

NATIONAL
LEAGUE
of CITIES



INSTITUTE
FOR YOUTH,
EDUCATION & FAMILIES

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

City Leadership to Promote Black Male Achievement

An initiative to help local leaders improve education,
work, and family outcomes for black men

**With Support from the Open Society Foundations'
Campaign for Black Male Achievement**

NLC

Youth, Education, & Families Grant

This project is designed to assist city leaders in their efforts to improve the life outcomes of black men and boys. In order to achieve this result, NLC seeks to support city leaders in framing and raising the visibility of issues related to black male achievement and to enhance their capacity to develop strong local partnerships, use data more effectively, implement comprehensive strategies in areas of education, work, and family, and promote greater civic engagement of young black men and boys.

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Based on the proposals submitted in response to this request, the YEF Institute will select up to six cities to participate in this national initiative. **A strong commitment by a local elected official to frame and raise the visibility of issues related to black male achievement in his or her city is a requirement of participation.** In addition, NLC expects that selected cities will commit to work in each of the following four areas, which the YEF Institute believes are keys to sustained progress at the community level in improving life outcomes of black men and boys:

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1. Development of Strong Partnerships:

Create or utilize an existing partnership structure that engages other local government officials, community and faith-based leaders, families, youth, funders, and other stakeholders within the city who are dedicated to improving outcomes for black men and boys.

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2. Effective Utilization of Data:

Strengthen data capacity that supports the city's efforts to use data to document needs, target resources, assess the effectiveness of strategies and programs, and measure progress in improving life outcomes of black men and boys.

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3. Implementation of Comprehensive Strategies:

Develop and advance new policies and practices that are of sufficient scale to generate significant improvements in outcomes for black men and boys in areas such as educational attainment, employment opportunities, family strengthening, and the prevention of violence and violent-related deaths.

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4. Civic Engagement of Young Black Men and Boys:

Promote an authentic youth civic engagement structure that allows young black men and boys to be involved in meaningful ways in local planning, policy, and decision-making processes.

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Participating cities will also receive technical assistance to strengthen their capacity to engage young black men in local government and their communities, increasing their knowledge of the ***authentic youth civic engagement (AYCE) model*** and developing new approaches or innovative adaptations of the AYCE framework through their black male achievement initiatives.

Selection of city teams for participation in the initiative will be based on the following criteria:

Evidence of need to improve outcomes for black men and boys.

A successful application will demonstrate knowledge of the problems and trends affecting black males in the community, and describe relevant policies and strategies already in place.

Selection of city teams for participation in the initiative will be based on the following criteria:

High-level commitment from the city and major partners.

NLC will look for compelling evidence that the city and local partners will dedicate the time, staff, and resources necessary to participate in and benefit from the project. Strong expressions of intent to assume and sustain leadership roles from the mayor or the city council and from other public systems serving black males represent one important means of demonstrating this commitment.

Selection of city teams for participation in the initiative will be based on the following criteria:

Readiness for technical assistance.

A successful application will include a thorough description of how participation in this initiative will provide specific opportunities for local progress, including priorities for improvement or development via technical assistance.

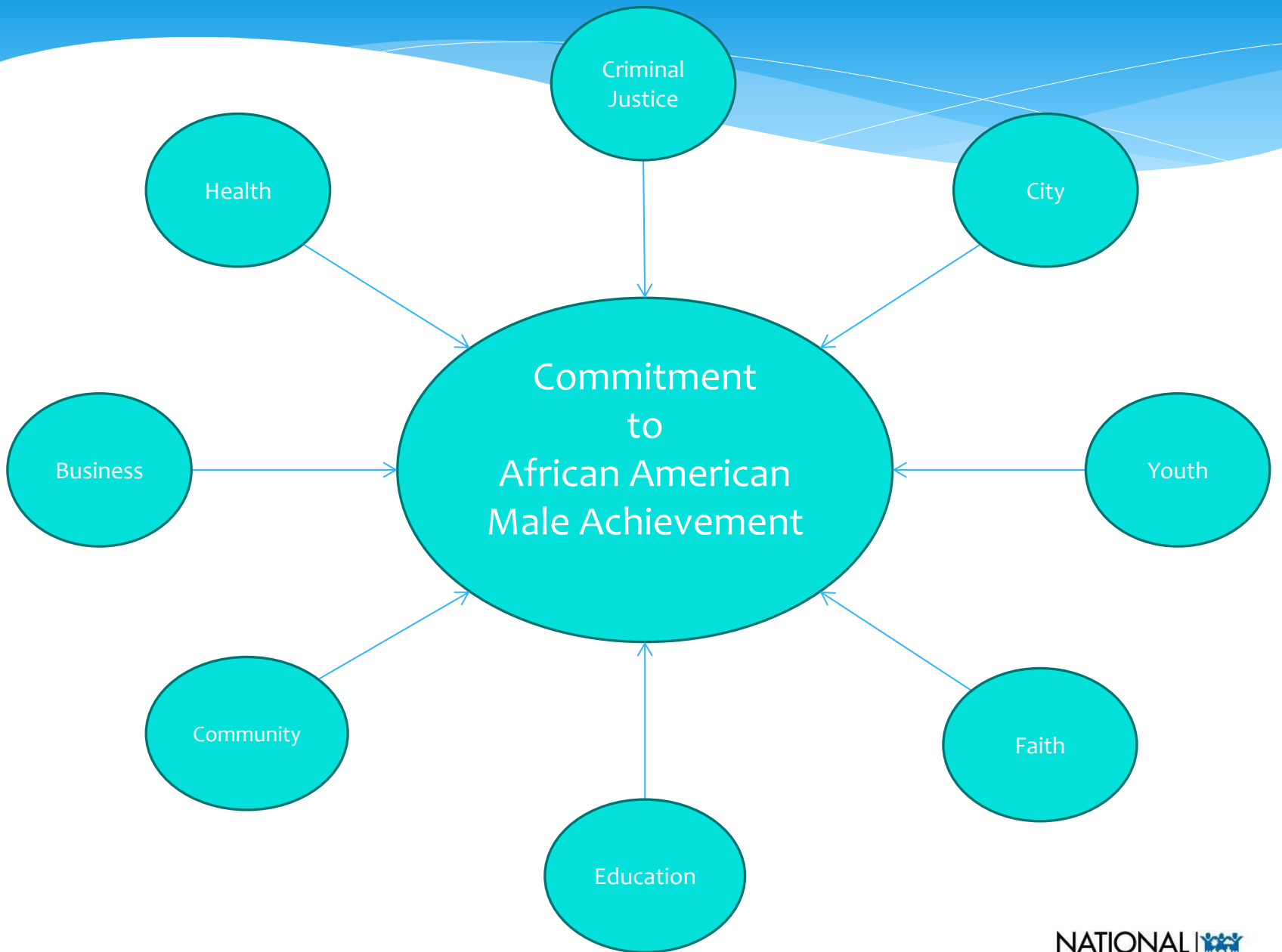
Selection of city teams for participation in the initiative will be based on the following criteria:

Commitment to core project components.

NLC will look for evidence of the city's willingness and readiness to focus on the four key elements described in the project overview: development of strong partnerships; effective utilization of data; implementation of comprehensive strategies, and civic engagement of young black men and boys.

Long-term Outcome and “Benefit” for the City of Milwaukee

Through the project’s technical assistance process, YEF Institute staff will encourage city leaders to engage diverse stakeholders across the community, help cities build a strong local team, and identify key leadership opportunities for stimulating and supporting cross-system collaboration.



Interested Stakeholders

- * Commissioner Bevan Baker
- * US Attorney James Santelle
- * Dionne Shaw
- * Pastor Walter Harvey
- * Kwabena Nixon & Muhibb Dyer
- * Leigh Kunde
- * Jeff Roman
- * Reggie Moore

*****IMPORTANT INFORMATION*****

Proposal Deadline: Friday, March 22, 2013

Selection Announcement: Friday, March 29, 2013

**Project Director: Leon T. Andrews, Jr.
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National League of Cities**

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Please include the original application, including the application cover sheet, letters of support, and the five-page proposal. Please mail to the address above or send by email to andrews@nlc.org. No appendices beyond the required letters of support should be included.

Only one application per city will be accepted.