

MEETING DATE: February 13, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: C

TO: BSCC Chair and Members

FROM: Tony Knapp, Field Representative, tony.knapp@bscc.ca.gov

SUBJECT: California Violence Intervention & Prevention (CalVIP) Grant – Plan for Capacity-Building Activities: Requesting Approval

Summary

This agenda item seeks Board approval for the CalVIP Executive Steering Committee's plan to distribute approximately \$10.5 million in CalVIP funds. These funds are authorized by statute to provide outside technical assistance and capacity-building activities for CalVIP grantees and in community violence intervention (CVI) statewide. The plan includes six initiatives:

1. Training and certifications for professionals
2. Support for data collection and program evaluation
3. Statewide convenings of CVI professionals
4. Technical assistance for nonprofit organizations aiming to implement CVI projects
5. Grants management support for CalVIP grantees
6. Mental health services and support to frontline workers and their families.

Collectively, these initiatives will enable experts to enhance the overall effectiveness and impact of community-based violence intervention and prevention programs.

Background

[Assembly Bill 762](#) (Chapter 241, Statutes of 2023) allows the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC), with advice from the CalVIP ESC, to set aside up to five percent of the total funds appropriated for the CalVIP Grant Program each year for activities to build and sustain capacity in community gun violence intervention and prevention.

[Assembly Bill 28](#) (Chapter 231, Statutes of 2023), the Gun Violence Prevention and School Safety Act, changed the funding source of the CalVIP Grant Program. AB 28 imposes an 11 percent excise tax on the sale of firearms, firearm precursor parts, and ammunition. Revenues collected from this fund will be deposited in the Gun Violence Prevention and School Safety Fund, and the first \$75 million available in the fund, or as much of that amount as is available, shall be continuously appropriated annually to BSCC for the CalVIP Grant Program.

Initial budget projections show that BSCC will receive \$55 million in Fiscal Year 2024-25 and \$57 million in Fiscal Year 2025-26 from this new tax revenue. BSCC will release these funds

through an RFP for Cohort 5. Five percent of this total \$112 million is approximately \$5.6 million, which will be set aside to support AB 762's objectives.

In addition, BSCC has unused funds which are available. Previously, the Board had approved a plan for the allocation of \$3.6 million in CalVIP set-aside funds for Cohort 4. Of this \$3.6 million, approximately \$3.1 million remains unallocated. An additional \$1.75 million came through the State Budget Act of 2023 for these same purposes, bringing the total available unused funds to \$4.9 million.

By combining the new and unused funds, approximately **\$10.5 million** is available to build and sustain capacity in community gun violence intervention and prevention under AB 762.

Proposed Plan

The CalVIP Executive Steering Committee (ESC) met on December 2, 2024 and recommends allocating the set-aside funds into six initiatives to support capacity building, technical assistance, and training efforts for both CalVIP grantees and the CVI field statewide.

The following chart outlines the total amount allocated to each of the six initiatives under the proposed plan. A brief description of each initiative is provided below to give a clear understanding of their purpose and impact.

CalVIP Five Percent Set-Aside for Capacity-Building Efforts

	Categories/Activities	Total Funding
1.	Training and Certification for Frontline Workers and Culturally Relevant Professional Development for Staff	\$3,000,000
2.	Technical Assistance for Data Collection and Evaluation Efforts	\$1,500,000
3.	Convening Capacity in the CVI Field	\$300,000
4.	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Support for Nonprofit Organizations	\$2,750,000
5.	Grant Management Support for CalVIP Grantees	\$1,000,000
6.	Mental Health Services for Frontline Professionals and their Families (CalVIP Grantees)	\$2,000,000
	Total:	\$10,500,000

1. Training and Certification for Frontline Workers and Culturally-Relevant Professional Development for Community-Based Organization (CBO) Staff

AB 762 provided that these funds could be used for training, certification and/or continued professional development for community-based gun violence intervention and prevention professionals. The CalVIP ESC selected to combine training and certification for frontline workers (e.g., street outreach, credible messengers, etc.) and other culturally-relevant professional development for CBO staff into one category.

The BSCC plans to administer these funds through one or more service contracts selected through a competitive bidding process. The combined budget for this initiative is

\$3,000,000: \$2,000,000 allocated for Frontline Workers and \$1,000,000 for CBO Staff. Priority for enrollment in training opportunities funded in this category will be given to the staff of CalVIP grantees (both Cohorts 4 and 5), and available to other CVI professionals statewide as funds allow.

2. Technical Assistance for Data Collection and Evaluation Efforts

Currently, the BSCC is under contract with an outside evaluator that has provided technical assistance and support to CalVIP Cohort 4 grantees in meeting their data collection, quarterly progress reporting, and outcome evaluation efforts. Some of the tools developed by this contractor have been made available on the BSCC website for use by the entire field. The CalVIP ESC chose to continue these efforts for Cohort 5. The BSCC plans to administer these funds through one or more service contracts selected through a competitive bidding process.

3. Convening Capacity in the CVI Field

Funds in this category had been set aside by the previous CalVIP ESC, but never awarded. The CalVIP ESC convened for Cohort 5 chose to maintain funding in this category. The BSCC plans to collaborate with the Attorney General's Office of Gun Violence Prevention to organize one or more convenings with CalVIP grantees and CVI professionals statewide. The purpose of these convenings will be to provide training, share best practices, address challenges in the field, learn about state and national trends, and network with other CVI service providers.

4. Technical Assistance and Capacity-Building Support for Nonprofit Organizations

AB 762 provided that these funds could be used to foster the development and growth of CBOs dedicated to community gun violence intervention and prevention. The BSCC plans to administer these funds through one or more service contracts selected through a competitive bidding process. These technical assistance and training efforts will be available to all organizations in the CVI field statewide, not just CalVIP grantees. This includes new organizations and those seeking to build capacity for future grant funding opportunities.

5. Grant Management Support for CalVIP Grantees

Recognizing that many grantees need assistance in meeting BSCC's financial and programmatic reporting requirements, the CalVIP ESC chose to dedicate a portion of available funds to support these efforts. The BSCC plans to administer these funds through one or more service contracts selected through a competitive bidding process. These efforts will be targeted to CalVIP grantees, focusing on CBOs.

6. Mental Health Services for Frontline Professionals and Their Families

AB 762 provided that these funds could be used to provide mental health support and services to frontline community gun violence intervention professionals and services or

financial assistance to family members of frontline workers who are killed or violently injured in the performance of their work. The funds in this category will be distributed on a formula basis to CBO grantees and subcontractors after award.

Recommendation/Action Needed

Staff recommends that the Board:

- Approve the CalVIP Executive Steering Committee's plan for the distribution of the CalVIP set-aside funds for technical assistance, program support, and capacity building efforts as authorized by AB 762.
- Authorize BSCC staff to implement and administer the plan, with the authority to make necessary adjustments as needed.

Attachments

Attachment C-1: AB 762 (relevant excerpt)