

Organization	Project	Project description:	Approval 2024-2025	Approval 2025-2026	Total:
African Canadian Civic Engagement Council (ACCEC)	ACB Youth Stabilization Program - INTERVENTION (Expansion)	Through a comprehensive collaboration, the African Canadian Civic Engagement Council (ACCEC) is partnering with the Edmonton Police's Y50 and One80 Youth Division, as well as the Edmonton Young Offender Center (EYOC). In this initiative, ACCEC takes a leading role in delivering culturally responsive community support stabilization programs. Specifically, ACCEC will deliver these programs both within the EYOC facility and in person at ACCEC's centre. The targeted demographics are Black youth who are referred by EYOC and/or the police, aiming to address these vulnerable Black youth's unique needs and foster positive outcomes through tailored support in a more inclusive and supportive environment for community and public safety measures. Our model is derived from years of on-the-ground experience with effective culturally sensitive youth crime prevention interventions. This model implements a gender-responsive, community-care, trauma-informed, and culturally sensitive intervention as a method to deter, prevent, and decrease the growing concerns of youth gun violence and as a strategy to deter youth from the cycles of violent behavior. ACCEC will deliver a direct intervention tailored to the realities and lived experiences of African descent and racialized youth. The strategy is to provide vulnerable African descent and racialized youth employability skills, financial independence training and support, cultural reconnection, court navigation, and overall confidence and a sense of belonging and identity. The ACB Youth Stabilization Program's objectives are: 1. Provide a high-risk youth diversion that will allow police-identified African descent and racialized youth to gain opportunities for rehabilitation, community connection, reintegration, and preventing institutionalization. - Relentless outreach and transformational relationship-building will lead to a new sense of "attachment and belonging". - Built-in incentives for success to keep youth motivated to "learn and do." 2. Provide youth adequate support and incentives to mitigate or negate the effects of personal and structural barriers to building successful lives. - Provide continuous court navigation and community support. - Address life challenges that youth face, such as barriers to basic needs specifically safe housing. 3. Provide quality education and a nurturing environment for youth to explore their creativity and strengths towards building successful lives. - Quality apprenticeship training rooted in the African Igbo paradigm (Imu Ahia), information and education on a wide range of trade industry options to consider. - Quality life skills and employment readiness training.	\$250,000	\$143,500	\$393,500
Asum Lifestyle Center	Taking Back our Kids: Gang Prevention and Intervention Awareness and Strategies	These presentations will be led by 2 Facilitators, one with lived experience in gang life and the other with professional experience in successfully preventing and intervening in gang activity. These presentations provide authentic and reliable narratives, showcasing the realities of gang involvement and highlighting stories of hope and transformation. They will emphasize the impact of gang involvement on individuals and communities, fostering a deeper understanding of the challenges faced. Most importantly, the presentations will provide outcomes including understanding gangs and their dynamics, identifying why youth are drawn to gangs, recognizing warning signs of gang involvement and providing actionable steps for caregivers and professionals. This project will foster collaboration between individuals with lived experience and intervention professionals to deliver impactful presentations while encouraging open dialogue, knowledge-sharing, and co-creation of strategies to prevent and intervene in gang involvement. This project will engage Elders and Knowledge Keepers, as well as other relevant cultural resources in Edmonton communities to provide cultural guidance and recommendations throughout the project.	\$33,000	\$0	\$33,000
Brave MMA and Fitness	Guardians Program	The program offers a comprehensive range of activities designed to address the diverse needs of at-risk youth. These activities include weekly martial arts classes, monthly guest speaker sessions featuring martial artists and community leaders, and regular therapy sessions facilitated by trained psychologists. Cultural activities and engagement are integrated into the program through strategic partnerships with local institutions such as AlWajdaan Institute of Canada and Gurdwara Siri Guru Singh Sabha. Additionally, mentorship and guidance are provided by experienced instructors and program coordinators, ensuring participants receive the necessary support and guidance throughout their journey.	\$250,000	\$143,500	\$393,500
Council of Somalia We Care	Project Badbaadin Youth Gang Prevention " Badbaadin" means Saving Youth	The aim of this Project of Badbaadin Youth Gang Prevention is to become a mechanism to find remedies for the problems of Somali youth homicides in Alberta. This Project addresses the fundamentals of chronic crime/gang related environment and activities. - We take this initiative project for the community safety and wellbeing to curb and reduce the systemic barriers and threats to the safety in particular towards the Somali Community in Edmonton. - The actions and plans of this project will be to find solutions to address the long period of homicides and school drop outs occurring within the Somali youth and related community safety issues. The problem is coming from the schools, as there many youth who are dropping out and falling into the hands of illicit drug users and or involvement in gangs. There are unresolved and outstanding issues of killings of Somali youth and there are still ongoing matters that can be prevented before they occurs. - This problem is coming from the systemic circles of the parents, the students and the schools in Edmonton. Currently these three groups have no connection on how to curb the problem of the Somali youth school dropouts. The parents have no clue of comprehending how the school environment works and have no ability to address this problem that is leading their boys towards the use of drugs and gang related activities. - The parents do not know how their boys doing at school, because they are incompetent to understand what their child needs home-works in the home or at school. At the school level there is no reliable understanding or communication to the parents on how to solve this problem of drop-out and so the schools become complacent to the issue of the Somali youth. So there is a gap in regards to the collaboration between the parents, schools and the student. Therefore the student becomes uncontrollable when there is no reporting between the school and the parent. For the student there is no bonding condition that requires them to compel the student to remain in class during the school time. The situation of the school dropout starts when the student misses classes does not show up for months where he cannot catch up in the school curriculum this creates the problem of school dropouts. - The existing problems that were mentioned above needs to address this initiative as a mechanism and project for the Somali Community Safety and Wellbeing. The results are to reduce school dropouts, curb and prevent crimes before engaged into the gang illicit drug environment, and enhance community safety & well-being.	\$62,177	\$0	\$62,177
Creating Hope Society of Alberta	The All Starz Zine Project	Project Components a. Workshops: Conduct writing and storytelling workshops hosted at the Edmonton Public Library (EPL) Stanley Milner Branch facilitated by experienced youth workers and Indigenous cultural mentors. b. Editorial Team: The editorial team will be led by an experienced, local magazine editor, currently editing and self-publishing Zine & HEARD. As the project progresses, the team will work to form an editorial team consisting of youth participants, youth workers, and Indigenous cultural advisors to curate, edit, and design the magazine. c. Content Creation: Encourage youth to contribute articles, poems, artwork, photo essays and personal narratives for the magazine. d. Cultural Integration: Collaborate with Indigenous cultural mentors to incorporate traditional stories, art, and wisdom within the magazine's content. e. Publication: Regularly publish and distribute the magazine both within the community, correctional facilities and to external stakeholders. Mentorship Program: Recognizing the importance of ongoing impact, we propose the implementation of a mentorship program within the project. After a full year of active participation, select individuals from the participant youth group will have the opportunity to transition into mentorship roles. This progression not only reinforces the positive development of the participants but also ensures the continuity of the project's goals. a. Mentorship Training: Provide mentorship training to eligible participants, focusing on leadership, communication, and guidance skills. Collaborate with experienced youth workers and Indigenous mentors to facilitate this transition. b. Peer Support: Establish a supportive environment where second year participants, now mentors, can offer guidance and encouragement to new contributors. This peer support system will enhance the sense of community and encourage prosocial behaviours within the project. c. Skill Development: Through mentorship roles, participants will continue to develop essential life skills, including leadership, conflict resolution, and effective communication. This approach reinforces the positive impact of the project on the participants' personal growth and rehabilitation. d. Community Integration: Mentors will play a crucial role in bridging the gap between youth and the wider community. This involvement not only breaks down societal barriers but also showcases the transformative power of rehabilitation and mentorship. e. Recognition and Incentives: Acknowledge the dedication of participants who transition into mentorship roles through public recognition, certificates, and potential incentives. This acknowledgment reinforces the value of their contributions to the project and encourages sustained engagement.	\$127,357	\$0	\$127,357
Edmonton Youth Justice Committee Society	WELCOME BACK PROGRAM - PREVENTION	Youth who accept responsibility for their actions will be provided the option, by city staff, to participate in the Welcome Back Program. The scope of youth eligible to be involved includes those facing Bans, in the Appeal Process, Property damage, Disrespectful to staff, Requests to Leave, and Incidence reports – 7 days with Investigation. The program will also liaise with Edmonton Police Offices who are often called to get involved in incidents at recreation centres. This program will involve youth in a restorative justice circle process, whose focus is on repairing harm and providing a meaningful resolution to all people involved. This process helps youth to take responsibility and understand the harm caused by their actions and provides a voice to city staff who have been harmed. We focus on the personal harm for the youth themselves in engaging in these risky behaviours with the objective of helping them understand the decisions they make. Trained volunteers facilitate the circle and all circle participants discuss what occurred and agree on the sanctions. The Welcome Back Program process will be as follows: - City refers file to Edmonton Youth Justice. - EYJ staff contact youth, their parent/guardian, as well as the city staff identified as the harmed person, to set a circle meeting date. - As soon the circle date is confirmed, EYJ staff follow up with all participants, confirm who is coming, explain the restorative justice process, and ask about what happened. If the harmed person cannot attend, they will be asked to send in a statement that can be read at the meeting. - Each circle is facilitated by two trained volunteers, one who chairs the circle and one who will administer the agreement follow up. - Circle agreements involve three actions: 1) An apology to the harmed person, either in person or in a letter; 2) Community service hours in recognition of the harm causes; and 3) Something that will benefit the youth, i.e. mental health support, employment assistance, or alternative education options. - The follow up volunteer connects with the youth to ensure the agreement is being completed and in a timely manner. - Upon completed of the sanctions/measure, city staff will be notified and the youth will be welcomed back to the recreation centre.	\$91,445	\$66,009	\$157,454
Haitian Association of Edmonton	OHE DREAM BUILDER PROGRAM	The after school program will place a strong emphasis on the essential skills of effective communication, active listening, empathy, and problem-solving techniques to equip the youths with the tools they need to navigate even the most challenging situations, and resolve conflicts with ease. The program's ultimate goal is to empower individuals to build harmonious relationships, foster deep understanding, and create a culture of collaboration and mutual respect. The center will offer a variety of engaging cultural activities and learning opportunities specifically designed for young adults. They will have the opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals with the same passion for personal development in a dynamic and engaging environment. Furthermore, they will have the possibility to explore their interests, build their skills, and make lifelong connections. To prevent our youth from joining gangs, we can strengthen families, reduce conflicts, and improve supervision. Parents can receive training, tutoring can be provided to struggling students, and awareness of the dangers of gangs can be raised. A center for youth recreation and referrals can be established to effectively address the issue of youth joining gangs. We can take proactive measures to strengthen families, reduce conflicts among youth, and provide better supervision. Parents can receive comprehensive training on how to manage disruptive and delinquent youth, which can help them identify and address risk factors for gang involvement. It's important to provide tutoring services to youths who are struggling academically, and to increase adult supervision after school hours to prevent unsupervised youth from getting involved in gang-related activities. Additionally, our youth can attend a youth center where they can learn essential skills that can help them resolve conflicts and avoid becoming involved in gangs. Establishing a center for youth recreation and referrals can provide young people with safe and engaging activities, while also giving them access to important resources and services. It's important to raise awareness of the dangers of gangs, so gang awareness training should be provided to parents, and youths.	\$200,000	\$0	\$200,000

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Hope for Tomorrow's Shade Association Canada (HT-SACA)	Let's face it – An integrated youth gang-crime prevention program.	1. Community gang-crime problem assessment: Assess the depth of the gang-crime problem among black immigrants and refugee youth, identify and document elevated risk factors that lead to youth gang involvement and recommend strategies and activities to address gang-violence problem among black youth. 2. Youth mentorship: This will provide meaningful connections that impact the youth and influence their lives at home, school, work, and in their communities. We envision that mentorship will result to improved academic, social, and economic prospects of the youth. we will use both One-on-one and Group Mentorship approach. 3. Informal education workshops on gang violence reduction and life skills. 4. Homework club: This will be incorporated in our Out-of-school program to help youth who perform poorly in schools, have limited educational attainment or are planning to drop out of school. The activity will involve helping with homework, developing reading skills, and exploring opportunities for post-secondary education and beyond. 5. Cultural and community service-learning activities: (storytelling, crafts, storied circles, drumming, spring cleanup, and volunteering) 6. Sporting/Recreation activities: This activity will be paired with other activities to promote prosocial development and physical activities. Examples of activities will include pick-up basketball games, wilderness treks, dance competitions, etc. 7. Gang crime reduction awareness sessions a) Youth-Police informal dialogues b) Community-police dialogues 8. Youth-parents CONNECT forums: This will include Youth-parents dialogues/conversation, SON-DAD and DAUGHTER-MOM conversation, Community kitchen to promote intercultural and intergenerational communication (youth-seniors/parents kitchen cooking sessions) d) Family multicultural fun nights and field trips to promote intercultural and family connections in order to enhance youth cultural identity and connection 9. Project Advisory Committee to oversee the coordination of the project and provide continued direction to the project. Committee will meet once every month to review project activity report and discuss any challenges.	\$133,714	\$113,664	\$247,378
Sierra Leone Association of Alberta	The Sierra Leone Community: Prevention and Intervention Measures on Gun and Gang Violence PREVENTION	Religious / Faith-based counselling: Religion plays a big role in the prevention and intervention of gun and gang violence. We will organize counselling sessions and weekly sermons / motivational speeches by our religious leaders (pastors and imams). The counselling sessions will be organized by appointment on a one-on-one basis. The sermons will be delivered during the weekly congregational prayers (Friday Jum'at Salaat for Muslims and Sunday Church Service for Christians). Recordings of the sermons / motivational speeches will be published on our various social media (Community website, WhatsApp, Facebook, and Newsletter). Collaboration with other stakeholders: We will be working with other organizations that are involved in the prevention and intervention of gun and gang violence. For example, The Edmonton Police Service (Gun and gang violence unit), REACH Edmonton (Community Engagement), Africa Centre (working with their Ethnocultural communities that have experienced these issues or are experiencing them, so we can collaborate and learn from them). Parent Capacity Building Community Mentorship Program for Parents: Parents will be mentored on how to build capacity to understand and monitor signs and symptoms (including early warning signs) of involvement in gun and gang violence so they can monitor their children on how they use social medium and get into peer-group influences. Orientation on Canadian Laws: We will support parents and youths in understanding the Canadian Laws. Considering that criminalization severely impacts one's quality of life in Canada and that violation of the codes of ethics in Canadian Laws lead to unpleasant consequences, we will run sessions to enlighten members.	\$66,660	\$62,370	\$129,030
Sinkunia Community Development Organization	Seeds of Hope - PREVENTION	The program will be a combination of facilitated sessions, conversations, knowledge and experience sharing. This is to create an engaging environment where every participant is involved and engaged. April to May, 2024: This is the time for putting down the structures for the execution of the program which includes the advisory committee and representatives from the partners, KULAN and FOCAS. The advisory committee will include experts such as a retired police officer from the Edmonton Police Service, a psychologist, and, a former gang member. June to August, 2024: Recruitment of staff members including a Coordinator of the program to oversee the program activities, the recruitment of 3 paid youth leaders, comprising female and male youth leaders, and another youth leader to engage in the recruitment of members of the LGBTQ youth participants, and outreach, the recruitment of a criminologist from the University to be part of the facilitation and, capture the knowledge and wisdom shared and develop it into a resource that can be used in continuous gang prevention programs. The criminologist will also do some research related to understanding why the youth in Edmonton are joining gangs and getting involved in gun violence. What are the age groups that are being attracted to the gangs and what strategies are the gangs using to recruit the youth into the criminal activities of the gang. September to October 2024: The implementation of the program begins with the youth participating in leadership training. This is to build the confidence and self-esteem levels of the youth. This is also an opportunity to develop these youth into cultural leaders and role models that other youth can look up to in the community. In the leadership training, they will learn about responsibility, respect, accountability, and effective communication skills. The youth will learn about critical thinking and how to resolve conflicts without violence. Last, they will learn about the importance of citizenship. Citizenship means being responsible and caring for the safety of others. November to December 2024: The elders will facilitate sessions in this period by sharing their wisdom and lived experiences with the youth. The elders will talk about safety and the traditional principles of humanity where you are your brother's keeper. They will also discuss how to provide guidance and treat others with love using the principles of valuing human life and property. There will be facilitation on racism and discrimination as well. January to February 2025: This is the period for the youth to learn about the experiences of refugees and immigrants, how they overcome the challenges associated with being an immigrant and/or a refugee, and the resilience they put forward and continued building their path as law abiding citizens. March 2025: Review of learnings and celebrating the accomplishments throughout the activities and ending the first year on a positive note.	\$246,097	\$143,382	\$389,479
The Young Men's Christian Association of Edmonton o/a YMCA of Northern Alberta	GAP19 - Living skills portion NEW	YMCA will be working alongside other partners, Edmonton Youth Attendance Centre, Alberta Health Services, Institutional Serving Schools, and Edmonton Police Service to facilitate life skill workshops to youth who attend GAP19. Specifically, YMCA of Northern Alberta will provide: One-to-one support: Youth meet the Youth Support Worker on an on-going basis and together they create a plan to move their life in a positive direction. Most importantly, Youth Support Workers are available when participants just need someone to talk to. Youth Support Workers utilize motivational interviewing techniques, trauma informed practice, resiliency theory and the trans-theoretical model of change framework as they provide one-to-one supportive counseling, community referrals, advocacy services and employment assistance. Youth Support Workers complete ASIST Suicide Intervention training, empowering them with the tools needed best address the individualized needs of youth. Life skills workshops offered to youth in GAP19: • Anger Management Strategies for Empowering Youth. Provides youth with understanding, strategies and techniques to cope with uncontrollable anger and aggression. Some of these techniques and strategies include activity, problem-solving, communication strategies; and relaxation techniques. • Spectrum. Fosters resilience and emotional healing among youth grieving a loss from a life-altering event. Youth are assisted in sorting through their pain and confusion, build self-esteem and learn positive coping strategies to adjust to their loss. • How to Adult. Assists participants who are thinking about or making the transition into independent living. This unique program consists of eight sessions and covers topics including, but not limited to financial literacy, housing, employment, nutrition, preparing for post-secondary education, professional relationships, effective communication, conflict resolution, healthy relationships and personal care. • Leadership Development. Supports youth to develop and achieve goals, confidence and resiliency through self-reflection, community involvement, team building, problem-solving, and the development of natural and healthy peer support networks that will include relevant peer support training for youth. Wellbeing activities offered to youth in GAP19: • Learning to Breathe. Mindfulness-based group workshops focused on fostering mental health and wellness. Youth enhance emotional awareness and regulation, strengthen attention, deepen stress management skills and learn to integrate mindfulness into everyday life. • Heart Math. Empowers youth to self-regulate their emotions and behaviours to reduce stress, increase resilience, and unlock their natural ability for making good choices. • Rainbows/Spectrum: Guides youth through the emotions of grief and loss. This recurring workshop supports youth to recognize the impact of grief and loss and develop realistic and tangible skills to both face the loss as well as move forward in a positive way. • Recreation. Exposes youth to individual and group recreation, cultural and art activities (i.e., sports, orienteering, painting) in a fun and safe environment where they can be physically active, creative, explore their heritage and establish new relationships with peers. Cultural supports and inclusion: Through collaboration with Indigenous communities, Youth Support Workers incorporate services and activities that are informed and reflective of teachings and involve community members. In collaboration with Indigenous organizations including the Bent Arrow Traditional Healing Society in Edmonton, youth will receive Indigenous and/or other cultural supports through engagement in activities such as youth and elder-led walks, circles, ceremonies and traditional teaching opportunities.	\$84,800	\$65,200	\$150,000