

# Community Safety Investments

## A Public Health Approach to Community Safety

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# Overview

- Purpose and Context Setting
- Our Approach to Addressing Violence
- Strategies
- 2024 Request for Proposals
- Next Steps



# Context Setting

<u>Where we were</u>	<u>Where we are</u>	<u>Where we are headed</u>
<p><b>2020 – 2022</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Global Pandemic</li><li>• Civil Rights reckoning</li><li>• Public pressure to invest in alternatives to policing</li><li>• New Division focused on community safety and support for crime survivors.</li><li>• Funding influx from Council to HSD leading to a competitive funding process</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clear directive from Mayor Harrell to focus our investments to get more significant results and reduce violence.</li><li>• 39 contracts funded for a total of \$29 million.</li><li>• Additional funding added for school safety efforts</li><li>• New Theory of Change developed utilizing a proven methodology</li><li>• Scheduled RFP to be released in December</li></ul>	<p><b>2025 and beyond</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Implementation of the new Theory of Change</li><li>• Database development, training, and implementation</li><li>• Performance metrics for each contract with quarterly reporting</li></ul>



# Violence is a Public Health Issue

- Risk factors (signs of infection) of violence are both predictable and preventable.
- Protective factors (treatment) are widely known and proven.
- We have both the signs of infection and the treatment.
- Literature supports the notion of violence as a public health (PH) issue.



- PH Seattle-King County made this declaration during COVID-19.
- U.S. Surgeon General declares firearm violence in America a PH crisis (June 2024)

# A Community-Led Public Health Approach

## Detect & Interrupt Potentially Violent Conflicts

Trained violence interrupters & outreach workers prevent shootings through:

- ✓ Mediating conflicts
- ✓ Preventing retaliations
- ✓ Following-up to ensure conflict does not reignite

## Identify & Change Behaviors of People at Highest Risk

Trained outreach workers reduce risk for those most likely to be impacted by violence through:

- ✓ Assessing the highest risk
- ✓ Changing behaviors
- ✓ Providing case management

## Mobilize the Community to Change Norms & Address Root Causes

Workers engage community leaders by conveying the message that the community does not support the use of violence. They do this by:

- ✓ Responding to shootings in high-risk areas (neighborhood hubs)
- ✓ Organizing community
- ✓ Spreading positive norms



# Where We Are Today

## Our Current Investments



# Current Investments

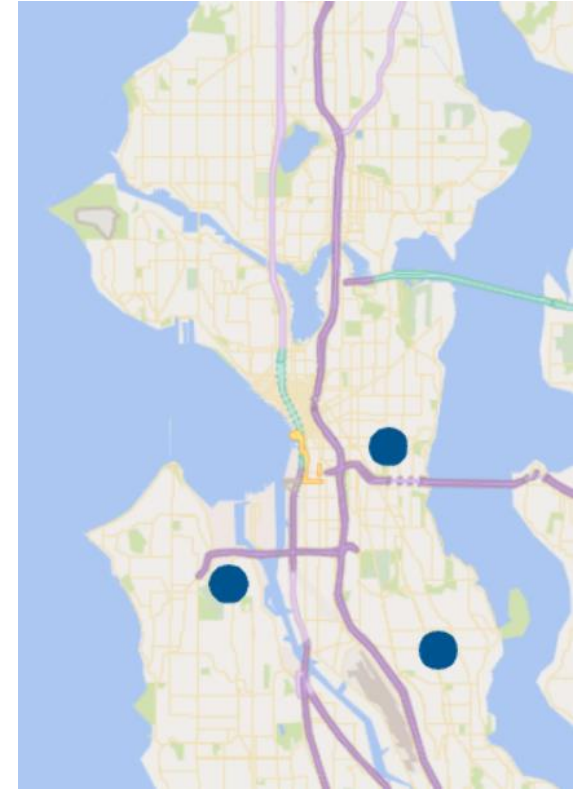
Investment	What it Does	2024 Budget*
Seattle Community Safety Initiative (SCSI)	Interrupt and de-escalate ongoing conflict, outreach, cooling neighborhood “hotspot” locations	\$5,400,000
School Safety	Interrupt conflict among and address basic needs for at-risk students at focus schools	\$4,250,000
Hospital-Based Intervention	Survivor support and prevention of retaliatory violence	\$1,000,000
Supportive Services	Reduce risk factors linked with violence	\$5,700,000
Prefile Diversion	The City Attorney's Office refers misdemeanors to diversion programs, the CAO will decline charges after program is completed	\$1,800,000
Reentry	Promote economic stability and well-being for those re-entering community	\$1,600,000
LEAD	Pre-booking diversion model redirecting those engaged in low-level offenses to community-based services instead of jail and prosecution	\$9,700,000
Total		\$29,450,000

\*Totals rounded up/down for simplicity



# 1. Seattle Community Safety Initiative (SCSI)

- SCSI is a community-driven model that utilizes a neighborhood hub model (see map)
- Neighborhood hubs are in areas with the highest levels of violent crime
- One-stop shop for the needs of participants and their families
- A referral source for wrap-around supportive services (counseling, financial support, employment, etc.)





# SCSI Continued – Key Roles

Violence Interrupter	A professionally trained community leader with lived experience who responds to or intervenes in social group/gang crisis and aftermath. Possesses the capability to de-escalate conflicts to prevent retaliatory shootings and control rumors that could lead to retaliation.
Outreach Worker	Connects to hard-to-reach members of the community and provides services outside the normal reach, identifying and focusing on populations in need, offering short-term stabilization, linking to other SCSI staff, bringing education and awareness to their service area, and providing service referrals.
Safe Passages Provider	Provides a visible, physical presence and monitors designated safety zones during the critical after-school hours, ensuring youth make a safe transition from school to home or afterschool programs. Focuses on building relationships with youth, acting as mentors, and connecting youth to other supports, e.g. education and employment opportunities.
Restoration Specialist (Community Health Worker)	Specially-trained interventionist who responds to violence-prone individuals and their families in a hospital setting or immediately after discharge. Connects individuals and family members with services and mentoring needed to prevent additional violence.
Case Manager	A practitioner trained in multiple disciplines who works in coordination with human services, public health, and public safety providers to address long-term needs and underlying drivers of violence.

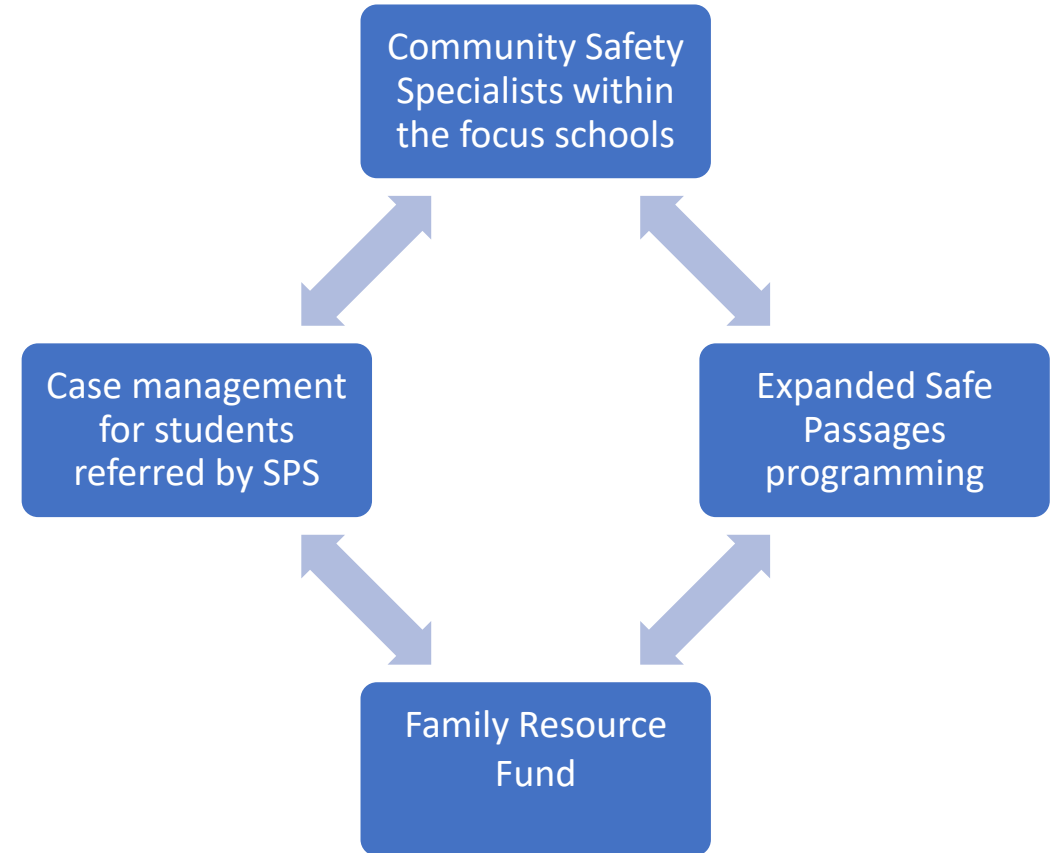


# How this all ties together (case study)



## 2. Violence Intervention & Prevention Activities within SPS Schools

- 11 high school & middle schools were selected based on data and community feedback for a priority focus.
- Emphasis on offering mental health resources, building trust, and de-escalating conflicts to promote peace.
- Focusing initial rollout is at 5 high schools; will expand to include 6 feeder middle schools.



# 3. Hospital Based Intervention

- The Hospital-Based Intervention Program focuses on recovery, mitigating retaliation, and addressing basic needs for gunshot survivors and their families.
- Gunshot survivors and their families sent to Harborview Medical Center receive evaluation and treatment.
- Community organizations operate in partnership with Harborview Medical Center to offer recovery services.
- 36 individuals of all ages referred to community-based partners in January - July 2024.





## 4. Reentry Services

- Promote stability and a successful transition, with a focus on Black/African American, Indigenous, and other People of Color returning to community from incarceration.
- Rebuild connections to the person's community of support and meeting economic and/or educational goals, specifically through connection with education or apprenticeship programs.
- \$1.6 million budget contracted with 9 community-based organizations.
- 408 people served January - July 2024
- Of the those served YTD:
  - 96 people enrolled into apprenticeship/educational programs
  - 213 reported stronger connections with their community of support



# Where we are headed

## Updated Theory of Change/Outcomes, And a Competitive Funding Process



# Updated Outcomes & Measurements

Desired Outcome	How we will measure progress and success
1. Improved life outcomes and reduced recidivism rates for individuals at the highest risk of involvement in violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-arrest and/or convictions for violent crimes for participants enrolled in services like Prefile Diversion, Reentry, SCSi, etc.</li> </ul>
2. Reduced harm to communities by utilizing alternatives to arrests as the option of first resort	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of referrals from SPD to the SCSi</li> <li>• The number of participants diverted to community-based alternatives to arrest and prosecution</li> <li>• Number of enrolled participants in social-emotional learning supports</li> <li>• Number of mediations performed by violence interrupters</li> </ul>
3. Reduced incidents of violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community reports</li> <li>• Harborview Medical Center data</li> <li>• SPD data</li> </ul>



# Evaluation & Accountability

Desired Outcome	How we will measure progress and success
1. Robust evaluation systems in place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The percentage of investment areas with dedicated evaluation funding</li><li>• Work completed with subject experts like the University of Washington Firearm Injury &amp; Policy Research Program</li><li>• Development and implementation of a new database</li></ul>
2. Increased research and analytical capabilities to ensure that data and best practices drive strategies, policies, and implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Development and implementation of a high-quality database</li><li>• Public dashboards with quarterly updates once the database is completed</li></ul>
3. Monitor performance and implement performance pay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pay for performance measures implemented in all community-based violence prevention contracts</li></ul>
4. Community perception of safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Host semi-annual listening sessions with program participants and key stakeholders to assess their point of view of success</li></ul>



# 2024 Competitive Bid for Services (RFP)

**Request for Proposal (RFP):** An open and competitive process that allows organizations to bid on the services requested by HSD. The 2024 process will align investments to meet current needs and best and promising practices to address the significant increase in gun violence.

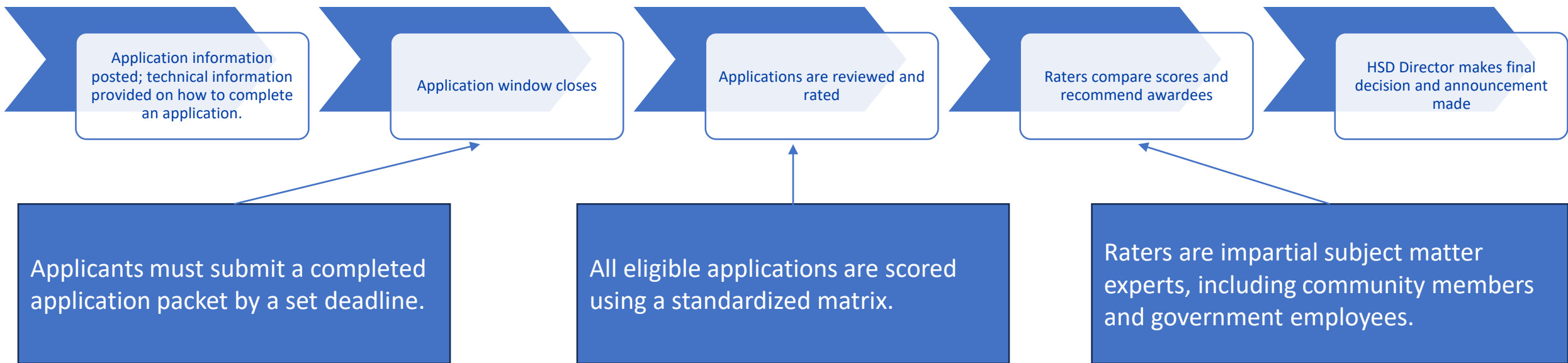
**Focus demographics:** individuals disproportionately impacted by gun violence-- Black/African American and Latinx participants ages of 10 to 30

**Budget:** Up to \$5.7 million\*

**Timeline:** RFP release on December 3, 2024\*

\*subject to change

# Overview - What an RFP Process Looks Like



# Next Steps

Date	Milestone
December 2024	RFP Guidelines & Application Released
January 2025	RFP Applications Due
March 2025	Announce Awards
April 2025	Contracts Begin <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bridge funding provided for 6 months to unsuccessful applicants with current contracts</li></ul>

# Questions?

