

Information Item

Date: September 11, 2023

To: Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council

From: Patrice Toney, Interim City Manager
Tiffany Oliva, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs & Strategic Initiatives

Subject:
Information on the Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Program and Grant

Strategic Focus Area: Safe and Secure Community

Strategic Objective: N/A

Strategic Plan Action Item: N/A

Key Work Item: N/A



The City of Winston-Salem received \$500,000 in State American Rescue Plan Act pass-through funding due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the rise in violent crimes nationally. These funds seek to support innovative strategies for reducing instances of re-injury and readmission of victims of violence.

The City has partnered with Wake Forest University Health Sciences to provide for a Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Program (HBVIP). Under the direction of Wake Forest University Health Sciences Assistant Professor and HBVIP Director Dr. Yasmin Gay, HBVIP serves and intervenes with patients who present in the emergency room/trauma center as victims of violent crimes. The HBVIP program specifically provides victim services both inpatient and outpatient including counseling, crisis stabilization, outpatient therapy, and follow-up. These victims and their families will also be referred to resources in the community.

Of note, is the HBVIP's goal of directing patients in the 27105 to community resources specifically through the CURE Violence Interrupters program. Together, these efforts demonstrate a more comprehensive approach to gun and violent crime intervention and response in the city.