

# ADDRESSING YOUTH VIOLENCE in Fall River



# Shannon Community Safety Initiative

A Callaborative Response to YOUTH & GANG VIOLENCE

\*Managed by the City of Fall River

### **Shannon Agency Partners:**

- Fall River Police Department
- Greater Fall River Re-Creation
- Boys & Girls Club of Fall River
- United Neighbors of Fall River/Community Connections Coalition
- YouthBuild Fall River
- Fall River YMCA
- Fall River Youth Court
- Family Service Association
- Bristol County Sheriff's Office
- Bristol County District Attorney
- Bristol Workforce Investment Board
- Fall River Health & Human Services
- Massachusetts Parole Board
- Fall River Public Schools
- Crime and Justice Institute at CRJ

ABOUT: Administered by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS), this state grant program offers communities with a demonstrated gang and youth violence problem resources to implement a multi-disciplinary, antigang strategy. Shannon Grants support efforts by law enforcement to steer children away from gangs and prevent youth violence, thereby reducing the likelihood that these children will become involved with law enforcement in less positive ways. Examples of approved program elements include increased community policing, crime-mapping and investigation; collaborative home-visits (with clergy, school staff, or probation officers) for at-risk-youth; youth mentoring and street outreach; job placement and offender re-entry support services. The Shannon grant serves both male and female participants ages 11-27.

# Gun Violence Prevention R.I.S.E Program



\*Managed by Greater Fall River RE-CREATION

### **GVP Agency Partners:**

- Greater Fall River RE-CREATION
- Citizens for Citizens Family Planning
- Katie Brown Educational Program
- Solid Ground Psychotherapy
- United Neighbors of Fall River/Community Connections Coalition

ABOUT: From the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's Child and Youth Violence Unit in the Bureau of Community Health and Prevention, this grant is to provide prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery services for young people impacted by gun violence and other forms of violent crimes. This grant seeks to create and expand Positive Youth Development programming for young people by providing supportive services that assist young adults 17-24 years of age and out of school youth. An innovative aspect of this grant includes supporting networks and communities where youth are at elevated risk for escalation of violence in their lives or who are currently involved in committing acts of violence in the Massachusetts communities with highest rates of gun violence. The goals of this grant are to address disparities and inequities in the exposure to gun violence among youth living in high-crime neighborhoods; Promote and enhance effective services to reduce gun violence and other forms of violence in high-crime communities; and Support behavioral health programming that has treatment protocols designed to reduce gun violence and strengthen individual and community responses to violence through a racial and ethnic lens. The program has a special focus on 8 core principles: racial equity, trauma-informed care, positive youth development, intersectionality, cultural humility, restorative justice, collective impact, and building and sustaining the leadership of people of color.

# Safe & Successful Youth Initiative



\*Managed by the City of Fall River

### **SSYI Agency Partners:**

- Fall River Police Department
- Bristol Work Investment Board
- Greater Fall River Re-Creation
- Solid Ground Psychotherapy
- Bristol County Sheriff's Office

ABOUT: The Safe and Successful Youth Initiative provides grants to municipalities that join with community partners to implement violence prevention programs. The program, which operates directly under the auspices of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services, is part of a broader state initiative to reduce youth violence in Massachusetts.

Begun in FY 2012, the Safe and Successful Youth Initiative focuses on young men between the ages of 17 and 24 who are at risk of being victims or perpetrators of violence. Grants are awarded to municipalities with high levels of youth-related homicides and other assaults. Communities that receive grants must show that they have relationships with community partners, including educational, medical, and behavioral health programs and community- and faith-based organizations, and they must implement strategies to coordinate services and fill gaps in services for young men. Activities supported by the grants include street outreach, trauma counseling, and employment programs.

MODERATE-HIGH RISK PROVEN RISK



# YOUTH OUTREACH PROGRAM & VIOLENCE PREVENTION INITIATIVES

For more information call 508-679-0922 45 Rock Street, Fall River, MA 02720

## **RE-CREATION'S Youth Outreach Program**



# Each enrolled youth participant receives:

- An assigned Outreach Case Worker who will attempt contact with youth at least 2-3 times per week in person or via phone
- An Individualized Intervention Plan with 3 goals that are set by the youth and their Outreach Case Worker and assessed on a quarterly basis
- Connection to services including;
  - o Education
  - o Employment
  - o Behavioral Health Services
  - o Pro-Social Activities
- Referral to Family Service
   Association's Family Resource Center
- Community Service Opportunities
- If necessary and the youth has been engaged in programming, they will receive support for court cases including attendance by Outreach Case Worker and/or a letter of support
- Assistance if in need of any other services in the City of Fall River

### **Youth Violence Prevention Initiative**



The Fall River Youth Violence Prevention Initiative is a collaborative effort directed toward empowering our citizens to become involved in the reduction and prevention of youth violence in our community. The movement emphasizes the ideal that no one program, organization, grant, or approach can solve the problem of violence. Our expanded partnership of various violence prevention efforts allows us to move closer to achieving a shared vision of peace for our city and work together on positive youth development.

The Fall River Youth Violence Prevention Initiative utilizes different methods toward the goal of eliminating youth violence. These approaches include involvement in:

- Shannon Community Safety Initiative grant
- Safe & Successful Youth Initiative grant
- Primary Violence Prevention through Positive Youth Development grant
- Youth at Risk: Secondary Violence
   Prevention and Intervention through
   Positive Youth Development grant
- Bristol YouthWorks Program
- Opportunities for collaboration, including the School Community Partnership
- Involvement in the Fall River Trauma Response Team
- Community sharing of violence prevention resources and community-related events via email, website, and social media
- Development of Fall River Youth Violence Prevention Steering Committee and its Strategic Plan