



Saginaw

community foundation

1 Tuscola, Suite 100 • Saginaw, MI 48607
(989) 755-0545 • Fax (989) 755-6524
saginawfoundation.org

GENERAL SCF GRANT APPLICATION

HOW TO APPLY:

- Review information & FAQs located on the SCF website.
- Contact SCF to discuss proposal and receive an editable grant application.
- Submit completed application electronically to Kendra@saginawfoundation.org no later than 11:59 p.m. on the due date or via mail postmarked by the due date.
- General SCF grant application due dates are February 1, May 1, August 1, November 1

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS SHOULD INCLUDE:

- 1) This completed & signed grant application form
- 2) Program/Project Narrative (See Program Narrative Guidelines)
- 3) Organizational Background (up to 2 pages)
 - Include a list of governing board members & a brief bio on key project/program staff.
- 4) Financial Information:
 - a. Most recent IRS 990 (first 2 pages only)
 - b. Applicant's current operating budget
 - c. Most recent year-to-date financial statement
 - d. Documentation substantiating project expenses (quotes, bids, etc.)
- 5) If appropriate, any additional attachments you feel would establish your organization's credibility or help clarify your program/project (letters of support, news articles, etc.)

E.I.N. #: 47-1899240

Legal name of organization applying: Making Choices And Facing Consequences, Inc.
(This should be the same name as the one on the IRS tax determination letter)

Your organization's common name (if different than above): Making Choices And Facing Consequences, Inc.

Chief Executive Officer (name & title): M.T. Thompson, Jr.

Address: 705 Wilson Avenue City, State, ZIP Code: Saginaw, MI 48638

Phone: 989-790-8033 Email: Maliktompson0513@gmail.com

Website: _____ Facebook Page: _____

Contact person for this application (name & title): M.T. Thompson, Jr.

Address: 705 Wilson Avenue City, State, ZIP Code: Saginaw, MI 48638

Phone: 989-790-8033 Email: Malikthompson0513@gmail.com

- Has your governing board approved a policy which states your organization will not discriminate as to age, race, religion, sex, handicap or national origin? No Yes (date approved by board: 09/12/2014)
- Has your governing board formally approved this project and authorized you to submit this application for funding? No Yes (date approved by board: 07/12/2024)

APPLICATION AUTHORIZATION:

Chief Executive Officer

(Printed): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Board Chair (Printed): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____



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PROGRAM/PROJECT INFORMATION

Your Organization's common name: Making Choices And Facing Consequences, Inc.

Program/Project title: Stop Gun Violence In School

Amount requested : \$15,000 **Total project cost:** \$30,000

Project start date: February 3, 2025 **Project end date:** March 14, 2025

Geographic area served by this project (neighborhood/township/city/county): City of Saginaw & Bridgeport Township

1a. Estimated # of *direct* recipients this project will serve: 180-200 high school students

1b. Who are the *direct* recipients? High school students at both Saginaw United High School & Bridgeport High

Explain. (No more than one sentence): School

2a. Estimated # of *indirect* recipients this project will serve: 200-250

2b. Who are the *indirect* recipients?

Explain. (No more than one sentence): Parents and siblings of high school student participants.

Executive Summary

Provide a brief program/project overview answering the following:

What is the project; why is it necessary; who is coordinating the efforts; where is the project located; who will the project impact; and what impact will the project have on the community (no more than a paragraph in length).

The "Stop Gun Violence in Schools" is a program that promotes gun violence prevention, bully prevention, and character development by utilizing real life stories about children and young adults who come from similar neighborhoods and backgrounds, and face the same type of problems, pressures and temptations as the students we are trying to reach. The authentic materials motivate students to engage in critical conversations with facilitators who are required to receive extensive training on how to appropriately implement the *Making Choices And Facing Consequences Anti-gun Violence* curriculum. Facilitators include police officers, school personnel, community volunteers, and high school student ambassadors from Saginaw and Bridgeport School Districts.

Gun violence is the number one cause of death for children ages 1-19 and Saginaw is one of the most violent communities in the country. A school-based program is necessary to ensure that all students have access to the benefits of participating in an anti-gun violence program. This community partnership effort will be coordinated by experts with extensive experience including: Hon. M.T. Thompson Jr., a retired judge, Professor Monica R. Nuckolls, from Cooley Law School and co-author of the curriculum and Professor William E. Ketchum, Delta College.



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BUDGET INFORMATION

- In the tables below, itemize any pending or confirmed sources of revenue & estimated expenses relating to this request. Add additional lines if necessary.
- Total revenue *must* equal total expense to show how you plan on funding the project.*
- Answer the *Budget Questions* on the following page regarding funding and sustainability.
- Attach the following financial information when submitting the completed grant application:
 - 1) Most recent IRS 990 (first two pages only)
 - 2) Applicant's current operating budget
 - 3) Most recent year-to-date financial statement
 - 4) Documentation substantiating expenses (bids, quotes, etc.)

REVENUES FOR PROJECT:

FUNDING SOURCE	AMOUNT	STATUS: CONFIRMED OR PENDING	
Saginaw Community Foundation (amount requested)	\$15,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Confirmed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pending
Organizational Funds Committed (in-kind)	\$15,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Confirmed	<input type="checkbox"/> Pending
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Confirmed	<input type="checkbox"/> Pending
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Confirmed	<input type="checkbox"/> Pending
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Confirmed	<input type="checkbox"/> Pending
TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECT REVENUE*:	\$30,000		

EXPENSES FOR PROGRAM/PROJECT:

ITEM (MATERIALS, SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT, ETC.)	ESTIMATED COSTS
Training Assessments, monitoring and evaluation for police, school personnel community volunteers and student ambassadors. (\$3,000 each for Saginaw United & Bridgeport)	\$6,000
Materials for police officers, adults, student ambassadors and additional student groups taught by student ambassadors. (\$4,500 each for Saginaw United & Bridgeport)	\$9,000
\$15,000 of internal funds are dedicated to this project including in-kind consulting from Judge Thompson, Professor Nuckolls, and Professor Ketchum. Additional administrative support will be donated in-kind by Ivory Thompson and Shelia Danley. The company is also underwriting a portion of the cost of materials for additional students who participate in sessions facilitated by high school ambassadors.	\$15,000
TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECT EXPENSE*:	\$30,000



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BUDGET QUESTIONS

How will funding from the Saginaw Community Foundation be used?

Explain specific items and/or areas of the program/project that SCF funds would support.

Limit to 120 words.

\$7500 will be set aside for each school district (Saginaw Public School District and Bridgeport School District). \$3000 will be used to train designated police officers, other adults and approximately 30 high school student ambassadors. Training will be conducted to prepare police officers and other adult volunteers to implement the program with student ambassadors (nominated/chosen by school administrators and faculty) during the 2024-2025 academic year. Subsequently, with the support of trained adult volunteers, student ambassadors will facilitate sessions with small groups of their peers. The cost of training (\$3000) includes lesson plans with specific schedules, as well as pre- and post-assessments for data collection. Session will be strategically monitored and evaluated throughout the project to provide on-going support for high school student ambassadors. The remaining \$4500 will help defray the cost of materials, including workbooks and supplies for all project sessions.

How would this program/project be impacted if awarded *partial grant funding* from SCF?

How would this program/project be impacted if not awarded *any grant funding* from SCF?

Limit to 120 words.

The program could potentially be cut in half if awarded partial grant funding from SCF. Although Saginaw and Bridgeport students desperately need a gun violence prevention program, we could be limited to helping only a few students, or possibly one school district instead of two. Unfortunately, the program may not be implemented if we do not receive SCF funding. This is our first time trying to implement this particular program and we need complete support from SCF. In the future, we plan to apply to other funding sources, as well.

Describe the amount and source of any internal funds dedicated to this project.

Have you secured or do you plan on securing additional funds to support this program/project? Who have you contacted or plan on contacting?

Limit to 120 words.

\$15,000 of internal funds are dedicated to this project including in-kind consulting from Judge Thompson, Professor Nuckolls, and Professor Ketchum. Additional administrative support will be donated in-kind by Ivory Thompson and Shelia Danley. The company is also underwriting a portion of the cost of materials for additional students who participate in sessions facilitated by high school ambassadors.

This is a pilot program, and additional funds have not been secured; however, once data is collected and analyzed, we plan to apply for and secure funds from various funding sources including foundations that focus on anti-gun, anti-bullying, and character development.

III. PROGRAM NARRATIVE

A. Statement of Purpose and Community Issue it Addresses

The purpose of *Stop the Gun Violence* is to: 1) promote the development of personal self-management skills through decision making exercises that allow young adults to examine real life situations and consider the choices and consequences presented by the possession and use of guns; 2) teach children and young adults the potential life altering consequences of using guns and other weapons to settle disputes; 3) teach children and young adults what they can do to stop bullying; and 4) promote responsible citizenship and appropriate behavior standards.

The Making Choices And Facing Consequences: Gun Violence in Schools Program is a school based program designed to address Saginaw's gun violence crisis. As more fully discussed below, Saginaw is one of the most violent communities in the country. It has a well-entrenched culture of violence. The deafening echo of gunfire grows louder every day, and the shooters and victims get younger and younger. The number one cause of death for children between the ages of 1-19 is gun violence. Almost all of the shooters and the majority of the victims are students. This includes the 17 and 18 year old shooters in Columbine (1999), the 15 year old shooter in Oxford (2021), and the 14 year old shooter in Georgia's Apalachee High School earlier this year.

Documentation of Need

According to the Children's Defense Funds' 2023 report entitled "The State Of America's Children 2023" gun violence is the number one cause of death for children ages 1-19. The death rate increased by nearly 40% from 2017 to 2021 and is still increasing. In 2021 we lost 13 children per day, which was the highest number ever recorded.

During the period of 2017 to 2021, Black children and teens were six times as likely to die from gun violence as their White peers. In 2021 the gun related death rate for White children was 3.3 per 100,000. For Black children it was 20.5 per 100,000 children.

Saginaw has developed a culture of gun violence. Saginaw's children are growing up in one of the most violent communities in the country. According to the FBI, in 2021 Saginaw passed Detroit as the most violent city in Michigan and was the fourth most violent city in the nation. Saginaw currently ranks second in the state behind Benton Harbor. In 2022, Saginaw's violent crime rate was 2.8 times higher than the U.S. average. It was higher than 98.9% of U.S. cities. Saginaw's crime rate rose 4% from 2021 to 2022. Homicides increased from 16 to 20 in 2022. In 2023 homicides dropped but nonfatal shootings increased by 20%. Saginaw has had 18 homicides so far this year. Something must be done.

Stop the Gun Violence is a new project in our agency and community; however, several successful projects have been launched by Making Choices and Facing Consequences (see Organization History and Background), including Bullying programs which are directly related to gun violence.

B. Project Impact

High school students from Saginaw United and Bridgeport High School will be directly serviced by the *Stop the Gun Violence* project, along with police officers, teachers, administrators, and community volunteers who choose to participate. Initially, 60 student ambassadors and adults will be trained to implement the project, and they will teach additional students and parents in subsequent sessions. Approximately 400 students and parents will be able to participate in the first project. Our goal is to offer additional projects every year, and possibly each semester to make a major impact on gun violence in our Saginaw community.

C. Implementation Plan & Timeline

January 2025

Training for representatives from the School District of the City of Saginaw, Bridgeport-Spaulding Community Schools, Saginaw Police Department, Buena Vista Township Police Department and Saginaw County Sheriff Department including law enforcement officers, teachers, and social workers.

Jan/Feb 2025

Representatives listed above will train 60 student ambassadors during one class per week for six weeks, for a total of six classes/weeks. Superintendents have already approved this schedule, because of the urgency of this project.

March 2025

Following the completion of their training, the 60 student leaders will be responsible for teaching the curriculum to other students. They will work in teams of 2-3 ambassadors and at least one adult volunteer teaching small groups of students (5-8). Each school district will be responsible for determining the format for these classes. Research shows that learning is most effective in small groups.

May 2025

Student ambassadors and other student participants will attend a culminating event to celebrate their successes and encourage them to apply what they learned during the summer.

D. Collaboration

Making Choices and Facing Consequences is collaborating with several critical community entities to implement the *Stop the Gun Violence* program including: School District of the City of Saginaw, Bridgeport-Spaulding Community Schools, Saginaw Police Department, Buena Vista Township Police Department and Saginaw County Sheriff Department. Representatives will receive training and assist with implementing the project with high school students in Saginaw and Bridgeport.

E. Future Plans

Future plans include expanding the project county-wide to provide access to all students. Discussions with school districts across the State of Michigan are in process. Finally, once data has been collected and the project has been evaluated for improvement, we plan to incorporate other books in the Making Choices series (i.e. *Gangs in the Hood*, *Who Can Stop the Bullying?*) which have already been tested in multiple contexts and received positive results.

F. Evaluation

Evaluation of the project will include pre- and post-assessments for all trainees to determine the effectiveness of training sessions. High school student participants will also be assessed at the beginning and end of the project to measure their understanding of the material; however, more importantly, student participants will complete surveys that measure their perceptions about various behaviors before and after the project. Perception measurements can often determine future behaviors, and it is critical for the project to impact the mindset of student participants that may be prone to violent behavior.

Based on data analysis, some tutors and students may be interviewed to collect additional information that might be helpful for project improvement. Also, at the end of the project, student ambassadors and session facilitators will be asked to participate in group sessions to discuss successes, challenges, and suggestions for improvement for project implementation and training.

Data from assessments, surveys, interviews and group sessions will be analyzed and included in the final report - which will also be shared with school districts.

IV. YOUR ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND

A. Organization's Purpose and History

The purpose of the program is to promote the development of personal self-management skills and teach young adults how to make good choices when it comes to gun violence, bullying, and similar destructive behavior.

During the period of 1997 to 2014, we operated under the assumed name of Making Choices And Facing Consequences. On October 4, 2014, we incorporated as Making Choices And Facing Consequences, Inc., 501(c)(3) under the Internal Revenue Code

The organization's concern for the local community has kept it actively involved in a wide range of educational programs, projects and activities. This is part of our history.

1999 Wrote and published two student work books entitled Just One, a drug prevention work book and Who Stands Up For Us? A work book explaining the court system. There were accompanying videos for each work book. These materials were used in several local schools.

2001-2003 We conducted our Making Choices program in Saginaw School District, Bridgeport School District, Carrollton School District and Buena Vista School District. The program included live court proceedings in each school district. We are the only one to ever conduct live court proceedings in Saginaw County Schools. Justice Elizabeth Weaver, Chief Judge Michigan Supreme Court participated in the Carrollton court proceedings.

2008 Wrote and Published Making Choices And Facing Consequences: Gangs, Bullies & Violent Crimes and Making Choices And Facing Consequences: Drugs And Alcohol.

2008 Used Making Choices to conduct an after school program at Saginaw's elementary and middle schools under its federal 21st Century Grant.

2010 Used Making Choices to conduct Project Future 2010. A five month community-based mentoring program conducted at Ruben Daniels Middle School involving approximately 350 students. Making Choices provided program supervision, training and all program books and materials. See Exhibit II.

2011 Used Making Choices for Pontiac Project Future. A community-based mentoring program for Pontiac School District students. Making Choices provided program supervision, training and all program books and materials.

2011 Received the State Bar of Michigan's prestigious Champion of Justice Award for our Making Choices And Facing Consequences Program. Also received NAACP Community Service Award and Saginaw County Bar Association F.H. Martin Award.

2011-2012 Published the Weekly Bully Beat Down, a ten edition weekly reader. It was provided to Saginaw County Public Schools by the Saginaw County Community Mental Health Authority. It was provided to Pontiac, Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Lansing and Grand Rapids compliments of Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

2017 and 2018 Conducted the Arthur Eddy Academy Reading Achievement Program. The reading score went up 10 points. Training and program materials were provided by Making Choices.

We have also conducted an anti-gang campaign, a re-entry program with Delta College and Saginaw Valley State University and two summer programs.

B. Description of Community/Constituency Served

Making Choices has served across the Saginaw County and State of Michigan as indicated above. Many of the programs sponsored by Making Choice have been located in schools with a high percentage of low-income families, such as Saginaw Public Schools and the Pontiac School District.

C. Organization Affiliations

Making Choices is not formally affiliated with any other organization. However, we have worked closely with local school districts, and the faith-based community.

D. Saginaw County Organizations with Similar Activities

We are not aware of any other Saginaw County organization that provides a similar school based educational program.

E. Making Choices And Facing Consequences, Inc Board of Directors

M.T. Thompson, Jr.
Monica R. Nuckolls
William E. Ketchum, Jr.
Shelia Danley

F. Key Staff Members and Qualifications

All four Board of Directors will be involved in this project. Hon. M.T. Thompson, Jr. and Prof. Monica R. Nuckolls will be the key staff members involved in the program.

Hon. M.T. Thompson, Jr. is a graduate of Oakland University and Northeastern University School of Law. During the past 47 years, he has been employed by both the U.S. Attorney's Office and the National Labor Relations Board. He was engaged in the private practice of law for several years. He retired as a Judge from the Saginaw County District Court after 20 years of service.

Professor Monica R. Nuckolls graduated with honors from both Michigan State University and the University of Michigan Law School. She enjoys a reputation as

an accomplished trial attorney and has served as a law professor at Thomas M. Cooley Law School for the past 20 years.

William E. Ketchum, Jr. is a graduate of Cornell University. He has also received Masters from both University of Wisconsin-Madison and Michigan State University. He is Professor Emeritus, English Delta College where he has worked for over 30 years.

Sheila Danley is a graduate of Buena Vista High School. She has worked as a court clerk and administrator for the past 30 years. She is a member of Mothers of Murdered Children. She lost her son to gun violence.

G. Additional Staff, Consultants & Outside Resources

Additional staff and resources will be community members that want to volunteer to assist with the project because they want to help decrease gun violence in the Saginaw community.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUESTED FROM APPLICANT:

Budget Details

Amount requested \$15,000, \$7500 per school district. (Saginaw and Bridgeport)
Organizational Funds Committed \$15,000 (in kind).

\$6000 (\$3000 per school). **Training**

Police, student ambassadors, community volunteers, and school workers chosen to participate will attend 4 hours of training to learn how to implement the program. Each school will decide if they want to have one or two training sessions for their student ambassadors, but everyone will be required to receive at least 4 hours of training. Training includes lesson plans and pre- and post-assessments. Trainers will monitor the program every two weeks to ensure that the program is being implemented with fidelity.

\$9000 (\$4500 per school). **Materials**

Stop Gun Violence In School workbooks and selected materials from Who Can Stop The Bullying? workbook. Making Choices will defray the cost of materials, including workbooks and supplies for approximately 150 students and 10 adults (\$30/each). The discounted cost of the books and workbooks are (\$20/each). Each student will also receive materials needed during the session (folder, name tag, composition book, information sheets, resource sheet, pen, pencil, etc.) - \$10/student.

ANSWERS TO YOUR FIVE QUESTIONS

1. Have you run this program before? If so, when and with whom?

We have run this program in various school districts and community initiatives since 2008 when the Making Choices And Facing Consequences: Gangs, Bullies & Violent Crimes, Volume I and Drugs & Alcohol Volume II curriculum was first published. We conducted the program at the Saginaw County Juvenile Facility in 2021, the Saginaw School District's Success Academy in 2022 and the Pontiac School District in 2023.

Both Dr. Mark N. Mitchell, Chair Delta College, Community Research Institute and Dr. Julia Smith, Oakland University in separate comprehensive

studies confirmed the effectiveness of the program.

The program has received various awards, including the State Bar Of Michigan's prestigious Champion of Justice Award, the Saginaw County Bar Association F.H. Martin Award, and the NAACP Community Service Award.

2. Who will be providing the training?

The training will be conducted by Dr. Gwendolyn M. McMillon, Prof. Oakland University, Prof. Monica R. Nuckolls, Professor of Law, Thomas M. Cooley Law School, and Hon. M.T. Thompson, Jr., retired Saginaw County District Judge.

3. Has there been any discussion with students on their interest?

While the program has been previously run in both the Saginaw School District and Bridgeport School District, we have not discussed it directly with the current students. We are not aware of what, if any, discussion the school districts' administrations have had with the students. The program has always fully engaged the students, received very positive student evaluations and achieved the desired results.

Under Matt's Safe Schools Act, every school district is required to provide an annual bully prevention program. Bullying is the number one cause of school violence. Among other things, this program is designed to meet that legal requirement.

4. How will students be selected to participate?

The student ambassadors/instructors, school staff participants and community partners/volunteers will be selected by each school district.

5. How will students then train/teach others?

After they receive training, police, student ambassadors, community volunteers and school workers will implement the program at each school. Schools will be limited to a maximum of 15 student participants for each session; however, multiple sessions can occur simultaneously. Each session will include a minimum of 6 student ambassadors and 3 adults. Student participants will be divided into groups of 5 to ensure that an adult and 2 student ambassadors are in each group. Each session will last for approximately one hour. Schools will be responsible for scheduling the sessions at the most convenient times based on their school schedule.