What is CalVIP and what does it do?

CalVIP provides matching grants to community-based violence intervention efforts in communities impacted by group-related shootings, homicides, and aggravated assaults. CalVIP-supported initiatives must utilize the grant funds to support, replicate and expand the following services:

- Hospital-based violence intervention
- Targeted street outreach
- Conflict mediation
- Violence preventive counseling services and peer support
- Assistance with relocation away from dangerous circumstances
- Group violence intervention

The California State Legislature established the CalVIP Grant Program in 2017 to replace the California Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention grant program that began in 2007. In 2019, Governor Newsom signed into law the Break the Cycle of Violence Act, or AB 1603 (Chapter 735, Statues of 2019), which established a grant selection advisory committee and includes initiatives that focus on improving public health and safety by supporting violence reduction efforts in communities disproportionately affected by violence.

Who does CalVIP affect?

- Criteria for eligibility is restricted to cities that are disproportionately impacted by violence, and community-based organizations that serve residents of those cities can apply for a CalVIP grant.
- Evidence-based programs—either through public agencies or nonprofits—that provide hospital-based violence intervention or targeted street outreach are eligible to apply.

What does the CalVIP benefit cover?

Initiatives that interrupt cycles of violence and retaliation and programs that work to reduce homicides, shootings and aggravated assaults. These include:

- Deterrence strategies
- Hospital-based violence intervention programs
- Evidence-based street outreach initiatives
How can programs apply?

$209.65 million in grant dollars through the CalVIP program has been allocated for disbursement to fund community violence intervention programs in California. Programs interested in applying are asked to submit a non-binding letter indicating their intent to apply, which should include name of applicant entity, name of contact person, and a brief statement indicating the applicant’s intent to submit a proposal.

For more information:

For specific information about the CalVIP grant, please refer to the following BSCC resources:

- California Violence Intervention and Prevention Grant Program - CalVIP
- Current Grant Funding Opportunities
- BSCC MailChimp ListServ
- BSCC Awards $171m in Statewide Grants