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| **Community Healing and Unity Grants - 2024 Guidelines** |

**City of Toronto – Community Safety and Wellbeing Unit and Community Funding Unit**

**Social Development, Finance & Administration**

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# Application Process

1. **Review** these guidelines to ensure your group and project idea are eligible for funding.
2. **Submit** the completed application by **Monday April 15th at noon**.

[**Click here to complete the online form**](https://cotsurvey.chkmkt.com/?e=380891&d=l&h=74046AC58F9653C&l=en)

## Need to get in touch?

We encourage you to get in touch to discuss your application.

* If you have questions about your grant idea, contact Pauletta Frater, Supervisor, TO Wards Peace at pauletta.frater@toronto.ca.
* If you have questions about the grant guidelines or application, contact Tyreek Philips at Tyreek.Phillips@tngcs.org

# Community Healing and Unity Grants Information

## Background

“Canadians deserve to be safe in their communities. Today, marks the first National Day Against Gun Violence in Canada, which is to be held annually on the first Friday of June. Gun violence has devastating impacts on our communities, and today we hope to bring awareness to this issue and foster a national discussion about the causes and effects of gun violence in our communities. No single program or initiative can tackle the challenge of gun violence on its own. Awareness initiatives like the National Day Against Gun Violence is one element of the government's comprehensive plan to keep Canadians safe.”

- the Honorable Marco Mendicino, Minister of Public Safety, June 2023

The [National Day Against Gun Violence](https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2023/06/01/prime-minister-announces-national-day-against-gun-violence) is a day to remember victims and raise awareness. TO Wards Peace works year-round to prevent gun violence through community-led solutions. Both aim to make communities safer.

[TO Wards Peace](https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/public-safety-alerts/community-safety-programs/to-wards-peace-model/) is a City supported program delivering innovative community-led solutions that addresses root causes of gun violence. TO Wards Peace uses a multi-sectoral risk-driven approach, in collaboration with community grassroots organizations that is grounded in a public health approach. Local grassroots organizations, community health centres, and the City of Toronto mobilize gun violence interruption, intervention and prevention activities.

TO Wards Peace advances [SafeTO](https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/public-safety-alerts/community-safety-programs/community-safety-well-being-plan/) , the City’s Community Safety & Well-Being Plan through the reduction of violence, vulnerability and the investment in people and places.

## What is the purpose of Community Healing and Unity Grants?

Community Healing and Unity Grants will support:

* The promotion of peace and the reduction of gun violence in the City of Toronto
* Commemorative activities and events that honor the collective memory of those lost to gun violence, showing solidarity with affected families, loved ones, and communities.
* Build communities capacity to share their story about the impact of gun violence and community resilience

Projects should aim to provide a space for collective healing, remembrance, peace and unity, acknowledging the impact of gun violence across the City of Toronto. All events and activities should remain broad and dedicated to collective peace, unity and healing.

## What is the grant size?

Applicants can apply for up to $15,000.

## What is the time frame?

* Groups must complete the majority of their project between June 7th – 14th to honour The National Day Against Gun Violence
* If your project spans over more than one day, activities must conclude by the end of June.

## Projects and Activities

Your application must demonstrate that your project(s), promote peace, the reduction of gun violence and honour the collective memory of those lost to gun violence through appropriate activities. Projects should focus on healing, peace and unity and should remain broad to support the community’s collective healing.

Funding priority will be given to applications that meet the following criteria and guidelines:

1. Peace, unity, healing, or coping and resiliency activities, events or projects that:

* Provide opportunity for communities to come together and support one another to heal and recover from the impact of gun violence
* Assist in identifying gaps, challenges and opportunities to build on community resilience
* Create opportunities for communities to focus on physical, emotional, social and/or spiritual wellbeing
* Activities, events or projects that will contribute to community-wide healing, peace and unity and not focussed on memorial activities dedicated to one particular individual.

 2. Community capacity building activities that:

* Involve community input and participation in planning, implementation and feedback of activities
* Help community to develop skills that contribute to or inspire community safety & well-being, increase knowledge and share information about community safety
* Building and celebrating the strengths of community

Successful applications will demonstrate:

* Innovative approaches to community healing, unity and resilience that showcase creativity and effectiveness in addressing the impact of gun violence
* Culturally responsive and inclusive approaches that are respectful of diverse healing practices
* Trauma informed/responsive safety planning where applicable.

## Who is eligible for funding?

Groups are eligible if:

* Grassroots group/organization located in Toronto
* Group consists of 3 or more members
* Must have experience in running community-led events
* Must be willing to work with The Neighbourhood Group as their trustee
* Must be located in of one [SafeTO](https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/public-safety-alerts/community-safety-programs/community-safety-well-being-plan/) zones or [TO Wards Peace](https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/public-safety-alerts/community-safety-programs/to-wards-peace-model/) program areas
* Priority will be given to groups that are inclusive of all neighbourhoods in the zone, cross-community collaborative and demonstrates outreach that reflect all neighbourhoods

**Table 1: SafeTO Zones**

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| Zone 1 | Black Creek, Glenfield-Jane Heights, York University Heights, Oakdale-Beverley Heights, and Humbermede |
| Zone 2 | Elms-Old Rexdale, Mount Olive-Silverstone-Jamestown, and Kingsview Village-The Westway |
| Zone 3 | Beechborough-Greenbrook, Rustic, Rockcliffe-Smythe, Yorkdale-Glen Park, Englemount-Lawrence, Weston, Brookhaven-Amesbury, and Weston-Pelham |
| Zone 4 | Kensington-Chinatown, Regent Park, Parkdale and Moss Park |
| Zone 5 | Golfdale-Cedarbrae-Woburn, Oakridge, Malvern East, Eglinton East, L’Amoreaux, Morningside, West Hill, and Dorset Park |
| Zone 6 | Flemingdon Park, Thorncliffe Park, and Victoria Village |

Groups are ineligible if they are:

* A incorporated non-profit or charity
* Business or for-profit enterprise
* Academic institution

## Eligible Use of Funds

The following list outlines eligible costs:

* Project coordination
* Honorarium
* Speaker fees and or facilitation fee
* Food/drinks
* Transportation
* Project materials
* Permits or space rentals

**Ineligible Use of Funds**

Requests for the following purposes are **NOT** eligible for consideration:

* Memorial items such as benches or plaques\*
* Fundraising events
* Donations to charitable causes
* Reserve funds
* Major equipment purchases such as BBQs, computers, etc.
* Debt repayment or deficit funding
* Political or religious activities

\*The City of Toronto offers a [Commemorative Tree and Bench Program](https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/awards-tributes/tributes/commemorative-items-in-parks/) to allow the public to pay tribute to a loved one. Applications for Spring 2024 are currently open.

## Demonstrating Impact

Successful applicants will be required to complete an evaluation report for their grant and present the successes and challenges from their project. The evaluation report questions will be sent prior to the end date of the project.

## Review Process

Applications will be reviewed by a City of Toronto community safety & well-being and community funding staff panel

##

## Key Dates

**March 25, 2024**

* Grant Call Opens

**March 28, 2024 12:00 - 1:00pm**

* Virtual grant info session #1
	+ Zoom Information: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85854407805>
* Meeting ID: 858 5440 7805
* Call in Number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kn9gekOqh>

**April 3, 2024 6:00 - 7:00pm**

* Virtual grant info session #2
	+ Zoom Information: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83430870617>
	+ Meeting ID: 834 3087 0617
	+ Call in Number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbXK5UNd8y>

**April 19 at noon**

* **GRANT CLOSES**

**April 2024**

* Grant review process
	+ Note: Your group may be contacted during the first two weeks of April for clarifications on your projects. Group leads should regularly check their emails.

**Week of April 29, 2024**

* Funding announcement and release of funds

**May 18 – 22, 2024**

* Orientation and Training with Trustee (The Neighbourhood Group)

**June 7, 2024 – June 14, 2024**

* Majority of project activities take place

**June 15, 2024 – June 30, 2024**

* Other project activities completed

**July 15, 2024**

* Final Report Due (see Demonstrating Impact section for more details)

## Special Needs

Accommodation of special needs (e.g. documents in alternate formats, sign-language interpreters, off-hour meetings) is available as required to ensure that groups can fully participate in the funding process. For accommodation of special needs please contact communityfunding@toronto.ca

## Disclosure of Information

As mandated by the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (1990) s. 27 and By-Law 974-1998 all information collected on this form, including personal information may be subject to full public disclosure which may include posting to a web site. Questions about this collection can be directed to the Manager of Community Funding at City Hall, 15th floor, East Tower, 100 Queen Street West, Toronto, ON M5H 2N2 or by telephone at 416-392-0102.