

IMPACT REPORT

Gun Violence Intervention
in Philadelphia



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DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

Just a few years ago, Philadelphia faced a profound crisis as gun deaths surged to unprecedented levels, devastating families, overwhelming leaders, and eroding public trust in efforts to combat the epidemic. In true Philadelphia spirit, the city responded by coming together across sectors—from grassroots organizations to corporate boardrooms—to confront the crisis head-on. This shared determination gave rise to the Civic Coalition to Save Lives, a unique public-private platform for collaboration and advocacy designed to drive immediate action while laying the foundation for long-term impact.

With the election of Mayor Cherelle Parker, a leader committed to making public safety a top priority, the City has embraced a clear and comprehensive approach centered on prevention, intervention, and enforcement—the “P.I.E.” public safety framework. Early appointments like Police Commissioner Kevin Bethel, leading enforcement and guardianship efforts, and Adam Geer, director of Philadelphia’s first-ever Office of Public Safety, underscore the administration’s resolve to reduce gun violence through evidence-based strategies.

As 2024 comes to a close, the results speak volumes. Gun violence in Philadelphia has dropped by a remarkable 40%, with 200 fewer lives lost to gun violence compared to just a few years ago. While still far too high, this progress has captured the attention of cities nationwide eager to learn from Philadelphia’s success.

The intervention work championed by the Civic Coalition to Save Lives and its partners has played a pivotal role in Philadelphia’s gun violence reduction. Their efforts bridge immediate crisis response with long-term violence prevention and community resilience.

This report highlights the heroes on the front lines—those who have been driving gun violence intervention efforts in Philadelphia for decades. Their unwavering dedication, through city initiatives, community-based organizations, and hospital intervention programs, has saved countless lives.

While the progress is significant, we know that even one life lost to gun violence is one too many. That’s why we remain committed to strengthening and expanding the proven strategies that have driven this progress. Together, through partnership, persistence, and purpose, we will continue to support intervention efforts for a safer, more hopeful future for every Philadelphia neighborhood.

With sincere thanks,

Pedro A. Ramos | President and CEO
The Philadelphia Foundation

Shawn McCaney | Executive Director
The William Penn Foundation

Steering Committee Co-Chairs
Civic Coalition to Save Lives



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A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Rev. David W. Brown

Executive Director
Civic Coalition to Save Lives

Assistant Dean for Community and
Communication, The Klein College of
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DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

On behalf of the Civic Coalition to Save Lives, it's our privilege to share this impact report, which reflects the incredible efforts of the City agencies, hospital violence intervention programs, law enforcement, and community organizations working tirelessly to reduce gun violence in Philadelphia through intervention. This Coalition is honored to stand beside these committed individuals and organizations—they are the true heroes in this journey toward a safer city. Their unwavering dedication, expertise, and compassion have brought hope and real change to communities most affected by violence.

This report captures how much is possible when public and private sectors come together in support of those on the front lines. Our role in the Civic Coalition to Save Lives is to support and uplift the heroic work of our partners, whose impact is making Philadelphia's neighborhoods stronger and safer every day. While we, as a united city, still face challenges ahead, our commitment to this partnership is steadfast, and the resilience and resolve of everyone involved inspires us.

We invite you to read this report with the recognition that it is thanks to the contributions of city leaders, public servants, community organizers, and nonprofit leaders that **gun violence in Philadelphia is down by 40%**. Their collaborative efforts continue to make a difference in our city, and we are grateful for the opportunity to stand with them in this vital mission.

In gratitude and partnership,

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Civic Coalition to Save Lives (the Coalition) unites philanthropic, business, nonprofit, and community leaders to advance evidence-based gun violence intervention strategies and foster broad community support in Philadelphia.

Effective gun violence intervention is data-driven, focusing on key factors such as people, places, and behaviors. Early in their national review, Coalition members explored place-based strategies in Philadelphia and other cities that employed a highly targeted, personalized approach—engaging directly with the relatively small group most at risk of killing or being killed by gun violence.

This impact report highlights the coordinated efforts of the Coalition in supporting evidence-based intervention strategies that have contributed to the significant reduction of gun violence in Philadelphia. It showcases the power of public-private partnerships to lift up community-based solutions that are helping create a safer Philadelphia for all.



These featured callouts showcase some of the organizations that have received Coalition funding and the impact it has had on their work.

Pushing Progress Philly (P3) used Coalition funding to reduce barriers to program participation by covering costs for food, transportation, and child care. The funding also supported entrepreneurial training, behavioral health services, and events to boost participant engagement and morale.

“The Civic Coalition grant has been transformative for Pushing Progress Philly, allowing us to address participants’ basic needs, support entrepreneurial goals, and provide behavioral health resources. These efforts have strengthened our mission to reduce gun violence and foster community engagement.”

— Kareem Brown, Ed.D., Program Director, Pushing Progress Philly (P3)



Photo courtesy of EMIR Healing Center

PURPOSE & VISION

We are committed to supporting the local and City-led intervention-based programs and services that are focused on reaching the people at highest risk of being involved in gun violence to immediately stop the cycle and provide individualized care, resources and direction toward a better future for themselves and their families.

Established on a foundation of research from multiple sources including the [University of Pennsylvania Crime and Justice Policy Lab](#) and learnings from successful models in other cities, we are dedicated to supporting, amplifying and sustaining intervention initiatives through collaborative and strategic support and resources. The Coalition is committed to a sustained public-private partnership that supports evidence-based gun violence intervention and reduction efforts that adapt to evolving city leadership and community needs.

Through its unique partnership model, the Coalition provides collaborative, strategic support and resources to help the network of public safety, hospital and community-based intervention services and organizations, to widen proven pathways to reduce gun violence.

The mission of the Civic Coalition to Save Lives is to create a resilient infrastructure around intervention-based strategies and initiatives that transcends mayoral administrations, integrates across civic and community sectors, and sets ambitious goals for Philadelphia as a unified city where everyone feels safe and valued.

Thanks to the combined intervention efforts underway, Philadelphia has the potential to reduce gun violence to historic lows. The Coalition is gratified to support this mission, bringing together civic institutions, business leaders, and community advocates in a coordinated and strategic citywide response.

Today, the Coalition's focus is sharper than ever: to collaborate, convene, and coordinate intervention efforts across public safety departments, social services, community groups, and healthcare providers. Central to this mission is building a robust, collaborative infrastructure that drives meaningful action.

A key achievement has been the establishment of the Gun Violence Intervention Coordination Center (GVICC), designed to connect and strengthen the city's network of intervention services.

So far, the Coalition has provided over \$1.5 million in flexible grants and educated more than 1,500 stakeholders on evidence-based intervention practices to reduce gun violence—critical steps toward creating safer, more resilient communities.

Together, we are committed to reducing gun violence to historic lows, raising community awareness, and building a future where every Philadelphia neighborhood is safe and thriving.



Our work is guided by the following actions within a network of intervention partners:



CONNECTING

fostering relationships among law enforcement, city agencies, local nonprofits, community leaders, and trauma centers, to help bridge gaps and share tools and knowledge that enable effective intervention strategies



CONVENING

bringing together diverse stakeholders to share intervention strategies and develop sustainable funding paths



COLLABORATING

engaging with public agencies, community organizations, local leaders, and elected officials to develop lasting solutions informed by a wide range of experiences and expertise



COMMUNICATING

raising awareness and educating all stakeholders about gun violence intervention strategies through public briefings, community outreach, and regular updates



INTERVENTION: A PROVEN APPROACH

Intervention is supported by data and research and is central to reducing gun violence. Studies repeatedly show that when intervention efforts are resourced and sustained over time, gun violence decreases exponentially, giving rise to safer communities.

The Civic Coalition to Save Lives connects and supports organizations working directly with those most at risk of gun violence by providing resources, strengthening capacity, building public awareness, and fostering collaboration among law enforcement, community leaders, and public agencies to implement and sustain effective intervention strategies. Our approach is simple:

IDENTIFY WHAT WORKS

Research shows that intervention strategies focused on finding and bringing direct services to the people at the highest risk of shooting someone or being shot is the fastest way to reduce gun violence.

SUPPORT GROUPS DOING WHAT WORKS

Provide resources to the network of organizations that are effectively implementing intervention strategies.

STRENGTHEN CAPACITY

Offer coordination, funding, professional services, leadership development and other opportunities to help enhance the effectiveness of these groups and their work.

INFORM AND INVOLVE

Build public awareness and community backing to keep advancing successful intervention strategies and organizations.

KEEP GOING

Intervention efforts must continue, no matter what. One life lost to gun violence is one too many.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

Since launching in 2021, the Civic Coalition to Save Lives has met several of the original goals set forth including the following initiatives:

Gun Violence Coordination Center (GVICC)

The GVICC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to advancing gun violence intervention in Philadelphia.

- The center supports citywide initiatives, contributes to the development and replication of best practices in the field, and helps secure funding for intervention programs.
- Partnering with the City, the GVICC supports key initiatives such as the Community Crisis Intervention Program (CCIP), Group Violence Intervention (GVI), and Pushing Progress Philly (P3).
- The GVICC developed an innovative housing program in partnership with the Philadelphia Housing Authority (PHA) and the City, creating new opportunities for individuals participating in intensive case management through Community Violence Intervention (CVI) programs. The initiative addresses housing barriers faced by those with complex criminal histories, offering a pathway to stability and long-term success.

Community Safety Civic Resource Board

The Coalition established the Community Safety Civic Resource Board to secure and distribute funding for critical intervention efforts.

- **Resource Development:** In partnership with Fairmount Ventures, the Coalition is crafting strategies to attract funding for high-priority needs.
- **Resource Distribution:** Through a re-grant fund, the Coalition has awarded \$1.5 million to strengthen community-based intervention programs, Hospital Violence Intervention Programs (HVIPs), Trauma Intervention Programs (TIPs), and city-led intervention groups to help increase their impact in the communities most affected by gun violence.

Community Safety Information Campaign

- Helping to educate people about the challenges of gun violence and highlighting intervention as a vital component in its reduction—alongside prevention and enforcement—is essential to the strategy's success.
- The Coalition has engaged more than 1,500 stakeholders about how and why sustained intervention works.

Black Men Heal expanded its programs with Coalition funding, hiring peer specialists, offering Gun Violence Group Therapy, and hosting bi-weekly King's Corner sessions. Additionally, the funding reduced the waitlist for the Individual Therapy Program, pairing 170 men with clinicians and providing 830 free therapy sessions in 2024.

"The expansion made possible through the Coalition funding has made a remarkable impact, significantly reducing our waiting list and enabling us to pair 170 men with clinicians, providing over 830 free therapy sessions so far in 2024. This collective effort has strengthened our program and deepened our impact on the community."

— Zakia S. Williams, M.B.A., M.A., Co-Founder/Chief Operating Officer, Black Men Heal



Photo courtesy of Black Men Heal.



BUILDING THE INTERVENTION NETWORK

HOSPITAL VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAMS



COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

BEAT THE BLOCK



PUBLIC ENTITIES





A PERSONALIZED JOURNEY: FROM HIGH RISK TO HOPE

Successful gun violence intervention programming is a discipline melding science and humanity to cultivate an environment of credibility, trust and change. The data-driven and targeted approach aims to disrupt and deter gun violence by individuals who are most likely to be involved. Once those individuals are identified, the trust building can begin through intensive case management that delivers specific services and supports. Trauma-informed care, safe housing, job training and placement are among the host of intervention offerings that must be made available when needed.

While prevention and transformation efforts focus on reducing opportunities for crime and violence by addressing root causes within communities, intervention strategies deliver the most immediate results, typically within 12 to 36 months. Although prevention and transformation strategies may take longer to show measurable outcomes, they are also essential investments, serving as critical investments in rebuilding and strengthening community infrastructures for lasting change.

Coalition funding enabled **Eddie's House** to connect participants to employment, housing, and education opportunities. Achievements included helping 20 individuals secure housing, assisting seven in earning diplomas, and supporting 30 in finding employment. The funding also supported hiring bilingual staff with lived experience to help provide guidance and stability.

"It takes considerable time to help individuals without income or stable housing reach a place where they can begin to move forward with hope. Hiring professionals with lived experience requires unique skills and sensitivities, and this funding has allowed us to meet those challenges."

— Marion Campbell, Executive Director and Co-Founder, Eddie's House



With Coalition funding, **Father's Day Rally Committee (FDRC)** supported Project Lifeline, a 12-week program helping men in North Philadelphia express emotions constructively and resolve conflicts without violence. In 2024, 135 men participated, with 122 graduates completing the course.

"FDRC has learned over the years that group sessions are one of the best ways to reduce violence by offering Black men the opportunity to change their thinking and look at themselves as different from how society defines them. Arguments are the leading cause of shootings in our city and changing behavior of individuals most likely to shoot will reduce shootings. Project Lifeline group sessions help make that difference in men's lives."

-Bilal Qayyum, President, Father's Day Rally Committee, Inc.

Intervention offers complementary and coordinated support to individuals at the highest risk through trusted relationships and strong, interconnected networks of care. These efforts intersect across multiple areas of need, amplifying impact over time, resulting in:

- **Reduction in Shootings and Homicides**

Intervention programs aim to mediate conflicts, offer support, and provide opportunities for individuals to exit the cycle of violence, contributing to a decrease in shootings and homicides.

- **Increased Trust**

Successful intervention programs build trust between communities and law enforcement, which can lead to improved community safety and cooperation in preventing and solving crimes.

- **Preventing Retaliation**

By addressing disputes and conflicts at an early stage, intervention programs can help prevent retaliatory violence, which often perpetuates the cycle of gun violence.

- **Diversion and Support**

Intervention strategies offer alternatives to individuals involved in gun violence in the form of education, job training, and social services, and can help steer them away from criminal activities.

- **Community Empowerment**

Intervention programs can empower communities to take an active role in reducing gun violence, leading to a more engaged and resilient community.

- **Critical Care and Community Engagement**

Hospital-based violence intervention programs provide an opportunity to disrupt the cycle of gun violence when victims seek medical care for injuries related to violence with wide-ranging impact:

- ▷ Prevention of retaliation and further involvement in violence by connecting victims with support services, conflict resolution, and mentorship programs.
- ▷ Reducing rehospitalization by addressing the social and psychological factors that contribute to violence.
- ▷ Working in collaboration with community organizations to create a network of support and resources for individuals once discharged.



HOW INTERVENTION WORKS

Intervention is a targeted approach designed to identify and support individuals at the highest risk of gun violence. In Philadelphia, an estimated 1,200 people—primarily men ages 18-35—face an elevated risk of killing or being killed due to factors such as unstable housing, poverty, prior justice system involvement, or personal connections to gun violence. These challenges are often compounded by systemic inequities related to age, race, and social environment.

While many at risk share similar challenges, each person's journey is unique. Intervention offers holistic, personalized mentorship and case management aimed at preventing imminent violence while guiding individuals toward safer, more promising futures.

To illustrate how intervention works while safeguarding the identities of program participants, the following fictional portrayal is based on real stories shared by individuals involved in community violence intervention programs. The experiences of “D” reflect common themes from listening sessions with participants who have lived through these challenges.

THE STARTING POINT

Hardship, Trauma and Loss: “D” grew up in poverty and struggled in school, leaving him vulnerable to negative influence. At a very young age, “D” had witnessed the shooting deaths of a relative and a close friend. Violence seemed inescapable.

Legal Troubles: “D” experienced a high level of truancy in high school and was arrested and imprisoned for carrying a gun.

Multiple Obstacles: After serving his jail time, “D” returns to his old neighborhood. Wary of his past, “D’s” family is unable to provide a place to stay while he returns to the community, leaving “D” to couch surf until he can save enough money to get his own place. He gets a promising job working nights in a warehouse, with benefits and opportunities for advancement, but is let go after a background check. Unemployed and without stable housing, “D” commits a parole violation. Law enforcement identifies him as very high risk and coordinates with a community violence intervention (CVI) program.

THE TURNING POINT

Outreach: A CVI program approaches “D,” offering a lifeline. “D” is wary and skeptical at first, but the group helps meet his most urgent need for housing and provides help he needs for his infant son.

1:1 Mentorship: “D” is paired with a credible messenger who serves as a mentor and who has walked a similar path. That consistent presence allows him to slowly build trust in the community and, for the first time, “D” can see a better future for himself and his family.

Support: His credible messenger introduces “D” to community-based organizations specializing in trauma-informed behavioral health services which helps him deal with unresolved traumatic experiences. His case manager also connects “D” to another organization that offers job placement, training and help with achieving his goal to get a commercial driver’s license and one day be his own boss.

A Productive Future: Living a life of purpose and productivity, “D” becomes a credible messenger, continuing intervention work as an experienced mentor to save more lives. He looks forward to building a better life for his son.



GROWTH TIMELINE OF THE CIVIC COALITION TO SAVE LIVES

2021 - 2022: A Public Crisis Sparks Civic Action

- **Record Homicides:** Philadelphia experiences an unprecedented spike of 562 homicides in 2021, prompting an urgent call to action. Civic leaders recognize that the scale of the crisis demands a unified, cross-sector response beyond the capacity of any single entity.
- **Building Partnerships:** The Philadelphia Foundation and the William Penn Foundation partner with the Urban Affairs Coalition, The Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia, and the Philadelphia Equity Alliance to tackle the crisis. Together, they commit to a shared vision uniting all sectors of society must unite to make Philadelphia safer.
- **Strategic Foundation:** Drawing on research and successful models from other cities, leaders identify intervention-based strategies as a proven method to reduce gun violence within 12-36 months. This collaboration leads to the launch of the Civic Coalition to Save Lives (the Coalition), prioritizing evidence-based intervention and aligning resources across public and private sectors.

- **Stakeholder Engagement:** The Coalition educates stakeholders on effective, evidence-based strategies for gun violence intervention, emphasizing the importance of coordinated efforts.
- **Key Structures Established:**
 - ▷ **Gun Violence Intervention Coordination Center (GVICC):** Officially opens with nonprofit designation in November, staffed with two full-time members to support citywide intervention efforts.
 - ▷ **Community Safety Civic Resource Board:** Launches a Re-grant Fund, providing \$700,000 in financial support to bolster hospital and community-based intervention programs.
- **Early Wins:** Approximately one-third of high-risk individuals are engaged in intervention programs, demonstrating measurable impact.
- **Coalition Milestone Event:** A forum for business leaders, civic partners, and early funders highlights the Coalition's efforts. Panel discussions showcase collaboration among the City of Philadelphia, law enforcement, hospital-based violence intervention programs, and community organizations.

2023: Establishing Infrastructure & Early Successes

2024: A Year of Momentum

- **Homicide Reduction Milestone:** By November, Philadelphia achieves a 40% reduction in homicides, one of the most significant declines among major U.S. cities. The city is on track to record fewer than 300 homicides for the first time in nearly a decade.
- **Expanded Funding and Engagement:** The Coalition distributes over \$1.5 million to support intervention programs and educates more than 1,500 stakeholders, reinforcing its commitment to saving lives and making Philadelphia safer.
- **Philadelphia Housing Authority (PHA) Partnership:** GVICC launches a new housing program in partnership with PHA and begins accepting referrals in October.
- **Looking Ahead:** The Coalition pledges to continue building on this momentum, further expanding its collaborative mission to address gun violence and strengthen intervention efforts citywide.



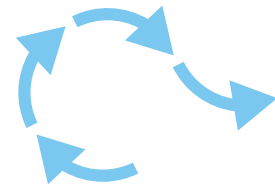
STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT: BREAKING THE CYCLE OF GUN VIOLENCE

Intervention is a comprehensive approach to reducing gun violence, addressing immediate safety concerns while also building long-term resilience, community connection, and economic opportunity for individuals and communities most affected.

The intervention framework encompasses a broad, complementary network of **city programs in the Office of Public Safety, law enforcement, healthcare, and community-based organizations**. Each group is focused on meeting the needs of individuals at the highest risk of becoming an instigator or victim of gun violence.

The Civic Coalition to Save Lives aims to strategically unify and streamline efforts, expand capacity and increase collective impact of intervention.

The Coalition to Save Lives' intervention network collectively aligns around these shared themes:



Economic Empowerment: Promoting economic stability through employment support, training, housing aid, and entrepreneurship, reducing reliance on high-risk activities.

Support Networks: Building community ties by connecting participants with local agencies and resources, addressing immediate and long-term needs.

Behavioral Health: Addressing mental well-being through therapy, group sessions, and trauma-informed care, fostering personal growth.

Individualized Support: Providing tailored resources, including housing, behavioral health services, and basic necessities to meet unique needs.

Active Engagement: Engaging at-risk individuals with mentorship, support, and positive role models, reducing violence and inspiring hope.





INTERVENTION PARTNERS:

Public Entities

Office of Public Safety Group Violence Intervention (GVI)

GVI is an evidence-based strategy to reduce gun violence by focusing on the small number of individuals and groups responsible for a significant portion of violent crimes. Launched in August 2020, GVI uses a collaborative approach involving law enforcement, community members, and social services to deliver a unified message: the violence must stop. It offers support like job placement, education, and mental health services, while outlining the legal consequences of continued violent behavior, deterring violence through community engagement rather than enforcement alone. An independent evaluation found a 38.6% reduction in shootings among engaged groups, with a 50.3% decrease among those receiving services a second time. In 2024, GVI expanded to include an early intervention juvenile program for high risk youth ages 12 to 17.

Office of Public Safety Pushing Progress Philly (P3)

P3 is an 18-month transitional work and behavioral health program that addresses gun violence by supporting individuals at highest risk. The program provides job training, coaching services, mental health support, cognitive behavioral therapy, and paid employment to help participants change their life trajectories. Modeled after the successful Rapid Employment and Development Initiative (READI) Chicago program, P3 launched in 2023 to reduce gun violence and promote safety in Philadelphia's most impacted communities. Through comprehensive interventions, P3 connects high-risk young men, ages 18-25, with tools for personal growth, professional development and long-term change.

Philadelphia Police Department

The Philadelphia Police Department has been a crucial partner with the Coalition from the beginning. Now guided by the leadership and expertise of Commissioner Bethel,



Photo courtesy of EMIR Healing Center

the department is focused on a five-year strategic vision to address long-term safety goals. This partnership emphasizes collaboration, strategic planning and accountability to make Philadelphia safer for all residents.

Philadelphia Housing Authority an Innovative Program

In partnership with the Coalition, the Philadelphia Housing Authority (PHA) launched an novel program to help provide access to stable housing for individuals at high risk of gun violence. Through the initiative, 30 participants will receive public housing units or vouchers paired with intensive case management. To qualify, participants must engage in a focused intervention program and work closely with case managers. By tackling housing instability, the program aims to build trust, meet essential needs, and create a pathway to reducing community violence in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia District Attorney's Gun Violence Task Force

The Philadelphia District Attorney's Gun Violence Task Force investigates and prosecutes crimes involving illegal firearms. It serves to reduce gun violence by targeting firearm trafficking, straw purchases, and related offenses. The task force works closely with the Philadelphia Police Department, State Police and federal law enforcement agencies to solve crimes, hold offenders accountable and dismantle networks driving gun violence.

“We are able to clear cases more quickly and build strong prosecutorial evidence when we work together. The Police Department can’t do it alone, our law enforcement departments everywhere can’t do it alone, we have to do it together.”

- Danielle Burkavage, Director of Intelligence for the Philadelphia District Attorney's Gun Violence Task Force



Hospital Violence Intervention Programs

[Children's Hospital of Philadelphia \(CHOP\)](#)

CHOP's Violence Intervention Program (HVIP) supports youth aged 8 to 18 impacted by interpersonal violence. The program offers case management, emotional support, and advocacy to assist families in navigating systems like healthcare and education, fostering recovery, and preventing re-injury.

[Drexel University](#)

Healing Hurt People (HHP) provides trauma-focused services for individuals aged 8 to 35 affected by violence, including therapy, case management, and peer support. Developed by Drexel's Center for Nonviolence and Social Justice, HHP addresses the psychological impacts of violence to promote healing and prevent retaliation.

[Jefferson Einstein Philadelphia Hospital](#)

The Jefferson Einstein Philadelphia Hospital Trauma Intervention Program (TIP) provides intensive follow-up care to people who have been treated in the emergency department for injuries related to violence. While a patient is hospitalized or when they're ready to receive services after discharge, TIP provides them with case management that includes help getting medical care, mental health support, legal assistance, educational help and more.

[Presbyterian Medical Center - University of Pennsylvania \(in partnership with HopePHL\)](#)

The Penn Trauma Violence Recovery Program (PTVRP) provides bedside care and post-discharge support for survivors of violent injuries. The program connects patients with essential resources through a multidisciplinary team, ensuring holistic recovery and reintegration into their communities.

[HopePHL](#)'s mission is to inspire Philadelphia's children, youth, families, and communities to thrive by providing housing, advocacy, and trauma-responsive social services designed to promote equity, resilience, autonomy, and well-being. The organization supports over 25,000 people annually, helping them achieve safe homes, economically secure and healthy families, and thriving businesses.

[Temple University](#)

The Temple University Hospital Violence Intervention Program (HVIP) supports gunshot victims and their families by offering trauma-informed counseling, case management, and access to resources like education, employment, and housing. This community-centered program reduces repeat incidents and promotes recovery by addressing the root causes of violence.

[Thomas Jefferson University Hospital](#)

Thomas Jefferson University Hospital is developing a Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Program (HVIP) to support gun violence survivors. Collaborating with Drexel's Healing Hurt People program, the initiative provides trauma-informed care and community connections to reduce re-injury and promote well-being.

Presbyterian Medical Center - University of Pennsylvania Trauma Violence Recovery Program (PTVRP) used Coalition funding to support the creation of a Patient Advisory Board composed of gun violence survivors, providing feedback and guidance for program improvements. The funding also supported staff wellness and flexible initiatives like relocation assistance and training opportunities.

"The Coalition funds have allowed us to develop new options for housing and relocation, a major need for our participants. Having flexible funding is invaluable for addressing both patient and team needs."

— Elinor Juliana Kaufman, MD, MSHP, Medical Director, Penn Trauma Violence Recovery Program





Community-based Intervention

[Black Men Heal](#)

Black Men Heal offers free therapy and mental health services to men of color. With culturally responsive programs like individual therapy and the “King’s Corner” weekly virtual support group, the organization addresses barriers to mental wellness and promotes healthier lives.

[Beat The Block](#)

Led by Culture Changing Christians, Beat The Block trains high-risk men aged 18 to 24 for personal and professional development. Through paid training, mentorship, and business support, the program helps participants move away from street life and toward positive life paths.

[Philadelphia CeaseFire](#)

Philadelphia CeaseFire focuses on reducing gun violence by intervening in altercations before they escalate through conflict resolution, mentorship, and community education. The program employs trained Violence Interrupters and Outreach Workers who mediate disputes and engage with high-risk individuals to promote nonviolent solutions. The organization also provides critical resources such as job training, housing assistance, and trauma-informed support to help participants build stable, productive lives.

[Eddie’s House](#)

Eddie’s House provides transitional housing, life coaching, and career programs for young adults facing housing instability. It offers resources to empower individuals to transition from trauma to independent living.

[EMIR Healing Center](#)

EMIR Healing Center provides counseling, advocacy, and wellness programs for families affected by homicide and violence. Founded in 1997, it fosters healing and resilience within Philadelphia communities through compassionate support services.

[Father’s Day Rally Committee \(FDRC\)](#)

FDRC promotes positive action among African American men, addressing challenges through skill-building and group therapy programs like Project Lifeline. Initiatives like Jobs-Not-Guns advocate for employment opportunities to support strong families and communities.

Photo courtesy of Philadelphia CeaseFire



Philadelphia CeaseFire utilized Coalition funding to support clients in the Stronger Together initiative, providing meals, clothing for job interviews, haircuts, and access to gym and office spaces. The funding also supported listening sessions with private sector representatives to address challenges faced by high-risk individuals.

“Philadelphia CeaseFire in their 14 years of operation has learned the importance of intervention, however, they would agree that additional support services are needed to assist their high risk clients. This is why the program is extremely grateful for a recent gift from the Civic Coalition to Save Lives which will enable them to further expand their support services to their Northwest clients enrolled in their Stronger Together initiative...”

— Marla Davis Bellamy, JD, MGA, Director, Philadelphia CeaseFire, Temple University



FUNDING & SUPPORT: MAKING A DIFFERENCE

The Civic Coalition to Save Lives created the Community Safety Civic Resource Board to fund and support gun violence intervention in Philadelphia. Engaging business and civic leaders, the board provides resources and expertise to organizations working with individuals at high risk. Through strategic investments, it strengthens intervention programs, reducing gun violence and enhancing community safety.

Partner organizations consistently address multiple dimensions of violence intervention.



Photo by Carl Day Jr.

Support for Employment and Economic Stability:

Many organizations, like Eddie's House, Pushing Progress Philly (P3), and Beat the Block have used funding to connect high-risk individuals with job training, paid employment, and entrepreneurial support, helping participants achieve financial independence and reducing economic stressors linked to violence.

Housing Assistance and Stability:

Programs such as P3, Eddie's House, and Philadelphia Ceasefire have directed funds toward alleviating housing insecurity, covering essential expenses like rent and utilities, and securing partnerships for affordable housing options. The Philadelphia Housing Authority (PHA) innovative program launched in partnership with the Coalition addresses barriers faced by returning citizens by providing stable housing and case management for 30 high-risk individuals. These programmatic approaches help ensure participants can focus on personal growth and positive change.

Mental Health and Behavioral Support:

Groups like Black Men Heal and P3 have prioritized behavioral health services, using grant funds to provide therapy, anger management, and trauma-informed care. This support helps participants develop emotional resilience and avoid violent responses to conflict.



Personal Needs and Crisis Relief:

Many programs allocate funds to cover practical needs that other funding sources overlook. This includes providing food, transportation, clothing, and even haircuts, as seen in P3's Under the Cuts event, which helps participants engage in interventions with dignity and comfort.

Community and Group Engagement:

Programs like FDRC's Project Lifeline, EMIR Healing Center and P3 emphasize group sessions, therapeutic events, and award ceremonies to foster a sense of community, reinforce commitment to positive change, and celebrate personal achievements. University of Pennsylvania Trauma Violence Recovery Program (PTVRP) is launching a Patient Advisory Board to contribute feedback on program development and initiatives.

Staff Development and Program Expansion:

Funding has also supported staff training, retreats, and the hiring of peer specialists and administrative assistants, ensuring that teams are well-equipped to handle the unique needs of their participants and expand their services effectively.

Technology and Accessibility:

Some groups, including Group Violence Intervention (GVI), have received technology to help provide greater efficiencies. GVI received tablets to facilitate communication and documentation for case managers working in the field and allow participants to engage in virtual sessions, keeping them connected to support services regardless of location. The District Attorney's Gun Violence Task Force used its grant funding from the CCSL to add technology to support the coordinated investigations with other law enforcement agencies that enable faster and more effective interventions against group violence, gun violence, and the proliferation of illegal firearms.

Beat The Block received vital support from the Coalition to Save Lives, including laptops to aid participants in digitizing their programs and launching businesses. The Coalition also provided discretionary funds for participants' temporary financial challenges and re-grant funding for immediate needs like housing, employment support, and training.

"Many of these guys don't have access to computers or the internet and it's much easier to apply for a job on a computer than a smartphone."

—Pastor Carl Day, Founder and Executive Director of Beat The Block, President and Founder of Culture Changing Christians Inc.

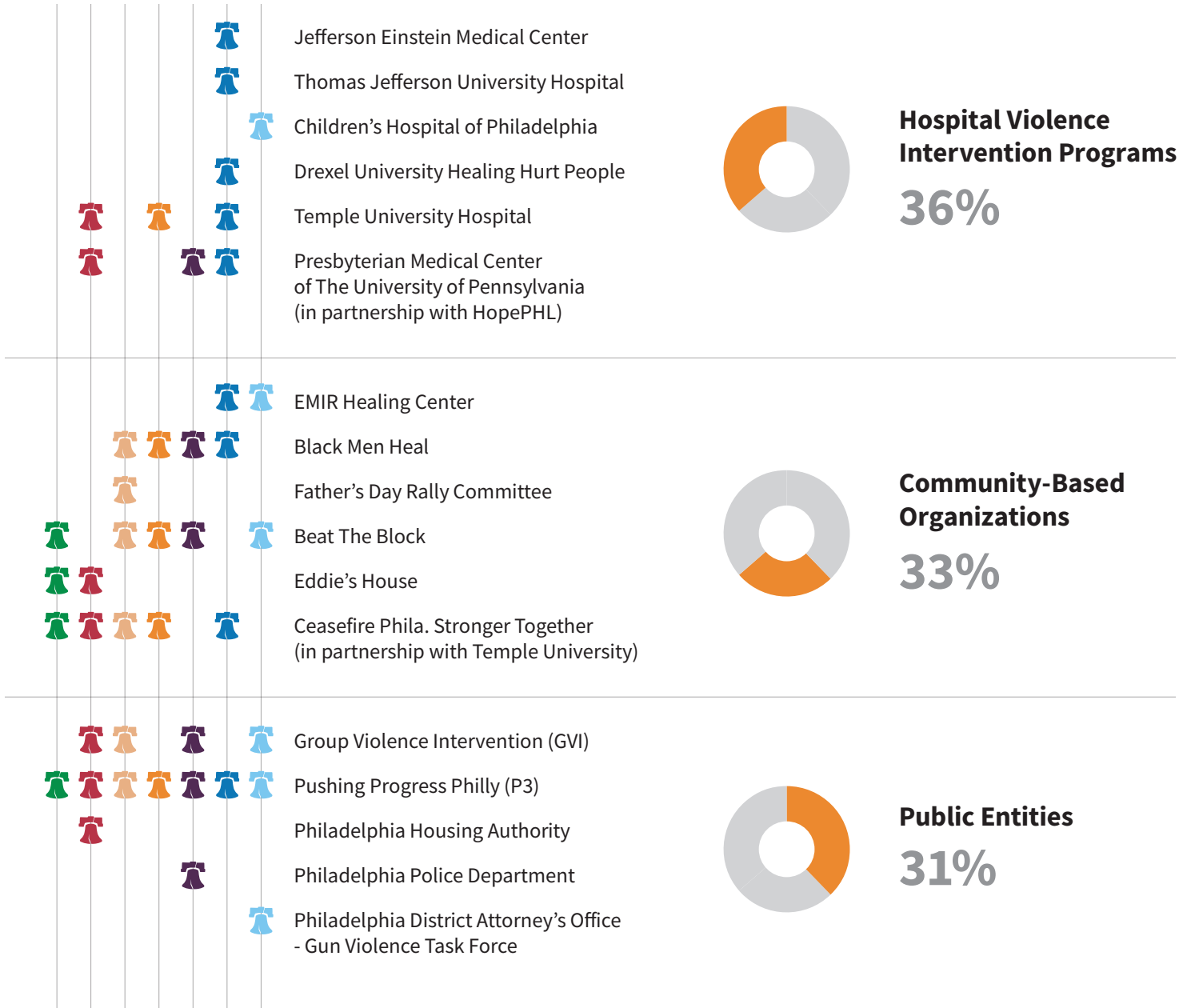


Photo by Carl Day Jr.



Support for Employment
Housing Assistance
Mental Health
Personal Needs
Community Engagement
Staff Development
Technology

DIMENSIONS OF INTERVENTION



Through its re-grant fund, the Coalition's Community Safety Civic Resource Board has awarded over \$1.5 million to support a range of community-based initiatives, Hospital Violence Intervention Programs (HVIPs), Trauma Intervention Programs (TIPs) and community-based organizations and efforts that leverage the breadth and scale of existing investments across the City.



LOOKING AHEAD: BUILDING MOMENTUM IN 2025

As Philadelphia continues to see encouraging reductions in homicides, the Civic Coalition to Save Lives is committed to building on this momentum with bold, targeted strategies for 2025.

The majority of Coalition funding is generated from corporate and philanthropic giving. We are committed to raising sufficient funds in 2025 to continue and expand support of gun violence intervention efforts in Philadelphia.

Our objectives for the upcoming year include:

- Helping support the expansion of existing intervention programs.
- Increasing collaboration and coordination with City leadership under Mayor Cherelle Parker, Police Commissioner Kevin Bethel, and Chief Public Safety Director Adam Geer.
- A broader commitment to long-term, sustainable violence intervention and reduction efforts.
- Continuing to raise awareness, increase understanding and expand public education about effective gun violence intervention strategies.

Key initiatives will center on:

- Strengthening community-based solutions and HVIPs.
- Prioritizing the development of partnerships with employers to create job training and employment opportunities for high-risk individuals, enhancing access to resources for skills development and providing more pathways to careers and economic stability.
- Expanding the Philadelphia Housing Authority Program.
- Supporting the City's intervention efforts through the Office of Public Safety.
- Raising and distributing impactful funding to grassroots organizations.
- Further engaging with other philanthropic organizations to align resources and maximizing impact in supporting the City's coordinated efforts to make Philadelphia safer for all.



As we close out 2024, we are acutely aware that we must not mistake progress for victory. Every life is precious, and even one lost to gun violence is one too many. When it comes to gun violence intervention, progress is a journey with no end. The moment we let up or look away, we will fall back.

The Coalition is unwavering in our commitment to championing the collaborative and coordinated interventions that genuinely make a difference for the people, families and communities hardest hit by this crisis.

We call on every Philadelphian—neighbors, community organizations, and leaders alike—to unite, amplify our collective efforts, and drive lasting change. Let's build upon the collective progress until every street in Philadelphia is safe and every life is saved from the devastating impact of gun violence.

Thank you to the key supporters, partners, and community stakeholders who have championed the mission of the Civic Coalition to Save Lives from the beginning. The support from City leadership, law enforcement, community leaders, and elected officials has been instrumental in driving meaningful change for those most affected by gun violence. Together, we are building safer communities and saving lives.



IMPACT LEADERS: RECOGNIZING CHANGEMAKERS



COMMUNITY DRIVERS

African-American Chamber of Commerce of PA, NJ and DE

Aramark

Asian American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Philadelphia

Asociación Puertorriqueños En Marcha (APM)

Ballard Spahr

Barra Foundation

Big Brothers Big Sisters Independence Region

Blank Rome

Bradley & Bradley Associates

CeaseFirePA Education Fund

Ceiba

Ceisler Media & Issue Advocacy

Center City District

Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Foundation

Children's Scholarship Fund of Philadelphia

Citizens Bank

Community College of Philadelphia

Congreso des Latinos Unidos

Connelly Foundation

Deloitte

Drexel University

Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church

Esperanza

First Person Arts

FS Investments

Greater Philadelphia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Habitat for Humanity Philadelphia

Hispanic Clergy of Philadelphia and Vicinity

Holy Family University

Independence Blue Cross

Independence Blue Cross Foundation

Independence Business Alliance

Jacobson Strategic Communications

JEVS Human Services

Kleinbard, LLC

La Salle University

Laborers District Council of the Metropolitan Area of Philadelphia & Vicinity

Leo Niessen Jr Charitable Trust

Morgan Lewis

Mural Arts Philadelphia

Neubauer Family Foundation

One Day At A Time (ODAAT)

Philabundance

Philadelphia Association of Community Development Corporations

Philadelphia Building & Construction Trades Council

Philadelphia Chinatown Development Corporation

Philadelphia Eagles

Philadelphia Flyers

Philadelphia Health Partnership

Philadelphia Housing Authority

Philadelphia Youth Basketball, Inc.

Philanthropy Network of Greater Philadelphia

Please Touch Museum

Project HOME

The Rush Group

Salem Baptist Church of Abington

Salvation Army Greater Philadelphia Area

Scattergood Foundation

SEPTA

Stoneleigh Foundation

Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young, LLP

Temple University

Thomas Jefferson University/Jefferson Health

United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern NJ

University of Pennsylvania

UpLift Solutions

Urban League of Philadelphia

Visit Philadelphia

Wawa



CIVIC COALITION TO
SAVE LIVES