
Frequently Asked Questions

- **What does ReCAST stand for?**

ReCAST stands for Resiliency in Communities After Stress and Trauma.

- **What is the goal of the ReCAST Minneapolis program?**

The purpose of this program is to assist high-risk youth and families and promote resilience and equity in communities that have recently faced civil unrest through implementation of evidence-based, violence prevention, and community youth engagement programs, as well as linkages to trauma-informed behavioral health services. The goal of the ReCAST program is for local community entities to work together in ways that lead to improved behavioral health, empowered community residents, and reductions in trauma and sustained community change. A secondary goal of the program is to grow the capacity of “first-point-of-contact” staff in the City to provide trauma-informed service.

- **Who awarded the grant to the City of Minneapolis?**

The grant award came from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. SAMHSA leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation. SAMHSA's mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities.

- **How did the City of Minneapolis qualify for this grant?**

Per SAMHSA, eligible applicants were local municipalities (e.g., counties, cities, and local governments) in partnership with community-based organizations that have faced civil unrest associated with a police-involved incident within the past 24 months. Our qualifying event was the civil unrest that took place following the Jamar Clark shooting in November 2015.

- **How are you defining “civil unrest”?**

For the purpose of this grant, SAMHSA defines civil unrest as “demonstrations of mass protest and mobilization, civil disobedience, community harm, and disruption through violence often connected with law enforcement issues.”

- **Which City of Minneapolis departments are participating in the ReCAST Minneapolis program?**

Departments participating in the ReCAST Minneapolis program design and implementation include – Minneapolis Health, Intergovernmental Relations, Police, Fire, Emergency Communications (911), Arts, Culture & the Creative Economy, Neighborhood & Community Relations, Civil Rights, Youth Coordinating Board, Regulatory Services, and the Minneapolis Promise Zone. The City Coordinator’s Office of Equity and Inclusion is convened these groups and is taking point, in partnership with representatives from these departments, in the program rollout.

- **Why is the ReCAST Minneapolis program a part of the City Coordinator’s Office of Equity & Inclusion?**

The ReCAST Minneapolis program focuses on the systemic causes of stress and trauma in our community, including the historic role of government with Native American and communities of color. While addressing mental health is a key component of the program design, our comprehensive approach will also be rooted in deepening our understanding of systemic barriers that contribute to community stress and trauma. As the communities most burdened are communities of color and Native American, and our approach is enterprise wide, the primary convener of the ReCAST Minneapolis program is the City Coordinator’s Office of Equity and Inclusion. However, the work is collaborative and inclusive of a

broad cross-section of City departments coming together with community to define and ensure success.

- **What cities other than Minneapolis received this grant?**

- Baltimore, MD
- Chicago, IL
- St. Louis County, MO
- Milwaukee, WI
- San Antonio , TX
- Flint, MI
- Oakland, CA

- **Is the ReCAST Minneapolis program focused on the North Minneapolis?**

The ReCAST Minneapolis program is a citywide initiative focusing on nineteen neighborhoods in North, South and Cedar-Riverside areas. While the qualifying event that enabled the City of Minneapolis to apply for the grant was rooted in North Minneapolis, we recognize the need to address community trauma and resiliency in all areas of our city.

- **How long is the grant period?**

ReCAST Minneapolis grant funds are awarded on an annual basis for up to five years based on our progress towards meeting program goals. Through an outside evaluator, we will assess progress and report back to SAMHSA at the end of each program year.

- **How will decisions be made around re-granting ReCAST Minneapolis funds?**

The initial phases of the grant focus on research and planning. We will be working with community to develop a program based on community assets. This phase lasts 6 months. After that point, grant funds will be disseminated to individuals or organizations based on the goals, objectives and activities in the strategic plan through a competitive process.

- **Which roles within City staff meet the definition of “first-point-of-contact” staff?**

Many of our City staff interface with the community so it is essential that we grow our capacity to provide trauma-informed and compassionate service. Including police officers and firefighters, our housing inspectors, 911 call operators, community engagement staff, etc.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the ReCAST Minneapolis program.