



# CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS AGENDA ACTION REQUEST

Item Number: 4

**DATE:** March 25, 2025

**TO:** Mark Washington, City Manager

**COMMITTEE:** Fiscal Committee

**LIAISON:** Scott Saindon, Acting Chief Financial Officer

**FROM:** Brandon Davis, Managing Director of The Office of Oversight & Public Accountability & The Office of Equity & Engagement Oversight and Public Accountability

**SUBJECT:** **Resolution authorizing a contract with Cure Violence Global in the amount of \$125,000 to provide training and technical assistance to support the continued effectuation of the Cure Violence Model in Grand Rapids.**

This is a resolution authorizing a one-year professional services agreement with Cure Violence Global for an amount not to exceed \$125,000 to provide training and technical assistance to the Grand Rapids Urban League to provide Cure Violence Global's violence Interruption Model - a health approach to violence interruption and prevention in the City of Grand Rapids. Through a formal Request for Proposal (RFP) Process, the Grand Rapids Urban League was selected as the professional service provider to serve as Lead Agency for Cure Violence in Grand Rapids.

Cure Violence is an evidence-based violence reduction and intervention program that approaches violence with the understanding that violence is an epidemic process that can be stopped using the same health strategies employed to fight epidemics. This theory of change utilizes carefully selected and trained workers — trusted members of the communities we serve — to interrupt the contagion using a three-prong approach:

- Detecting and interrupting the transmission of violence – anticipate where violence may occur and intervene before it erupts.
- Changing the behavior of the highest potential transmitters – identify those at highest risk for violence and work to change their behavior.
- Changing community norms – influence social norms to discourage the use of violence.

The training and technical assistance services and deliverables that will continue to be provided by Cure Violence Global will include but are not limited to:

- Providing continued training for the city and other community-based partners
- Facilitating Violence Interruption and Reduction Training (VIRT) for outreach workers and violence interrupters
- Facilitating program manager/supervisor training for the management of the community-based site
- Participating in weekly monitoring phone calls
- Providing access and use of the Cure Violence Group Database (which includes weekly data reports)
- Providing three additional trainings as selected by the City of Grand Rapids in partnership with the Grand Rapids Urban League (Topics may include: Risk Reduction Planning, Using Data to Leverage Program Implementation, Using Data to Evaluate Success or Opportunities, Leading with Equity, Spokesperson Training, and Addressing Trauma) These professional services agreements will allow the work of Cure Violence Grand Rapids to continue operation of a local evidence-based violence reduction and intervention program.

This agreement will continue to serve as an additional tool used in fulfilling the City's commitment to make Grand Rapids a place where all people "Feel Safe and Are Safe at All Times in Our Community." Funds supporting the agreements were approved in the FY2025 General Operating Fund budget.

Your FISCAL COMMITTEE recommends the adoption of the following resolution authorizing a Professional Services Agreement with Cure Violence Grand Rapids to provide training and technical assistance to support the continued effectuation of the Cure Violence Model - a health approach to violence interruption and prevention – in Grand Rapids.

RESOLVED:

1. That the City Commission authorizes a Professional Services Agreement authorizing a professional services agreement with Cure Violence Global for an amount not to exceed \$125,000 to provide training and technical assistance to support the continued effectuation of the Cure Violence Model - a health approach to violence interruption and prevention – in Grand Rapids; and
2. That the period of performance is from 05/1/2025 to 04/30/2026; and
3. That the Mayor is authorized to execute said Agreement upon approval as to form by the City Attorney; and
4. That the Comptroller is authorized and directed to pay invoices according to the terms of said Agreement.

CORRECT IN FORM  
  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW