Cure Violence St. Louis Evaluation Qualitative Researcher

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. As a part of the evaluation, focus groups and interviews will be conducted with key stakeholders and Cure Violence participants. The goal of these focus groups/interviews is to gain an in depth understanding of the nuances of the Cure Violence program implementation and help to identify programmatic strengths and barriers to implementation. The program employs two managers and three supervisors, community outreach workers, and violence interrupters across the three intervention sites. Interviews will be conducted with each site supervisor independently, and focus groups will be conducted with the community outreach workers, violence interrupters, and other key stakeholders.

Responsibilities

The Qualitative Researcher will work with the evaluation team to develop a semi-structured protocol for interviews and focus groups and other related materials. They will lead the facilitation of the interviews/focus groups with study participants virtually and/or in person. They will conduct qualitative data analysis and assist with dissemination of findings, including contributing to reports and manuscripts.

Desired Skills and Expertise

Knowledge of qualitative public health research and evaluation concepts. Direct qualitative collection experience, including specific familiarity with in-depth interviewing and conducting focus groups. Experience with data cleaning, coding, analysis, and reporting. Experience with qualitative data analysis software; knowledge of NVivo preferred. Ability to travel to Cure Violence sites to gather data. Strong client-facing experience with excellent verbal communication skills. The preferred candidate will have experience with the Cure Violence target population.

Pay Rate

$50,000 expected compensation assuming full time work (40 hours/week). Paid ad hoc as consultant, not WU staff. Benefits not included. Travel reimbursement not included. This is a limited one year position.

Contact

If interested, please email pryor@wustl.edu with “Cure Violence Qualitative Researcher” in the subject line.