

## OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

### NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

#### FY2024 Community-Based Grant Programs

The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) of the District of Columbia (District) is seeking proposals from non-profit Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) interested in operating an FY24 *Cure the Streets (CTS)* or *Workplace Rights* grant program. Please note, to serve more than CTS one site, grantees may apply for more than one grant).

OAG enforces the laws of the District, provides legal advice to the District's government agencies, and promotes the interests of the District's citizens. The Attorney General for the District of Columbia is the District's chief legal officer. The D.C. Charter gives the Attorney General responsibility for charge and conduct of all the District's legal affairs. The Attorney General is responsible for upholding the public interest.

#### **Cure the Streets**

**Purpose:** In the summer of 2018, in response to an uptick in homicides in the District, Attorney General Karl Racine launched the Cure the Streets (CTS) pilot project at two District program sites. Cure the Streets has since expanded to 10 program sites. The Cure the Streets Initiative is based on the Cure Violence public health approach to violence reduction used in over 100 locations across the world. The Cure Violence model of violence reduction has proven to reduce shootings and homicides in sites when implemented with fidelity to the model.

**Background Information:** Cure the Streets (CTS) is a pilot public safety program aimed at reducing gun violence in the neighborhoods in which it operates. CTS uses a data-driven, public-health approach to gun violence by treating it as a disease that can be interrupted, treated, and stopped from spreading.

Cure the Streets employs local, credible individuals who have deep ties to the neighborhood in which they work. These Violence Interrupters and Outreach Workers detect and resolve conflicts that are likely to lead to shootings and respond to shootings to prevent retaliation. CTS staff also cultivate relationships with high-risk individuals who are likely to engage in gun violence, counsel them to consider prosocial lifestyle changes, and link them with resources such as education and job training. The CTS teams also develop public education strategies that raise awareness of, and denounce, gun violence. Additionally, the Outreach Workers and Violence Interrupters provide support to victims of gun violence and endeavor to change community norms. They speak out against a culture of violence that has (in some cases) become socially accepted. This involves social media, mass media, and community outreach.

**Estimated Available Funds:** Through this Notice of Funding Availability, OAG will make up to \$814,000 available (per program site) in grant funding for Fiscal Year 2024 to be awarded through the Cure the Streets grant program. Funding is allocated annually, and subject to appropriations and funds' availability. Selected grantees will implement the Cure Violence

Global model, which is a public-safety program that aims to reduce gun violence and employs local, credible individuals who have deep ties to the ten identified target neighborhoods.

## **Workplace Rights**

**Purpose:** The Workplace Rights Grant Program Act of 2021 established the Workplace Rights Grant Program at the OAG, for the purpose of providing grants to the District’s community-based organizations to educate and assist District workers with employment laws and to inform OAG’s work-related employment laws. This grant program would replace the Workplace Leave Navigators grant program, which was administered by the District’s Department of Employment Services (DOES).

The goals of the Workplace Rights Grant Program are to:

- conduct outreach that provides worker education or legal services to individuals who work in the District. These services include information related to employment laws (workplace leave laws) and minimum wage, unemployment, wage collection, and other federal laws.
- Engage the community by providing information about essential resources that keep District workers informed about employment laws; and,
- Inform OAG’s work related to employment laws.

**Background:** OAG through its grant-making authority will issue program grants to community-based organizations to provide outreach and worker education, outreach and legal services, or a combination of outreach, worker education, and legal services related to employment laws. In this context, *Legal services* means the provision of legal advice, assistance, or representation regarding an individual’s rights or responsibilities related to a particular matter or more general matters.

Employment laws means workplace leave laws that enable eligible individuals (i.e., individuals who work in the District) to take leave from their employment and protect individuals’ rights to do so, and include the:

- Accrued Sick and Safe Leave Act of 2008, effective May 13, 2008 (D.C. Law 17-152; D.C. Official Code § 32-531.01 et seq.);
- Universal Paid Leave Amendment Act of 2016, effective April 7, 2017 (D.C. Law 21- 264; D.C. Official Code § 32-541.01 et seq.);
- District of Columbia Family and Medical Leave Act of 1990, effective October 3, 1990 (D.C. Law 8-181; D.C. Official Code § 32-501 et seq.); and
- Protecting Pregnant Workers Fairness Act of 2014, effective March 3, 2015 (D.C. Law 20-168; D.C. Official Code § 32-1231.01 et seq.).

In addition:

- The Minimum Wage Act Revision Act of 1992, effective March 25, 1993 (D.C. Law 9- 248; D.C. Official Code § 32-1001 et seq.).

- An Act To provide for the payment and collection of wages in the District of Columbia, approved August 3, 1956 (70 Stat. 976; D.C. Official Code § 32-1301 et seq.).
- The District of Columbia Unemployment Compensation Act, approved August 28, 1935 (49 Stat. 946; D.C. Official Code § 51-101 et seq.); and
- Federal laws that relate to or provide similar rights as the laws identified in subparagraphs (A) through (C) of this paragraph, including the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, approved June 25, 1938 (52 Stat. 1060; 29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq.), and the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, approved February 5, 1993 (107 Stat. 6; 29 U.S.C. § 2611 et seq.).

**Estimated Available Funds:** Through this Notice of Funding Availability, OAG will make up to \$750,000 available in grant funding for Fiscal Year 2024 to be awarded through the Workplace Rights grant program. OAG will award funds to at least two qualified community-based organizations. No award shall be less than \$100,00 per year, per grant. Funding is allocated annually, and subject to appropriation and funds' availability. Grant Award amounts vary as determined by the scope of the projects. Selected grantees will work to educate and support employees as they navigate their rights and responsibilities granted by various employment laws and programs.

### **Application Requirements**

Organizations that meet the following eligibility requirements at the time of application may apply.

**Eligible Applicants:** Nonprofit, community-based organizations with an IRS 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) determination.

**Period of Performance:** October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024.

**Pre-Solicitation Conferences:** For each grant program, OAG will hold one in-person and one *virtual* pre-solicitation conference. Once confirmed, details about the pre-solicitation conferences will be posted with the RFA on OAG's website at <https://oag.dc.gov/jobs-partner-opportunities/doing-business-oag>.

**Request for Application (RFA) release date:** Monday, May 8, 2023. The RFA for this competitive grant program will be available on OAG's website at <https://oag.dc.gov/jobs-partner-opportunities/doing-business-oag>. Applications will be evaluated based on the scoring criteria set forth in the RFA.

**Deadline for Electronic Submission:** Applications are due by **11:59 PM EST, Friday, June 30, 2023**, and must be submitted through ZoomGrants, OAG's online grant management system. Paper submission must be received by OAG no later than **2:00 P.M. EST, Friday, June 30, 2023**. Non-electronic applications should be mailed or delivered to:

*Office of the Attorney General  
Attn: Gabrielle Breven  
400 6<sup>th</sup> St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001*

For more information on the FY24 Community-Based Grant Programs, please email Gabrielle Breven at [gabrielle.breven@dc.gov](mailto:gabrielle.breven@dc.gov).