

**ONE SECOND COLLABORATIVE (OSC)
2024 MICROGRANT INITIATIVE
REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)**

Grant Timeline

Application Release: Wednesday, September 11, 2024

Application Deadline: Friday, September 20, 2024 | 10am

Notification of Award: on or about Friday, September 27, 2024

Mandatory Virtual Orientation: Tuesday, October 8, 2024

Funding Period: October 7, 2024 – December 10, 2024

All applications are due by 10:00am on Friday, September 20, 2024, via the online [form](#). Incomplete proposals will not be considered. Only one application can be submitted per organization.

Questions related to the RFA should be directed to:

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THIS IS A COMPETITIVE GRANT

Important Information

A. Purpose and Scope:

- a. This notice of funding opportunity solicits applications for the One Second Collaborative-ARPA funded program. The microgrant initiative will make funds available to a range of organizations, agencies and institutions to address youth gun violence in Tarrant County.

B. One Second Collaborative Background and Introduction: For over 100 years, United Way of Tarrant County (UWTC) has worked to improve the lives of families across the county. Our vision is thriving communities, welcoming neighborhoods and a strong economy across Tarrant County.

Launched in December 2022, The One Second Collaborative (OSC) is a joint effort to disrupt gun violence strategically and comprehensively among youth ages 14 to 24 years in targeted zones across our community. Together, Fort Worth Police Department (FWPD), United Way of Tarrant County (UWTC), the City of Fort Worth, Tarrant County, and countless additional stakeholders have come together to address this escalating issue of youth gun violence. While the work is across Tarrant County, the priority will focus on the following targeted zip codes since they are the most impacted by or at risk of gun violence: 76104, 76105, 76134, 76036, 76119, 76112, 76116, 76010, 76011, 76133, 76106.

C. Community Investment: United Way has a clear objective of identifying high-impact initiatives and applying financial investments in a targeted and meaningful way. In alignment with UWTC's mission and priorities, this RFA is specifically targeting immediate and long-term efforts to reduce youth shooting deaths and decrease violent crime in Tarrant County in the following areas:

- a. Prevention: Community education, awareness, and engagement events designed to increase participant knowledge, promote active involvement with available resources, encourage behavior change and commitment to violence prevention, and/or foster stronger community partnerships.
- b. Intervention: Community and/or school-based programs and services that equip students and youth directly impacted or at high risk of becoming impacted by violence with the skills they need to manage conflicts, build healthy relationships and avoid violent behaviors and incidences.
- c. Re-Entry and Survivor Supports: Programs and services designed to support individuals reintegrating into the community after incarceration or surviving gun violence. These programs focus on facilitating successful reintegration, promoting recovery and healing, reducing recidivism, fostering self-sufficiency, addressing underlying issues such as trauma and mental health, and providing the tools necessary to rebuild lives.

The current OSC Microgrant program aims to fund projects focused on the following objectives in the short, mid, and long term.

- Increase knowledge and awareness about gun violence, its impact, and prevention strategies.
- Promote community engagement and collaboration in violence prevention efforts.
- Encourage utilization of community resources and services related to violence prevention.
- Foster behavior change and commitment to nonviolence among participants.
- Strengthen partnerships between community members, local organizations, and law enforcement.
- Equip high-risk youth and students with conflict resolution and violence prevention skills.
- Promote healthy relationship building and emotional management in schools and community settings.
- Reduce incidents of violent behavior and conflicts among program participants.
- Increase the resilience and protective factors for youth at risk of gun violence.
- Engage schools, community centers, and families in supporting at-risk youth.
- Facilitate successful reintegration of formerly incarcerated individuals or gun violence survivors into the community.
- Promote recovery and healing through trauma-informed services and support.
- Reduce recidivism rates by addressing underlying issues such as trauma, mental health, and substance use.
- Support participants in building self-sufficiency through access to education, employment, and housing services.
- Strengthen family and community connections to provide social support for re-entering individuals.

D. Awards

- a. Funding Instrument
 - i. Project-based, Reimbursement-ONLY Grant (net pay 30 days)
- b. Award Project Period
 - i. Microgrant recipients must expend the grant amounts between October 7, 2024, and December 10, 2024. No extensions will be granted.
- c. Type of Awards
 - i. The OSC Microgrant Initiative has three tiers. Tiers 1 and 2 can be combined, but funding request may not exceed \$10,000.00.
 - 1. Tier 1-Prevention: Community Education and Awareness
 - a. Award Ceiling: \$1,500.00 - \$3,000.00
 - b. Description: Small-scale, short-term event or activity with a small but targeted group; projects require minimal resources.
 - 2. Tier 2-Intervention: Community and School-based Violence Intervention Programs and Services
 - a. Award Ceiling: \$3,000.00 - \$7,000.00
 - b. Description: Small to mid-sized projects, established initiatives that can be scaled and aim to reach targeted groups within school or community settings.
 - 3. Tier 3-Re-Entry and Survivor Programs and Services
 - a. Award Ceiling: \$7,000.00 - \$10,000.00
 - b. Description: Established programs that can be scaled or supplemented and have active long-term goals; established entities with a proven track record.

E. Who is Eligible to Apply?

- a. Tarrant County-based 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organizations and agencies formed prior to June 1, 2021; and/or
- b. Tarrant County-based 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organizations and agencies conducting proposed efforts in Tarrant County; and/or
- c. Tarrant County-based 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organizations and agencies with at least two years of experience serving individuals 14 to 24 years AND/OR at least two years of experience serving individuals and families experiencing or at risk of experiencing youth gun violence in Tarrant County.
- d. Priority will be given to organizations and agencies based and conducting proposed efforts in OSC target zip codes.
- e. Current and past One Second Collaborative funding recipients are eligible to apply if
 - i. 90% of agreed-upon metrics were met by September 1, 2024;
 - ii. Close out procedures are 100% met by September 30, 2024;
 - iii. And microgrant program is focused on activities between October 7, 2024, and December 10, 2024.

F. Review and Selection Process

- a. All OSC Microgrant applications will be evaluated impartially and comprehensively by a grant committee using a peer-reviewed approach. Grant review committee is made up of representatives from United Way of Tarrant County, City of Fort Worth, Community Based Organizations, and Youth Leaders.

G. Evaluation and Reporting

- a. Awarded projects will be required to complete progress reports and participate in project evaluation activities identified in the award letter. Failure to submit timely reports may result in suspension or loss of funding and potentially impact future funding.
- b. Tier 2 and 3 applicants will be required to include all metrics currently being collected to determine project outcomes and impacts.

H. Co-branding and Recognition

- a. All proposals funded fully or in part by One Second Collaborative must recognize One Second Collaborative, Tarrant County, and the City of Fort Worth in appropriate printed materials and online platforms.

I. Funding Criteria

- a. The following criteria should be incorporated into applications:
 - i. Concise details illustrating alignment between project and funding opportunity-Strategy
 - ii. Depth of experience engaging target population-Background
 - iii. Measurable outputs related to project outcomes identified in Section G-Evaluation. For Tier 2 and 3 applicants, established and clear data collection methods.
 - iv. Leveraged partnerships and relationships-Collaboration

J. Submission

- a. Applications MUST be submitted electronically via the online form and filled out completely (including all required documents) to be considered.
- b. All proposals are due by 10:00am on Friday, September 20, 2024, via the online form. Incomplete proposals will not be considered. Only one application can be submitted per organization.