



**Justin Elicker**  
Mayor

**CITY OF NEW HAVEN**  
**COMMUNITY SERVICES ADMINISTRATION**  
**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY RESILIENCE**



**Carlos Sosa-Lombardo**  
Director

May 25, 2023

Honorable Tyisha Walker-Myers  
President, Board of Alders  
City of New Haven  
165 Church Street  
New Haven, CT 06510

Dear Honorable Walker-Myers,

The Department of Community Resilience requests approval to enter a multi-year contract with Connecticut Violence Intervention Program to continue its work in deploying Violence Prevention Professionals (VPPs) to act as peer- life coaches for high-risk individuals referred to the City's Program for Reintegration, Engagement, Safety, and Support (PRESS). The contract will allow for VPPs to serve as an additional resource to individuals involved in the PRESS initiative for 3 years with a total cost of \$565,000. The start date is July 1, 2023, and the end date is June 30, 2026. There was a request for proposal published on May 7th of this year, which a selection committee reviewed and resolved to award the contract to the community-based non-profit.

The proposed contract seeks to build on the success of work commenced in the current fiscal year to continue to deploy trusted community members to key neighborhoods of need in the City. The team will serve as credible messengers and life coaches to individuals identified by law enforcement to be at risk for involvement in gun violence that would benefit from more individualized attention beyond case management. Main activities will include:

1. Conduct both proactive and emergency outreach in key neighborhoods and hotspots
2. Peer support and life coaching for assigned PRESS clients
3. Participate in all required violence prevention meetings/activities related to PRESS
4. Track and monitor case plan progress and serve as advocate for client, where feasible

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Please contact me at 203-946-7846 if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Carlos Sosa-Lombardo, M.P.A.  
Director, Department of Community Resilience

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