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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **St. Louis ReCAST Kicks Off Third Year**

**ST. LOUIS, MO – (May 16, 2019)** St. Louis ReCAST (Resiliency in Communities After Stress and Trauma) – a grant-funded, five-year effort to promote community well-being – has kicked off its third year. To participate in the participatory budgeting process by being a ReCAST delegate, or to learn more about the funding process, visit ReCAST’s website, [stlouisco.com/ReCAST](http://stlouisco.com/ReCAST).

ReCAST is funded by a five-year, \$4.7 million federal grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) that was awarded to the Saint Louis County Department of Public Health in 2016. Partners in the effort include the St. Louis City Department of Health, the Saint Louis Mental Health Board, and over 70 other local agencies, not-for-profits, and municipalities.

The project is focused on the St. Louis Promise Zone – a federally designated area that encompasses 28 municipalities in North St. Louis County and 11 wards in North St. Louis City. Priorities for ReCAST include:

- Violence prevention
- Youth engagement
- Peer support
- Mental health
- Trauma-informed care

Each year, St. Louis ReCAST allocates \$650,000 to community projects in the Promise Zone that address these priorities. All funds are awarded through a community-based, participatory budgeting process so that residents may determine which projects are best suited for their own neighborhoods. Each year, delegates are selected to review proposals, which are then put to a public vote.

Anyone who lives in the Promise Zone is eligible to serve as a community delegate with ReCAST, provided they are at least 11 years old (parental consent will be required for those under 18). Those selected to be community delegates will be compensated for attending the weekly meetings. Childcare and transit passes will be made available as needed.

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