

# Data Release: FY20 Violence Reduction Spending



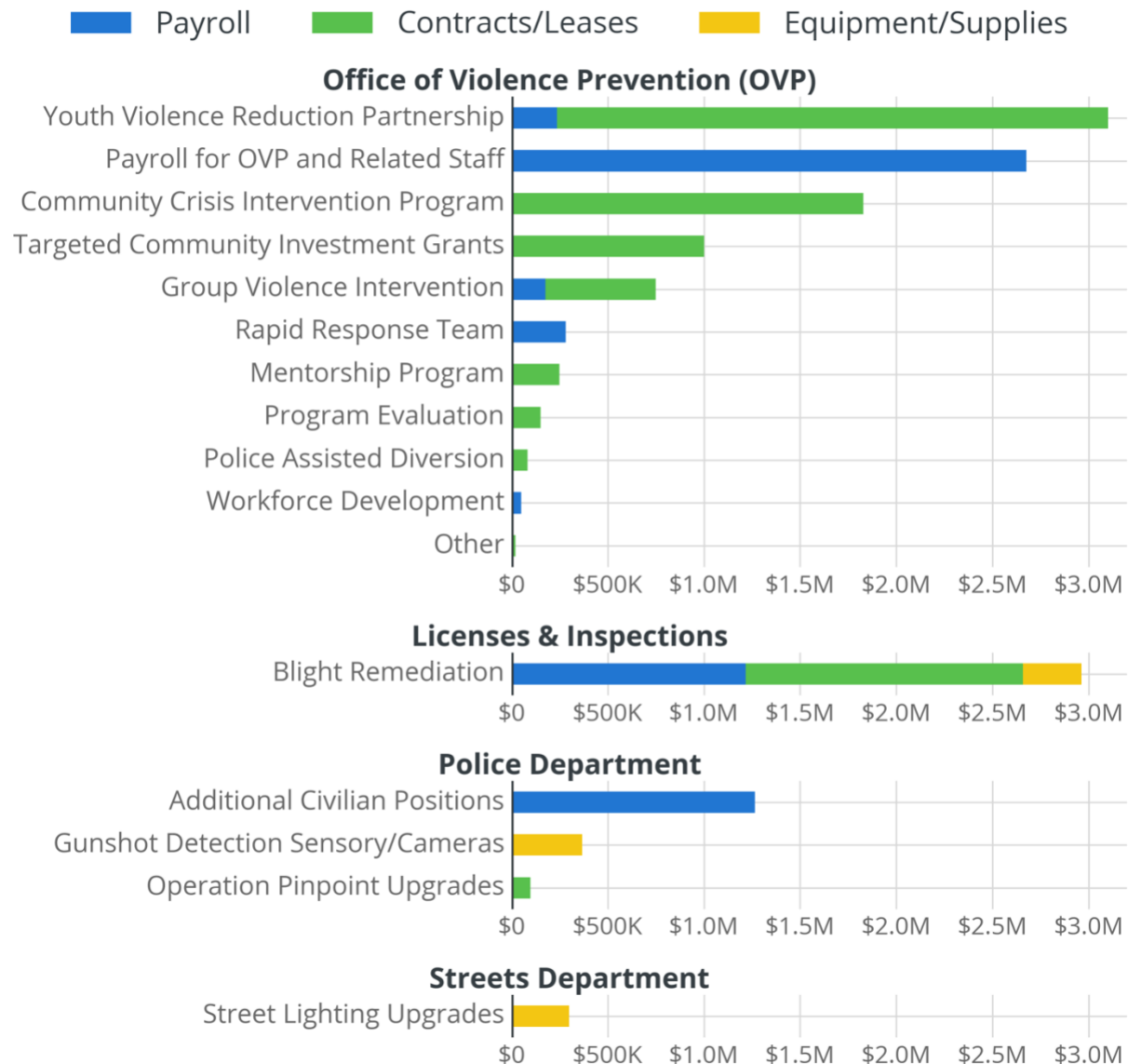
**City Controller  
Rebecca Rhynhart**

In July 2017, the Kenney Administration established the Office of Violence Prevention to coordinate and evaluate the City of Philadelphia's spending on anti-violence programs. The Office of Violence Prevention released "[The Philadelphia Roadmap to Safer Communities](#)", its strategy to prevent gun violence and reduce rising gun violence rates, in January 2019. To date, the strategy's progress has been limited, with violence continuing at the highest level in more than a decade.

In an effort to better understand the City's approach to addressing gun violence and rising homicide rates, the Controller's Office is releasing the City's budgeted spending on violence reduction programs for the current fiscal year (fiscal year 2020), ranging from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. It summarizes the allocated spending by program and provides descriptions of the currently funded strategies, as well as their funding levels.

Currently, the City has budgeted about \$15 million for violence reduction programs in fiscal year 2020 (FY20), with \$5.4 million of this funding allocated during a [mid-year transfer](#) ordinance that expanded its existing violence reduction programs and introduced additional funding for new programs. The funding is spread across four departments/offices: the Office of Violence Prevention in the Managing Director's Office, Licenses and Inspections, the Police department, and the Streets department. Spending is budgeted in three main areas: payroll for department personnel, contracts with outside firms, and equipment and supplies. The funding levels for these programs, as well as the types of spending, are summarized in the chart below.

## FY20 Violence Reduction Spending by Program (Budgeted)



The majority of the Administration's funding to date has not been on evidence-based programs that target the small group of individuals responsible for the majority of violence. While initiatives like blight remediation and workforce development are certainly important for long-term, transformational change in the community, national experts on urban violence believe the strategies that work best to reduce homicides focus specifically on those most likely to shoot or be shot. Programs with this kind of strategic focus have been deployed successfully in other cities across the country. Several such programs were detailed in the Office of the City Controller [report](#) on the economic impact of gun violence and homicides in Philadelphia. Released in October 2019, the goal of the report was to use the potential economic benefit of reducing homicides as a leverage point for the City to consider alternative or more concerted investment in proven violence reduction strategies, and ultimately, save lives. The Controller's Office continues to believe that investing in evidence-based strategies that target those most likely to shoot or be shot in

neighborhoods most impacted by violence will be most successful in reducing gun violence immediately.

### *Detailed Violence Reduction Budget by Program*

This section includes funding amounts and detailed descriptions of the City's currently funded violence reduction initiatives. Descriptions are based on information provided by the Office of Violence Prevention or sourced directly from the City's budget documents. The total FY20 allocation listed for each program includes any additional funding received as part of the mid-year budget transfer.

#### *Youth Violence Reduction Partnership (YVRP)*

- **Total FY20 funding:** \$3,100,975
- **Mid-year transfer:** \$236,964
- **Description:** Operating since 1999, the Youth Violence Reduction Partnership (YVRP) works to reduce youth homicides by providing intensive supervision and support for youth and young adults, under 25 years of age, on juvenile or adult probation who are most at risk to kill or be killed. The program is a multi-agency effort and includes the [Philadelphia Anti-Violence Anti-Drug Network](#) (PAAN) and the [First Judicial District's](#) Adult Probation & Parole Department (APPD). In FY20, APPD required a mid-year transfer of \$236,964 in order to fully fund the salaries of 26 APPD staff members who provide YVRP services.

#### *Blight Remediation*

- **Total FY20 funding:** \$2,963,952
- **Mid-year transfer:** \$1,213,952
- **Description:** The Licenses and Inspections department is responsible for reducing blight and improving environmental factors in high risk neighborhoods, as well as cleaning, sealing, and/or demolishing vacant properties. The mid-year transfer funds 27 new positions, including one new building inspector, two additional Clean & Seal crews (and their work materials), and two additional [Community Life Improvement Program](#) crews.

#### *Payroll for OVP and Related Staff*

- **Total FY20 funding:** \$2,675,509
- **Mid-year transfer:** \$0
- **Description:** Allocated funding supports 10 total positions in the Office of Violence Prevention, including 2 Deputy Managing Directors and 8 Assistant Managing Directors. The funding also supports positions in the District Attorney's Office and the First Judicial District.

#### *Community Crisis Intervention Program (CCIP)*

- **Total FY20 funding:** \$1,827,792
- **Mid-year transfer:** \$1,327,792
- **Description:** The Community Crisis Intervention Program (CCIP) is based on the nationally recognized [Crisis Intervention Network](#) (Network), which was initiated in Philadelphia in the mid 1970s to address gang violence. Similar to the Network and the

[Cure Violence](#) model, CCIP uses credible messengers who are from Philadelphia's most violent neighborhoods as crisis workers to:

- Foster meaningful relationships in the most violent communities;
- Steer those involved in gun violence and other criminal activities into positive alternatives;
- Mediate neighborhood conflicts; and
- Respond rapidly to neighborhood crises to de-escalate situations and prevent retaliation.

The additional funding included in the mid-year transfer supports the expansion of CCIP, providing funding to increase the number of street outreach positions from 28 to 64 by the end of FY20.

#### *Additional Civilian Police Positions*

- **Total FY20 funding:** \$1,266,085
- **Mid-year transfer:** \$0
- **Description:** This FY20 funding supports the addition of 22 civilian positions in the Police Department who are focused on the city's Violence Reduction initiative.

#### *Targeted Community Investment Grants*

- **Total FY20 funding:** \$1,000,000
- **Mid-year transfer:** \$750,000
- **Description:** These grants support community-based programs and activities in Philadelphia that focus on violence prevention and intervention services with a special emphasis on supporting programs that strive to reduce and prevent gun violence among young men between the ages of 16 and 34. With \$250,000 originally allocated in the FY20 budget, this additional funding brings the total funding up to \$1 million, which will support the [second round of grant awards](#). Earlier in 2019, the Administration [awarded \\$700,000](#) to community organizations.

#### *Group Violence Intervention*

- **Total FY20 funding:** \$750,000
- **Mid-year transfer:** \$750,000
- **Description:** Group Violence Intervention (GVI), also known as focused deterrence, is an evidence-based violence reduction strategy, targeting the small group of people typically responsible for the majority of violence. It requires law enforcement, community organizers, and social service providers to work together to produce a balanced approach to reduce violence. This funding, along with \$500,000 appropriated by the PA House of Representatives, will support a pilot implementation of the GVI program in West Philadelphia, expected to launch in spring 2020.

#### *Gunshot Detection Sensory/Cameras*

- **Total FY20 funding:** \$368,000
- **Mid-year transfer:** \$0
- **Description:** The FY20 allocation provides funding to upgrade the Acoustic Gun Shot Detection system, which uses computer technology to assist in the location of gunshots and can provide this information to responding law enforcement.



#### *Street Lighting Upgrades*

- **Total FY20 funding:** \$300,000
- **Mid-year transfer:** \$300,000
- **Description:** The mid-year transfer will fund the costs of materials and equipment for street lighting upgrades in the neighborhoods where the Police Department's Operation Pinpoint is focused.

#### *Rapid Response Team*

- **Total FY20 funding:** \$282,500
- **Mid-year transfer:** \$282,500
- **Description:** The Rapid Response team, part of the [Network of Neighbors Responding to Violence](#), will provide crisis response services to Philadelphians affected by violence. The mid-year transfer provides funding for six additional response team members, as well as salary for two positions in the Office of Violence Prevention who are responsible for coordinating the response team's efforts.

#### *Mentorship Program*

- **Total FY20 funding:** \$250,000
- **Mid-year transfer:** \$250,000
- **Description:** The Mentorship Program will provide single and group mentoring services to youth and young adults who are at a high risk of killing or being killed. The mid-year transfer will fund the estimated costs required to implement the program, which may include stipends for participating mentors and mentees.

#### *Program Evaluation*

- **Total FY20 funding:** \$150,000
- **Mid-year transfer:** \$150,000
- **Description:** The mid-year transfer will fund program evaluations of the city's various violence reduction programs.

#### *Operation Pinpoint Upgrades*

- **Total FY20 funding:** \$97,000
- **Mid-year transfer:** \$0
- **Description:** The FY20 allocation provides additional funding for the Police Department to procure outside contracts related to [Operation Pinpoint](#), the Police Department's violence reduction strategy that focuses on intelligence-based and community-oriented policing.

#### *Police Assisted Diversion Pilot*

- **Total FY20 funding:** \$83,200
- **Mid-year transfer:** \$83,200
- **Description:** The [Police Assisted Diversion](#) (PAD) program diverts low-level, non-violent offenders away from the criminal justice system and gives them access to social services. The additional allocation for PAD in the mid-year transfer will fund an additional response

team of behavioral health professionals, who work with the Philadelphia Police Department's East Division to offer health and social services as part of the [Resilience Project](#).

*Workforce Development*

- **Total FY20 funding:** \$50,000
- **Mid-year transfer:** \$50,000
- **Description:** The funding provided in the mid-year transfer supports the addition of a Coordinator position in the [Office of Workforce Development](#) dedicated to the Violence Reduction initiative.