



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 4, 2025

Please see below statement from Chicago CRED, Metropolitan Peace Initiatives, and Communities Partnering 4 Peace regarding the City of Chicago budget as it relates to Community Violence Intervention (CVI) funding:

While one death is too many, Chicago is marking positive trends in gun violence, with our city on track to have the lowest number of homicides and shootings in 60 years. Year-to-date, shootings are down 57 percent compared to the same period in 2021. For the first time in two decades, Chicago will have four years in a row of declining gun violence.

Notably, arrests are also down over the last six years, dropping from more than 90,000 in 2019 to about 53,000 in 2024, suggesting that it is more effective to deploy both policing and CVI. This combination of accountability and opportunity saves lives and saves money.

The State, the County, the philanthropic and business communities have been great partners in supporting CVI programs and they have fully met their financial commitment this year. They will understandably feel overextended if the City does not hold up its end of the bargain.

The City has fallen short in meeting its commitment to CVI. This past year, the City promised \$40M for CVI, but only about \$19M is actually reaching CVI groups. For next year, the Mayor proposes \$33M for CVI, but that amount is uncertain. The funding is vulnerable because it relies on controversial revenue sources and is being moved to a new, less established fund instead of remaining in the reliable corporate fund.

There is so much at stake. While gun violence remains unacceptably high in Chicago, we are on a historic path to finally shedding our image as the gun violence capital of America. We cannot afford to abandon the historic progress towards peace we have made.

To that end, we urge everyone – business, labor, City Council, the Mayor’s office, and the community—to work together in a spirit of shared sacrifice and find a way to maintain the critical investments we need for the safety and quality of life the people of Chicago deserve.

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