

JOB DESCRIPTION

Cure Violence St. Louis Evaluation Community Outreach Interviewer

Summary of Project

The City of St. Louis is contracting with the Institute for Public Health at Washington University in St. Louis to conduct an external evaluation of Cure Violence in St. Louis. Cure Violence is a violence prevention program that views violence as a health concern, and more specifically as a contagious disease. Cure Violence attempts to disrupt the transmission of violence within communities, in real time, through disease control and behavior change methods. The program employs violence interrupters who work in areas identified by high rates of aggravated assault and homicide. These staff connect with and enroll those at highest risk of perpetrating violence. Participants are offered case management and linkage to employment and other needed services. Violence interrupters are also on the look-out for interpersonal situations in the community that have a chance of turning violent, and are available to offer de-escalation and mediation services to prevent violent acts. Further, Cure Violence staff distribute anti-violence education materials and hold anti-violence community events. The ultimate goal of Cure Violence is reduce violence in communities by shifting community norms toward anti-violence. Cure Violence St. Louis is being implemented in areas within the Dutchtown, Wells Goodfellow/Hamilton Heights, and Walnut Park neighborhoods.

The Institute for Public Health's evaluation of Cure Violence St. Louis will be conducted over three years. It will include a community norms survey within the three implementation neighborhoods noted above and in six comparison neighborhoods: (1) the area encompassing parts of Kings Highway East, the Greater Ville, and the Ville; (2) the area centered around O'Fallon and including parts of O'Fallon Park, College Hill, and the Fairground; (3) the area immediately north of Dutchtown, spanning into parts of Benton Park and Tower Grove East; (4) Baden; (5) Carr Square/Columbus Square; and (6) the area centered around the intersection of Gravois Avenue and Chippewa Street. Households will be randomly selected to participate in survey and will be recruited via multiple mail notifications. Participants will be able to complete the survey online. After several mail attempts a community outreach/interview team will be deployed to make door-to-door contact with the households that received mailings. They will encourage participation in the survey and conduct surveys in the field via paper/pencil or using a study team laptop/tablet.

We will also conduct approximately focus groups with key stakeholders and Cure Violence participant interviews.

Responsibilities

Individuals will join the evaluation team and make door-to-door contact with the households that have not yet responded to the survey after 4-5 weeks of receiving the mailings. They will encourage participation in the survey and conduct surveys in the field via paper/pencil or using a study team laptop/tablet. They will be paid as consultants on an hourly basis to participate in outreach. They will be required to track the number of hours they work and the number and ID of households with whom they connect. Outreach will be conducted in pairs with either another interviewer/outreach staff, an evaluation team member, or a Cure Violence staff member. Training will be provided by the evaluation team.

Desired Skills and Expertise

Knowledge of public health research and evaluation concepts, including the purpose of surveys and how to administer them via a tablet or paper instrument. Ability to quickly develop rapport. Excellent verbal communication skills. Experience with community engagement. Understanding and ability to conduct responsibilities through the lens of the CLAS standards and equity.

Pay Rate

\$23/hour. Paid ad hoc as consultants not WU staff. Benefits not included. Travel reimbursement not included.

Contact

If interested, please email pryor@wustl.edu with "Cure Violence Interview Staff" in the subject line.