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# PUBLIC SAFETY





# PROJECT #171

## Kent County Domestic Violence Action Network

### Identify the need for the proposed project

Domestic Violence is a problem we face every day in Kent County. The Centers for Disease Control cites that about 35% of female survivors and more than 11% of male survivors experience some form of physical injury related to domestic violence, furthermore, 1 in 5 homicide victims in the U.S. are killed by a current or former male intimate partner. In Kent County, we are on track to double the number of domestic violence related homicides from the year prior. Our domestic violence agencies, Safe Haven Ministries and the YWCA, respond to crisis calls and texts via our hotlines each day resulting in over 5,200 interactions of advocacy, shelter and safety planning in the last service year. Domestic violence is the single greatest public health epidemic in Kent County. It negatively impacts social determinants of health as well as the overall welfare of our communities. Domestic violence adversely affects housing stability, mental and physical health, child and family stability, substance use and the economic health of a community. National leaders such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Housing and Urban Development, and American Society of Addiction Medicine illustrate some of these interconnections: 80% of homeless women and children have previously experienced domestic violence; substance abuse has been found to co-occur in 40-60% of interpersonal violence incidents; and the lifetime economic cost associated with medical services for domestic violence-related injuries, loss of work, and criminal justice intervention was \$3.6 trillion. Moreover, children that witness domestic violence in the home are exponentially more likely to experience and/or engage in other forms of violence later in life including physical and sexual abuse victimization across the lifespan, perpetration of abuse, street violence, bullying, and teen dating violence.

In 2021, the Kent County Prosecutor's office charged 1,308 DV cases, the highest number since 2017. This is a year-over-year increase from 1,250 (2020) and 1,211 (2019). Notably, these numbers do not include strangulation, the most lethal domestic violence-related cases, due to classifications procedures. As we approach the fall, the DVCCRT recognizes that not only is Kent County on track to double the number of domestic violence homicides, but the complexity of these cases are a significant factor in which additional resources are needed to respond accordingly. By addressing the root causes and building system capacity, Kent County and the DVCCRT will be well positioned to streamline collaborative and effective victim/survivor support and abuser intervention services and accountability. While our community partners continue to demonstrate a strong commitment to not tolerate violence, this funded proposal provides the mechanisms for enhanced capacity to uphold this commitment during a time when crucial funding is needed. A cultural shift will occur where each community partner knows that violence will not be tolerated, which research suggests will lead to a reduction in victimization. This transformational change of reducing acts of violence will immediately impact those experiencing violence and the ripple effects will lead to future prevention of violence, increased indicators of health and an overall thriving community.

The criminal justice system reacts as first responders and our court dockets are filled with cases. Despite this, our domestic violence numbers continue to grow and a lack of consistent, comprehensive, and trauma-informed interventions often result in lack of accountability for perpetrators and increased danger for victims/survivors. The Kent County Domestic Violence Community Coordinated Response Team's (DVCCRT) co-chaired by the Kent County Prosecutor and Safe Haven Ministries proposes a Collective Impact movement in the "Kent County Domestic Violence Action Network" including the establishment of a domestic violence court, enhanced legal supportive services, community-based response and therapeutic supports for perpetrators and victims/survivors, to co-create a more comprehensive response that can address the complexity and nuance of this issue.

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### Project Cost

**Minimum Cost:** \$8,000,000

**Maximum Cost:** \$10,000,000

**ARPA Request:** \$10,000,000

### Submitter Info

**Name:** Chris Becker or Tara Aday

**Organization:** Domestic Violence Community Coordinated Response Team (DVCCRT)

### Project Overview

**Funding Group:** Community Health

**Project Theme:** Public Safety

**Project Status:** New Project

**Matching Funds:** 0 - 25%

**Eligibility:** 

**Sustainability:** 

**Feasibility:** 

**Impact:** 

### Source of Funding

*(Listed in main description)*

### Partnership

*(Listed in main description)*



## Identify the need for the proposed project (continued)

DVCCRT has a long history of coming together to collectively impact violence in Kent County, yet is historically (and currently) unfunded. Arriving at the scope of this proposal, there were several key initiatives the DVCCRT led, including: 2016: Researching and developing a model for a Domestic Violence Court, identifying key actors to help launch this model, but ultimately unsuccessful in implementation due to lack of funding and judicial capacity. This model is successfully used in other counties in Michigan including Washtenaw and Oakland counties. Research and anecdotal evidence indicate that when the criminal justice system and service providers work together in a coordinated community response, they can identify system gaps, plan for effective intervention that protects victims, and improve community safety. 2019-2020: Adapted from the Sexual Violence Justice Institute's System Change Model, the DVCCRT mapped out existing systems that domestic violence victims and survivors regularly interact with, including domestic violence organizations, justice systems, law enforcement, child welfare, courts and victim witness services. Through this process, 58 tension points were identified for Kent County, signifying instances where victims, survivors and/or perpetrators do not receive adequate or effective support and/or accountability. 2019-2022: Kent County Prosecutor reports a significant increase in lethal and fatal domestic violence occurrences. 2021-2022: Following the death of a child in a DV homicide-suicide and other domestic violence homicides that occurred in rapid succession, the DVCCRT developed Kent County's first domestic violence homicide review process, which resulted in 5 key recommendation areas. These 5 areas highlight critical opportunities for systemic improvement needed in order to prevent domestic violence homicides in our community. Report findings were shared with the community. 2022: Began implementation of homicide review recommendations, focused largely on enhancement in child welfare, law enforcement and judicial response to domestic violence. 2022: Began development of a high-lethality case review process for domestic violence occurrences. Our community is experiencing a domestic violence crisis exactly at the moment when domestic violence services such as the Domestic Assault Response Team (DART) lost funding and ceased to exist. Further compounding this crisis is the lack of organizational and agency resources to support the promising initiatives that the DVCCRT has researched, developed and led since 2016. Under this ARPA funding initiative, the proposed Kent County Domestic Violence Action Network has the potential to reimagine survivor-centered systems response. By strengthening Kent County's multidisciplinary response to domestic violence, the goal is to reduce near fatal and fatal domestic violence instances for adults and children.

## Brief Description

The Domestic Violence Action Network is being proposed by the long-standing DVCCRT to address the need for increased survivor-centered systems response and the opportunity to initiate infrastructure to support collective impact strategy for equitable change. The proposed project would recognize DV as a public health crisis addressed with a Collective Impact Theory to drive inclusive and trauma-informed solutions. This transformative project addresses and prevents a critical element of violent crime that impacts community health, the economy, and equity. Using this framework, we will launch the DVCCRT as a backbone organization with a common agenda, continuous communication for shared learning, a measurement system to track progress for equitable and sustainable change, mutually reinforcing activities will be implemented through an enhanced resourced framework to address the complexity of DV. Activities like the creation of a DV Court with Coordinated Systems Response would be transformational because it will address DV case complexity and the multiple systems a victim and perpetrator interact with. This proposal would also increase critical services for victims and survivors with mobile and legal advocacy, mental health support and wellness resources. Multiple sectors would also be resourced with culturally based and trauma-informed training. The proposed project will execute critical solutions to empower survivors and disrupt violence resulting in community transformation.

## Project Cost

**Minimum Cost:** \$8,000,000

**Maximum Cost:** \$10,000,000

**ARPA Request:** \$10,000,000

## Submitter Info

**Name:** Chris Becker or Tara Aday

**Organization:** Domestic Violence Community Coordinated Response Team (DVCCRT)

## Project Overview

**Funding Group:** Community Health

**Project Theme:** Public Safety

**Project Status:** New Project

**Matching Funds:** 0 - 25%

**Eligibility:** 

**Sustainability:** 

**Feasibility:** 

**Impact:** 

## Source of Funding

*(Listed in main description)*

## Partnership

*(Listed in main description)*



## Project Cost

**Minimum Cost:** \$8,000,000

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## Submitter Info

**Name:** Chris Becker or Tara Aday

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**Eligibility:**



**Sustainability:**



**Feasibility:**



**Impact:**



## Source of Funding

*(Listed in main description)*

## Partnership

*(Listed in main description)*

## Long-Term Benefit

Survivor-centered safety positively impacts health outcomes and decreases death. Amplifying survivors' voices for collective action brings equitable change. Promoting systems change throughout the county to ensure victims and perpetrators receive effective support regardless of their point of entry with community actors. It also increases government capacity by bridging jurisdictional boundaries to provide a more seamless path to comprehensive supports for survivors regardless of residency.

## Intended Beneficiary

The primary intended beneficiaries of this proposal primarily includes victims and survivors of domestic violence. However, by comprehensively addressing domestic violence, this proposal will have positive outcomes on the overall health and welfare of individuals and systems in Kent County.

## \*Partnership

YWCA West Central Michigan, victim/survivor community member representation, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Kent County Prosecutor's Office and Victim/Witness Unit, Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (Children's Protective Services), Grand Rapids Police Department, Kent County Sheriff Office, Wyoming Police Department, Hope Network, Men's Resource Center, Kent County Probation Office, Personal Protection Order Office, AYA Youth Collective, Legal Aid of West Michigan, Puertas Abiertas Grand Rapids, Veteran Affairs, Pregnancy Resource Center, Friend of the Court, Michigan Immigrant Rights Center, Gun Lake Tribe, FBI, Grand Valley State University, Justice for our Neighbors, and CODA.

## Estimated Cost

\$8,000,000 - \$10,000,000

## \*Source of Funding

There are several potential funding sources that will become available in 2025 and 2026 that this proposed project is a competitive applicant for. Additionally, data collected during initial years of this proposal will strengthen applications for future funding sources. Potential funding sources include federal sources from Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecutors (STOP), Violence Against Women Formula grants (VAWA), Office for Victims of Crimes (OVC) funding, VOCA, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) and the Family Violence Prevention Prevention & Services Act (FVPSA). The STOP Grants are awarded to develop and strengthen the criminal justice system's response to violence against women and to support and enhance services for victims. The next grant cycle begins 2026 and is a four year cycle, which allows the DVCCRT to complete a competitive application showing the successes of this project from years 2023-2026. The primary purpose of STOP [the funds/grant program] is to support communities in their efforts to develop and strengthen effective responses to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking through multidisciplinary collaboration.

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**Eligibility:** 

**Sustainability:** 

**Feasibility:** 

**Impact:** 

## Source of Funding

*(Listed in main description)*

## Partnership

*(Listed in main description)*

## \*Source of Funding

The federal Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), administers multiple opportunities including the STOP Program, strongly encourages the use of STOP funding to support projects that promote civil rights (including meeting the needs of underserved and marginalized survivors), improve access to justice, enhance survivor safety, and hold offenders accountable. The OVC Fund supports a broad array of programs and services that focus on helping victims with millions of dollars that are invested annually in victim compensation and assistance in every U.S. state and territory, as well as for training, technical assistance, and other capacity-building programs designed to enhance service providers' ability to support victims of crime in communities across the Nation.

VOCA formula grants for crime victim assistance, awarded through subgrants to state agencies and local service providers, are the most visible and far-reaching demonstration of OVC's commitment to crime victims. VOCA funding includes services such as crisis intervention, counseling and referrals, criminal justice advocacy, and emergency transportation.

The Family Violence Prevention and Services (FVPSA) formula grants to states and territories more than 1,600 local public, private, nonprofit and faith-based organizations and programs demonstrating effectiveness in the field of domestic violence services and prevention. These domestic violence programs provide victims of domestic and dating violence and their children with comprehensive domestic violence support. Additionally, Ann Arbor, MI employed a countywide effort to prevent domestic violence through the implementation of a domestic violence court. The U.S. Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), funded Ann Arbor's Judicial Oversight Demonstration Initiative. This funding allowed Washtenaw County to set up specialized dockets, attend training sessions, learn best practices, and create new forms. They collaborated closely with a supportive group of police officers, the sheriff, the prosecuting attorney, judges, service providers and defense bar who had an interest in tackling the complexities of domestic violence issues which in turn created a safer community.

In-kind funding by way of staff time is already committed by way of multisector DVCCRT partners through their general operations lines. Along with the Kent County Prosecutor, Chris Becker, Safe Haven currently dedicates staff to co-facilitate what is now the Domestic Violence Coordinated Community Response Team and Homicide Review Team. Safe Haven utilizes general operating funds to support salaries of the Senior Program Director that serves as co-facilitator. In addition, Safe Haven general funds are used to support the Director of Client Services who serves as DVCCRT Secretary, Safe Haven's Accounting Manager provides fiscal oversight of the team, and Safe Haven's Communications Manager maintains and executes the DVCCRT website.

Alongside Safe Haven, multiple other community agencies regularly meet and commit in-kind staffing resources to ensure that justice and safety for survivors of relationship violence in Kent County is prioritized into the fabric of our community. Partners currently committing in-kind staff resources include the Kent County Prosecutor, the Kent County Sheriff, Child Protective Services, the YWCA of West Central Michigan, Gun Lake Tribe, Children's Advocacy Center, GVSU Victim Advocate Center, GRPD, Wyoming Police Department, and more. The DVCCRT, as it currently exists, has no external funding ~ which is not a sustainable plan. While agencies have been willing to give of their time and financial resources, this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity through ARPA will provide the seed money to build an interdisciplinary, multisector team to reduce violence in Kent County with a paid, full time coordinator. By leveraging this as a successful pilot, with intentions of encouraging replication throughout the United States, we believe this project will be fully sustainable in 2026 through additional federal funding through sources such as VOCA and VAWA, and through new high level funders solicited as part of this journey (The Ford Foundation, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation).



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**Name:** Chris Becker or Tara Aday

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## Project Overview

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**Project Theme:** Public Safety

**Project Status:** New Project

**Matching Funds:** 0 - 25%

**Eligibility:** 

**Sustainability:** 

**Feasibility:** 

**Impact:** 

## Source of Funding

*(Listed in main description)*

## Partnership

*(Listed in main description)*

## Project Management Experience

Safe Haven's team is the lead on multiple County wide initiatives which organize multi-sector agencies for service to prevent and end domestic violence. Partnership is a key organizational value and fundamental to our service with the community. Safe Haven Ministries CEO founded Solutions to End Exploitation (SEE) and now Co-Chairs Kent County's first effort to coordinate a solution to human trafficking, through a collective impact approach. In four years the existing task force was organized into five impact groups (health care, victim services, law enforcement, labor, and education & awareness) to develop strategic direction in addressing trafficking with measurable outcomes for impact and collaboratively bringing in over \$4 million dollars in new federal funding to our County. The task force now operates under the name, SEE Human Trafficking Coalition and in 2020, supported Kent Intermediate School District (Kent ISD) to become one of eight national Human Trafficking Youth Prevention Education Demonstration Sites with Wedgwood Christian Services. They are leading 20 local school districts located within Kent County through the process of developing and implementing a Human Trafficking School Safety Protocol and delivering prevention education. And in 2022 the Kent County Sheriff's Department and Salvation Army secured an Enhanced Collaborative Model federal grant for collaborative investigation and trauma informed response. Safe Haven's Senior Program Director is the Co-Chair of the DVCCRT and led the recent Homicide Review process and completion of the report with recommendations. Along with the Safe Haven Director of Client Services they co-lead bringing multiple agencies together monthly and are committed along with the members to develop the next level of impact with the DVCCRT in this proposed project. The YWCA, Safe Haven and Kent County Health Department together have led Center for Disease Control funded violence prevention education and training in community, education and health care settings working with a wide variety of community leaders.

## Federal Funds Experience

The DVCCRT will be the backbone for this project. Its multidisciplinary team is representative of over a dozen organizations that have a long-standing history of successfully managing federal funds, including dollars awarded through the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Justice (DOJ), Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Emergency Food and Shelter Program EFSP (managed through United Way), Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF). As the fiduciary of the DVCCRT and this proposal, Safe Haven has demonstrated a strong financial stability rooted in diverse funding streams and in compliance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). Moreover, the Safe Haven's accounting staff responsible for financial compliance of the proposal funds has completed several Federal Grant Management Training Courses. Safe Haven has appropriate federally recommended financial policy and controls in place to ensure appropriate/eligible use of funds, and utilizes an automated accounting system capable of tracking expenditures. Additionally, on a monthly basis, Safe Haven's accountant will email a monthly financial statement to the DVCCRT treasurer. To create accountability and adherence to this practice, the treasurer cannot be someone currently employed by Safe Haven. Safe Haven through trusted relationships with all DVCCRT members and is capable and prepared to manage ARPA funding, including subrecipient awards, to make the Kent County Domestic Violence Action Network a reality. Moving into its own state of the art, 14-room comprehensive facility in 2018, Safe Haven successfully raised \$5.5 million in a capital campaign. A key funder in this endeavor was the Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis, to which Safe Haven reports annually with no findings. Safe Haven is operating with its strongest financial outlook in our 32-year history, with five months operations in cash reserves and recently began building an internal endowment, planning for long-term sustainability. Safe Haven leverages volunteer support and local matching funds each year. Safe Haven is also subject to a yearly independent financial audit and has had no significant findings.



## Project Cost

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**ARPA Request:** \$10,000,000

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**Name:** Chris Becker or Tara Aday

**Organization:** Domestic Violence Community Coordinated Response Team (DVCCRT)

## Project Overview

**Funding Group:** Community Health

**Project Theme:** Public Safety

**Project Status:** New Project

**Matching Funds:** 0 - 25%

**Eligibility:** 

**Sustainability:** 

**Feasibility:** 

**Impact:** 

## Source of Funding

(Listed in main description)

## Partnership

(Listed in main description)

## Studies on Impact

DV Court Research: Coordinated survivor-centered response with the criminal justice system is effective; For example, the 15th Judicial District Court in Ann Arbor found success with a DV Court that meets every other week & includes victims, defendants, specially trained victim advocates, prosecution & defense counsel, law enforcement, probation staff, BIP representatives, & specially trained court officer. The court's approaches ensure coordinated response to maximize the safety of victims & their families & enhance accountability for persons convicted of domestic violence crimes. Specialized probation supervision units are best practice & central to this model. Research on Collective Impact: 2022 Stanford Social Innovation Review noted independent evaluation of Collective Impact work shows large-scale impact & effectiveness is possible through a "network of community members, organizations, & institutions that advance equity by learning together, aligning, & integrating their actions to achieve population & systems-level change." Large-scale social change comes from better cross-sector coordination rather than individual approaches. High lethality case reviews have lowered DV fatality in Calhoun, Wayne and other counties.

## Supporting Documentation

[Letters of Support](#)

## Guidehouse Ranking Notes

 **Eligibility**

*Domestic violence prevention programs are eligible*

 **Sustainability**

*Unsure how the money is being spent but the project has numerous partners and is seeking future funding as well*

 **Feasibility**

# PROJECT #254

## Bethany Christian Services Safe Families for Children Program



### Identify the need for the proposed project

The Pandemic has increased the vulnerability of children and families who are in high stress situations and has exacerbated their already tenuous life circumstances to the point of crisis. The children in a family traumatized by crisis become especially at-risk for abuse, neglect, and other Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). ACEs are traumatic events occurring before age 18, including abuse and neglect as well as parental mental illness, substance use, divorce, incarceration, and domestic violence. Research about the lifelong impact of ACEs underscores the urgency of prevention activities to protect children from early traumas. Studies demonstrate a significant correlation between the number of ACEs experienced and negative outcomes in adulthood, including poor physical and mental health, substance abuse, and risky behaviors. During such crises, many parents are not able to provide a safe, caring environment for their children and do not have a suitable support system. Without assistance, many of these situations lead to abuse and/or neglect episodes with long-lasting consequences for the children and parents: foster care; criminal justice involvement; the effects of trauma on children; issues associated with separation, grief, and loss, and the breakup of the family unit. Calls from at-risk parents and families seeking assistance to Bethany and Safe Families has increased the past two years. Requests for services from agencies like the Area Agency on Aging of West Michigan to provide mental health support for seniors 60 and older have increased. Calls for assistance to Safe Families from county DHHS/Child Protection Services unit including Kent County have increased, to provide childcare support for a parent or parents who are unable to care for their children temporarily due to incarceration, homelessness, substance abuse in patient treatment, and mental health concerns, for example. Without a supportive community, families can quickly end up in unstable situations that may put child safety at risk and where child welfare services are called. Consider this: • It is estimated that by age 18 one in three children in America will have been the subject of a child protective services investigation. • Reasons for entry into foster care - neglect 64%, parental drug abuse 35%, caretaker inability to cope 34%, physical abuse 13 %, housing 9%, parental incarceration 6%, parental alcohol abuse 6%, sexual abuse 4 % (the categories of abuse overlap with some parents in two or more categories) • The number of children entering foster care has decreased over the past few years, but so has the number of children exiting foster care, leaving youth lingering in care longer (over a year) • Only about half of children who enter foster care reunite with their families Once in the system, children are often moved from home to home, creating disruptions that have adverse educational, social, and behavioral effects that cost the U.S. billions of dollars in lost productivity and potential. Not only is foster care a trauma in and of itself that can contribute to poor outcomes for children, it is also very expensive. On average, the taxpayer cost of providing foster care for one year is \$30,000 per child. One quarter of those who age out of the foster care system never complete high school or obtain a GED. There's only about a three percent chance of a former foster child earning a college degree at any point in their life despite 70 percent showing a desire to attend college. The best solution to prevent a family from getting into situations that question their ability to care for their children is to partner with them in finding solutions that focus on their strengths, offering presence, grace, compassion, and community.

The Solution: Many people in our communities stand ready to help families, but don't know how to begin. They often lack connections to families outside of their own families and friendships. Volunteers are willing but may not know how to assist families seeking help in ways that are meaningful and without causing unintentional harm. Since 2013, the Safe Families program in Kent County has been the vehicle to collaborate with the community and plug in volunteers who truly want to make a difference in the lives of families facing crisis. The identified target population in Kent County is families with children ages 0-18 who exhibit one or more risk factor(s) as identified by the Strengthening Families Approach.

(continued on next page)

### Project Cost

**Minimum Cost:** \$600,000

**Maximum Cost:** \$600,000

**ARPA Request:** \$600,000

### Submitter Info

**Name:** Mark Dillingham

**Organization:**

Bethany Safe Families Program

### Project Overview

**Funding Group:** Community Health

**Project Theme:** Public Safety

**Project Status:** Expanded Project

**Matching Funds:** No

**Eligibility:**



**Sustainability:**



**Feasibility:**



**Impact:**



### Source of Funding

No

### Partnership

Kent County Health Department,  
Pine Rest, West Michigan  
Partnership for Children, Safe  
Haven, Orchard Hill Reformed  
Church, Byron Center Bible  
Church, Arbor Circle, YWCA,  
Cherry Street Health Clinic





### Identify the need for the proposed project (continued)

Risk factors may include social isolation, parental conflict, low warmth/harsh/limited parenting skills, poverty, lack of opportunities for education and employment, substance abuse, parental stress, marital conflict, and domestic violence. Risk factors are those characteristics linked with child abuse and neglect, but they may or may not be direct causes. Safe Families for Children (Safe Families) supports parents and their children experiencing short-term crises such as homelessness, medical issues/hospitalization, substance abuse or mental health treatment, job loss, domestic violence, or short-term incarceration. Appropriate referrals are for families facing crisis during isolation and/or multiple family challenges, often compounded by poverty or isolation. When there is reported physical or sexual abuse, referrals for Safe Families are not appropriate/eligible. Custodial parents always maintain custody in Safe Families and participation is voluntary. The time is now to invest in Safe Families which directly impacts families facing crisis. Early impact and intervention will decrease many of the negative impacts related to Adverse Childhood Experiences. Parents are overwhelmed by layers of stress and Safe Families helps to decrease their stress and increase their resilience to overcome obstacles without harming their children. Family preservation and abuse prevention has moved to the forefront of the Human Services field in the past five years, and Bethany and Safe Families are leaders in this recent innovative shift. The increasing effect of social isolation due to the Pandemic can compound trauma in children and families, but proactive intervention leads to healing, rather than being reactive and responding to the debilitating effects of trauma on the individual, family, and society.

### Project Cost

**Minimum Cost:** \$600,000

**Maximum Cost:** \$600,000

**ARPA Request:** \$600,000

### Submitter Info

**Name:** Mark Dillingham

**Organization:**  
Bethany Safe Families Program

### Project Overview

**Funding Group:** Community Health

**Project Theme:** Public Safety

**Project Status:** Expanded Project

**Matching Funds:** No

**Eligibility:** 

**Sustainability:** 

**Feasibility:** 

**Impact:** 

### Brief Description

Rooted in the Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework and the principles of family support practice, Safe Families surrounds socially isolated families with caring, compassionate community. Safe Families provides professionally trained social workers to oversee volunteer-driven family support and stabilization, which helps to prevent child abuse and neglect and deflect children from entering the child welfare system. Safe Families is NOT foster care or adoption. Safe Families focuses on supporting parents, so children are safe with their families instead of from their families in state-funded care. Fully vetted, trained, and approved volunteers create extended family-like support for families and host vulnerable children, providing day and/or overnight care, mentoring, transportation, and basic needs. Bethany utilizes a collective impact approach - in partnership with other organizations and volunteers, offering hope and support to families in our local communities located in Kent County. The three objectives of Safe Families are: 1. Keep children safe. 2. Support and stabilize families facing crisis. 3. Reunite families after day and/or overnight hosting and reduce the number of children entering child welfare.

### Source of Funding

No

### Long-Term Benefit

Since inception in 2003, over 50,000 children nationally have been kept safe from abuse and neglect, out of the foster care system, and together with their families. On average, the Grand Rapids (Kent County) Safe Families chapter provides overnight & day hosting arrangements for over 75 children and their families per year. 97% of families referred to the voluntary, short-term hosting services of Safe Families stay together; avoiding expensive foster care and trauma when families are separated.

### Partnership

Kent County Health Department,  
Pine Rest, West Michigan  
Partnership for Children, Safe  
Haven, Orchard Hill Reformed  
Church, Byron Center Bible  
Church, Arbor Circle, YWCA,  
Cherry Street Health Clinic



## Project Cost

**Minimum Cost:** \$600,000

**Maximum Cost:** \$600,000

**ARPA Request:** \$600,000

## Submitter Info

**Name:** Mark Dillingham

**Organization:**  
Bethany Safe Families Program

## Project Overview

**Funding Group:** Community Health  
**Project Theme:** Public Safety  
**Project Status:** Expanded Project  
**Matching Funds:** No

**Eligibility:** 

**Sustainability:** 

**Feasibility:** 

**Impact:** 

## Source of Funding

No

## Partnership

Kent County Health Department,  
Pine Rest, West Michigan  
Partnership for Children, Safe  
Haven, Orchard Hill Reformed  
Church, Byron Center Bible  
Church, Arbor Circle, YWCA,  
Cherry Street Health Clinic

## Intended Beneficiary

Families who are at-risk and on the cusp of neglecting/abusing their children are the intended primary beneficiaries and will reap the most from the continuation of the Safe Families Program in Kent County. However, as previously mentioned, Safe Families is committed to serving the entire age spectrum, specifically focusing on children. Safe Families interventions can and do have life changing and longlasting individual, family, and generational repercussions. Safe Families creates an engaged community where collaboration compounds to fight injustice and poverty at its very core. However, Safe Families' impact on the entire family (including brothers and sisters, grandparents, and other family members/those living with the serviced family members) also provide immense secondary benefits. Siblings of children in Safe Family care are often transported to/from school, are tutored, mentored, and befriended. Grandparents can be assisted with welfare checks, prescriptions, rides to appointments, and other services as needed to help break the cycle of social isolation so prevalent in the elderly. Lastly, tertiary Safe Family impacts include volunteers, and community partners like churches and referral agencies. When a community comes together to meet the needs of families in Kent County/Grand Rapids, anything is possible. In addition, the state and Federal government both benefit financially by keeping a child out of foster care and with their family who is being supported by Safe Families and other community professionals and volunteers. For example, one year of foster care carries a price tag of \$30,000 compared to \$3,000 for Safe Families support that includes the whole family for an entire year.

## Estimated Cost

\$600,000. This amount will allow Safe Families to provide enhanced outreach coordination and build capacity in our volunteer base and community partnerships. As was already mentioned, Safe Families' low cost, (volunteer driven, professionally supported) high impact effectiveness will allow for an exponential impact in a fiscally responsible and sustainable manner to continue to serve Kent County/Grand Rapids families facing crisis.

## Project Management Experience

Bethany Christian Services has many county funded programs across the country with county specific reporting requirements. Specifically, within Kent County, the agency has 2 Ready by 5 awards that the County Commissioners approved. In addition, many of our contracts are with local DHHS's or with State specific DHHS's that are specific to serving a range of 1 county to statewide. Within Kent County, we collaborate with the West Michigan Partnership for Children to provide child welfare services to children in Kent County. We serve between 150-200 children at any given point in time in partnership with WMPC. We can segregate our county, or regional funding, from other funding by giving it a unique code within our general ledger so that all revenue and expenses are tracked separately for each unique funding source (whether it is county, regional, or statewide). In addition, Safe Families possesses experience in applying for, managing, and executing County wide grants. Safe Families has earned numerous county wide grants in Michigan through Children Trust Michigan (formerly Children's Trust Fund), which is part of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Ottawa County (current grantee, two times), Grand Traverse County, and Kalamazoo County have all benefitted from this funding to help protect vulnerable children from abuse and neglect.



### Project Cost

**Minimum Cost:** \$600,000

**Maximum Cost:** \$600,000

**ARPA Request:** \$600,000

### Submitter Info

**Name:** Mark Dillingham

**Organization:**  
Bethany Safe Families Program

### Project Overview

**Funding Group:** Community Health  
**Project Theme:** Public Safety  
**Project Status:** Expanded Project  
**Matching Funds:** No

**Eligibility:**

**Sustainability:**

**Feasibility:**

**Impact:**

### Source of Funding

No

### Partnership

Kent County Health Department, Pine Rest, West Michigan Partnership for Children, Safe Haven, Orchard Hill Reformed Church, Byron Center Bible Church, Arbor Circle, YWCA, Cherry Street Health Clinic

### Federal Funds Experience

Through a nationwide budget of close to \$188 million, Bethany has extensive fiscal capacity and annually administers over 200 state and federal contracts for services in place through Headquarters and Regional offices. Bethany has extensive experience managing Federal and State funding streams, to include funding from the Office of Refugee Resettlement and has a strong understanding of leveraging braided and blended funding; in the past 15 years, it has managed over 3,600 grants totaling over \$317 million including \$265 million in Federal funding. As one recent example, Bethany received a five-year (500k per year) \$2.5 million-dollar Federal Health and Human Services grant entitled "Say Yes to FAMILY (Family Always Matters In the Life of Youth): A Holistic Approach to Innovative Kinship Placement and Support, Effective Shared Parenting, and Family-Centric System Transformation" at the end of 2021 to expedite the reunification of birth parents and their children who are living with relatives (kinship care) as part of the foster care system.

### Studies on Impact

The California Evidence-based Clearinghouse has already given Safe Families a HIGH Child Welfare Relevance Rating. Safe Families has not only submitted to the California Clearinghouse for inclusion as an evidenced based program, but Safe Families is aggressively pursuing being placed on the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse list of approved evidenced based programs (<https://preventionservices.abtsites.com/>) in accordance with the Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). If accepted as an evidenced based program, Safe Families will be one of a very few select prevention strategies that has completed research with families about to enter the foster care system. Current evidencebased support is promising. Initial 6-month findings of a low-cost Random Control Trial (RCT) in Illinois demonstrates that Safe Families is effective in reducing the number of kids entering foster care and preventing new referrals to the child welfare system. Led by Dr. Mark Testa, the RCT is expected in the next 18-24 months. Currently, Safe Families is rated an Evidence Informed program, and we rely heavily upon well known research based practices such as the Strengthening Families Model and National Family Support Network, for example.

### Supporting Documentation

1. [Letter of Support #1](#)
2. [Letter of Support #2](#)
3. [Letter of Support #3](#)
4. [Letter of Support #4](#)
5. [ARPA Addendum](#)

### Guidehouse Ranking Notes

**Eligibility**

*Community violence intervention programs are eligible*

**Sustainability**

*Sustainable design*

**Feasibility**

# PROJECT #8

## Empower Latino Families to Make Healthy Choices and Free from Violence



### Identify the Need for the Proposed Project

One in three families in Michigan are impacted by domestic violence, according to a 2021 report by Oakland County-based HAVEN. The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence indicated in 2020 that domestic violence crimes account for almost 40% of calls to police in Michigan, with over 100 domestic violence-related homicides occurring in Michigan each year. Domestic violence causes homelessness for nearly half of unhoused women and children in the state. In fact, approximately one in five female high school students report being physically or sexually abused by a dating partner. This is a cyclical crisis, with children who witness violence at home or in the community at higher risk of being violent in their relationships and becoming abusive themselves. These young people become teens and young adults who are more likely to fight with family members, skip schools or engage in risky behaviors like unprotected sex, using alcohol and drugs, fighting, bullying, or getting arrested, continuing the cycle of intergenerational violence. Internally, they are more susceptible to health problems like depression and anxiety.

### Brief Description

Our mission empowers Latinx families to make healthy choices and live free from violence. We promote the safety of rural and urban victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. Our culturally specific programming values diversity and addresses issues resulting from diverse cultural interactions, including language barriers, immigration challenges, perceived lack of viable options, and other serious problems. I know with your support, we will continue with our mission. Your financial support will enable us to expand our programs advocating social, educational, and employment development, child advocacy, and proactive engagement for Latinx families in our community.

### Long-Term Benefit

Empower Latinx families to live self-sufficient, safe, and authentic lives. Puertas Abiertas is uniquely equipped to empower transformative change. Our staff, volunteers, and program leaders come directly from the Latinx community, providing culturally competent programming. With the depth of our education and extensive experience, we can analyze issues accurately and provide effective solutions. As a result, we have robust client validation and trust.

### Intended Beneficiary

Puertas Abiertas targets the underserved population of Latinx women from remote areas of Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Honduras, Columbia, and Puerto Rico in Kent County, especially in the city of Grand Rapids and Wyoming. The Latino population in Michigan is the 20th largest in the US, "being 5% of the state population" with 16% living in Greater Grand Rapids areas. We want to reach at least 20% of Latinx women in the region who have been victims of domestic/intimate partners, dating violence victims/survivors, trafficking, and their dependent children. We had also opened our doors to male victims of abuse giving them a safe space to share, feel safe, and not be alone. The aforementioned statistics are also reflected by the number of referrals that Puertas Abiertas is receiving, which has increased 50% since 2020. In our first year of operation, Puertas Abiertas began with 13 women; all victims of domestic abuse, sexual abuse, and trafficking. In 2020, we began the year serving 125 families and ended the year serving 175 families. On December 31, 2022, Puertas Abiertas ended the year helping 313 families. Since January 1, 2022, we have been receiving an average of three new clients weekly and we are expecting to increase our numbers by 25%.

### Project Cost

**Minimum Cost:** \$358,372

**Maximum Cost:** \$358,372

**ARPA Request:** \$150,000

### Submitter Info

**Name:** Andrea Inostroza

**Organization:** Puertas Abiertas

### Project Overview

**Funding Group:** Community Health

**Project Theme:** Public Safety

**Project Status:** Existing Project

**Matching Funds:** 26-50%

**Eligibility:**



**Sustainability:**



**Feasibility:**



**Impact:**



### Source of Funding

Steelcase Foundation (\$30,000), Grand Rapids Community Foundation (40,000), Michigan Public Health Institute (80,000), among others

### Partnership

*(Listed in main description)*



## Project Cost

**Minimum Cost:** \$358,372

**Maximum Cost:** \$358,372

**ARPA Request:** \$150,000

## Submitter Info

**Name:** Andrea Inostroza

**Organization:** Puertas Abiertas

## Project Overview

**Funding Group:** Community Health

**Project Theme:** Public Safety

**Project Status:** Existing Project

**Matching Funds:** 26-50%

**Eligibility:** 

**Sustainability:** 

**Feasibility:** 

**Impact:** 

## Source of Funding

Steelcase Foundation (\$30,000), Grand Rapids Community Foundation (40,000), Michigan Public Health Institute (80,000), among others

## Partnership

(Listed in main description)

## Partnership

Calvin CRC Family Assistance, Clear Focus Counseling LLC, Dominican Sisters, Grand Rapids Community Foundation, Guatemalan Consulate in Chicago, Kent County District Library, Literacy Center of West Michigan, Michigan State University Extension - Kent County, Mexican Consulate in Detroit, CompreNew, Grow Hub GR, East Congregational Church, EXALTA Health, Heartside Gleaning, Linc Up, Mexo, MSU, Migrant Students' Service GED, Michigan Immigrant Rights Center, MSU Extension - Kent County, Natural Maya, Roosevelt Park Neighborhood, Spectrum Health Healthier Communities Mas Vida, More Life, Telamon, Touch of Life, Vida Acupuncture, West Michigan Migrant Resource Council, YMCA, Baby Scholar, Up Town Church, The Edge Church, Pik-Nik, B2 Outlet Store, Ventanilla de Salud Detroit, Help Pregnancy, Centro Multicultural la Familia, KSSN, Safe Haven, University of Michigan School of Dentistry, among others.

## Estimated Cost

358372

## Project Management Experience

Our experience is growing since we are getting clients for the majority of the county and others neighborhood counties.

## Federal Funds Experience

We do not have experience working with federal found. Our organization is ready to learn.

## Studies on Impact

At this time, we do not know any research studies that validate the effectiveness of our project. However, during 01/2022 and 04/2022 we have received 94 new clients. Since 2019, Puertas Abiertas has empowered more than 400 Latina women and 17 men in Kent County to make healthy choices and live free from domestic violence, trafficking, stalking and sexual discrimination.

## Supporting Documentation

- [1. Letter of Support #1](#)
- [2. Letter of Support #2](#)
- [3. Letter of Support #3](#)
- [4. Letter of Support #4](#)
- [5. Letter of Support #5](#)
- [6. Award Letter](#)

## Guidehouse Ranking Notes

 **Eligibility**

Violence prevention is eligible

 **Sustainability**

Expansive programs will need more funding in future but this is run by an organization

 **Feasibility**

More information needed on how funding will be used.

# PROJECT #145

## Personal Protection Order & Firearm Enforcement Plan



### Identify the need for the proposed project

In 2016 the Coalition to Oppose Domestic Abuse (CODA) began building a local network of organizations and individuals to advocate for the needs of women survivors of domestic abuse & human trafficking. Early on we became aware of the fact that a "forced relationship" is at its core, domestic abuse. In 2020, COVID-19 shifted the dynamics of abuse where Kent County expects domestic related homicides to double in 2022. In our research we unearthed and rekindled the findings within Governor John Engler's, Michigan Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Task Force report (1999) Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Task Force (DVHPTF) "The task force concluded the following findings: The public - from children to adults -- must be educated and made aware that domestic violence is not a private family matter, but a crime that hundreds of women live in fear of every day; Victims of domestic violence are often frustrated in their efforts to gain protection through the court system; No accurate or uniform system for reporting and standardizing data collection for domestic violence crimes and homicides currently exists, making it nearly impossible to track and study the incidents of abuse; and A standardized method of domestic violence prevention training is needed to prepare members of the judiciary and law enforcement community to better respond to victims' needs."

In our years of work throughout Michigan we discovered that the DVHPTF did not implement, nor fund the development of a statewide strategy to achieve their goal of ending domestic abuse homicides. Reports of domestic abuse, injury and homicides remained on par from 1999. Over the past two decades Michigan State Police collected more than two million reported incidents of domestic abuse, with nearly two thousand victims of domestic abuse ending in a fatality. Consequently the members of Kent County and Michiganders as a whole have suffered, preventable, yet irreparable, harm. Local government agencies have predicted that Domestic related homicides will double this year. We have learned that the untreated epidemic of domestic abuse is also fueling the surge in community violence. The DVHPTV has provided our local governments with a timeless synopsis of the gaps that are still in need of county and statewide implementation. Currently none of Michigan's counties have implemented a seamless and effective program focused on significantly reducing the number of domestic abuse offenses.

Since the state of Michigan does not mandate particular practices to be gathered and reviewed, the county and state wide officials are not following important data collection like, personal protection orders, to be tracked in order to better prevent unneeded violations, offenses, and worse yet preventable homicides related to domestic abuse.

CODA identified the need for this program by discovering that Kent County:

- Does not present recurring public education regarding the lasting impact of domestic abuse.
- Does not offer free of charge process serving for personal protection orders granted through the court. (-victims are required to pay on average \$150 to have their protection order served.)
- Does not ensure that PPO's are served and filed to completion
- Does not ensure that perpetrators comply with the court's order to surrender their firearm to local law enforcement pending the outcome of any domestic abuse charges or PPO issued against them. -
- Does not provide trauma and transitional recovery safety after the PPO is served, which is the most lethal period of time for a victim leaving their abuser. 45% of domestic related homicides occur within the first 90 days after deciding to leave the abuser.
- Does not collect data to track the effectiveness of PPO's and/or a perpetrator's continued abusive behavior in violation of the PPO.

### Project Cost

**Minimum Cost:** \$11,000,000

**Maximum Cost:** \$11,000,000

**ARPA Request:** \$11,000,000

### Submitter Info

**Name:** Troy Rienstra

**Organization:** Coalition to Oppose Domestic Abuse (CODA)

### Project Overview

**Funding Group:** Community Health

**Project Theme:** Public Safety

**Project Status:** Expanded Project

**Matching Funds:** No

**Eligibility:**



**Sustainability:**



**Feasibility:**



**Impact:**



### Source of Funding

*(Listed in main description)*

### Partnership

*(Listed in main description)*



## Project Cost

**Minimum Cost:** \$11,000,000

**Maximum Cost:** \$11,000,000

**ARPA Request:** \$11,000,000

## Submitter Info

**Name:** Troy Rienstra

**Organization:** Coalition to Oppose Domestic Abuse (CODA)

## Project Overview

**Funding Group:** Community Health

**Project Theme:** Public Safety

**Project Status:** Expanded Project

**Matching Funds:** No

**Eligibility:**



**Sustainability:**



**Feasibility:**



**Impact:**



## Source of Funding

*(Listed in main description)*

## Partnership

*(Listed in main description)*

## Brief Description

Currently, the state of Michigan does not mandate the tracking of personal protection orders (PPO's). Our organization began looking deeper at the value and protection associated with PPO's. Without understanding the progression of offense that is taking place and acting accordingly we are unable to provide the proper safety measures to victims who are experiencing violations of their PPO. CODA is proposing implementations for better practices regarding tracking and safety. The victim is currently responsible for paying an average fee of \$150 to have a PPO served on their abuser. 98% of victims exiting abusive relationships are also experiencing financial abuse and do not have funding to cover the cost to have their protection served and filed with the court. CODA proposes free personal protection order process service to victims of domestic abuse to guarantee the order is served and active for the victim. We can connect the areas of lethality from victims leaving abusive relationships and then serving a PPO on the offender, this phase of transition usually instigates a reaction in the form of violence toward the victim and or the children involved. We propose a stronger ring of communication to be implemented ensuring all departments and agencies involved are knowing current situations to better protect and prevent. CODA also proposes the Firearms Enforcement Team for Domestic Abuse (FETDA) to be activated. Being able to confiscate firearms from DV offenders or perpetrator

## Long-Term Benefit

Reduced homicide & injury related to DV. Safer community presence due to less firearms in the hands of perpetrators of domestic abuse. Enforceable protection for victims at no cost associated with having it served. When PPO's are reviewed & tracked we are able to stay ahead of excess violence that would otherwise occur. Communication between the PPO branch, law enforcement, prosecutors office & advocacy agencies allows important updates on violations for protection & preventive action.

## Intended Beneficiary

The intended beneficiary will be the victim, the victims family and friends as well as the community of Kent County. The ability to properly serve and file a victims PPO will allow immediate documented safety. Being able to track PPO's properly will allow the safety that PPO's were designed to provide. FETDA's contribution to community safety by revoking firearm usage to offenders will benefit the victim and their children as well as innocent bystanders and law enforcement in a domestic abuse situation.

## \*Partnership

The Regional Domestic Violence Firearms Enforcement Unit, (RDVFEU)in King County, Seattle WA. The Unit is comprised of law enforcement personnel, firearm prosecutors and a firearm advocate to assist families and victims. Their systemic change of incorporating the firearm unit to work alongside their personal protection order dept has provided lower homicides and victim safety in King County. As a community-based organization with direct access, CODA, serves as a liaison between people experiencing domestic abuse and system agents. Seattle's team, RDVFEU demonstrates a strong illustration of the model CODA plans to implement in Kent County.

*(continued on next page)*



## Project Cost

**Minimum Cost:** \$11,000,000

**Maximum Cost:** \$11,000,000

**ARPA Request:** \$11,000,000

## Submitter Info

**Name:** Troy Rienstra

**Organization:** Coalition to Oppose Domestic Abuse (CODA)

## Project Overview

**Funding Group:** Community Health

**Project Theme:** Public Safety

**Project Status:** Expanded Project

**Matching Funds:** No

**Eligibility:**



**Sustainability:**



**Feasibility:**



**Impact:**



## Source of Funding

*(Listed in main description)*

## Partnership

*(Listed in main description)*

## \*Partnership (continued)

This implementation ensures process serving of protection orders is achieved for all individuals seeking service that were granted the order (regardless of financial burdens). While providing survivor knowledge of perpetrator gun ownership to the Firearms Enforcement Team for Domestic Abuse (FETDA). Our FETDA program gives us an advisory position to local law enforcement for the safe collection of temporarily restricted firearms. Again, bridging the gap of communication between advocates and local agencies. As a training center for Serving 83, CODA will be bridging the gap between law enforcement and process serving, partnering with this public sector is key for our sustainability plan. Serving 83 LLC, sustainability partner, will host local and national leaders to exchange strategies and best practices in harm reduction and successful transition. Serving 83 will offer certified training in process serving as a vocation and an opportunity for job placement in a larger scope beyond the personal protection order service. Leaders such as The Center for Court Innovation, experts in the field of domestic violence prevention. providing community-led, data-driven support to jurisdictions across the country looking to enhance responses to domestic violence. The Joyce Foundation who leads the anti-violence territory in advanced research has proven to be a strong partner through information sharing and early strategic planning. DataWise Consulting LLC is a local West Michigan data tracking company that specializes in large scale research projects. CODA's research and discovery pertaining to the data collection of personal protection orders will be managed by DataWise to create a five-year impact report to demonstrate the value of our work. CODA has received several referrals from the YWCA in Grand Rapids to serve free personal protection orders for victims they represent. We would like to believe this gives us the ability to have a strong working relationship with them moving forward, as we recognize the value their services bring to the intersection of our work. For domestic violence to begin to minimize in our community we understand it takes many leaders working together with the same mindset for decrease. We are active members of the Grand Rapids, DVCCRT which is comprised of dozens of agencies and advocacy organizations doing their part to end domestic abuse. We hope to bring a more formal and organized working relationship individually with organizations such as Safe Haven who stands against community violence as part of our working network of advocates. We have worked with the Kent County Prosecutor regarding input and support with our development and implantation process and believe this relationship as well, will be able to continue moving forward in a healthy direction as we become further established in our work. To our own credit we are a very diverse coalition that has an expansive network reaching statewide as well as nationally. Creating collaborative and intentional relationships in Kent County at large is instrumental to our work. Allowing us to bring network partners that are not native to Kent County also strengthens the work we are capable of achieving with greater success being demonstrated in the communities of Kent County.

## Estimated Cost

11000000

## \*Source of Funding

We do not have initial project match funds, however, the organizations listed are available to help with the continuation of the services as the project nears 2026. Center for Court Innovation out of New York has done a great deal of work with systemic updates to the judicial system and community safety measures. Our colleague has had a long working relationship with this organization and has connected us for further advancement. They work to aid courts and communities to respond creatively and effectively to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence. Their organization does not provide funding; however, they are heavily connected nationally on a platform of systemic change offering our organization the resources through networking and connections to be able to attain further monetary dollars. The Joyce foundation offers funding for preventive community gun violence measures. Our relationship with them has allowed for shared information and resources pertaining to community safety with a strong tie to domestic violence and the intersection of gun violence.

*(continued on next page)*





## Project Cost

**Minimum Cost:** \$11,000,000

**Maximum Cost:** \$11,000,000

**ARPA Request:** \$11,000,000

## Submitter Info

**Name:** Troy Rienstra

**Organization:** Coalition to Oppose Domestic Abuse (CODA)

## Project Overview

**Funding Group:** Community Health

**Project Theme:** Public Safety

**Project Status:** Expanded Project

**Matching Funds:** No

**Eligibility:**



**Sustainability:**



**Feasibility:**



**Impact:**



## Source of Funding

*(Listed in main description)*

## Partnership

*(Listed in main description)*

## \*Source of Funding (continued)

They support organizations, such as ours, with economic mobility in the Great Lakes Regions. They offer yearly grant cycles and sustainability partnerships. The Fremont Foundation, who invited CODA to present our plans to a group of their diverse leadership has informed us of funding opportunities that will be available for the work we are pursuing. They, also, have open grant cycles yearly that our organization can benefit from. CODA has embraced several privately funded opportunities throughout the past year. Organized strategic planning sessions with these funding outlets based on the level of preparation and desired projection of the anticipated goals CODA has designed to achieve. With our private funders recognizing the scale of our vision, ARPA seed money will produce the initial capacity for infrastructure and development. These private funders will then be able to contribute accordingly as we near closer to the 2026 timeframe. Our intentional relationship with Serving 83 will bring a large portion of our sustainability for operational funding before the four-year marker expires. Serving 83, created by CODA as a private funding source that provides process serving services in all 83 counties in Michigan. The design of CODA's relationship with Serving 83 is to ensure sustainability through training and employment of process servers, perpetual personal safety clinics trainings and teach-in conferences on community safety. Additionally, the company will denote significant funding from paid services to benefit the service for victims of abuse to have their services completed with no charge occurred on them. CODA anticipates the exposure of Serving 83 to be highlighted through the social justice work they are providing to open further doors in the process serving field, ultimately gaining more paid clients. CODA's principal model on organizational funding is self-sustainability. Our estimated annual cost of operation to fully serve Kent County beyond 2026 is \$2 million annually. Our sustainability plan conceptually similar to a fully self-funded not-for profit sister organization -Thistle Farms in Tennessee, whose annual revenue exceeds \$5 million annually. We believe in relying on the time, talents, and treasures that we find within the people and communities in which we work, play, and live in. Therefore, we know this opportunity to work together towards ending abuse and violence inspires a cultural change of interpersonal relationships. Providing a new appreciation of safety and wellness in our community presents the opportunity for those who live in safety, to provide safety for those who are at risk.

## Project Management Experience

We have already begun serving PPO's for victims in Kent County on a smaller production level. However, with previous experience also being in policy change and leading the state wide, clean slate campaign policy change.

## Federal Funds Experience

We have never applied for federal funding previously, however, we have the capacity and personnel to manage funding through this source of income.

## Studies on Impact

Yes, we have discovered research from King County, Seattle that modified their PPO department to include servicing and created a firearms unit to recover firearms from offenders. They posted a great deal of findings from their experience and modification process. The DART program from Michigan also reflected information we found supportive of this project's development. As well as the Georgia Domestic Violence Fatality Review Project.



## Supporting Documentation

- [1. Letter of Support #1](#)
- [2. Letter of Support #2](#)
- [3. Letter of Support #3](#)
- [4. Letter of Support #4](#)
- [5. Homicide Statistics](#)

## Project Cost

**Minimum Cost:** \$11,000,000

**Maximum Cost:** \$11,000,000

**ARPA Request:** \$11,000,000

## Submitter Info

**Name:** Troy Rienstra

**Organization:** Coalition to Oppose Domestic Abuse (CODA)

## Project Overview

**Funding Group:** Community Health

**Project Theme:** Public Safety

**Project Status:** Expanded Project

**Matching Funds:** No

**Eligibility:**



**Sustainability:**



**Feasibility:**



**Impact:**



## Source of Funding

(Listed in main description)

## Partnership

(Listed in main description)

## Guidehouse Ranking Notes



**Eligibility**

*Potentially eligible. Additional information will be needed if the proposal moves forward in the process.*



**Sustainability**

*Unclear on long-term plan.*



**Feasibility**



# PROJECT #336

## Shields & Arrows Initiative

### Identify the need for the proposed project

I am a certified Basic Firearm and Cpl instructor , over the last few years our community has experience a increase in legal firearm ownership as well as illegally activities involving a firearm. In addition to just firearm safety , deescalation techniques , the basic principles of situational awareness, first aid , disaster preparedness, fire safety and healthy interactions with law enforcement have all been absent and/or the resources for better understand these elements to improve our community non existent.

### Brief Description

The Shields & Arrows Initiative will provide access to information and training , free or at a reduced price for everyone. In safe spaces that can save lives and improve relations between law enforcement and citizens.

### Long-Term Benefit

Better informed, trained and prepared citizens make a safer and smarter community. That can drastically reduce the crime rate and increase the quality of living for everyone.

### Intended Beneficiary

This project is intended to benefit everyone but the focus would be to service those citizens who are most impacted by poverty and income inequalities that have been present in our community.

### Estimated Cost

\$500,000

### Project Management Experience

I have been part of several small - mid range community projects , and other private projects , in addition I have assistance in this from experienced individuals running programs on a national government level.

### Federal Funds Experience

Very little but we have assistance from others who have, to help us navigate those waters .

### Studies on Impact

With the ambitions of the project , it's not just one study or report that can cover everything we aim to achieve for our community.

### Project Cost

**Minimum Cost:** \$500,000

**Maximum Cost:** \$500,000

### Submitter Info

**Name:** Damien Allen

**Organization:**

Freedom Elevated Defense Solutions

### Project Overview

**Funding Group:** Community Health

**Project Theme:** Public Safety

**Project Status:** Expanded Project

**Matching Funds:** No

**Eligibility:**



**Sustainability:**



**Feasibility:**



**Impact:**



### Source of Funding

n/a

### Partnership

n/a

### Guidehouse Ranking Notes

**Eligibility**

*This does not appear to be relevant to any of the eligible expenditure categories, is not clearly consistent with the statutory purpose of ARPA*

**Sustainability**

*No clear plan beyond 2026, but may not intend to run beyond then.*

**Feasibility**

*Would be doable*