

St. Louis Area Violence Prevention Commission Quarterly Commission Meeting

October 27, 2023 | 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm | Virtual

Mission: The St. Louis Area Violence Prevention Commission (VPC) works to reduce violent crime in the region by promoting and advocating a coordinated, well – resourced support system, policies, and interventions among area governments, institutions and agencies that serve individuals and families most at risk of violent crime.

Vision: VPC envisions a St. Louis region where communities enjoy quiet nights and the sounds of children playing during the days. St. Louis is a safe and desirable destination for businesses and residents. All community members feel protected and served by law enforcement and empowered to have a voice in important regional issues.

AGENDA:

1. Welcome & Introductions

- VPC Team: Jessica Meyers, Serena Muhammad, Lisa Potts
- Attendees: Justin Stories, Marley Graviss, Sheila Webster, Lt.Col. Tim Cunningham, Emily Stoinski, Debra, Sheila Strode, Sabrina M. Brown, Ryan Vickers, Karen Cloyd, Mark Halastik, Gena Traver, Julie McDowell, Christopher, Rush, Susan Colangelo, Ruband Mahmood, Emeara Burns, Reginald Moore Jr., Anthony Taylor, Leah Kemper, Sydney Theerman, Meaghan Bailey, Mo Farrell, Emily Hunter, Taylor Kaser, Damon Major, Jessi LaRose, Anthony Franks, Stoic, Sal Martinez, Katie Dalton, Stacy Bernaugh, Craig Schmid, Asia Johnson, Julie Burchett, Matthew Holden, Lisa Wheeler, Jeannette Mott-Oxford, Kelli McCrary, Arthurine Harris, Anthony Franks, Marcel Scaife, Francine Strain, Teona McGhaw, Paula Gaertner, Matt Haslam, LaTonya, Paula Southerland, Courtney Hinton, Elisha L., Charise Baker, Marlon Whitfield, MaChelle West, Poli Rijos, Sabrina Silvers, Caitlyn Dorion, Sarah Stellern, Claire Ward, Melanie Davis, Liz Sale, Hannah Schleicher

2. Youth Safe Spaces Program Grantees

- We are proud to welcome our first three grantees for this program:
 - Saint Louis Story Stitchers
 - Lift for Life Gym
 - Whitfield Foundation for Success
 - See their flyers at <https://www.stlareavpc.org/funded-youth-safe-spaces>
- Follow VPC on socials for updated flyers and info on upcoming events (@stlareavpc on facebook and twitter, @stlvpc on Instagram)
- Applications are still being accepted on a rolling basis.
 - See more info at <https://www.stlareavpc.org/youth-safe-spaces>

We are looking for *consistently available safe spaces with fun, engaging programming* for youth ages 15-25.

Contracts can range from \$1,000-\$25,000 depending on the scope of the project. *This is not pop up event funding.*

Email grants@stlareavpc.org with questions or to apply.

Preference will be given to applications received by the 7th of each month.



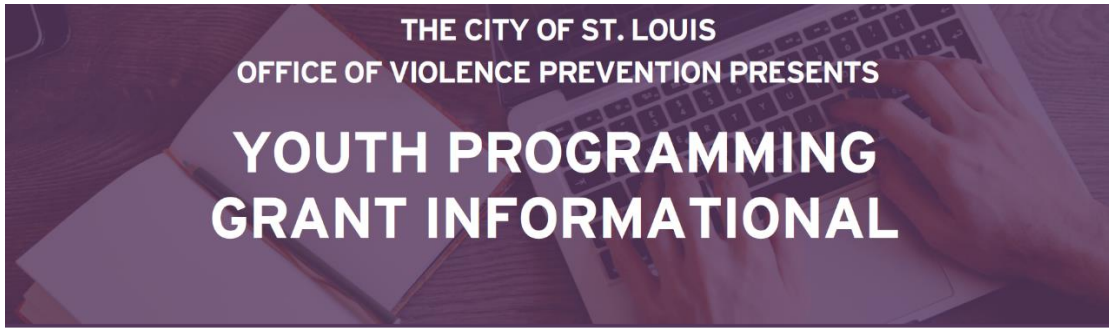
Grants made possible through a partnership with the City of Saint Louis using American Rescue Plan Act funds.

Apply for Funding for Youth Safe Spaces



For more info & to apply, visit stlareavpc.org/youth-safe-spaces

- - If you know of a youth ages 16-25 who would like to help us review these grants, please email Serena (smuhammad@stlmhb.org)
3. Equal Justice USA Technical Assistance
- VPC and the St. Louis City Office of Violence Prevention put out an RFP for a technical assistance provider for agencies who need some help to get ready to apply for funding through the City of St. Louis, VPC, or other funders. Out of the applicants, Equal Justice USA was selected as the TA provider.
 - The first opportunity to engage with Equal Justice USA will be for an informational webinar about the Office of Violence Prevention's Youth Programming RFP. This is an RFP that has a variety of opportunities and programs including transportation
 - Office of Violence Prevention Youth Programming RFP: <https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/public-safety/violence-prevention/documents/youth-programming.cfm>
 - Link to register for webinar: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYrcu2hqj4tE9KAlwLYZkvePswwlv6gaUft#/registration>



**Monday,
October 30, 2023**

12:00PM - 1:00PM

on Zoom

Join live or get the recording

[REGISTER HERE!](#)

During this session you will:

- LEARN about the grant
- ASK questions
- GET HELP with your proposal



4. Youth Advocate Programs Update

- Ryan Vickers presented on Youth Advocate Programs which will launch in St. Louis in November. Their office is at 501 N. Taylor. They will serve 15-30 youth who are referred by Juvenile Courts and/or St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department. Their advocates will action plan with the youth and their families to break the cycle they are in.
- Ryan introduced two of his staff members, Asia Johnson & Anthony Taylor
- Learn more about Youth Advocate Programs at <https://www.yapinc.org/>

5. Life Outside of Violence Outcomes

- Taylor Kaser, MPH from Wash U presented about a study of outcomes from Life Outside of Violence, St. Louis's Hospital-based Violence Intervention Program
- Participants who enrolled in Life Outside of Violence were more than 60% LESS LIKELY to be reinjured than people who did not enroll.
- Learn more about LOV at <https://publichealth.wustl.edu/programs/lov/>

6. Partner Announcements

- Paula at Thomas Dunn:
 - Youth (13-25) Field Trips and Classes: [tdunn.org/the place/](http://tdunn.org/theplace/)
 - High School Equivalency: Tdunn.org/study/
- Poli at Saint Louis MHB:
 - St. Louis Public Library is hosting "Teen Mental Wellness: A Community Conversation"
Date: Saturday, October 28, 2023

Time: 1PM to 4:30PM

For more information visit:

<https://sopl.bibliocommons.com/events/64ff75515c850f48004ce04f>

- MU Extension is recruiting for two leadership programs (Youth Empowerment Program for 9th-12th graders and Neighborhood Leadership Fellows for adults)

yeP
YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

REGISTER



YEP IS A 9-SESSION FELLOWSHIP
for teens in 9th-12th grades to:

- access and acquire the skills to increase their leadership capacity,
- recognize critical community issues and design opportunities to address those issues.

YEP IS FREE

- Participants receive a \$25 monthly stipend and up to \$300 upon program completion based on attendance & active participation!
- Meetings are one to two Saturdays each month from January through July.

CONTACT

jamesdt@missouri.edu

University of Missouri Extension
is an equal opportunity/ADA institution



Extension
University of Missouri



Neighborhood Leadership Fellows (NLF) is a nine-month leadership training for community leaders aimed at increasing the voices of North St. Louis City and County residents at civic decision-making tables in order to produce more equitable regional policies.

TO APPLY
CWC.UMSL.EDU/NLF/



Applications close Nov 10

DETAILS

- NLF meets one Friday (1 pm - 6 pm) and one Saturday (9 am - 3 pm) a month in-person in addition to one Wednesday (6 - 7:30 pm) a month virtually from January to September.
- All participants who complete the program will receive a \$2000 stipend and an UMSL Chancellor's Certificate in Civic Leadership.
- NLF is a program of UMSL, MU Extension and the St. Louis Promise Zone-St. Louis Economic Development Partnership.

- Emily at Safe Connections: Safe Connections is hiring for a Guys Group Facilitator- someone who can facilitate content for youth on healthy relationships, consent, etc.- <https://safeconnections.org/app/uploads/Prevention-Educator-Guys-Group-Facilitator.pdf> (for more information)
- Meaghan at Wash U:
 - Collaborative Café Health Equity Series: Applying a Racial Equity Lens to Research
 - November 3, 2023
 - 10:00 am - 11:30 am
 - https://sites.wustl.edu/publichealth/calendar_event/collab-cafe-nov2023/
- Emeara at St. Louis Story Stitchers:
 - Story Circle Oct 27, 7:00-9:00 on Mental Health, Costume Party Oct 31, 7:00-9:00, at The Center 3701 Grandel Sq, 1A 63108
 - Story Stitchers Costume Party on Tuesday October 31

- Story Stitchers StitchCast Studio will be live at Saint Louis Art Museum Nov 9 at 11:00 in the auditorium and DJ UP will be at Saint Louis Art Museum Dec 10 at 2:00. Free and all ages.
- LaTonya a member of the FYI: They have monthly SLAM events and currently hosting nutritional meal on a budget programs on Thursdays evenings 6pm-7pm for the entire family. <http://www.wellnesschoicellc.net> and <https://fyiferyouth.org/programs/slam/>
- Jeanette Mott-Oxford from Paraquad:
 - For paratransit problems, please report what is happening on this page: <https://paraquad.org/public-policy-advocacy/legislative-priorities>
 - The blue button at the top left is for Call-A-Ride experiences over time. The green button at the top right is to report a specific incident on one particular day (trip denial, late van, trouble scheduling, etc.).
- Sabrina from [St. Louis Artworks](#): St. Louis Artworks will host a Trunk or Treat art event from 5-8pm on Halloween



7. Coalition Effectiveness Survey

- Please fill out the VPC Coalition Effectiveness survey at bit.ly/VPCCES2023

8. 988 Focus Groups

- Missouri Institute for Mental Health conducted 988 focus groups

- If you want to order 988 swag, visit the [988 Storefront](#) (shipping is free even though it will show a shipping charge when you are checking out).

2024 Quarterly Meeting Dates

January 26, 2024, 1-3pm (Virtual)

April 26, 2024, 1-3pm (Virtual)

July 26, 2024, 1-3pm (In Person, Location TBD)

October 25, 2024 (Virtual)