



Field Foundation of Illinois

Safe Kids, Safe Schools Fund

Gun violence has become the leading cause of death for youth in Chicago. For every young person killed with a firearm, two to three more are shot and seriously injured. Clearly, the impact of gun violence on Chicago's youth, families and communities is devastating.

The Field Foundation has created the Safe Kids, Safe Schools Fund to provide discretionary mini-grants of up to \$5,000 to Chicago-area nonprofit organizations that are working to prevent, reduce and respond to gun violence among youth. Nonprofits will be eligible to apply to the Safe Kids, Safe Schools Fund from May 1, 2008 through September 30, 2008. (Please note that grant funds may be exhausted prior to September 30.)

Funding will be considered for new projects or existing programs designed to:

- *Reduce and/or prevent gun violence* (examples may include but are not limited to conflict resolution, public outreach and education, collaborations with law enforcement, public policy advocacy, community organizing);
- *Increase youth safety* (e.g., creative after-school and summer programs, mentoring, youth leadership development, peer juries, hotlines); and/or,
- *Strengthen responses to youth impacted by gun violence* (e.g., counseling, therapeutic activities for youth, families and/or caregivers).

Priority will be placed on organizations located in Chicago, although a limited number of grants may be made to organizations within Cook County where there is a demonstrated need. *Priority will also be given to less-established organizations with fewer resources.*

Criteria

In order for an organization to be eligible for a grant from the Safe Kids, Safe Schools Fund, the request must:

- Align with the Field Foundation's *general guidelines and funding priorities*;
- Demonstrate a well-documented need, including the impact that gun violence has had on the organization's community and the population(s) it serves;
- Describe how the organization is currently addressing the issue of gun violence among youth;
- Provide specific information on how a discretionary grant from the Field Foundation will be used.

Application Process

To apply for a grant, please complete a *Safe Kids, Safe Schools Fund Request Form* and send it to the Foundation via electronic or regular mail. Unlike the Field Foundation's Emergency and Technical Assistance Fund, organizations that currently receive funding from the Field Foundation through our regular grantmaking program *are* eligible to apply to the Safe Kids, Safe Schools Fund.

Please note the following important points:

- **The Safe Kids, Safe Schools Fund is the only grantmaking area for which the Field Foundation will accept electronic applications;**
- Resources for the Safe Kids, Safe Schools Fund are limited. Depending upon demand, funds for the Safe Kids, Safe Schools Fund may be exhausted prior to September 30;
- Programs and activities that meet the above criteria may be eligible for funding under the Foundation's regular grantmaking program. Please see the Foundation's general guidelines.

Required materials:*

- Safe Kids, Safe Schools Fund Request Form
- Agency Budget
- Project/Program Budget**
- 501 (c)(3) Letter (or fiscal agent's, where appropriate)
- List of Board of Directors, including Member Affiliations
- Racial/Gender Breakdown of Staff and Board of Directors
- Most Recent Audit or Financial Statements (or fiscal agent's, where appropriate)

** If the organization has a current grant, this information is not required.*

*** If a grant from the Safe Kids, Safe Schools Fund will be applied to an existing program or project, please include the full program budget.*

Decision Making and Turnaround Time

In general, applicants to the Safe Kids, Safe Schools Fund should receive a response from the Foundation approximately 2 weeks after the application is received. Once a decision is made, grants may be dispersed in a timely manner.

Accountability

Recipients of the Safe Kids, Safe Schools Fund must submit an abbreviated reporting form called the *Safe Kids, Safe Schools Fund Final Report* no later than 60 days after the grant has expired.

Safe Kids, Safe Schools Fund Request Form

Name of
Organization: _____

Address: _____

Executive Director: _____ Contact Person: _____

Phone/Fax/Email: _____

Requested Amount: \$ _____

Please complete the following questions in a 2-3 page narrative:

1. Describe your agency's mission, core programs/activities, and the communities and populations you serve. Please include the number of persons served.
2. Describe the impact that gun violence has on the community and/or population your organization serves, particularly as it relates to youth.
3. In what ways does your organization work to prevent, reduce or respond to gun violence?
4. How would a grant from the Field Foundation's Safe Kids, Safe Schools Fund be used? Please be specific.
5. Would your organization respond differently to the problem of gun violence among youth if it had more resources? If so, please describe.

Please include the following materials with your request:

- Agency Budget
- Project/Program Budget*
- 501 (c)(3) Letter
- List of Board of Directors, including Member Affiliations
- Racial/Gender Breakdown of Staff and Board of Directors
- Most Recent Audit or Financial Statements

** If a grant from the Safe Kids, Safe Schools Fund will be applied to an existing program or project, please include the full program budget.*

E-mail the application and supporting materials to: safekids@fieldfoundation.org

Or mail to:

Safe Kids, Safe Schools Fund
Field Foundation of Illinois
200 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 3860
Chicago, IL 60606

If you have questions please call 312/831-0910.