Operation Healthy Homefront



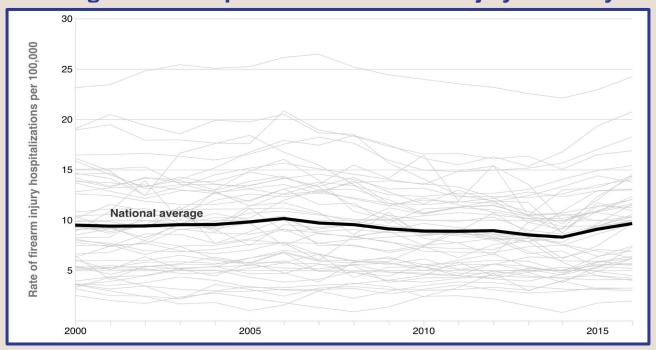
Outline

- 1. Status Quo and Policy Target
 - a. The Problem by Demographic in Louisiana
 - b. Gun Violence Root + Immediate Causes
- 2. Our Policy: Operation Healthy Homefront
 - a. Overview
 - b. Policy Justifications
 - c. Implementation Timeline
 - d. Feedback Loops and Tradeoffs

The Status Quo + Policy Target

Louisiana's High Rate of Gun Violence

Average Annual Hospitalizations for Firearm Injury Nationally¹

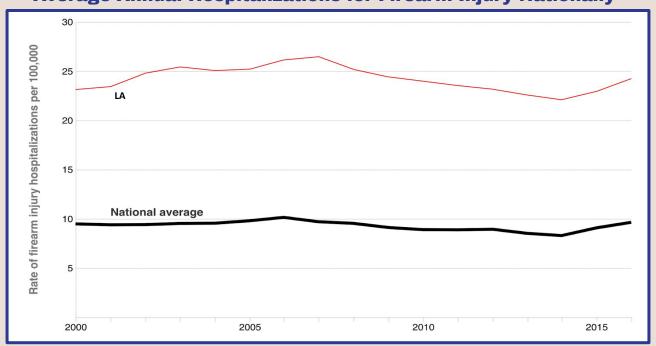


^{1. &}quot;Firearm Injury Hospitalizations in America." RAND Corporation, 2021. https://www.rand.org/research/gun-policy/firearm-injury.html

^{2. &}quot;2019 Crime in the U.S." FBI, 2020. https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/crime-in-the-u.s.-2019/tables/table-20

Louisiana's High Rate of Gun Violence

Average Annual Hospitalizations for Firearm Injury Nationally¹



^{1. &}quot;Firearm Injury Hospitalizations in America." RAND Corporation, 2021. https://www.rand.org/research/gun-policy/firearm-injury.html

^{2. &}quot;2019 Crime in the U.S." FBI, 2020. https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/crime-in-the-u.s.-2019/tables/table-20

Opelousas' High Rate of Gun Violence

Historical Homicide Rate Per 100,000 Population

City Name	Population	Rate of Homicides*
Lutcher	3,266	91.86
White Castle	1,750	57.14
Opelousas	16,262	55.34
LA (at large)	4,664,000	11.37

^{*83%} of Louisiana homicides are firearm homicides²

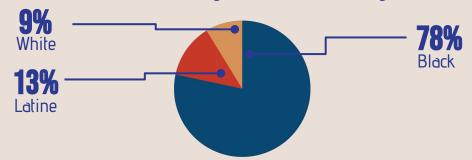
^{1. &}quot;Firearm Injury Hospitalizations in America." RAND Corporation, 2021. https://www.rand.org/research/gun-policy/firearm-injury.html

^{2. &}quot;2019 Crime in the U.S." FBI, 2020. https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/crime-in-the-u.s.-2019/tables/table-20



Racial & Socio-Economic Dimensions of Gun Violence

Gun Homicide Victims by Race/Ethnicity in Louisiana¹



Gun violence disproportionately hurts **communities of color**



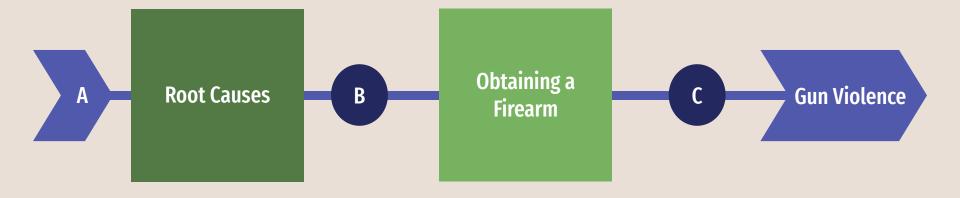


Poverty compounds the effects of gun violence.

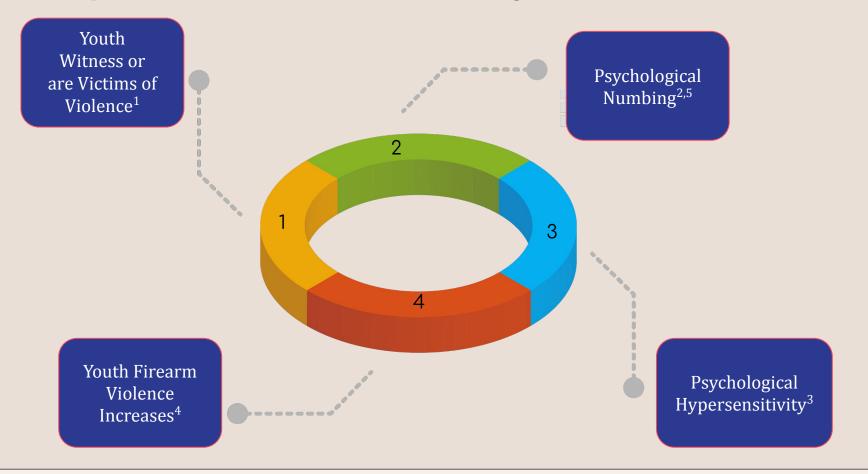
^{1. &}quot;Gun Violence in Louisiana." " Everytown Research, 2021. https://everystat.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Gun-Violence-in-Louisiana-1.pdf

^{2. &}quot;Poverty Correlates with the Recent Increase in Gun Violence" Center for Economy and Policy Research, 2022. https://cepr.net/poverty-correlates-with-the-recent-increase-in-gun-violence/

Chain of Causation for Gun Violence



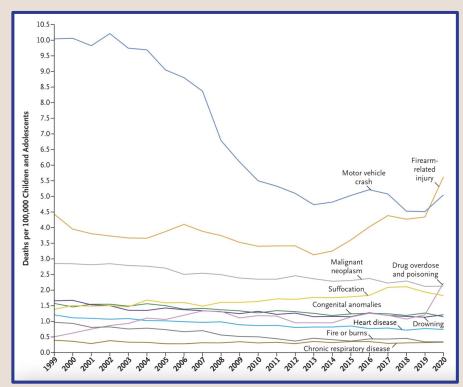
Youth Exposure to Violence and the Cycle of Firearm Violence



4. Ibid 5. Ibid

^{3.} Ibid. 4. Ibid

Empirical Reality: the Youth Cycle of Violence



44% of patients return for treatment²

29.5% in firearm fatalities for youth⁴ (56.6% are homicides)³

Leading Causes of Death Among Children and Adolescents in the United States, $1999-2020^1$

^{1.} Goldstick, Jason E., Rebecca M. Cunningham, and Patrick M. Carter. 2022. "Current Causes of Death in Children and Adolescents in the United States." New England Journal of Medicine 386 (20): 1955-56. https://doi.org/10.1056/NEIMc2201761.
2. "Keys to Collaboration Between Hospital-based Intervention Programs and Cure Violence Programs," Healing Justice Alliance, 2015. https://ovsjg.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ovsjg/service_content/attachments/Brief_Two_HJA_V6.pdf.

^{3.} Goldstick, J. E., Carter, P. M., & Cunningham, R. M. (2020). Current Epidemiological Trends in Firearm Mortality in the United States. JAMA Psychiatry. doi:10.1001/jamapsychiatry.2020.2986
4. Goldstick, Jason E., Rebecca M. Cunningham, and Patrick M. Carter. 2022. "Current Causes of Death in Children and Adolescents in the United States." New England Journal of Medicine 386 (20): 1955–56. https://doi.org/10.1056/NEIMc2201761.

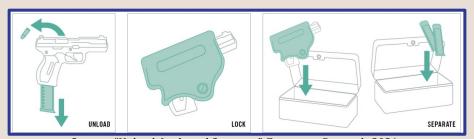
Safe-Storage Homicide Trends and Training

The Problem

4.6 million American children live with an loaded + unlocked firearm.¹

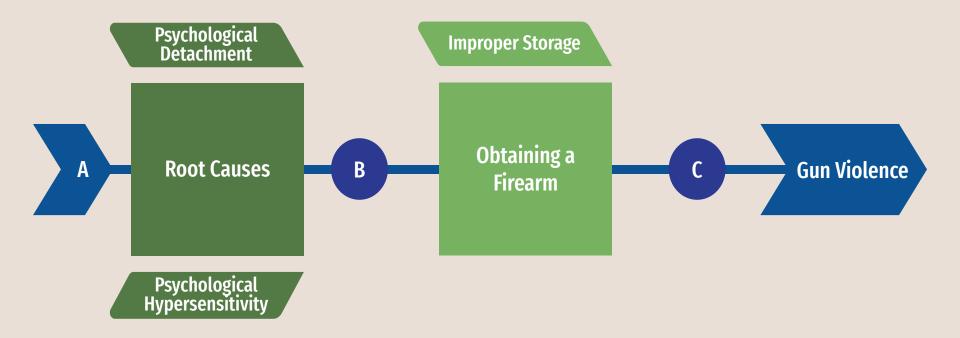
35% of Gun Owners Say:

Lack of gun-safety classes is why they don't safely store.²



Source: "Unload, Lock, and Seperate," Everytown Research, 2021

Chain of causation for gun violence



Operation Healthy Homefront (OHH)

Our Policy







A Two-Pronged Approach

Centering around veterans



Prong 1: Youth Mentorship

- At-risk youth
- Mentorship program sports and dinners
- After school M/W/Fr
- Stipends/salaries



Prong 2: Firearm Safety Courses

- Gun owners
- Teaching safe-storage
- After work, M/W/Fr
- Stipends/salaries





Sample Weekly Schedule in Opelousas, LA

campic freezing contaction operation, and			
	Mon	Wed	Fri
		School Day Ends	
4:00-4:05	Mentees arrive at the school	Mentees arrive at the school	Mentees arrive at the school
4:05-5:00	Athletic Activity 1	Athletic Activity 2	Athletic Activity 3
5:00-6:00	Mentorship over dinner	Mentorship over dinner	Mentorship over dinner
6:00-6:30	Break for Veterans + Drive to Community Center	Break for Veterans + Drive to Community Center	Break for Veterans + Drive to Community Center
6:30-8:30	Adult Gun Safety Classes	Adult Gun Safety Classes	Adult Gun Safety Classes

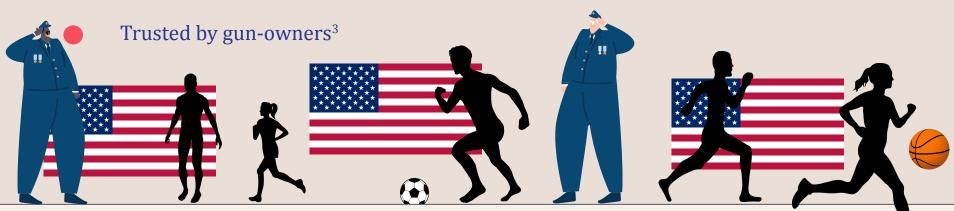
Why Veterans?

Best candidates

- Already committed to public service
- Mission based
- Group based

Positive externalities

- 3 day/week part time job to veterans
- 57% more likely to commit suicide¹ → ioblessness is a key contributor ²





Community-Level Policy Budgeting

Total budget

\$10,564 per month

\$ 730 startup costs

261 Impacted \$40.48

Budget	
Mentor Salary (\$18/hr, 48 hr/mo)	\$864
Youth Stipends (\$10/hr, 24 hr/mo)	\$4,800
Safety Trainee Comp. (\$15/2 hr)	\$3,600
Venue Maintenance/Cleaning	\$400
Food and Refreshments	\$900
<u>Startup Costs:</u> Athletic Equipment, Recruitment, Advertisement Flyers, Mentor Training, Curriculum	\$730



Potential State & National Funding Sources for Community-Level Program

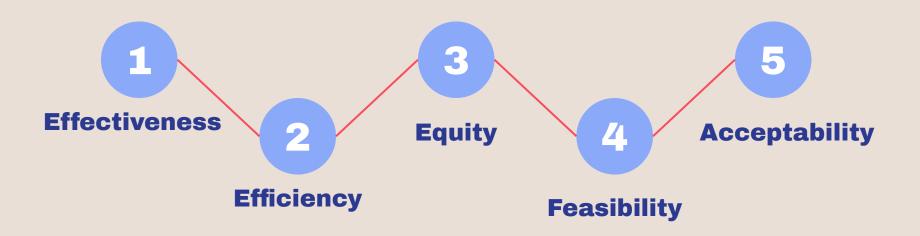
Budget	Grants per Year
HVIP Medicaid Reimbursement ¹	\$13.4 T (total LA Medicaid)
DOJ VOCA Fund ²	\$2,015,000,000 (2.015 B)
DOJ OJP CVI and Prevention Initiative ³	\$100,000,000 (100 M)
National Rifle Association (NRA) State Fund Grants Program ⁴	\$14,280,000 (14.28 M)
Fund for a Safer Future ⁵	\$3,150,000 (3.15 M)
Everytown for Gun Safety Community Safety Fund ⁶	\$1,500,000 (1.5 M)

¹⁾ Total Medicaid Spending." 2019. KFF. September 12, 2019. https://www.kff.org/medicaid/state-indicator/total-medicaid-spending/2currentTimeframe=0&sortModel=%7B%22colld%22%22Location%22">https://www.kff.org/medicaid/state-indicator/total-medicaid-spending/2currentTimeframe=0&sortModel=%7B%22colld%22%22Location%22">https://www.kff.org/medicaid/state-indicator/total-medicaid-spending/2currentTimeframe=0&sortModel=%7B%22colld%22%22Location%22">https://www.kff.org/medicaid/state-indicator/total-medicaid-spending/2currentTimeframe=0&sortModel=%7B%22colld%22%22Location%22">https://www.kff.org/medicaid/state-indicator/total-medicaid-spending/2currentTimeframe=0&sortModel=%7B%22colld%22%22Location%22">https://www.kff.org/medicaid/state-indicator/total-medic

³⁾ Justice Department Awards \$100 Million to Reduce Community Violence. 2022. www.justice.gov/september 29, 2022. <a href="https://www.lustice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-awards-100-million-reduce-community-violence-department-awards-100-million-reduce-department-awards-100-million-reduce-department-awards-

^{5) &}quot;Fund for a Safer Future." https://www.fundforasaferfuture.org/.
6) "Everytown Community Safety Fund." n.d. Everytown Support Fund. https://everytownsupportfund.org/everytown-community-safety-fund/#what-we-do. "Home." n.d.

Evaluating Operation Healthy Homefront





OHH Combines Proven-Effective Interventions in a Novel Way

Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Program (HVIP)

- Public Health Approach
- Precise Youth Targeting
- Rigorous Data Collection

7X Re-hospitalization

4X Incarceration





OHH Combines Proven-Effective Interventions in a Novel Way

Sports Participation:



¹⁾ Jugl, I., Bender, D. & Lösel, F. Do Sports Programs Prevent Crime and Reduce Reoffending? A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis on the Effectiveness of Sports Programs. J Quant Criminol (2021). https://doi.org/10.1007/s10940-021-09536-3

²⁾ Veliz, Philip and Sohaila Shakib. "Interscholastic Sports Participation and School Based Delinquency: Does Participation in Sport Foster a Positive High School Environment?" Sociological Spectrum 32, no. 6 (11, 2012): 558-580. doi: https://doi.org/10.1080/02732173.2012.700837. https://www.proguest.com/scholarly-journals/interscholastic-sports-participation-school-based/docview/1504422788/se-2.

³⁾ Drash, Wayne and Tawanda Scott Sambou. "Mentoring plays integral role in reducing gun violence in one of America's most violent cities." The Chronicle of Evidence-Based Mentoring, May 23, 2016. https://www.evidencebased

^{4) &}quot;MENTORING: AN INVESTMENT in REDUCING YOUTH VIOLENCE." n.d. https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED573524.pdf



OHH Combines Proven-Effective Interventions in a Novel Way

Safe Storage Training:

2X Safe Storage ¹

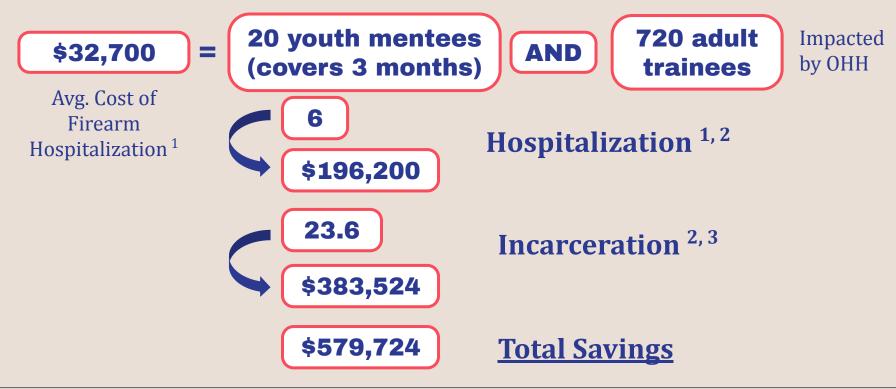
36% Child Firearm Mortality ²





Policy Cost-Savings and Efficiency

Costs of Hospitalization/Incarceration vs. Prevention via OHH



Centering Equity and Fairness

Representative Mentors

Stipends

Community Selection

Scalable Approach

Incentive Design

Recruitment Conduits Exist

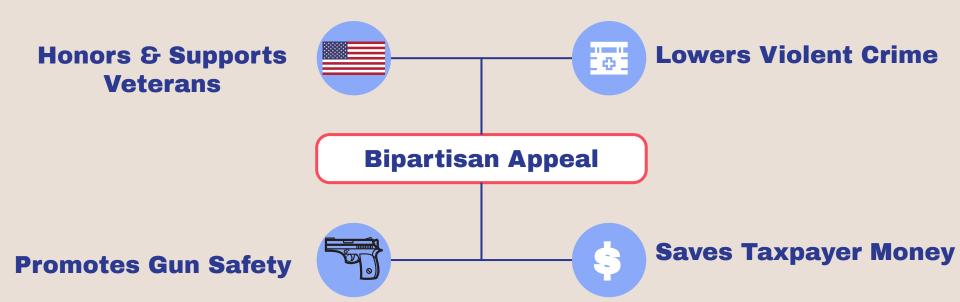
Evaluation & Assessment

Low Start-Up and Equipment Costs

Dual-Role for Vet Mentors

Broad-Based Political Acceptability

Protects Youth Public Health



Implementation Timeline



Feedback Loops

Quantitative Metrics

Potential Actions

Short-term surveys and analytics

Long-term analysis

Community Oversight Board

Seek additional funding

Lower cohort size

Advertising, stipend, curriculum



Scale up: new cohorts, new communities

OHH Tradeoffs and Possible Solutions

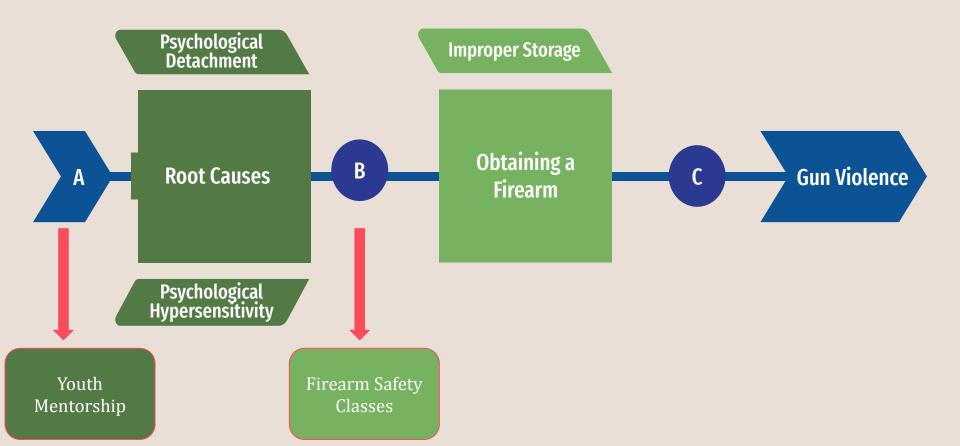


HVIP Recruitment Limitation Limited teacher, parent, & coach referrals

Mental Health Challenges — Community oversight board, mentar mental health priority



Chain of causation for gun violence



Thank You!

Appendix

Budget

CLICK HERE

Youth Violence Exposure: The Cycle of Violence Perpetuates



- Youth become desensitized to violence²
- "Psychological numbing"³
 - detach from others
 - lose interest in activities they once enjoyed
 - School dropout, crime, and substance abuse
- Youth develop **hypersensitive trauma reactions**.⁴
- Youth develop "protective behaviors" like⁵
 - Arming themselves
 - joining violent groups

At-risk youth **witness (75%)** or are **victims** of **(59.3%)** community violence¹

Youth firearm violence increases⁶

→ 44% of patients treated for violent injury are retreated within 5 years



1 Pana I, Gaptord-Harden, N. Emmingthe Panhologic Adaptation Model, Community Volume Volume (And Journal of March 1997) (2) Confurration, January (April 1997) (2) Confurration, January (April 1997) (2) Confurration, January (2

3. Ibid. 4. Ibid 5. Ibid 6. Ibid.

Collaboration Between Hospital-based Intervention Programs and Cure Violence Programs," Healing Justice Alliance, 2015. https://povsig.de.gov/stes/default/files/de/sites/ovsig/service_content/attachments/Brief_Two.HJA_V6.pdf.

Cooper (2006) HVIP v. Control Study

Table 3 Comparison of Data Before and After Initiation of Violence Intervention Program

	Before I	Before Program		After Program	
	Intervention/ Case Group (n = 56)	Non-intervention/ Control Group (n = 44)	Intervention/ Case Group (n = 56)	Non-intervention Control Group (n = 44)	
Jail time served	1,723 mo (144 yr)	1,083 mo (90 yr)	213 mo (18 yr)	816 mo (68 yr)	
Cost of incarceration*	\$3,600,000	\$2,250,000	\$450,000	\$1,700,000	
Hospitalizations	56 (100%)	44 (100%)	3 (5%)	16 (36%)	
Cost of hospitalization	\$46,000 each	\$46,000 each	\$138,000	\$736,000	
Employment	22 (39%)	20 (45%)	46 (82%)	9 (20%)	

Policy Cost-Savings and Efficiency

Costs of Hospitalization/Incarceration vs. Prevention via OHH

720 adult 20 youth mentees **Impacted** \$32,700 **AND** (covers 3 months) by OHH trainees Avg. Cost of 6 **Re-hospitalizations** Firearm Hospitalization ¹ \$196,200 youth medical costs saved 23.6 years of incarceration avoided (1.5youth incarceration costs saved \$383,524

¹⁾ Spitzer, S. A., Vail, D., Tennakoon, L., Rajasingh, C., Spain, D. A., & Weiser, T. G. (2019). Readmission risk and costs of firearm injuries in the United States, 2010-2015. PloS one, 14(1), e0209896. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0209896.

²⁾ Cooper, C., Eslinger, D. M. & Stolley, P. D. (2006). Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Programs Work. The Journal of Trauma: Injury, Infection, and Critical Care, 61 (3), 534-540. doi: 10.1097/01.ta.0000236576.81860.8c.

³⁾ David-Ferdon, Corinne, Alana Vivolo-Kantor, et al. "A Comprehensive Technical Package for the Prevention of Youth Violence and Associated Risk Behaviors." CDC Division of Violence Prevention, 2016, https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/yv-technicalpackage.pdf.
4) Drash, Wayne and Tawanda Scott Sambou. "Mentoring plays integral role in reducing qun violence in one of America's most violent cities." The Chronicle of Evidence-Based Mentoring, May 23, 2016. https://www.eviden

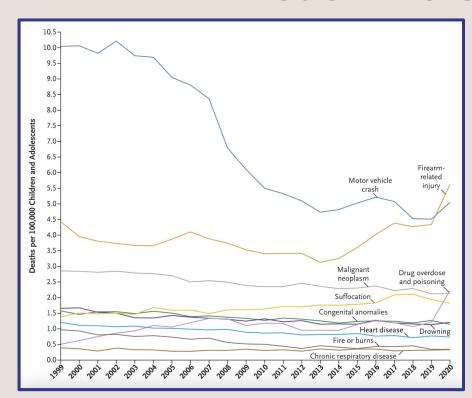
cebasedmentoring.org/mentoring-plays-integral-role-reducing-gun-violence-one-americas-violent-cities/.

5) Stringer, Scott. "Cost of Incarceration per Person in New York City Skyrockets to All-Time High." NYC Comptroller, Dec. 6, 2021, https://comptroller.nyc.gov/newsroom/comptroller-stringer-cost-of-incarceration-per-person-in-new-york-city-skyrockets-to-all-time-high."

Opelousas Civic Center



Youth Violence Trends



Leading Causes of Death Among Children and Adolescents in the United States, 1999-2020⁵

- Firearms are the **#1** cause of death for children in the United States.¹
- From 2019-2022: A relative increase of 29.5% in firearm-related fatalities for youth.²
- **56.6%*** of youth firearm fatalities are homicides.³

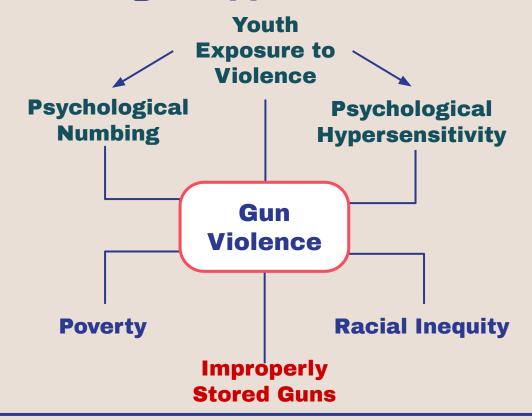
***54%** in Louisiana⁴

^{1.} Goldstrick, Jason E., Rebecca M. Cunningham, and Patrick M. Carter. 2022. "Current Causes of Death in Children and Adolescents in the United States." New England Journal of Medicine 386 (20): 1955–56. https://doi.org/10.1056/NEIMc2201761

^{3.} Goldstick, J. E., Carter, P. M., & Cunningham, R. M. (2020). Current Epidemiological Trends in Firearm Mortality in the United States. JAMA Psychiatry. doi:10.1001/jamapsychiatry.2020.2986 4. "Louisiana Gun Deaths: 2019". Inhar Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions. https://efexvore/state/busiana/

^{5.} Goldstick, "Current Causes of Death in Children and Adolescents in the United States."

A Multi-Pronged Approach is Necessary!



Problem Statement:

In Louisiana communities, there is a cycle of firearm-violence caused by systemic factors such as trauma and inequity especially to youth, and perpetuated by easy access to improperly stored firearms.

Analysis of Status Quo Policies in Louisiana

Policies that LA Does Well¹

Require permit to concealed carry guns	8
Require training to concealed carry	8
No guns allowed in K-12 Schools	8
Relinquishment Laws	8

Drawing on LA's strengths, we will improve **training programs** through **safe storage gun training**

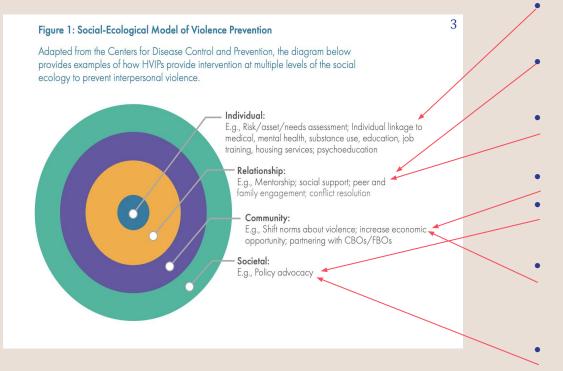
Policies that LA is Missing¹

Safe gun storage incentive/requirement	X
Safe ammo storage incentive/requirement	X
Community intervention funding	X

Addressing LA's deficits, we will increase safe storage and build community investment in solving gun violence through a robust **Hospital Violence Intervention Program** (HVIP).

LA has policy deficits and the highest rate of firearm injury hospitalizations in the nation, making it an urgent target for HVIP implementation.

The Rationale: An HVIP Approach



Youth Mentorship

Pays youth

- Reduces incentive to get involved with violent, substance-based groups
- Provides a constructive use of after-school time

Intervenes in the cycle of violence at the "psychological effects" phase.

- Fosters consistent, constructive human-connection
- Sports-based mentorship targets withdrawal from activities.

Targets youth who have been introduced to firearm violence

Firearm Safety Courses

- Employs veterans, who are trusted by gun owners to teach firearm safety
- Provides an empirically lacking safeguard.

Both Prongs

Provide a 3 day/week part-time job to veterans

- 57% more likely to commit suicide than someone who hasn't served¹
- **72%** of veteran suicides are committed with a firearm
- Joblessness is a key contributer to suicidal tendencies for veterans²

Use data-driven partnerships with

- o The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- Local Hospitals
- Local Law enforcement