



Monroe County Legislature

VICE PRESIDENT
MERCEDES VAZQUEZ SIMMONS AND
LEGISLATOR
RACHEL BARNHART

April 25, 2025

Via Electronic Mail

County Executive Adam Bello
Monroe County Office Building
39 W. Main St.
Rochester, NY 14614

County Executive Bello,

In June 2024, the Monroe County Legislature authorized a \$35,000 one-year contract with Cure Violence Global (Cure) to assess the feasibility of implementing its anti-violence model through the Monroe County Department of Public Health (MCDPH). This followed the Legislature's 2022 allocation of \$4.2 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to support the initiative.

Last week, two new ARPA-funded Requests for Proposals (RFPs) related to anti-violence work were issued:

- *ARPA Safe Neighborhoods: Training for Violence Prevention*
- *ARPA Safe Neighborhoods: Violence Prevention Services*

The second RFP instructs applicants to provide their own violence intervention models—suggesting the County may not be moving forward with Cure. We write to request clarification on the status of the Cure initiative and the use of ARPA funds.

Regarding Cure Violence Global and the RFPs:

1. What is the status of the County's relationship with Cure Violence Global? Please provide any deliverables or work product produced to date.
2. How much of the \$4.2 million originally allocated for Cure remains unspent? Are the funds supporting the above RFPs drawn from this allocation?
3. One RFP states that "Respondents who base their proposals on evidence and data and have demonstrated success in the field of gun violence prevention will be given preference." Does this mean applicants without such qualifications are still eligible for funding?
4. Both RFPs mention a "rigorous community assessment" conducted over the past two years in collaboration with community-based organizations. Did Cure lead this assessment? Please provide a copy of it.

Regarding ARPA reporting and oversight:

1. The County previously posted compliance reviews and quarterly State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) reports at <https://www.monroecounty.gov/crc-documents>. The most recent quarterly report is from Q2 of 2024, and no new compliance reviews have been posted since June

2024. Please provide the most up-to-date reports.

2. Resolution 260 of 2024 requires the administration to provide EFPR Group's monthly audit findings related to ARPA expenditures. Please provide the reports for all months to date.

We look forward to your response within 30 days. Thank you for your attention to these important matters.

Sincerely,



Mercedes Vazquez Simmons
Vice President



Rachel Barnhart
Legislator – District 17