

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4118

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.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 24, 2021

Mr. HORSFORD (for himself, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. BASS, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MENG, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. PLASKETT, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. SOTO, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. TITUS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Ms. DEAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, 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

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 The 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 that disrupts employment and hinders a commu-
13 nity’s social and economic development.

14 (2) From 2010 to 2019, over 175,000 people
15 were murdered in the United States. Hundreds of
16 thousands more were hospitalized or treated in
17 emergency departments after surviving life-changing
18 gunshot injuries and other violent assaults.

1 (3) In 2020, the Nation suffered the largest
2 single-year spike in homicides on record, driven
3 largely by record spikes in fatal shootings. Nation-
4 wide, 75 percent of all homicides are committed with
5 a gun.

6 (4) Communities across the Nation experience
7 enormous disparities in safety that are driven by in-
8 equitable social and structural determinants of
9 health. Interpersonal shootings are disproportion-
10 ately concentrated in neighborhoods harmed by past
11 and present racial discrimination, segregation, red-
12 lining, disinvestment, mass incarceration, and con-
13 centrated poverty, and this violence’s toll falls over-
14 whelmingly on people of color, especially young
15 Black and brown men and boys and their loved ones.
16 From 2015 to 2019, Black children and teens were
17 14 times as likely to be shot to death as their White
18 peers. Hispanic children and teens and Native Amer-
19 ican children and teens were both about 3 times as
20 likely to be shot to death as their White peers. Over
21 this period, 72 percent of children murdered before
22 their 18th birthday were people of color, and 50 per-
23 cent were Black.

24 (5) Black boys and men make up less than 7
25 percent of the population in the United States, but

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

8 (6) This violence imposes enormous human, so-
9 cial, and economic costs. The Director of the Cen-
10 ters for Disease Control and Prevention’s Division of
11 Violence Prevention presented research to Congress
12 demonstrating that “youth living in inner cities show
13 a higher prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder
14 than soldiers” in the Nation’s wartime military.
15 While the vast majority of these young people resil-
16 iently persevere, people who have been victims of vio-
17 lence are at substantially higher risk of being vio-
18 lently re-attacked or killed. Additionally, both direct
19 and indirect violence exposure have been associated
20 with a host of poor health outcomes, including
21 chronic illness, anxiety, depression, and substance
22 misuse.

23 (7) When properly implemented and consist-
24 ently funded, coordinated, community-based strate-
25 gies that utilize trauma-responsive care and inter-

1 rupt cycles of violence can produce lifesaving and
2 cost-saving results in a short period of time without
3 contributing to mass incarceration. These strategies
4 identify those at the highest risk, coordinate individ-
5 ualized wraparound resources, provide pathways to
6 healing and stability, and monitor and support long-
7 term success. Many cities have substantially reduced
8 community violence in recent years by implementing
9 various combinations of these strategies, which in-
10 clude the following:

11 (A) Community outreach programs, which
12 hire violence intervention and prevention spe-
13 cialists who have established relationships, re-
14 latable lived experiences, and credibility with in-
15 dividuals in their communities at high risk of
16 violence and connect them with intensive coun-
17 seling, mediation, peer support, and social serv-
18 ices in order to reduce their risk. Evaluations
19 have found that these programs, particularly
20 when integrated into wider networks of sup-
21 portive services, are frequently associated with
22 significant reductions in gun violence.

23 (B) Hospital-based violence intervention
24 programs (referred to in this section as
25 “HVIP”), which work to break cycles of vio-

1 lence by leveraging credible violence interven-
2 tion and prevention specialists to provide inten-
3 sive counseling, peer support, case management,
4 mediation, and social services to patients recov-
5 ering from gunshot wounds and other violent
6 injuries. Research has shown that violently in-
7 jured patients are at high risk of retaliating
8 with violence themselves or being revictimized
9 by violence in the near future. Evaluations of
10 HVIPs have found that patients who received
11 HVIP services were often less likely to be con-
12 victed of a violent crime and less likely to be
13 subsequently reinjured by violence than patients
14 who did not receive HVIP services.

15 (C) Group violence interventions provide
16 tailored social services and support to group-in-
17 volved individuals at highest risk for involve-
18 ment in community violence. This intervention,
19 which must be trauma informed, culturally re-
20 sponsive, and community driven to be most suc-
21 cessful, includes a process for community mem-
22 bers to voice a clear demand for the violence to
23 stop and narrowly focused enforcement actions
24 against those who continue to engage in acts of
25 serious violence. The approach coordinates law

1 enforcement, service providers, and community
2 engagement efforts to reduce violence in ways
3 that do not contribute to mass incarceration.

4 (D) Violence interruption and crisis man-
5 agement, which respond to potentially violent
6 incidents to mediate conflicts or to scenes where
7 violence has occurred to offer trauma-informed
8 services and community supports to survivors
9 and others exposed to violence. These strategies
10 help to prevent retaliatory violence and promote
11 healing and well-being. Programs that include
12 these components have reported deescalating
13 dozens of disputes that were highly likely to end
14 in lethal violence.

15 (8) Access to job and entrepreneurship training,
16 apprenticeship, and technological and digital literacy
17 programs are effective tools in reducing community
18 violence. A 2012 University of Pennsylvania study of
19 13 high-violence schools in the Chicago area found
20 “well-targeted, low-cost employment policies can
21 make a substantial difference”, and the city’s most
22 violent neighborhoods saw a 43 percent drop in vio-
23 lent-crime arrests of participants in a youth job pro-
24 gram.

1 (9) Individualized wraparound services and op-
2 portunities include, but are not limited to, housing
3 support, financial assistance, reentry services, legal
4 assistance, therapeutic services, grief counseling or
5 targeted victim services, and skill building based on
6 the needs of survivors or individuals at the highest
7 risk of community violence. Leveraging the relation-
8 ships of violence intervention and prevention special-
9 ists, these services are used in the context of struc-
10 tured, person-centered peer mentorship that facili-
11 tates personal transformation by meeting people
12 where they are and offering to help participants
13 change the trajectories of their lives.

14 (10) The past year has had a disproportionate
15 impact on youth unemployment, with 2.9 million
16 more unemployed youth in mid-2020 compared with
17 pre-2020 levels. Simultaneously, the 2020 recession
18 accelerated an already increasingly digital and auto-
19 mated workforce, and youth must attain the digital,
20 technological, and other technical skills necessary to
21 thrive in the future of work. While jobs in the cus-
22 tomer service and food industry could fall by 4.3
23 million between 2018 and 2030, health care and
24 STEM occupations could grow more now than ever.

1 (11) Intentional and sustained investments in
2 community-based violence reduction strategies can
3 reverse recent increases in homicides, help to heal
4 impacted communities, and reduce the enormous
5 human and economic costs of community violence,
6 without contributing to mass incarceration.

7 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

8 In this Act:

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

11 (A) means nonfatal firearm injuries, ag-
12 gravated assaults, homicides, and other acts of
13 life-threatening interpersonal violence com-
14 mitted outside the context of a familial or ro-
15 mantic relationship; and

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

18 (2) **ELIGIBLE UNIT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.**—
19 The term “eligible unit of local government” means
20 a municipality or other local government that—

21 (A) for not less than 2 out of the 3 cal-
22 endar years preceding the date on which an ap-
23 plication for a grant is submitted under section
24 101—

1 (i) experienced 35 or more homicides
2 per year; or

3 (ii) experienced 20 or more homicides
4 per year and had a homicide rate that was
5 not less than double the national average;
6 or

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

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

13 (A) have attained 16 years of age but not
14 yet attained 25 years of age; and

15 (B) are not—

16 (i) enrolled in education or training on
17 a full-time or part-time basis; or

18 (ii) employed on a full-time or part-
19 time basis.

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

22 **SEC. 101. COMMUNITY-BASED VIOLENCE INTERVENTION**
23 **PROGRAM GRANTS.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
25 Human Services (in this title referred to as the “Sec-

1 retary”) shall award grants to eligible entities to support,
2 enhance, and replicate coordinated community violence
3 intervention.

4 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to seek a grant
5 under this section, 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; and

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

13 (2) an eligible unit of local government.

14 (c) LIMITATION.—Of the amount made available to
15 carry out this title for a fiscal year, not more than 15
16 percent of such amount shall be made available to eligible
17 units of local government.

18 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—

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

23 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—A community violence
24 intervention initiative implemented using grant
25 funds awarded under this section shall—

1 (A) be primarily focused on providing cul-
2 turally competent, community-based violence
3 intervention services to the portion of a grant-
4 ee's community who are, regardless of age,
5 identified as being at high risk of being victim-
6 ized by, or engaging in, community violence;
7 and

8 (B) use strategies that—

9 (i) are evidence-informed and have
10 demonstrated promise at reducing commu-
11 nity violence without contributing to mass
12 incarceration;

13 (ii) utilize trauma-responsive care and
14 interrupt cycles of violence;

15 (iii) expand economic opportunity
16 through new jobs, educational opportuni-
17 ties, or training programs; and

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

21 (3) COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS.—

22 (A) ELIGIBLE UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERN-
23 MENT.—Each eligible unit of local government
24 awarded a grant under this section shall dis-

1 tribute not less than 75 percent of such grant
2 funds to one or more of the following:

3 (i) A community-based organization
4 or nonprofit organization.

5 (ii) A public agency or department
6 that is primarily dedicated to the preven-
7 tion of violence or to community safety,
8 but is not a law enforcement agency.

9 (B) HOSPITALS.—Each hospital awarded a
10 grant under this section in the hospital’s capac-
11 ity as a community-based, nonprofit organiza-
12 tion described in subsection (b)(1) shall dis-
13 tribute not less than 90 percent of such grant
14 funds to one or more of the following:

15 (i) A community-based organization
16 or nonprofit organization that provides di-
17 rect services to individuals who have been
18 victimized by community violence.

19 (ii) Direct program staff.

20 (iii) Individual subcontractors who
21 provide direct program-related services.

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

1 (1) describe how the applicant proposes to use
2 the grant to implement a coordinated community vi-
3 olence intervention initiative in accordance with this
4 section;

5 (2) describe how the applicant proposes to use
6 the grant to promote or improve coordination be-
7 tween relevant agencies and community organiza-
8 tions in order to minimize duplication of services,
9 complement other community violence intervention
10 efforts, and achieve maximum impact;

11 (3) provide evidence indicating that the pro-
12 posed community violence intervention initiative
13 would likely reduce community violence or address
14 the trauma and collateral consequences for individ-
15 uals at high risk of being victimized by, or engaging
16 in, community violence;

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

20 (A) evidence-informed; and

21 (B) coordinated with the programs and ac-
22 tivities of other entities for addressing commu-
23 nity violence; and

24 (5) in the case of a unit of local government ap-
25 plicant, demonstrate strong support from community

1 partners with experience engaging individuals at
2 high risk of being victimized by, or engaging in,
3 community violence, as demonstrated by—

4 (A) the development of a community steer-
5 ing committee that—

6 (i) provides advice and assistance to
7 the locality in administering grants award-
8 ed under this section; and

9 (ii) is composed of individuals who
10 substantially reflect local populations im-
11 pacted by community violence, including
12 survivors of community violence and indi-
13 viduals with expertise in culturally com-
14 petent and trauma-informed approaches to
15 reducing community violence; and

16 (B) letters of support from individuals,
17 such as—

18 (i) the mayor or chief executive officer
19 of the unit of local government; and

20 (ii) the director of one or more com-
21 munity-based organizations that provide
22 services to individuals at high risk of being
23 victimized by, or engaging in, community
24 violence.

1 (f) PRIORITIZATION.—In awarding grants under this
2 section, the Secretary shall give preference to applicants
3 whose grant proposals demonstrate the greatest likelihood
4 of reducing community violence in the target area without
5 contributing to mass incarceration.

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

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

10 (1) the scope of the proposal; and

11 (2) the demonstrated need for additional re-
12 sources to effectively reduce community violence in
13 the applicant’s community.

14 (i) MATCHING FUNDS REQUIRED.—

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

19 (2) EXEMPTION FROM REQUIREMENT.—Para-
20 graph (1) shall not apply to a grant awarded to a
21 community-based organization described in sub-
22 section (b)(1).

23 (3) WAIVER.—The Federal share of a grant
24 awarded to a unit of local government (that is an el-
25 ible entity under subsection (b)(2)) may be up to

1 100 percent if the Secretary determines there is
2 good cause to waive the Federal share requirement
3 under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

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

9 (k) REWARDING SUCCESS.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may reserve
11 not more than 10 percent of the funds appropriated
12 for a fiscal year to carry out this title for supple-
13 mental incentive funds to be distributed to grantees
14 outside the competitive grant process in accordance
15 with paragraph (2).

16 (2) DISTRIBUTION OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—
17 The Secretary may distribute amounts reserved
18 under paragraph (1), in the discretion of the Sec-
19 retary, to grantees under subsection (a) that have—

20 (A) implemented the grant for not less
21 than 2 years;

22 (B) demonstrated exceptional commitment
23 and progress toward implementing the grantee's
24 community violence reduction initiative; and

1 (C) shown that the grantee would likely
2 achieve more substantial reductions in commu-
3 nity violence with additional Federal funding.

4 (3) FEDERAL SHARE.—Subsection (i) shall not
5 apply to any amounts distributed to a grantee under
6 this subsection.

7 (4) EXPLANATION OF DISTRIBUTION.—Upon
8 distributing supplemental incentive funds to a grant-
9 ee, the Secretary shall publish a statement on the
10 website of the Department of Health and Human
11 Services that clearly explains the basis for the deci-
12 sion to award such funds to a particular grantee.

13 (l) EVALUATION AND INTENSIVE SITE IMPLEMENTA-
14 TION SUPPORT.—The Secretary may reserve not more
15 than 8 percent of the funds appropriated for a fiscal year
16 to carry out this title for the purpose of—

17 (1) contracting with or hiring intensive site im-
18 plementation providers with experience implementing
19 community violence intervention strategies;

20 (2) providing grants to applicants under sub-
21 section (a) that provide training and certification to
22 community violence intervention and prevention pro-
23 fessionals in order to expand the field and build ca-
24 pacity of frontline workers and other providers; and

1 (3) contracting with independent researchers to
2 evaluate the implementation, performance, and im-
3 pact of selected initiatives supported by the grants
4 made under this section, which evaluations shall be
5 made publicly available on the website of the De-
6 partment of Health and Human Services.

7 (m) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—A grantee re-
8 ceiving a grant under this section shall use the grant to
9 supplement, and not supplant, the amount of funds the
10 grantee would otherwise dedicate to a community violence
11 intervention initiative.

12 **SEC. 102. OFFICE OF COMMUNITY VIOLENCE INTERVEN-**
13 **TION.**

14 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish
15 within the Department of Health and Human Services,
16 the Office of Community Violence Intervention (in this
17 title referred to as the “Office”), to be headed by a direc-
18 tor.

19 (b) DUTIES.—The Secretary shall delegate to the Di-
20 rector of the Office responsibility for implementing the
21 provisions of this title.

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

1 **SEC. 103. COMMUNITY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION ADVI-**
2 **SORY COMMITTEE.**

3 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall establish
4 a Community Violence Intervention Advisory Committee
5 (in this title referred to as the “Advisory Committee”) to
6 provide advice and assistance to the Secretary and Office
7 in carrying out this title, including—

8 (1) development of grant solicitations;

9 (2) raising awareness about grant solicitations
10 among potentially eligible units of government and
11 organizations;

12 (3) selection of grant proposals;

13 (4) selection of grantees to receive supplemental
14 funds in accordance with section 101(l); and

15 (5) formation of the National Community Vio-
16 lence Response Center under section 104.

17 (b) **MEMBERS.**—In appointing members of the Advi-
18 sory Committee, the Secretary shall—

19 (1) appoint the members from among individ-
20 uals with expertise implementing or evaluating com-
21 munity violence intervention initiatives;

22 (2) include a representative with expertise in
23 workforce development selected by the Secretary of
24 Labor;

25 (3) ensure the membership of the Advisory
26 Committee reflects a commitment to culturally com-

1 petent and trauma-informed approaches to pre-
2 venting violence among individuals at high risk of vi-
3 olence; and

4 (4) ensure that the members of the Advisory
5 Committee include substantial representation of
6 communities of color disproportionately impacted by
7 community violence.

8 **SEC. 104. CREATION OF A NATIONAL COMMUNITY VIO-**
9 **LENCE RESPONSE CENTER.**

10 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall establish
11 and operate a National Community Violence Response
12 Center (referred to in this section as the “Center”).

13 (b) **DUTIES.**—The Center shall have the following
14 roles and responsibilities:

15 (1) **ASSESSMENT; TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—
16 The Office and the Center, with the advice of the
17 Advisory Committee, shall—

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

21 (B) provide technical assistance to grant-
22 ees under section 101 in the implementation of
23 coordinated community violence intervention
24 funded through the grant.

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

3 (A) develop intensive site implementation
4 support for each of the four tiers to maximize
5 the effectiveness of the development of commu-
6 nity violence initiatives;

7 (B) develop intensive site implementation
8 support for each eligible unit of local govern-
9 ment that is a grant recipient to assess the con-
10 tours of the community violence within the ju-
11 risdiction and identify relevant community-
12 based interventions that may be successful at
13 preventing future community violence; and

14 (C) provide ongoing support to community-
15 based organizations to facilitate site infrastruc-
16 ture building, program implementation and op-
17 eration, and quality improvement assistance.

18 (3) DATA COLLECTION.—

19 (A) POLICIES.—The Office and the Center
20 shall develop data collection policies for grant
21 recipients that measure safety, community
22 health, opportunity youth engagement, eco-
23 nomic development, and recidivism.

24 (B) ASSISTANCE.—The Center shall assist
25 grant recipients in establishing data collection

1 systems and practices, and collect data from the
2 grant recipients.

3 (4) RESEARCH COORDINATION.—

4 (A) ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY COUN-
5 CIL.—The Center, in consultation with non-
6 profit, nongovernmental organizations and re-
7 searchers whose primary expertise is in commu-
8 nity violence, shall establish a Community Vio-
9 lence Research Advisory Council (in this para-
10 graph referred to as the “Research Advisory
11 Council”)—

12 (i) to coordinate research on commu-
13 nity violence; and

14 (ii) to report to the Congress on any
15 gaps on issues related to community vio-
16 lence.

17 (B) MEMBERSHIP.—The Research Advi-
18 sory Council shall include representatives
19 from—

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

22 (ii) the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

23 (C) DUTIES.—The Research Advisory
24 Council shall provide advice and assistance to
25 the Center to—

1 (i) develop a coordinated strategy to
2 strengthen research focused on community
3 violence education, prevention, and inter-
4 vention strategies;

5 (ii) track and report all Federal re-
6 search and expenditures related to commu-
7 nity violence; and

8 (iii) identify gaps in community vio-
9 lence research, governmental expenditures
10 on community violence issues, and prom-
11 ising strategies that have not yet been rig-
12 orously evaluated.

13 (5) CONFERRAL.—

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

16 (i) grantees and providers of intensive
17 site implementation support in the commu-
18 nity violence field that receive funding
19 under this title or title II; and

20 (ii) other key stakeholders.

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

23 (i) the administration of grants;

24 (ii) challenges and gaps in community
25 violence intervention initiatives;

1 (iii) strategies for overcoming such
2 challenges and gaps;

3 (iv) promising practices in the field;
4 and

5 (v) emerging trends.

6 (C) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days
7 after the conclusion of each biennial conference,
8 the Center shall publish a comprehensive report
9 that—

10 (i) summarizes the issues presented
11 during the conference and what, if any,
12 policies the Center intends to implement to
13 address those issues; and

14 (ii) is made available to the public on
15 the Center’s website and submitted to the
16 Congress.

17 (6) CAPACITY BUILDING AND FOSTERING INNO-
18 VATION.—The Center shall—

19 (A) promote expansion and development of
20 the field of community violence intervention and
21 prevention, including fostering collaboration, in-
22 formation sharing, and dissemination of best
23 practices among practitioners, providers of in-
24 tensive site implementation support, and pro-
25 grams and individuals working in the same re-

1 gions or States, including the identification and
2 dissemination to the public of best practices for
3 addressing community violence;

4 (B) develop a plan for expanding providers
5 of intensive site implementation support in the
6 field of community violence intervention and
7 prevention;

8 (C) develop a plan for identifying innova-
9 tive community violence intervention and pre-
10 vention strategies that are in need of further
11 research and evaluation; and

12 (D) develop a plan for providing ongoing
13 intensive site support to organizations imple-
14 menting community violence intervention and
15 prevention strategies.

16 (7) REPORTING.—The Center shall annually
17 provide a report to the Congress addressing topics to
18 include—

19 (A) national trends in community violence
20 statistics;

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

23 (C) recommendations for improving the
24 national response to community violence.

1 **SEC. 105. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING SERVICES FOR**
2 **VICTIMS OF VIOLENT CRIME.**

3 It is the sense of Congress that—

4 (1) community-based violence intervention pro-
5 grams have shown effective results as a strategy in
6 reducing the risk of reinjury of, or retaliation by,
7 victims of community violence, and promoting vic-
8 tims' recovery and well-being;

9 (2) young men, boys, girls, and women of color
10 are disproportionately victimized by community vio-
11 lence, but are frequently underserved by victim serv-
12 ice providers; and

13 (3) States and territories should consider using
14 funding provided through the Crime Victims Fund
15 to support community-based violence intervention
16 initiatives that provide services for direct and sec-
17 ondary victims of community violence at high risk
18 for reinjury and involvement in community violence.

19 **SEC. 106. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

20 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Depart-
21 ment of Health and Human Services to carry out this title,
22 in addition to any amounts otherwise authorized to be ap-
23 propriated or made available to the Department of Health
24 and Human Services for such purpose—

25 (1) \$300,000,000 for fiscal year 2022;

26 (2) \$500,000,000 for fiscal year 2023; and

1 (3) \$700,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2024
2 through 2029.

3 **TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF**
4 **LABOR**

5 **SEC. 201. IMPROVING APPROACHES FOR COMMUNITIES TO**
6 **THRIVE (IMPACT) GRANTS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Labor (in this
8 section referred to as the “Secretary”) shall award grants
9 to eligible entities for year-round job training and work-
10 force programs authorized under section 129(c)(1) of the
11 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
12 3164(c)), with the elements described in section
13 129(c)(2)(C) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(c)(2)(C)), for
14 opportunity youth in communities disproportionately af-
15 fected by gun violence for the purposes of connecting op-
16 portunity youth to in-demand occupations.

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

19 (1) a community-based, nonprofit organization
20 that—

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

23 (B) has a track record of providing com-
24 munity-related activities or support program in-
25 novation in communities of color;

1 (C) focuses on training technical skills to
2 prepare opportunity youth for in-demand occu-
3 pations; and

4 (D) provides—

5 (i) training for opportunity youth who
6 are basic skills deficient; and

7 (ii) soft skills training that enables
8 opportunity youth to engage successfully in
9 work culture;

10 (2) an Indian Tribe or an agency primarily
11 serving Native Americans;

12 (3) an entity that carries out activities author-
13 ized under the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
14 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) that has a focus
15 on opportunity youth;

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

18 (5) an accredited community college; or

19 (6) an eligible unit of local government.

20 (e) REPORTING.—The Secretary shall require grant-
21 ees under this section to report to the Secretary on pri-
22 mary measures funded under this section for—

23 (1) entry into job training, education, appren-
24 ticeship, skilled trades training, or other paid and

1 unpaid work experiences that have as a component
2 academic and occupational education programs; and

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

6 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

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

9 (A) is a youth and has English reading,
10 writing, or computing skills at or below the 8th
11 grade level on a generally accepted standardized
12 test; or

13 (B) is unable to compute or solve prob-
14 lems, or read, write, or speak English, at a level
15 necessary to function on the job, in the individ-
16 ual’s family, or in society.

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

21 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry
22 out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated
23 \$1,500,000,000 for fiscal year 2022, to remain available
24 through fiscal year 2029.

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