

PROPOSAL # _____

DATE RECEIVED _____

PROPOSAL FOR 2009 CDBG LOCAL OPTION FUNDING
SUMMARY SHEET

NAME OF PROGRAM: **Community Reentry Program (CRP)** _____

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: **Racine Vocational Ministry** _____

ADDRESS: **214 Seventh Street** _____ CITY: **Racine** _____ STATE: **WI** _____

PHONE NUMBER: **262-633-8660** _____ FAX NUMBER: **262-633-8665** _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: **RVMJim@sbcglobal.net** _____

NAME OF DIRECTOR: **James Schatzman** _____ NAME OF CONTACT **James Schatzman** _____

FINANCIAL REPORTING TO BE DONE BY (NAME) **Dave Wolber** _____

PROGRAM REPORTING TO BE DONE BY (NAME) **Jeanne Greninger** _____

FUNDING SUMMARY

CDBG FUNDS REQUESTED: **\$34,948** _____

1) Will the proposed activity need CDBG funds for more than one year? Yes ____ No **X** . If yes, explain why. _____

2) Has your organization received CDBG funding for this program in the past five years? Yes **X** . No ____ .

3) Do you have a signed agreement to use CDBG funds allocated to you in prior years? Yes **X** No ____ .

4) Has your organization secured other funding to assist in this program? Yes **X** . No ____ . If "yes" indicate the funding source and corresponding amount(s). **For 2009 - United Way (\$87,500), Youth Gang Diversion (\$20,000), OJA's Project Safe Neighborhood (\$25,000), HUD (\$30,000), CAN/HHS (\$2,000), Foundations (\$84,000), CDBG (\$25,000), Individuals (\$21,500), OIC/HHS (\$1750)**

TOTAL PROGRAM COST (FROM ALL FUNDING SOURCES): **\$365,141** Percent of CDBG to TOTAL cost **09.57%**

SUMMARY

Provide a VERY brief summary of the program.

The Racine Vocational Ministry's Community Re-Entry Program serves the substantial needs of violent ex-offenders returning to the Racine community. The CRP (in conjunction with RVM and other community service providers) provides employment readiness workshops, employment counseling, job referrals, placements, family and social services, AODA and mental health service and employment support to ex-offenders.

1) Total number of clients to be served **219** .

2) Age group of the people served. Youth (0 - 18) ____ Adult (18 - 62) **219** Senior (over 62) ____

3) What percentage of the activities will take place in the City of Racine? **100** percent

4) What percentage of the activities will take place in areas defined by HUD as being low and moderate income? **100** percent

5) What percentage of the people served will be City of Racine residents? **100** percent

6) What percentage of people served will be low or moderate income persons as defined by HUD? **100** percent

7) Which category of community needs best fits your program? (check all those that apply)

Improved Neighborhoods **X** Job creation ____ Youth Activities ____ Shelter ____ Other (list) **Assisting ex-offenders reintegrate into the community and find and maintain employment at a living wage and gang diversion interventions.**

SECTION 1: NEEDS STATEMENTS - Limit your response to the space provided.

1) Describe the need in the City that this activity will address.

Since 2001, 4240 ex-offenders have been released into the Racine community. In 2008 alone, the Wisconsin Department of Corrections released 615 ex-offenders into Racine County. In Racine, as elsewhere, violent offenders who are released from prisons without family and community support frequently return to prison. The national average three-year recidivism rate is 67%. Two-thirds of those released are back in prison within three years. Year after year, more individuals are released, more recidivate, and the cycle of crime, violence and desperation continues.

With intensive support, such as that provided by the CRP, many ex-offenders can be deterred from returning to prison. To date (after six years of operations), 28% of all participants involved in the CRP have returned to prison or had their parole revoked. As the percentage and timeframe comparisons indicate, the CRP program offers a phenomenal reduction in recidivism from that of the national average. At an average prison cost of \$30,000 a year per person, keeping even ten individuals out of prison for three years amounts to nearly one million dollars in savings.

The program has a proven track record and is incredibly cost effective but the Bush-era funding that has supported it has all but run out. The U.S. Attorney's Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN) funding (\$25,000 cut from \$50,000) will soon expire. Due to the increasing need of this population for our services RVM's Youth Gang Diversion dollars are already spent down. To date, despite billions of dollars of stimulus monies, we have been unable to access any new state or federal funding for the Community Reentry Program. Without \$35,000 in short-term CDBG Local Option funding, the program will lose one of its two staff positions. Maintaining case management staff is critical to the program's ability to serve ex-offenders.

2) Describe the basis on which you determined the need exists.

Every year since its inception, the number of ex-offenders served by the RVM program has increased. Partly as a result of the economy and partly from word-of-mouth referrals, RVM is making a larger and larger impact on more and more returning ex-offenders. At this time, with two staff for the CRP (one case manager and one support staff) it serves 65 ex-offenders. RVM sees an additional 110 gang affiliated participants who do not qualify for the CRP program. Our programs are already near capacity but more participants keep coming. Clearly, the loss of \$25,000 in program funding could cripple our program. The additional stress of having already spent down our gang diversion money leave us with few resources to aid this population, this at a time when criminal activity is likely to increase.

3) Identify the extent of the need.

Although local estimates are not available, the Federal Register noted several disheartening characteristics of offenders. It is estimated that 25 to 40% of ex-offenders are unemployed, 19% are completely illiterate, 40% are functionally illiterate, over half have not graduated from high school, one quarter are alcohol dependent, one-quarter are drug users and 14% have a mental illness. Twelve percent of offenders were homeless at the time of their arrest¹.

SECTION 2: PROGRAM OVERVIEW Limit your response to the space provided.

Include in the description what activities will take place, how you notify the public of your activity, who will provide services, where activities will take place, when and how often activities will take place, and why your organization should provide and oversee the activity.

The Racine Vocational Ministry offers services and follow-up to help returning ex-offenders and gang members resolve family difficulties, find and maintain living-wage employment, improve job skills, get AODA treatment and receive mental health support. The collaborative services approach of RVM will help reduce the number of new crimes. Although CRP participants represent a small portion of all offenders, they have in the past committed a significant portion of violent crimes in Racine's neighborhoods. Three to ten violent offenders return to COP House neighborhoods every month. The violence perpetrated in the past by these individuals also has a predictable ripple effect causing secondary crimes and retaliation. If these participants are held accountable and accept the support provided, the likelihood they will not re-offend is increased substantially.

¹ Federal Register: April 16, 2007 Pg. 19026.

The Racine Vocational Ministry's CRP coordinator and RVM case managers act as the contact for participants. They set up monthly notification meetings when offenders are released and meet them once a week for life and job counseling. The coordinator and case managers ensures case planning is complete prior to release, coordinates services to participants, and responds to the needs, concerns and questions of participating faith-based organizations, employers, families and neighborhoods. The coordinator keeps data for the program evaluation, compiles annual reports, oversees the budget, prepares grant proposals, solicits sponsorship of events and organizes special projects. Another responsibility is to coordinate the interaction of multiple agencies, programs and faith-based services to support the participant in maintaining a crime free life.

RVM staff work with offenders released from state and federal prisons and the county jail who have been convicted of one of the following criteria: 1) violent crime, 2) drug crime, 3) gang member, 4) commission of a crime with a gun. Program staff hold monthly meetings at Memorial Hall to introduce newly released participants and their agents to the community. Community partners present information to participants and their families about services offered in Racine. Local, state and federal law enforcement agencies are also present to speak about issues of accountability and consequences. Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. The community is encouraged to attend through announcements by Neighborhood Watch, Workforce Development Center and Racine Vocational Ministry, faith communities throughout the COP house neighborhoods, the Department of Corrections, and members of the CRP Core Committee and the CRP Coordinator.

Although violent offenders returning to COP neighborhoods are the chief population served, families of participants are provided support to help ensure the successful reintegration of the offender. Many local agencies are partners in the service delivery network. The Racine County Workforce Development Center and RVM provide both hard and soft skills vocational training. Faith-based communities provide mentoring services and support. Focus on Community, United Way of Racine County, St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, Genesis Behavioral Services, Family Services, Searching Together Baptist Church and YMCA are examples of the broad array of organizations providing assistance to participants. RVM continues to enter into agreements with collaborating agencies to ensure continuity and offer increased services to participants and their families. Services are tailored to the individual needs of each participant.

RVM offers a unique collaboration of federal, state, county, city, faith-based and private industry stakeholders, all committed to reducing crime and violence.

SECTION 3: OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAM

1) List in as quantitative and qualitative a manner as possible, the objective(s) to be accomplished by implementing this program and how success in meeting the objectives will be measured. Information such as the number of loans provided, diplomas attained, jobs acquired, clients to be housed, or other unique project characteristics or subgroup information should be provided.

The goals of this program are to reduce crime in the City's Community Oriented Policing (COP) neighborhoods, encourage economic development, neighborhood rehabilitation and family safety, while reducing recidivism. In 2008, 615 ex-offenders were released into the community. Without a program targeting at this population with wrap around services, the numbers of ex-offenses who recidivate and return to prison will increase toward the national average of 67%.

Objectives and corresponding measures are as follows -

<u>Objective</u>	<u>Measurement</u>
Job skill training (hard & soft skills)	Completion data
Education	Participation/completion rates
Treatment program (AODA, Anger Management)	Participation/completion data
Support groups	Enrollment data
Employment	Data on wages, benefits, part-time/full-time work
Reduction in violent crime	Aggregate crime data, individual data

SECTION 4: INNOVATION

Is this a new program or approach to providing for a need in the Racine community?

Although the CRP is not new in the community RVM is exploring a new earned income component which would provide employment for ex-offenders from the day they are released from prison and help sustain the program. This "best practice" innovation was developed by the Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO) and the Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation (MDRC). It is estimated that 25 to 40% of ex-offenders are unemployed. It is critical to get them working and keep them working.

SECTION 5: COLLABORATION

Collaboration is defined as "a formal agreement among agencies or organizations engaged in similar activities to work together to reach a common, mutually agreeable goal". Applications representing collaborative efforts must identify each partner and their role in the collaboration.

1) Identify any other agencies that are presently providing services or activities similar or identical to those being proposed.

Although similar services are being offered through various community agencies such as Workforce Development, Probation & Parole, Social Services, etc., the CRP is designed to identify the specific needs of violent offenders returning to the community. A comprehensive case plan is developed to meet the needs of each participant while using existing community services. RVM is the only agency working with DOC to provide these services to violent offenders.

2) If there are other agencies providing similar or identical services or activities, explain the necessity for the additional services being proposed for funding.

No other program combines law enforcement, the federal court system, local social service organizations and the faith based community to help men and women returning from prison. RVM crosses agency and government lines to provide unique individual services to reduce violent crime. This program does not duplicate services, but ensures that services are used efficiently. It combines community support and service providers together at one location at one time to serve the overall needs of participants.

3) How has your agency collaborated to avoid duplication of services? You must identify the collaborating agencies.

To maximize the use of current programs already in place in Racine, participants are screened for needs and referred to existing programs that have agreed to partner with RVM and serve the offenders in its program. The CRP Coordinator and RVM case managers are key in maintaining contact with the program participants and the service providers to make sure the case plan is being met. As an example, participants are currently receiving services from the following organizations: OIC, the Urban League, Racine Workforce Development Center, the Department of Corrections, CCEP, RVM, YMCA, Gang Crime Diversion Task Force, Gateway Technical College, Genesis Behavioral Services, St. Paul's Baptist Church, Searching Together Missionary Baptist Church and Jesus Alive Ministries. Members of other faith-based communities provide one-on-one mentoring and transitional housing. By forming partnerships in the community RVM has been able to deliver whatever services are needed, tailored to the unique needs of every participant. The participant is not just told where to go but is assisted in every way so there are no barriers to receiving needed help. RVM staff follow up to make sure participants follow through and handle any concerns or issues that arise with other service agencies

SECTION 6: BUDGET (PAGE ONE OF TWO PAGES)

Show all revenues and expenses for the Activity in whole dollars.

REVENUES:

FUNDS REQUESTED FROM C.D.B.G. PROGRAM

\$ 34,948

FUNDS FROM OTHER SOURCES:

1. United Way

\$ 87,500

2. Government Grants

\$103,750

3. Foundations

\$117,442

4. Churches & Individuals

\$ 21,500

TOTAL REVENUE \$365,140

EXPENSES:C.D. FUNDSOTHER FUNDSTOTAL

SALARIES:

Position

#Hours

Rate

Case Manager

317

\$22.04

\$ 6,992.50

\$28,440.50

\$35,433.00

CRP Prog Dir

583

\$26.66

\$15,806.50

\$29,193.50

\$45,000.00

Exec Director

88

\$33.84

\$ 2,968.00

\$51,453.00

\$54,421.00

All Other Staff

NA

0

\$.00

\$92,554.00

\$92,554.00

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (List Benefits)

Health Insurance

\$ 4,181.38

\$49,818.62

\$54,000.00

Retirement

\$ 407.00

\$ 4,093.00

\$ 4,500.00

PAYROLL TAXES

\$ 1,209.50

\$16,187.50

\$17,397.00

LICENSES, PERMITS, MEMBERSHIPS

\$.00

\$ 500.00

\$ 500.00

PROFESSIONAL FEES (accounting, attorney, etc.)

\$ 716.00

\$ 3,784.00

\$ 4,500.00

AUDIT COMPLIANCE FEES

\$.00

\$ 8,400.00

\$ 8,400.00

INSURANCE

\$ 347.00

\$ 1,853.00

\$ 2,200.00

EMPLOYEE TRAINING

\$.00

\$ 3,750.00

\$ 3,750.00

RENT or OCCUPANCY

\$ 520.50

\$ 1,879.50

\$ 2,400.00

UTILITIES (part of rent)

\$.00

\$.00

\$.00

TELEPHONE

\$ 260.50

\$ 4,389.50

\$ 4,650.00

OFFICE SUPPLIES

\$ 195.00

\$ 9,805.00

\$10,000.00

POSTAGE

\$ 52.00

\$ 1,058.00

\$ 1,110.00

EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

\$.00

\$.00

\$.00

EQUIPMENT RENTAL

\$.00

\$.00

\$.00

EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

\$ 130.50

\$ 1,519.50

\$ 1,650.00

WORK OR PROGRAM SUPPLIES

\$ 65.00

\$ 1,915.00

\$ 1,980.00

PRINTING AND PUBLICATIONS

\$ 26.00

\$ 870.00

\$ 896.00

TRAVEL * (mileage @ \$0.55)

\$ 564.50

\$ 9,535.50

\$10,100.00

MEETING EXPENSES *

\$.00

\$.00

\$.00

LIST ANY OTHER EXPENSES BELOW * :

Participant Vocational Support

\$ 174.50

\$ 3,325.50

\$ 3,500.00

Participant Bus Passes

\$ 241.50

\$ 3,258.50

\$ 3,500.00

Participant Bus Tokens

\$ 90.00

\$ 910.00

\$ 1,000.00

Participant Recognition Event

\$.00

\$ 1,700.00

\$ 1,700.00

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$ 34,947.88

\$330,193.12

\$365,141.00

*** Provide detail on next page as indicated.**

SECTION 6: BUDGET (CONTINUED)

- Identify and explain the necessity for any equipment proposed to be purchased.

We do not anticipate any equipment purchases in 2009

- Explain the purpose(s) for which travel funds will be used. Identify the purpose(s) of out of town travel.

The travel budget limited to staff mileage in support of CRP participants. The rate is \$0.55 per mile.

- Identify the meetings and what items will be paid for under Meeting Expenses. Identify out of town meetings, location(s) and purpose(s).

N/A

- Identify what contract services will be purchased and how the contractor(s) will be selected.

At this time no contract services are anticipated for 2009. If we do need them we do not anticipate using CDBG funds for this purpose. If such need arises, RVM will act according to our board approved procurement policy.

- Explain all items listed under "Other Expenses".

Note: Line items such as Miscellaneous Expenses, Overhead, Indirect costs and similar listings are not permitted.

Other expenses include a small budget to help participates with vocational support and bus passes and tokens to get to job interviews and work. The participant recognitions event is an annual dinner not paid for with CDBG funds.

SECTION 7: ATTACHMENTS

Please provide one copy only of the following

- A description of all jobs shown in the budget.
- A copy of applicant's (agency) 2008 budget.
- A copy of the applicant's most recent financial audit or compilation.

PLEASE, LIMIT YOUR ATTACHMENTS TO ONLY THOSE REQUESTED!!!

SECTION 8: STATEMENT OF APPROVAL

Non-profit and For Profit Organizations.

This proposal for CDBG funds was considered and approved by our Board of Directors at a meeting at which a quorum was present on _____ and all information contained in the proposal is true and correct to the best of our knowledge:

Board President's Signature

Date

Print Name

Board Treasurer's Signature

Date

Print Name

Government Agencies and Individuals.

This proposal for CDBG funds has been reviewed and approved for submission and all information contained in the proposal is true and correct to the best of my knowledge:

Signature

Date

Print Name

Title

Date

SECTION 9: NATIONAL OBJECTIVE CERTIFICATION

PLEASE HAVE THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THE CITY AGENCY DEPARTMENT HEAD, OR, IF THE APPLICANT IS AN INDIVIDUAL, THE INDIVIDUAL, SIGN THE APPROPRIATE CERTIFICATION.

FOR ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO BENEFIT LOW AND MODERATE INCOME PERSONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH HUD CDBG INCOME GUIDELINES:

To benefit persons...

I hereby certify that the proposed activity will benefit low and moderate income persons as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and that no less than _____ % of the clients to be assisted will be low and moderate income persons residing in the City of Racine, Wisconsin.

Signature

Date

Print Name

Title

To benefit an area...

I hereby certify that the proposed activity is designed to benefit a general area of the City and not individually identified low and moderate income persons; and that the proposed activity will provide improvements to areas in which no less than 51% of the residents are low and moderate income as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Signature

Date

Print Name

Title

FOR ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO ELIMINATE SLUMS AND BLIGHT

To eliminate slums and blight...

I hereby certify that the proposed activity is designed to aid in the prevention and elimination of slums and blight, as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development rules governing the CDBG Program.

Signature

Date

Print Name

Title