Meeting with City Council March 28, 2022

Full Pre-Read Document

Welcome and Introductions

NextUp Team:

- Candace Simon Benn, Director of Continuous Improvement & Evaluation

- Barbara Couto Sipe, President & CEO

- Jeanine Turner, Director of Program Services

NextUp Overview and Results

WHO WE ARE

- Nonprofit organization located in City of Richmond

- Expanded-learning system composed of community leaders and service providers.

- Committed to ensuring youth have access to meaningful OST experiences

WE BELIEVE

- When young people participate in high-quality out-of-school time (OST) programs, they benefit academically, physically and socially.

- The more coordinated our collective efforts, the more extensive our reach, the greater the impact we can make in our children's present and future.

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What We Do

- Manage year-round access to STEM, Arts, Sports, Wellness and Career/Leadership learning experiences in partnership with schools and at no-cost to families

- Manage a centralized registration process for youth and data management information system for providers and schools

- Facilitate the development of our program providers using data-informed decision making and professional development

- Strengthen the policies that support quality OST

- Raise and manage funds for programs

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NextUp's Experience Managing and Funding Programs

- Distributes more than $1M annually to youth-serving providers through subgrants and contracts
  - Over 60 unique providers
  - 50% nonprofit
  - 50% community entrepreneurs and small businesses
  - 41% minority led or owned

- Manages open, competitive RFP and review process 2x per year. Applications reviewed by NextUp Advisory Committee.

- Executes contracts for services and monitors contract compliance

- Coordinates and aligns the delivery of all services across six middle schools

- Monitors outputs/outcomes for all funded programs and facilitates trainings to address best practices

City of Richmond Positive Youth Development and Youth Violence Prevention Project Plan

Establish a community-oriented team comprised of a variety of stakeholders to assess shooting and homicide cases and provide insight into the nature of homicides from individual, community, social determinants of health and root cause perspectives to better understand the issue and prevent future shootings

Homicide & Shooting Review Commission

Crisis Intervention & Wraparound Support

Development of a Community Response to Shootings and Other Acts of Violence. Community organizations that are able to provide participants and their families with access to healthcare, employment, housing, etc.

Enhance prevention efforts for youth and their parents, young adults/adults, and communities most impacted by gun violence. This component may include the following:
- Workforce Development initiative for youth and young adults
- Enhanced community programming/mentoring for youth
- Behavioral health/mental support for participants and community members
- Support for returning individuals (formerly incarcerated persons)
- Community education and resources

Prevention

Richmond GVP Framework

Intensive Case Management

Supportive Initiatives that Assist Victims of Violence with Transitioning Back into their Communities:

- Bridging the Gap

Concentrated Training in De-escalation, Conflict Resolution, Motivational Interviewing, Family Mediation, Substance Misuse, & Gang Tactics. Evaluation and evidence-based practices utilized throughout model.

Training & Quality Assurance

Credible Messengers

Immediate Response for Families, Friends, and Survivors:

- Beside Response: VCU Health System
- Community-Wide Response utilizing existing partners and community members.

Retrieved from Gun Violence Prevention Workgroup presentation

$1M ARPA Funds to Focus on Prevention

Utilize strategies to prevent youth violence by promoting positive youth development:

- Promoting family environments that support healthy development;

- Strengthening youth's skills;

- Connecting youth to caring adults and activities;

- Creating protective community environments; and

- Intervening to lessen harms and prevent future risk

Key Learnings So Far

- The largest gap in regular program offerings is for teens, 12 and up. This is also the most vulnerable group for youth violence.

- There is not enough awareness of what programs are available for teens and families. There are many incredible people, organizations and groups serving youth every day. Shared marketing and communications of programming will allow greater access for families.

- Grassroots organizations need better access to funding and more exposure

- Grassroots organizations need more access to training and professional development opportunities

- The city needs a network of organizations, large and small, non-profit and for-profit, to provide ecosystem of youth services, and to collaborate and share learnings

- There is very limited data tracking done by individual organizations and even less data tracking done across programs. Measuring impact through data collection is a way to inform decisions, track progress and make adjustments.

Project Plan

- **Focus on youth, 12 to 19 y.o., who reside in priority census tracts determined by City**

- **Establish a task group of community members to guide the project in conjunction with NextUp's governance structure**

- **Utilize a transparent, simple funding application process to award ARPA funding to organizations and community groups. Per City, funds can be used for:**
  - Out of School Time (OST) programming
  - Parenting/family support
  - Mental health support for youth
  - Youth tutoring
  - Youth mentoring
  - Community-building activities (micro grants)

- **Host two RFP cycles. One in April for summer programming. Second in July/August for September-June programming. Will do more if funds are available.**

Project Plan, cont.

- **Applications will be reviewed by a joint team of NextUp's Advisory Committee and PYD/YVP Task Group members**

- **NextUp will track youth participation and outcomes through its NEXIS data system. All funded OST programs will be trained on NEXIS and have access to data management system.**

- **NextUp will add funded OST programs to its online Program Locator for families**

- **NextUp will create outreach, marketing materials and will work with the City, Schools, Task Group and Community to market programs to families and teens**

- **VCU's Healthy Communities for Youth will assist small organizations/groups with application process and NextUp will arrange positive youth development trainings for funded programs**

Proposed Allocation of $1M ARPA Funds

$17,500

$4,500

$100,000

$877,500
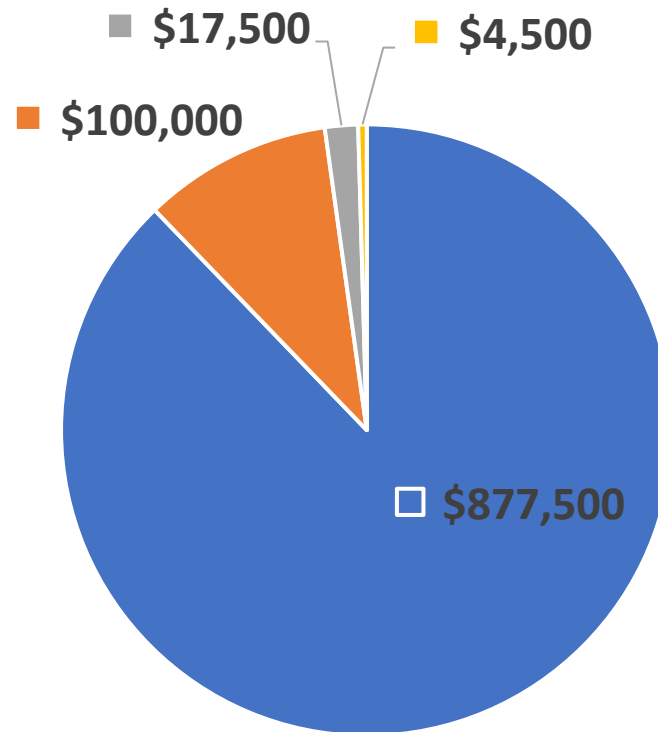
- Funding awards to community-based organizations and groups
- Operation, evaluation, fiscal management support
- Professional development and trainings for providers
- Outreach and communications to families and youth

PROJECT TIMELINE THROUGH SUMMER

Feb-Mar '22	Apr '22	May '22	June '22	July '22	Aug-Sept

Feb-Mar '22
- ✓ **Listening and Researching**
- ✓ **Establish Task Group**
- ✓ **Create draft RFP**
- Task Group meeting

Apr '22
- Release RFP application to the public
- Provide TA sessions for applicants
- Task Group meeting
- Provide training for grant application reviewers

May '22
- Review grant applications
- Determine grant award amounts
- Task Group meeting to receive funding recommendations

June '22
- Submit funding recommendations to City for approval
- Notify applicants of decisions and execute contracts
- Set up NEXIS profiles and begin data collection trainings

July '22
- Conduct PD and database training
- Release funds and monitor activities
- Task Group meeting to assess and implement RFP cycle for SY
- RFP TA Session

Aug-Sept
- End of summer program activities
- Conduct PD and database training
- Analyze learnings and findings from summer cycle; report to stakeholders
- Review grant applications
- Task Group meeting

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Positive Youth Development & Youth Violence Prevention Task Group

Task Group's Role

- Inform the fund's scope (ie. targets, award categories and standard amounts, priorities, timelines, support services)

- Help draft RFP documents submitted to City for final approval

- Participate in grant reviews and funding decisions

- Inform monitoring, continuous quality improvement and reporting practices

Developing the Task Group

- **8-11 members from various sectors of the community representing** – credible messengers, community advocates, business professionals, research professionals, etc., who all have a passion for youth, families and the overall community

- **Avoid conflict of interest** – members' organizations are not eligible to apply for funding. All members complete NextUp's Conflict of Interest form.

- **Advise the design and implementation of the project–** to provide input and feedback on the grant process from start to completion and ensure transparency

Task Group Members

Name	Organization
Heidi Abbott	HUNTON Andrews Kurth LLP
Chanel Bea	Smart Beginnings Greater Richmond
Torey Edmonds	Virginia Commonwealth University
Jermaine Funchus	Capital One
Elizabeth Gilmore	Bon Secours
Taekia Glass	Mending Walls RVA
C.J. Lee	Community Foundation of greater Richmond
Sherri Robinson	Show Love, LLC
Cruz Sherman	Cruz Inc Media, Marketing & PR
Special Advisor	
Samuel Brown (Community Safety Coordinator)	City of Richmond

Accountability, Evaluation, Support Services and Budget Plan

What We Will Evaluate & Report to City

Outputs:

- # Youth served by funded programs and by priority census tract

- Youth participation rates

- Attendance at funded events

- Awardees and award amounts

Outcomes:

- Social-emotional indicators*

- School outcomes of attendance, behavior, course performance*
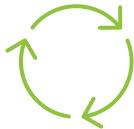

*Requires parent consent (NextUp will provide forms)

Monitoring, CQI and Reporting

Using NEXIS (NextUp's Expanded learning Information System) to track and report youth participation and outcomes.
Click to add text

Training on using data to inform program quality and continuous improvement.

Reporting on youth outcomes through survey, participation and school data.

NEXIS for Data Collection

Types of Data that can be tracked in NEXIS:

- Youth Participant and Family Information (from registration form), data include:
  - Demographic information
  - Household information
  - Parent/Guardian and Emergency Contacts
  - Medical and Allergy Information
  - Consents, Media Release and Waivers

- Program Information (Schedule, description, and focus area)

- Daily Program Attendance

- Social-Emotional assessment information

- School outcomes through integration with RPS Aspen Data system to retrieve student records

Evaluating Participation

- All programs will have a profile on NEXIS to track youth registration and participation

- Programs will be asked to collect Youth Registration Information, Consents, Releases and Waivers prior to program start
  - If programs do not have a registration form, they can use the template provided by NextUp
  - Programs with existing registration processes or forms can upload data directly to NEXIS

- Programs will be asked to enter program information in NEXIS and track program attendance **weekly**
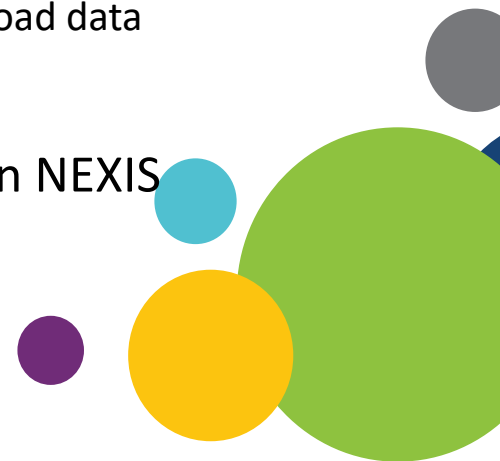
Evaluating Social-Emotional Skills

- NextUp utilizes the SAYO-Y (Survey of Academic Youth Outcomes) to learn more about youths' experiences, attitudes, perceptions, and beliefs in key related areas related to their future success.
  - Program Experiences (engagement and enjoyment, perceptions of the social environment, supportive relationship with staff member, challenge/skill-building, and responsibility and leadership)
  - Future Expectations (future planning, expectations, aspirations, and college/career planning)
  - Sense of Competence (academics, getting along with others, and competency as a learner)
- SAYO-Y can be administered online or on paper
- SAYO-Y will be administered towards the end of the program's session
- Takes youth approx. 10 minutes to complete

Evaluating School Outcomes

- NextUp retrieves student record data directly from the RPS Aspen data system using an API (transfer of data between Aspen and Cityspan)

- Only students with signed parent/guardian consent are retrieved from Aspen

- Data retrieved from Aspen include:
    - Student Demographic Information
    - School Attendance Records
    - School Behavior Records
    - School Academic Records

Trainings and Technical Assistance from NextUp

- **Trainings and Technical Assistance:**
    - Collecting and Tracking Registration and Consent Forms
    - NEXIS Data System
    - Understanding FERPA
    - Administering the SAYO-Y to youth participants
    - Using Data for Continuous Quality Improvement

- Templates and Forms
    - Program registration form
    - Evaluation consent form

NextUp Evaluation and CQI Department will have Office Hours for Technical Assistance

Scope of Services: Training and Professional Development

Youth Development

- **Content-specific**
- **Trends and best practices**

Organizational Development

- **Infrastructure and administration**
- **RFP technical assistance**

Data, Evaluation and Quality Improvement

- **NEXIS (**Data System**)**
- **FERPA (Data Privacy)**
- **Using Data for Continuous Quality Improvement**

Summer 2022 Grant Process

Summer Priorities

- Implement with urgency. Youth are very vulnerable to risky behaviors, learning loss, and to be victims of crime during summer. Inversely, summer offers opportunity to engage youth in positive activities that will help them learn beyond the classroom.

- Ensure daytime, evening and weekend programs are available to youth residing in priority census tracts.

- Test and learn so we can launch Fall RFP for September-June activities

Summer RFP Key Dates

- RFP released by April 15, 2022

- Virtual technical assistance training will be provided for all applicants on the following dates and times:

  - Apr. 14, 2022, 11:00am

  - Apr. 27, 2022, 2:00pm

- VCU's Healthy Communities for Youth will provide 1:1 assistance to small organizations

Questions and Final Thoughts