felonious possession and use of firearms and projects that support innovative cooperative efforts and partnerships between federal, state, and local law enforcement engaged in a unified approach led by the U.S. Attorney in all 94 districts to identify and prevent violent crime. The program's effectiveness depends on the cooperation and partnerships of local, state, tribal, and federal agencies and the communities they serve engaged in a unified approach led by the U.S. Attorney (USA) in all 94 districts. Acting decisively at all levels will help reverse a rise in violent crime and keep American citizens safe. PSN provides the critical funding, resources, and training for law enforcement, prosecutors, and their PSN teams to combat violent crime and make their communities safer through a comprehensive approach to public safety that marries targeted enforcement efforts with community engagement, prevention, and reentry efforts.

Project Safe Neighborhood is a grant-funded program. The City of Omaha is the fiscal agent for the District of Nebraska PSN award. All subgrantees are required to adhere to the policies and procedures outlined the City of Omaha Grant's Management Handbook, as well as the special conditions of the federal award.

More information about Project Safe Neighborhood can be found here:

<https://www.justice.gov/psn>