

**Responses to Questions About 2020 General Violence Prevention Fund and 2020  
Neighborhood/Community-Specific Violence Prevention Fund**

**Posted March 30, 2020**

*The below questions and answers apply to both the General Violence Prevention Fund RFA and the Neighborhood/Community-specific Violence Prevention Fund RFA unless otherwise noted.*

**Question:** Can you share which organizations and projects were funded by this Fund last year, including award amounts?

**Response:** The Violence Prevention Fund opportunity was organized differently last year, with a Request for Proposals for downtown-specific projects and a Request for Proposals for citywide (outside of downtown) projects. The recipients under those RFPs were:

Downtown

MAD DADS - \$50,000  
St. Stephens - \$35,470  
Hennepin Theatre Trust - \$43,055  
Green Minneapolis - \$24,755

Brief information about each of those projects can be found here:

<https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/RCA/4412>

Citywide

Art is My Weapon - \$44,250  
Banyan Community - \$31,601  
Juxtaposition Arts - \$50,000  
Lake Street Council - \$10,000  
MN Peacebuilding Leadership Coalition - \$10,000  
The Camden Promise - \$50,000

Brief information about each of those projects can be found here:

<https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/RCA/4480>

**Question:** Can a single entity submit two proposals and potentially receive two grant awards? We're hoping to submit one application in each of the two categories.

**Response:** Applicants are allowed to apply for both the General Violence Prevention Fund RFA and the Neighborhood/Community-specific Violence Prevention Fund RFA. However, funding decisions will consider a need to ensure a diverse group of recipients.

Within the Neighborhood/Community-specific Violence Prevention Fund RFA, applicants are allowed to apply for both Category A and Category B funding. However, it is unlikely that an organization will be

selected for funding for both Category A and Category B for the Neighborhood/Community-specific Violence Prevention Fund RFA.

**Question:** Is this funding opportunity being impacted by COVID-19?

**Response:** Yes, the COVID-19 outbreak has created uncertainty for this opportunity. In the interest of promoting public health and safety, Mayor Frey and Governor Walz have issued a number of emergency orders. Some of those orders include limitations on public activities and in-person public interactions. Additionally, the Minneapolis Health Department (MHD) is following guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and others. Some of those guidelines include limiting in-person, public interactions. While none of the orders/guidance currently extend out as far as the expected project period start (May 25), MHD is mindful that the situation remains fluid and that limitations could extend into the proposed project period.

Because of that, MHD is making some changes to how we will evaluate and award projects.

The original due date (April 2, 2020) is now the first due date of a rolling acceptance and evaluation process.

- **MHD will consider applications submitted by the original due date (April 2, 2020) first during a first application review process.** During that process, the review panels will recommend applications for funding.
  - Applications recommended for funding by reviewers *and that can safely be implemented based on the current COVID-19 guidance/emergency orders* may be selected for funding after the first review.
  - Applications recommended for funding by reviewers but *that can't safely be implemented based on the current COVID-19 guidance* will be held in a pool of potential projects. These potential projects will be held until a time when it is deemed safe to implement those projects.
  - MHD may also reevaluate applications not recommended for funding at some point based on available funding.
- **MHD will accept applications submitted after April 2, 2020 on a rolling basis as funds are available.**
  - They will be considered sometime after the first set of applications received by April 2, 2020.
  - Applications recommended for funding that can be implemented safely may be selected for funding at the time of review.

- Applications that can't be implemented safely will be held in a pool of potential projects that may be funded when it is safe to implement them.

In all of the above cases, MHD may work with applicants to adjust proposed projects to ensure safety of implementation.

Because the number of projects that can be safely implemented may be limited at first, we anticipate holding on to a significant portion of available funds for applications that are held in the pool of potential projects. That will also help ensure we are able to consider projects those who may not have been able to apply by the original deadline because of COVID-19.

Because the situation remains fluid, please be aware that the plans outlined above may require modifications again. If that happens, we will do our best to communicate to applicants and potential applicants through multiple channels as quickly as possible.

We recognize that this uncertainty may create challenges for you and your organizations. We apologize for any inconvenience and we ask for your patience and understanding as we navigate through this unprecedented situation together. If you have further questions, please direct them to [Health@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:Health@minneapolismn.gov) with the subject line "Violence Prevention Fund RFA 2020"

**Question:** Are the costs of online events (e.g. software platforms that can facilitate these events) allowable? Are they subject to the 35% of the grant limit described in the RFA? To what degree would one have to be able to measure the impact of online events on a specific neighborhood?

**Response:** Yes, costs of online events are allowable. If the project budget includes purchase of software platforms that will be used by the organization beyond this project and if that costs makes up a significant portion of the project budget, reviewers make take that into account when assessing how reasonable the requested costs are.

As described in the RFA, no more than 35% of the project budget can be used on a single event (e.g. block party, resource fair, etc.). Projects can include a series of events, but no single event can account for more than 35% of the budget. Note that your project does not need to include any events. This applies to online events as well as in person events.

If incorporating online events into a proposal for the General Violence Prevention Fund RFA, the applicant should describe how the project will intentionally focus on addressing violence in at least two neighborhoods or communities.