

**Comprehensive
Anti-Gang Strategy
Grant Program**

A Comprehensive Approach to
Making Maryland's Communities Safer



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**2008 Competitive Grant Funding Opportunity
for the
Comprehensive Anti-Gang Strategy Grant Program**

I. District of Maryland Anti-Gang Grant Program Overview

The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland (USAO) has again received funding from the Department of Justice to address the prevention, intervention and suppression/enforcement of gang activity throughout the State of Maryland.

The United States Attorney's Office is making approximately one million dollars in grant funding available for the implementation of regional and/or jurisdictional Comprehensive Gang Strategies. The maximum award available per applicant is \$150,000.00.

II. Focus of the Comprehensive Anti-Gang Program

The Comprehensive Gang Strategies should seek to address the stated gang problem by pursuing one or more of the following approaches to gang activity:

- 1.) The development and/or support of Gang Prevention Programs
- 2.) The development and/or support of Gang Intervention Programs
- 3.) The development and/or support of Gang Suppression and Enforcement Initiatives

Additionally, all of the Comprehensive Gang Strategies should pursue regional and/or jurisdictional approaches to gang activity. *Partnerships across disciplines (i.e. law enforcement, education, social services, community involvement) as well as evidence of a commitment to the inputting and sharing of intelligence information via a systematic database process are also strongly encouraged (i.e. GangNet or RissGang).*

III. Comprehensive Anti-Gang Strategy Proposal Format and Content

Each proposal will be evaluated upon its ability to comply with the required proposal format and address the suggested content areas:

Proposal Abstract (not to exceed one page)

- The abstract should provide an executive summary of your statement of the problem and the strategy narrative.
- Discuss prior agency efforts to address the identified gang problem, if any.

Statement of the Problem (not to exceed five pages)

- Discuss the nature of the gang(s) that have been identified in the area(s) that your anti-gang strategy is seeking to serve. (i.e. affiliations, estimated membership, ages of members, ethnicity, etc.)
- If possible, discuss the percentage of Part I Crimes that are attributable to gang activity.
- Has the area(s) you are seeking to serve identified organized gang activities (i.e. recruitment efforts, skip days, graffiti tagging, etc.)? If so, please discuss.
- Has the area(s) you are seeking to serve experienced gang activity within its schools? If so, please name the schools and the nature of the activity.
- Describe the specific gaps in resources that exist within the area(s) you would like to serve under this anti-gang strategy.

Strategy Narrative (not to exceed 20 pages)

Under this grant proposal the applicant may apply for one or more of the three program areas discussed in Section II (Gang Prevention, Gang Intervention or Gang Enforcement/Suppression). Any strategy component that seeks funding under this RFP requires a complete discussion of the component goal(s), objective(s), activities and timeline.

Proposals from existing USAO funding recipients **must** be enhancements to the existing program or entirely new initiatives.

Any strategy component that does not seek funding under this RFP requires a summary description of activities.

All strategy discussions must demonstrate logical linkages to the other components of the overall strategy.

EXAMPLE I: Jurisdiction A is applying to have the prevention component of its comprehensive strategy funded under the RFP. Jurisdiction A will utilize other resources to pursue the intervention and enforcement/suppression components of its comprehensive strategy. As a result Jurisdiction A will submit a strategy narrative in the following format:

Prevention Component will include: Goals, Objectives, Activities, Timeline
Intervention Component will include: Summary Description of Activities
Enforcement/Suppression Component will include: Summary Description of Activities

EXAMPLE II: Jurisdiction B is applying to have the prevention and intervention components of its comprehensive strategy funded under the RFP. Jurisdiction B will utilize other resources to pursue the enforcement/suppression component of its comprehensive strategy. As a result Jurisdiction B will submit a strategy narrative in the following format:

Prevention Component will include: Goals, Objectives, Activities, Timeline
Intervention Component will include: Goals, Objectives, Activities, Timeline
Enforcement/Suppression Component will include: Summary Description of Activities

EXAMPLE III: Jurisdiction C is applying to have the prevention, intervention and enforcement/suppression components of its comprehensive strategy funded under the RFP. As a result Jurisdiction C will submit a strategy narrative in the following format:

Prevention Component will include: Goals, Objectives, Activities, Timeline
Intervention Component will include: Goals, Objectives, Activities, Timeline
Enforcement/Suppression Component will include: Goals, Objectives, Activities, Timeline

Evaluation (not to exceed five pages)

Every proposal should include a complete evaluation plan for all funded portions of your comprehensive strategy. The evaluation should be both qualitative and quantitative in its scope. The evaluation plan should directly reflect the goals, objectives and activities outlined in the strategy narrative and indicate the Performance Measures and data to be provided.

The United States Attorney's Office may require additional evaluation methods depending upon the nature of the award. Any additional cost related to that evaluation **will not** be the responsibility of the grantee.

Itemized Budget and Narrative

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: The spending of funds under the Comprehensive Gang Strategy Award must comply with the regulations of the Bureau of Justice Assistance. Summarily, funds cannot be used for the following purposes:

Funds cannot be used to supplant budgetary expenditures
Funds cannot be used for the purpose of constructing a building
For additional unallowable costs, see OJP's Office of the Comptroller's Financial Guide
(www.ojp.gov/financialguide/index.htm)

Please note that all funds are reimbursable awards and each grantee will be required to execute a reimbursable agreement with the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland as well as comply with invoicing and periodic reporting and evaluation requirements

A detailed line-item budget should be included to reflect all funds requested under your strategy narrative. The detailed line-item budget should minimally include the following categories: personnel, contractual, training, operating expenses, equipment & other expenses.

A brief budget narrative should accompany your line item budget. The budget narrative should be sufficient to clearly justify the expenditure of funds for each item.

Requests that include Overtime **may not** exceed the federal allowable per officer limit of \$15,854.00.

If a full-time permanent employee is requested as part of your proposal, a letter of continued employment commitment beyond the funding period must be submitted and signed by the appropriate funding authority for the requesting agency.

Recipients may use up to 10% of their award for costs associated with administering the program.

Additional Proposal Information

All proposals should be typed in no less than 11 point font. All proposals must be double-spaced and the Strategy Narrative should not exceed twenty-five (25) pages. All applicants shall also include a detailed budget and budget narrative. Applicants may also include any other supporting documentation and/or appendices, such as; Memorandums of Agreement; letters of support, program brochures; or other attachments, which concisely describe programs or initiatives that support their strategy.

IV.

Who is Eligible to Apply

The following agencies are eligible to serve as the lead applicant for the Comprehensive Gang Strategy funding under this solicitation:

- State Law Enforcement agencies
- Local Law Enforcement agencies
- State's Attorneys' Offices
- State and/or County Government Agencies
- Incorporated towns and municipalities
- Non-profit agencies (that work closely with law enforcement organizations, towns and/or municipalities)

While the parties listed above are eligible to serve as the sole applicant for anti-gang funding, it is strongly encouraged that applicants consider partnering with other agencies in developing their strategy. ***Additional consideration will be given to lead applicants who represent a consortium of partners.***

V.

Award Period

The award funding period will be eighteen months, commencing January 1, 2009 and expiring on June 30, 2010.

VI.

Number of Awards

The United States Attorney's Office, via its designated Selection Committee, anticipates minimally awarding between five (5) and seven (7) successful proposals.

VII.

Award Amount

The award amount will vary amongst successful applicants. The maximum award amount available to an applicant is \$150,000.00 for designated funding period.

VIII.

How to Apply and Closing Date

All applicants should send a proposal to the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland (see section XI below) by COB - **October 17, 2008**.

IX.

Additional Requirements for Successful Applicants

Each successful grant applicant will be required to comply with the following requirements:

1. Comply with the research requests of the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland, or its designated research partner agency.
2. Comply with the contractual and financial reporting requirements of the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland.
3. Comply with program progress reporting requirements as determined by the Grants Monitor for the United States Attorney for the District of Maryland.

X. Next Steps and Critical Dates

- RFP for Comprehensive Anti-Gang Grant Strategy issued August 5, 2008
- Voluntary information session for grant applicants
This will be a half-day session, time TBA.
Location: Hagerstown, Maryland September 10, 2008
- Voluntary information session for grant applicants
This will be a half-day session, time TBA.
Location: Salisbury, Maryland September 17, 2008

- Voluntary information session for grant applicants
This will be a half-day session, time TBA.
Location: Baltimore, Maryland September 24, 2008
- Deadline for receiving grant applications October 17, 2008
- Award notifications issued to grant applicants December 1, 2008
- Start date for Comprehensive Gang Strategy Grants
(The award period will be 18 months, expiring on June 30, 2010) January 1, 2009

XI. Send Proposals to:

The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland
c/o Troy V. Williams, Community Specialist
36 S. Charles Street – 4th Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

XII. Contact Information

Please direct all inquiries about this solicitation to either:

Troy.Williams@usdoj.gov or (410) 209-4940

Steven.Hess@usdoj.gov or (410) 209-4930