



Resiliency in Communities After Stress and Trauma 2023 ReCAST Grant Recipients

Special Initiative Project Summaries

1) A Greenhouse for Aspen Farms

Serving Mill Creek-Parkside

Under a New Dawn Inc., A Greenhouse for Aspen Farms aims to strengthen families affected by community violence through information and education using art therapy, SAT prep, yoga and building a greenhouse.

2) Be Well Philly

Serving Cobbs Creek and Mill Creek-Parkside

Blue Pearl Healing and Wellness is using a Table Talk-esque facilitated by trained mental professionals aimed to provide the necessary tools to adolescents in West and Southwest Philadelphia to increase emotional stability, enhance conflict resolution skills and further express themselves using communication tools that will foster peace.

3) Round Table Talks

Serving Cobbs Creek and Mill Creek-Parkside

Under Rising Hope for Change, Round Table Talks will continue the ReCAST Table Talk model to facilitate conversations with youth for trauma reduction and sustained community change.

4) Beloved Care Project

Serving Cobbs Creek and Paschall-Kingsessing

Beloved Care Project is an initiative that helps youth identify and cope with gun violence and its after-effects on families, neighborhoods and schools using healing sessions. Mentoring, music and art are also used as added pathways to healing.

5) Finding Hope After Violence

Serving Cobbs Creek and Paschall-Kingsessing

Spectrum Success 911's project, Finding Hope After Violence, is a 5-day program for families to approach stress and trauma using reading and literature as the base and pathway to healing from trauma.

6) The Restorative Project

Serving Cobbs Cree, Mill Creek-Parkside and Paschall-Kingsessing

Under Collective Climb, The Restorative Community Project (RCP) is a paid 3-month violence prevention fellowship, training 12 teenagers as Restorative Justice Practitioners to proactively address harms in their communities before they escalate into irreparable violence.

7) Ethiopians for Strengthening Community Mental Health

Serving Cobbs Creek, Mill Creek-Parkside, and Paschall-Kingsessing

Under Ethiopian Community Association of Greater Philadelphia, ESCMH seeks to address the stress and trauma of gun violence by supplying support for the culturally specific sub-stressors of family and parents being survivors of political atrocities, as well as cultural adjustments to culture shock of being uprooted from home.

8) Table Talks

Serving Mill Creek-Parkside, Cobbs Creek and Nicetown-Tioga

A Home is a Right (AHARI) is using a veteran to youth mentorship model along with ReCAST's Table Talk mode to support youth's healthy social, emotional and mental wellbeing to build resilience.

9) We SPEAK

Serving Strawberry Mansion and Cobbs Creek

Through WE Reign, the WeSPEAK project will build community knowledge about mental health literacy, traditional and Urban ACEs; support youth and families in developing communication and coping skills to reduce the impact of stress to manage it, de-escalate tension, and build healthy relationships through nonviolent communication using workshops and discussions.

10) "Me First" Community Care Summit

Serving Strawberry Mansion

All in The Family CDC (Community Development Corporations) is hosting a summit-based resource day for community awareness of mental health and wellness resources available in their neighborhood and Philadelphia overall.

11) Village Youth

Serving Strawberry Mansion

All in the Family Community Development Corporation presents Village Youth. Under the advisement of Coach Kook, youth and families will engage in a one-day event of structural recreational outlet activities, positive peer group interaction, and working on life skills.

12) Guns Down!...We Are Better than This

Serving Strawberry Mansion

Under Safe Haven, Guns Down!... is taking the approach of youth mentoring the younger generation for peer-to-peer connection, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) and mental health training.

13) Youth Leadership Training

Serving Sharswood-Stanton and Strawberry Mansion

Central Division Victims Services seeks to support up to 100 youth in the 6th, 9th and 22nd police districts with leadership, trauma and environmental support trainings to connect youth to their neighborhood and its resources as a method to mitigating gun violence.

14) Peacemakers

Serving Sharswood-Stanton and Strawberry Mansion

Frontline Dads is using data collection, surveys, peace gardens, community townhalls, entrepreneurship and innovation classes to mitigate youth gun violence under the Peacemakers project.

15) Ifunanya Project

Serving Sharswood-Stanton and Strawberry Mansion

Greater Enon CDC will work with other faith-based organizations for youth-serving virtual townhalls with law enforcement and the DA and provide enrichment events to foster community resilience amongst families.

16) Day One not Day Two – Ascension

Serving Sharswood-Stanton, Strawberry Mansion and Tioga-Nicetown

DayOneNotDayTwo seeks support in funding Ascension – a music production program that provides young artists with stipends to create socially responsible music & poetry that directly challenges the harmful narratives fed through mainstream media.

17) Life Beyond the Trauma

Serving Strawberry Mansion and Tioga-Nicetown

Living for Tomorrow Inc.'s project Life Beyond Trauma aims to build community and coping skills using fun and informative engagement activities to reduce stress and support wellness.

18) Project Always Receiving

Serving Tioga-Nicetown

Project Always Receiving is engaging youth using exposure to college via career day, creating community gardens, and neighborhood wellness forums to support stress and trauma relief.

19) Tioga United - #TidyinTioga

Serving Tioga-Nicetown

Tioga United is using neighborhood cleanup on the same day as a work and pay model to open a window to offering supportive services to its neighborhood youth under #TidyinTioga.

20) The Nice Space Youth Leadership Initiative

Serving Tioga-Nicetown

Nicetown Community Development Corporation is using family support, neighborhood cleanup, community gardening and employment opportunities to envelop youth by community as an effort to reduce gun violence through the Nice Space Youth Leadership initiative.

ReCAST Cycle 1 Project Summaries

1) Literacy and More

Serving Millcreek-Parkside

Strength in Overcoming Adversity and Resilience (S.O.A.R) uses nutritional and cultural wellness as the pathways to connecting and building resilience with the youth through combined experiences of exposure to a local entrepreneur, experiences in green spaces, and literacy.

2) Let's Grub in our Safe Hub

Serving Paschall-Kingsessing

Kings Intro to Leadership is providing safe spaces for youth to discuss trauma, using workshops focusing on topics such as conflict resolution, self-esteem, healthy lifestyle and others.

3) Youth Empowerment Program

Serving Cobbs Creek

A+W, A Plus, Inc. is reducing stress and trauma by reducing blight along the 60th St corridor, fortifying a community garden alongside youth, while giving youth access and opportunity to be mentored by business owners to build resilience.

4) Black Urban Theatre Camp

Serving Sharswood-Stanton

Centennial Parkside CDC is hosting a 6-week summer camp for mental health and healing. In connection with Spiral Q, they will host a culmination play called 'Mocha Berry', an urban, Black Snow White and the 7 dwarves with each of the dwarves depicting a facet of the urban Black youth experience.

5) Safer Neighborhoods Project

Serving Cobbs Creek & Paschall-Kingsessing

ACANA is hosting a one day, community wide health and wellness event for those family and community members who are most impacted by violence and crimes. Afterwards, hosting bi-weekly education sessions around health and wellness topics such as stress and mental health.

6) Cobbs Creek Art Club

Cobbs Creek

Amber Art and Design is hosting monthly workshops to inspire creativity and experimentation with various art mediums for art-based therapy and wellness and fostering community.

7) Leaving all Street Troubles. Just about Betterment-Last Jab

Serving Paschall-Kingsessing

Last Jab is a talk-based mentorship restorative practice organization that will provide other elements such as art therapy, community service and financial literacy for youth who have been most impacted by gun violence and the criminal justice system.

8) Kings University

Serving Paschall-Kingsessing

Mentor Leaders produce Mentor Leaders is primarily focusing on counseling alongside comprehensive workshops like SAT prep, career counseling, Math, ELA, etc.) as violence prevention.

9) Greater Hope Christian Academy Evening Program

Serving Millcreek-Parkside & Paschall-Kingsessing

Greater Hope Ministries is providing young adults with night classes to obtain their diploma.

10) Fortress Arts: Strong Ties to Economic Revitalization FA:STER

Serving Paschall-Kingsessing

Fortress Arts is offering art-making, facilitated discussions around complex social issues, workshops on interpersonal communication, community gardening and job and entrepreneurship development and training.

11) Creating a Road to Resiliency through Soccer

Serving Tioga-Nicotown

Fairmount Soccer Association (FSA) is providing 2-week long soccer clinics for youth ages 6-13, internships for youth 14 and older, and sponsoring community members to become referees.

12) Summer Nights

Serving Sharswood-Stanton & Cobbs Creek

Eddie's House will offer a community table, healing & learning circles, social activities and a community-identified project to mitigate community violence.

13) Transformative Mentoring Program

Serving Sharswood-Stanton & Strawberry Mansion

Committed Community Mentors, Inc. Is hosting an 8-week mentoring program to include cognitive behavioral therapy for youth to support behavior change and personal development.

14) Young Leaders Building Next Now YLBNN

Serving Nicetown-Tioga

Bringing Everybody Together is working with various partner organizations to bring field trips, mentorship, seminars, activities, and community events to promote healing and hope to youth and community members in the Nicetown-Tioga neighborhood.

15) Versus

Serving Millcreek-Parkside & Paschall-Kingsessing

Acting Up Acting Out drama school is hosting a three-part workshop series project that focuses on different conflict resolution through theatre, role play and acting.

16) Art for Social Change

Serving all ReCAST neighborhoods

Bringing Everybody Together and Philadelphia Philm Factory are working with various partner organizations to host the Take One Youth Mentorship pilot program with high schoolers from across the city for creative expression, critical thinking, filmmaking, and financial literacy.

17) After School Scouts

Serving Cobbs Creek

Cradle of Liberty and Boys Scouts of America will work from the Cobbs Creek Recreational Center to bring experiential learning, community service projects and mentorship through proven curriculum to the youth of Cobbs Creek.

18) Umoja Youth Peace Corps

Cobbs Creek & Strawberry Mansion

House of Umoja and Mama Gail's Community Education Network and other, various partner organizations to bring mental and physical wellness through the Peace Suite, entrepreneurship, art therapy, and blockchain basics (incorporating Umoja's Block Parent Block by Block program) to promote and sustain neighborhood and youth healing.

19) Do You Want to Play?

Serving Sharswood-Stanton & Strawberry Mansion

North Philly Project is running a youth basketball and enrichment program to create a safe space, promote teamwork, leadership and provide resources using basketball as the introduction.

20) Team Up

Serving Cobbs Creek & Paschall-Kingsessing

Rising Hope for Change is using career planning, leadership skill-building, and neighborhood cleanup as a way to support youth trauma and resilience.

21) Youth Exercising Solidarity in Southwest

Serving Cobbs Creek, Millcreek-Parkside & Paschall-Kingsessing

Spectrum Success 911 trains youth to deal with trauma and improve their own mental health for the wellbeing of their community.

22) Silence the Violence Summer Program

Serving Strawberry Mansion

SMART Corp. Will provide summer educational and career training for at-risk youth in Strawberry Mansion, incorporating art and nature walks.

23) Ultimate Dreamers Conflict Resolution

Serving Millcreek-Parkside

Ultimate Vision Foundation uses weekly counseling/therapy, daily healing circles, conflict resolution workshops and guided movement activities to support youth in having better personal and social lives.

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25) The Why Project

Serving Cobbs Creek & Millcreek-Parkside

The Why Project is a 6-week summer arts program for youth to explore their feelings, understand others' experiences and develop their unique creative processes.