

# OAK PARK AND RIVER FOREST HIGH SCHOOL

201 NORTH SCOVILLE AVENUE □ OAK PARK, IL 60302-2296

Date: May 24, 2018  
To: Board of Education  
From: Dr. Joylynn Pruitt-Adams  
Subject: Intergovernmental Agreement for the Youth Interventionist Program 2018 - 2020

## **BACKGROUND**

The Youth Interventionist program was established in 1996 to address the threat to our youth of gangs, drugs and violence, often fostered by persons from outside our villages. Supported by all 11 taxing units in our two communities, this unique cooperative effort to intervene early with youth at-risk has helped many make better life decisions.

Over the years, the program has evolved with changing youth needs and family involvement with, and response to, youth problems. Intervention is now more concerned with the youth trauma associated with mental illness, substance abuse, and violence, often extending into the family. These challenges to healthy development can appear in all locations and among all demographics throughout our communities and is best addressed, we believe, by our mutual support and united action.

## **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

Each taxing unit's participation in funding the program sends important messages:

- To staff that they can communicate with Interventionists as fellow team members who are accountable to management and ultimately the board of their unit,
- To both communities that they can be assured of an efficient and truly collaborative effort to address the most challenging threats to healthy youth development.

The current Intergovernmental Agreement is due for renewal July 1, 2018. The updated agreement is attached with a two-year combined OPRF budget of 14% (2018/19: \$35,000, 2019/20: \$35,700) which is lower than in the previous agreement. This reduction is based on the replacement of the position of Interventionist Supervisor with a third Interventionist.

This year, the Township is planning to engage a program evaluator to objectively assess the effectiveness of the program, and who will work with the schools to implement a data sharing process that will improve the available outcome data.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Youth Interventionist Program, 2018 – 2020.

**Strategic Plan:** Goal 3 Supportive Learning Environment

**Board Goals:**

**District Policy:** 1:20

**AREA (708) 383-0700**

**TTY/TDD (708) 434-3949**

**<http://www.oprfhs.org>**

**FAX (708) 434-3910**

## **AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR THE YOUTH INTERVENTIONIST PROGRAM, 2018 - 2020**

This agreement is between OAK PARK TOWNSHIP and the enumerated participating local governments: Village of Oak Park, Village of River Forest, River Forest Township, School District 90, School District 97, School District 200, Park District of Oak Park, River Forest Park District, Oak Park Public Library, and River Forest Public Library, hereinafter referred to collectively as PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENT UNITS.

### **OAK PARK TOWNSHIP agrees as follows:**

- To work with at-risk youth engaged with (or disengaged from) local agencies that provide multiple services.
- To closely monitor youth, through a case management model which focuses on the individual strengths and needs of clients and their families and helps in linking them to services, managing those services, and tracking outcomes.
- To respect and maintain the confidentiality of registered Youth Interventionist clients and their families and share information about clients with partner agency staff as appropriate and only when a Release of Information has been signed by the appropriate party; and reporting program outcomes, such as school performance and contact with law enforcement, in the aggregate only.
- To continue to provide intense intervention by employing support staff and three Youth Interventionists for the positions as described in Appendix I.
- To act as the administrative agent of the Youth Interventionist Program, hiring, training, supervising, insuring and housing the Youth Interventionist Program staff.
- To provide the necessary support, services, materials and equipment, such as, duplication, printing, postage, telephone and computers.
- To distribute monthly reports via email on the activities of Youth Interventionist staff to all board members and the chief administrators of each participating government unit.
- To work with participating government units to establish additional meaningful outcome measures based on shared client data.
- To report on program activities and outcomes at least annually, or more often as needed or requested, at the Council of Governments meetings in Oak Park and in River Forest.
- To offer services listed in Appendix II: Menu of Services to partner agencies and to work responsively with partner agencies to develop other specific services based on emerging needs.
- To contribute up to \$59,040 (2018-19) and \$60,221 (2019-2020) for each year of this joint effort plus the administrative overhead of housing the program.

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- To maintain an appropriate level of liability insurance and provide certificates of insurance to partner agencies as requested.
- To bill each participating government unit on a quarterly basis the actual dollars spent to provide the Youth Interventionist Program.
- To establish agreements with partner agencies to share confidential information that will allow the Township to report on program outcomes for the Youth Intervention caseload in the aggregate.
- To engage a third-party program evaluator to evaluate the program's impact and outcomes.

**The other participating government units agree as follows:**

- To support the Youth Interventionist Program through referrals, offering space to meet with youth and families, sharing information about high risk behaviors, participating in training events and planning meetings, and by providing outcome data.
- To bring policy and operational concerns and recommendations to the Youth Services Director or Oak Park Township Manager or Supervisor and then, as needed, to the community's Council of Governments for discussion and response.
- To work collaboratively and cooperatively in the common interest of helping youth develop while avoiding involvement in gangs, drugs, and violence.
- To enter into data sharing agreements, where appropriate, so that the Township may collect and analyze data in the aggregate for youth that are participating in the Youth Interventionist program.

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- To support the cost of this joint endeavor in an amount not to exceed each agency's share as presented in the table below:

<b>AGENCY</b>	<b>SHARE</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>
<b>Oak Park Portion</b>			
Oak Park Township	24%	\$60,000	\$61,200
Village of Oak Park	24%	\$60,000	\$61,200
OP Elementary D97	11%	\$27,500	\$28,050
Park District OP	5%	\$12,500	\$12,750
OP Public Library	5%	\$12,500	\$12,750
<b>Oak Park Total</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>\$172,500</b>	<b>\$175,950</b>
<b>Combined OPRF Unit</b>			
OPRF High School D200	<b>14%</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>	<b>\$35,700</b>
<b>River Forest Portion</b>			
River Forest Township	5.5%	\$13,750	\$14,025
Village of River Forest	5.5%	\$13,750	\$14,025
RF Elementary D90	3%	\$7,500	\$7,650
RF Park District	1.5%	\$3,750	\$3,825
RF Public Library	1.5%	\$3,750	\$3,825
<b>River Forest Total</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>\$42,500</b>	<b>\$43,350</b>
<b>All OP and RF Units</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$250,000</b>	<b>\$255,000</b>

- To promptly reimburse Oak Park Township upon receipt of quarterly bill for each agency's portion of the actual amount spent for the program.

It is understood by all signatories of this agreement that the supervision of all Township employees, including any addition to the Township staff as a result of this agreement, is the responsibility of Oak Park Township. To the extent permitted by law, each party shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the other parties, their elected officials, employees, officers, directors and agents from and against any third-party claims, demands, losses, damages, or expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) arising from or relating to any claim for harm, injury, or death to any person, or damage to tangible personal property arising out of or in connection with the performance of the services under this Agreement to the extent of the negligence, fault, or willful act or omission of the indemnifying party, its personnel or agents during the course of performance of the services hereunder or otherwise in connection with the performance of this Agreement.

This Intergovernmental Agreement will be in force for two years from July 1, 2018.

**AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT  
FOR THE YOUTH INTERVENTIONIST PROGRAM, 2018 - 2020**

**OAK PARK TOWNSHIP**

_____ Signature	_____ Title	_____ Date
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**RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP**

_____ Signature	_____ Title	_____ Date
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**VILLAGE OF OAK PARK**

_____ Signature	_____ Title	_____ Date
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**VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST**

_____ Signature	_____ Title	_____ Date
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**RIVER FOREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 90**

_____ Signature	_____ Title	_____ Date
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**OAK PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 97**

_____ Signature	_____ Title	_____ Date
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**OAK PARK-RIVER FOREST HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 200**

_____ Signature	_____ Title	_____ Date
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**AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT  
FOR THE YOUTH INTERVENTIONIST PROGRAM, 2018 - 2020**

**PARK DISTRICT OF OAK PARK**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**RIVER FOREST PARK DISTRICT**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**OAK PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**RIVER FOREST PUBLIC LIBRARY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## **APPENDIX I**

### **Interventionist Job Description**

TITLE: Youth Services Interventionist	FLSA: Non-Exempt
DEPT: Youth Services	DIVISION: Town
REPORTS TO: Youth Services Interventionist Supervisor	DATE: 02/2016

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#### **Job Summary**

The Youth Services Interventionist provides individual and family treatment to youth involved in or at risk of becoming involved in gangs, drugs or violent activities; works closely with Youth Interventionist Team and Youth Services Director to discuss and develop and implement treatment plans. Collaborates with a variety of community agencies and resources to decrease risk and connect identified families with appropriate, long-term services.

#### **Essential Job Functions**

1. Performs crisis intervention in situations such as suicide, homicide, rage, juvenile arrest, violence, community, family tragedy, self-injury, running away, etc. Assesses risk; provides direct consultation services; provides referrals and stabilization services, coordinates and provides support during the hospitalization process, crisis counseling, brief mediation and notification of appropriate authorities; serves as member of school crisis and trauma debriefing team.
2. Assesses youth and family for potential for violence, communication patterns, boundaries, alcohol and drug addiction, gang involvement, sexual and physical abuse, neglect, mental health status, suicidal or homicidal plans or thoughts, criminal activity, risk of running away, cutting and other risk factors. Assessment includes evaluating the client, family and any unregistered youth in contact with.
3. Creates, monitors and implements treatment plan agreed upon by both client and family.
4. Provides counseling to youth involved or at-risk of involvement with gangs, drugs, potential violence, etc.; meets with youth as needed to decrease risk or involvement through therapy and referrals to other community agencies; provides resources for alternate living situations if required; works with youths at-risk and assists them by linking them with services in the community; provides consultation regarding juvenile laws. Heavy emphasis on group work.
5. Provides family therapy and counseling to identified families; conducts home visits to assess living environment, refers family to community agencies for financial assistance and long-term therapy as needed; provides crisis stabilization to family as need arises; works with family to advise on state laws regarding abuse and neglect, family law, juvenile delinquency, as well as potential for locking out their child. Emphasis on youth/family trauma and generational trauma counseling.
6. Consults with various community agencies including schools, Police Department, Health Department, Park District, libraries, probation, inpatient and partial hospital programs, community counseling centers, mentoring services, and psychiatric evaluators to optimize assessment and treatment planning. Participates in other agency meetings including disciplinary/school placement, inpatient hospital discharge planning and collaboration with police officers, etc. Searches for new services, builds relationships with staff and distributes information on new providers to other collateral resources in the community.
7. Conducts mediation sessions between youth and/or families who are currently involved in a conflict; assists to resolve differences and decrease probability of violence in community between parties.
8. Conducts informational presentations to community mental health professionals, school teachers and high school students regarding drug and violence prevention, peer relations and

## **APPENDIX I**

### **Interventionist Job Description**

other applicable subjects.

9. Maintains client files, intake and assessment forms, client interview questionnaire, consent forms, ratings scales, progress notes, progress note logs and any other essential materials.
10. Monitors youth trends in the community such as gang movement, drugs, cults, etc.; performs bike patrols and community walks in search of gang graffiti, drug paraphernalia and cult remnants in community parks.
11. Identifies gaps in service delivery system and reports to Director; participates in formulating and implementing solutions when appropriate.
12. Operates pursuant to federal and state laws as well as professional codes of ethics and codes of conduct. Maintains licensure through continuing education.
13. Plans and co-facilitates groups for at-risk youth in school settings.
14. Participates in various committee/council meetings, task forces and networking events as needed.
15. Remains current on mental health research and clinical theories.
16. Performs other duties as assigned.

#### **Material and Equipment**

- Miscellaneous office equipment; i.e. – computer, fax, phone, copier, calculator, etc.
- Bicycle

#### **Minimum Qualifications**

##### **Education and Experience:**

- Master's degree in social work, education, psychology or other related human services field and two to three (2-3) years' experience working with high at-risk youth in prevention, intervention, outreach or case management.

The qualifications listed above are guidelines. Other combinations of education and experience, which could provide the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform this job, may be considered.

##### **License(s) and Certification(s):**

- Valid Illinois driver's license and liability insurance
- LSW, LCSW, LCPC, CADC desirable

#### **Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities**

##### **Knowledge of:**

- Federal and state laws and regulations relating to juvenile issues.
- Ethical standards and code of conduct in dealing with clients and the public.
- Child development; therapeutic models/techniques; DSM-5.
- Mental health assessment; crisis intervention, mediation and trauma debriefing.
- Substance use/abuse signs
- Screening for risk to self or others.
- Basic computer and software programs.



## **APPENDIX I**

### **Interventionist Job Description**

#### **Skill In:**

- Clinical judgement.
- Verbal and written communication.
- Crisis intervention and de-escalation techniques.
- Group work (youth/adult)
- Trauma counseling/debriefing
- Public speaking

#### **Ability to:**

- Effectively communicate treatment techniques and strategies.
- Make sound assessments, develop, implement and monitor treatment plans.
- Coordinate multiple services from various agencies in order to meet clients' needs.

#### **Physical Abilities:**

- Sit, type, read, write, hear and speak for extended periods.
- Drive automobile to client's homes or meeting places.
- Lift up to 10 pounds on occasion.

The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by employees assigned this classification. They are not to be construed as an exhaustive list of all job duties or roles performed by personnel so classified. It is as well intended to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

## **APPENDIX II Menu of Services**

The Township's Interventionist Program staff have advanced degrees and specialized training in education, criminal justice, law enforcement, intelligence gathering, substance abuse, violent youth/adults, therapy/counseling, PTSD, training, instructional design, crisis intervention and de-escalation as well as skills in mediation and negotiation. Through the Youth Interventionist Program, they provide the following services to individuals, families, agencies, and community organizations in Oak Park and River Forest.

### **TRAINING**

- ◆ Restorative Justice practices, such as Cargo Peace Circles
- ◆ Anti-bullying training and presentations
- ◆ Prevention, identification, and response to issues of gangs, drugs, and violence

### **CONSULTING**

- ◆ Consult with private therapist, agencies (public and private, profit and non-profit), parents, law enforcement, courts, probation officers, the States Attorney's office and municipal, state and federal agencies on issues of substance abuse, violence, and gangs
- ◆ Community and neighborhood problem solving, education, and training
- ◆ Advise partner agencies on staffing patterns, incident response, facility security, and safety procedures and protocols

### **INFORMATION/INTELLIGENCE**

- ◆ Work with various bodies to "connect-the-dots" to identify patterns of behaviors and incidents
- ◆ Gang and drug intelligence, including drug availability, types of drugs being used, and distribution points
- ◆ Assist in locating runaways
- ◆ Assist in identifying and locating individuals representing a threat to youth

### **DIRECT INTERVENTION**

- ◆ Individual/family crisis intervention
  - hospitalization assessment
  - suicide assessment
  - drug assessment
  - trauma and grief counseling
- ◆ Incident-related crisis intervention (for example; school violence, suicide, etc.)
- ◆ De-escalating intergroup violence (keeping mob actions from occurring)
- ◆ On-site intervention at partner facilities in conjunction with partner staff
- ◆ Group work (life skills, anger management, gang prevention, restorative justice)
- ◆ Interventionist work specifically with youth who have behavioral disorders
- ◆ Individual and family counseling
- ◆ Casework