

Community Violence Resource Catalogue

PREVENTION PROGRAMS

The ACT Raising Safe Kids Program

Adults and Children Together Against Violence

The American Psychological Association's Adults and Children Together Against Violence (ACT) program teaches communities and adults how to create safe, healthy environments that protect children and youth from violence. ACT disseminates research-based information and teaches skills to adults with simple, accessible, user-friendly messages and materials.

Link: <http://actagainstviolence.apa.org/>

BUILD Chicago (Broader Urban Involvement and Leadership Development)

The BUILD Model of positive youth development seeks to redirect the behavior of gang-affiliated youth and potential gang recruits and to maximize coordinated services and positive impact on youth.

BUILD's mission is to engage at-risk youth in the schools and on the streets, so they can realize their educational and career potential and contribute to the stability, safety and well-being of their communities. BUILD's youth are motivated and equipped with tools to avoid violence, pursue education, and set positive goals for the future. The model aims to improve the chances of youth to lead fulfilling lives and to increase the stability and safety of the communities in which they reside.

Link: <http://www.buildchicago.org/>

Chicago Safe Start (CSS)

Chicago Safe Start is a program of the Office of Violence Prevention in the Chicago Department of Public Health. Its goals include to:

- Raise awareness of the need to prevent and reduce children's exposure to violence (CEV).
- Support and offer programs designed to raise awareness and generate interest and action across communities and professional disciplines.
- Strengthen the response to children exposed to violence in community-based, citywide, and state level systems.
- Build capacity of local providers by offering training and professional development opportunities.
- Support the growth of professional development tools via curriculum development and use of efficient technology (website and email).
- Convene a CEV-specific prevention collaborative (Advisory Board) of leading professionals and consumers as a central mechanism for program leadership, strategic planning, and policy advocacy.
- Regularly convene local stakeholders to advance advocacy and strategic action
- Monitor program implementation and assess the impact of efforts to prevent and reduce children's exposure to violence.
- Refine and share program evaluation information, lessons learned, and adaptations.

Link: <http://www.chicagosafestart.net>



The Prevention Institute

The Prevention Institute Urban Networks to Increase Thriving Youth through Violence Prevention

- Urban Networks to Increase Thriving Youth through Violence Prevention (UNITY) is a national initiative designed to strengthen and support cities in preventing violence before it occurs and to help sustain these efforts.
- Promotes collaboration across public and private sectors to maximize resources, ensure sustainability, and encourage effectiveness to prevent violence before it occurs. UNITY wants urban youth to thrive in safe environments with supportive relationships and opportunities for success.

Links:

<http://www.preventioninstitute.org/>

<http://www.preventioninstitute.org/focus-areas/preventing-violence-and-reducing-injury/preventing-violence.html>

Striving To Reduce Youth Violence Everywhere (STRYVE)

National initiative, led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which takes a public health approach to preventing youth violence before it starts among young people ages 10 to 24.

STRYVE's goals:

- To increase awareness that youth violence can and should be prevented
- To promote the use of youth violence prevention approaches that are based on the best available evidence
- To provide guidance to communities on how to prevent youth violence.

Link: <https://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/apps/stryve/>

YMCA of Metro Chicago Youth Safety and Violence Prevention Program (YSVP)

The Y's Youth Safety and Violence Prevention program (YSVP) is a comprehensive, trauma-informed approach to violence prevention that looks at past exposure to trauma as a main driver of future dangerous behaviors. Everything we do is designed to help our region's most vulnerable young people become leaders in their own communities.

The Y works every day to transform lives and communities. Amidst the ongoing problem of violence in Chicago, the Y provides leadership and initiatives that help make our neighborhoods safe. Based on growing bodies of research, we know that chronic exposure to traumatic stress places thousands of Chicago area youth at risk of anxiety, depression, low self-esteem, sleep disturbance and somatization. Left untreated, these symptoms can lead to engagement in maladaptive coping mechanisms and behaviors such as drug use, academic failure, self-harm, bullying, gang involvement, incarceration, and early death.

Link: <http://www.ymcachicago.org/programs/youth-safety-and-violence-prevention/#>



HOSPITAL-BASED VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

National Network of Hospital-based Violence Intervention Programs (NNHVIP)

NNHVIP brings together the best and most exciting programs to share knowledge, develop best practices, collaborate on research, affect policy change, and more. Their mission is to strengthen existing hospital-based violence intervention programs and help develop similar programs in communities across the country.

All programs on this website are dedicated to engaging patients during the window of opportunity when they are recovering in the hospital after a violent injury, to reduce the chance of retaliation and recurrence. Network members collaborate in research and evaluation, explore opportunities for funding sustainability, develop and share best practices, and identify ways to collectively have an impact on policy.

Link: <http://nnhvip.org/>

Helping Hurt People (HHP)

HHP is the cornerstone program of the Center for Nonviolence and Social Justice. It is a unique hospital-based intervention for trauma, violence, and adversity in healthcare settings. HHP was built on the foundation of the Sanctuary Model that uses a trauma informed conceptual framework to address organizational approaches to helping victims of violent injury health (physically and emotionally) from trauma.

Healing Hurt People- Chicago (HHP-C)

HHP-C is a trauma-informed hospital-based violence intervention program implemented in emergency pediatric settings in Chicago through a partnership of the University of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital, the Trauma Dept. of John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital of Cook County, and The Center for Nonviolence and Social Justice at the Drexel University School of Public Health, where the Healing Hurt People model was developed. HHP-C serves young people (0-18) injured by gun violence and other community violence on Chicago's South and Near West sides, providing trauma-informed intensive case management, psychoeducation, and psychological care in order to reduce risk for re-injury, justice system involvement, and mortality.

Link: <http://www.nonviolenceandsocialjustice.org/Healing-Hurt-People/29/>

Youth ALIVE! Preventing Violence & Developing Youth Leaders

Youth ALIVE! is a nationally recognized, public health Oakland-based nonprofit committed to ending youth violence and developing youth leadership, that operates three local service programs and one national training center:

- Teens on Target (TNT), a school-based peer education, leadership and advocacy program
- Caught in the Crossfire, a peer-based case management and mentoring program for youth hospitalized with gunshot wounds and other violent injuries
- The Khadafy Washington Project (KWP), a homicide crisis response and support program; and the National Network of Hospital-based Violence Intervention Programs (NNHVIP), providing technical assistance to Caught in the Crossfire model programs throughout the country.

Link: <http://www.youthalive.org/>



ONLINE RESOURCES

CDC's National Centers of Excellence in Youth Violence Prevention

The National Centers of Excellence in Youth Violence Prevention [formerly called Academic Centers for Excellence (ACEs) on Youth Violence Prevention] use a unique multidisciplinary approach to violence prevention. The centers research youth violence prevention approaches, collect and analyze surveillance data, and foster relationships with local community partners to help develop, implement, and evaluate promising prevention efforts. This collaboration between research universities and local communities and community-based organizations results in empowered communities that are mobilized to address the problem of youth violence.

Link: <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/ace/index.html>

Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence (CSPV)

Through the Institute of Behavioral Science, University of Colorado at Boulder

The Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence works from a multidisciplinary platform on violence to bridge gaps between the research community, practitioners and policy makers. An Information House collects research literature on the causes and prevention of violence and provides direct information.

In 1996, the Center initiated a project to identify violence prevention programs that met high scientific standards of program effectiveness and could provide the foundation for developing a national violence prevention initiative.

The results, Blueprints, describe 11 practical and effective violence prevention programs that have effectively reduced adolescent violent crime, aggression, delinquency, and substance abuse. Another 18 programs have been identified as promising programs.

Link: <http://www.colorado.edu/cspv/>

Chicago Center for Youth Violence Prevention (CCYVP)

One of six National Academic Centers of Excellence funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, works at the neighborhood, community, school, and family levels to implement a coordinated set of programs that rigorous scientific evaluations prove effective in preventing youth violence. Working in the neighborhood schools, leveraging existing resources in the community, and providing technical assistance to violence prevention agencies, CCYVP has seen a significant reduction in violence, including a 50 percent reduction in homicides in four years

CCYVP's primary aims:

- To build an integrative approach to address youth violence within specific communities in Chicago
- To promote the use of evidence-based practice to reduce youth violence
- To develop a comprehensive surveillance system to guide intervention activities and to evaluate changes in youth violence in communities and neighborhoods
- To provide training and technical assistance to support schools and community agencies in selecting, implementing, and evaluating youth violence prevention programs
- To train new investigators in context-based prevention science
- To disseminate empirical findings regionally and nationally.

Link: <http://ssa.uchicago.edu/ccyvp>



ChildVictimWeb

ChildVictimWeb is a free online training resource designed for professionals from all disciplines who work with children who have experienced or witnessed serious violence. This course describes the prevalence and characteristics of different forms of victimization often experienced in childhood, their psychological, behavioral, social, and health consequences, and implications for practice. Assessment strategies, an evidence-based approach to treatment planning, trauma-informed case management skills, and information about evidence supported treatments are presented.

Link: <http://cv.musc.edu/>

Childhood Violent Trauma Center (CVTC)

The Trauma Section of the Yale Child Study Center (YCSC)

The National Center for Children Exposed to Violence (NCCEV) works to increase the capacity of individuals and communities to reduce the incidence and impact of violence on children and families; to train and support the professionals who provide intervention and treatment to children and families affected by violence; and, to increase professional and public awareness of the effects of violence on children, families, communities and society.

CVTC has been a major contributor to the development and dissemination of early interventions and collaborative responses to childhood trauma. In addition to contributions that emerged from over a decade of experience with the **Child Development–Community Policing program** and associated trauma section activities, a new, evidence-based early intervention addressing the needs of traumatized children and families – The **Child and Family Traumatic Stress Intervention** – was developed by the CVTC, and was introduced to the NCTSN and to clinicians around the country.

Today the CVTC offers a range of treatment interventions, research and training programs aimed at helping children, adolescents and families who are struggling with traumatic reactions and disorders and for professionals working in the field.

Link: <http://medicine.yale.edu/childstudycenter/cvtc/>

Child Witness to Violence Project (CWVP)

CWVP is a counseling, advocacy and outreach project that focuses on young children who are the hidden victims of domestic and community violence, and other trauma-related events. The program implements both national and state-focused training for mental health clinicians, health care professionals, police, educators, and many other social service professionals who work with children who have witnessed violence and experienced traumatic grief.

Link: <http://www.childwitnessstoviolence.org/>

Children’s Safety Network (CSN)

A national resource center for the prevention of childhood injuries and violence, dedicated to working with state, territorial and community Maternal & Child Health and Injury & Violence prevention programs to create an environment where all children and youth are safe and healthy

CSN’s goal is to equip states to strengthen their capacity, utilize data and implement effective strategies to create injury and violence free environments

Link: <http://www.childreissafetynetwork.org/>



Community Violence Prevention as a Family Strengthening Strategy (Policy Brief No. 5)

National Human Services Assembly (2005)

Link: <http://www.nassembly.org/FSPC/documents/PolicyBriefs/Brief5.pdf>

The Community Guide to Violence Prevention

Developed by the Task Force for Community Preventive Services, a nonfederal group of experts in public health and prevention, the Community Guide includes recommendations for preventing youth violence based on systematic reviews of evidence-based strategies

Link: <http://www.thecommunityguide.org/violence/index.html>

PDF: "Using Evidence for Public Health Decision Making: Violence Prevention Focused on Children and Youth"

Link: <http://www.thecommunityguide.org/about/CommGuideViolenceSlideSet.pdf>

Cure Violence

Cure Violence (formerly known as CeaseFire—Chicago) is a Chicago, Illinois–based violence prevention program administered by the Chicago Project for Violence Prevention. Cure Violence uses an evidence-based public health approach to reduce shootings and killings by using highly trained street violence interrupters and outreach workers, public education campaigns, and community mobilization. Rather than aiming to directly change the behaviors of a large number of individuals, Cure Violence concentrates on changing the behavior and risky activities of a small number of selected members of the community who have a high chance of either "being shot" or "being a shooter" in the immediate future.

Link: <http://cureviolence.org/>

Defending Childhood

The initiative was launched to address a national crisis: the exposure of America's children to violence as victims and as witness. Children's exposure to violence, whether as victims or witnesses, is associated with long-term physical, psychological, and emotional harm. Children exposed to violence are also at a higher risk of engaging in criminal behavior later in life and becoming part of a cycle of violence. Building on lessons learned from previously funded research and programs such as Safe Start, the Child Development Policing Program, and the Greenbook Initiative, Defending Childhood leverages existing resources across Department of Justice to focus on preventing, addressing, reducing and more fully understanding childhood exposure to violence.

Link: <https://www.justice.gov/defendingchildhood>



Futures Without Violence

Nonprofit involved in community-based programs, developing educational material and public policy work.

Striving to reach new audiences and transform social norms, they train professionals and work with advocates, policy makers and others to build sustainable community leadership and educate people everywhere about the importance of respect and healthy relationships

Link: <http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/>

Health Curriculum Analysis Tool (HECAT)

The HECAT contains guidance, appraisal tools, and resources to help schools conduct an analysis of health education curricula based on the National Health Education Standards and CDC's Characteristics of an Effective Health Education Curriculum. The results can help schools select or develop curricula to address a number of topics, including violence prevention.

Link: <http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/hecat/>

Johns Hopkins Center for the Prevention of Youth Violence (JHCPYV)

JHCPYV builds on its mission to prevent youth violence and promote positive youth development in Baltimore City.

Utilizing a community-based participatory research approach, JHCPYV creates academic-community collaborations that extended and improved their efforts to:

- Monitor and detect fatal and non-fatal youth violence
- Conduct research aimed at identifying malleable factors related to youth violence and research on interventions that reduce youth violence and associated morbidity and mortality
- Create policies and practices that prevent youth violence

Link: <http://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-and-institutes/center-for-prevention-of-youth-violence/>

Michigan Youth Violence Prevention Center

One of four Academic Centers of Excellence funded by the CDC

The Centers are funded to research youth violence prevention approaches, collect and analyze surveillance data, and foster relationships with local community partners to help develop, implement, and evaluate promising prevention efforts. Its aim is to improve and sustain a safe physical environment in communities and creating spaces to strengthen social relationships is a promising youth violence prevention strategy.

Link: <http://yvpc.sph.umich.edu/>



National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN)

The NCTSN works to accomplish its mission of serving the nation's traumatized children and their families by:

- Raising public awareness of the scope and serious impact of child traumatic stress on the safety and healthy development of America's children and youth.
- Advancing a broad range of effective services and interventions by creating trauma-informed developmentally and culturally appropriate programs that improve the standard of care.
- Working with established systems of care including the health, mental health, education, law enforcement, child welfare, juvenile justice, and military family service systems to ensure that there is a comprehensive trauma-informed continuum of accessible care.
- Fostering a community dedicated to collaboration within and beyond the NCTSN to ensure that widely shared knowledge and skills become a sustainable national resource.

Link: <http://www.nctsn.org/>

National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ)

NCJJ's mission is effective justice for children and families through research and technical assistance. For 4 decades, NCJJ has conducted research and provided objective, factual information that professionals and decision makers in the juvenile and family system use to increase effectiveness

Link: <http://www.ncjj.org/>

National Center for the Prevention of Community Violence (NCPCV)

Working in communities across America to interrupt the process of violence before it becomes an event, by providing programs and solutions for students and adults of all ages, NCPCV is on a mission to improve the quality of life for all citizens

Link: <http://solveviolence.com/>

National Resource Center for Mental Health Promotion and Youth Violence Prevention

Offers resources and technical assistance to states, tribes, territories and local communities to come together to prevent youth violence

The team of experts and resources available can help your community build and support collaborations among education, public health, behavioral health, child welfare, juvenile justice, and law enforcement. The Resource Center believes that with the right resources and support, states and local communities can collaborate to foster safe and healthy school and community environments that prevent youth violence and support the overall well-being of all children and youth

Offers prevention resources for states and communities seeking to build youth violence prevention programs

Link: <http://www.healthysafechildren.org/>

Youth Violence Prevention resources:

Link: http://www.healthysafechildren.org/resource-library?sshs_topic=55



Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)

A component of the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice

The Office strives to strengthen the juvenile justice system's efforts to protect public safety, hold offenders accountable, and provide services that address the needs of youth and their families

Sponsors research, program, and training initiatives; develops priorities and goals and sets policies to guide federal juvenile justice issues; disseminates information about juvenile justice issues; and awards funds to states to support local programming

Link: <http://www.ojjdp.gov/>

Preventing Youth Violence: Opportunities for Action

Research and experience in communities show it is possible to prevent youth violence. Everyone has an important role in stopping youth violence before it starts.

CDC's [Preventing Youth Violence: Opportunities for Action \[PDF\]](#) and its companion guide, [Taking Action to Prevent Youth Violence \[PDF\]](#), provide information and action steps to help each of us be a part of the solution.

Link: <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/youthviolence/opportunities-for-action.html>

PTSD: National Center for PTSD

Article entitled "Community Violence" by Dr. Jessica Hamblen and Dr. Carole Goguen

Link: <http://www.ptsd.va.gov/professional/trauma/other/community-violence.asp>

Principles of Prevention

A free online course that introduces users to the fundamental aspects of violence and violence prevention. This valuable training explains the key concepts of primary prevention, the CDC's role and public health approach, and the use of the social ecological model for violence prevention.

You will have the chance to hear from real people with first-hand experience in preventing violence. You can also evaluate your learning experience by answering interactive questions throughout the training and taking a POP Quiz in the final module. Everyone completing the course gets a certificate and can receive optional credit (CNE, CEU, CECH) if desired.

This training is great for anyone interested in learning more about how to stop violence—before it happens.

Link: <http://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/index.php/principles-of-prevention/>

<http://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/apps/pop/>



Safe Start Center

The Safe Start National Resource Center supports those working or interested in the field of Children Exposed to Violence (CEV). It helps by raising awareness, effective community action, and moving from evidence to action to prevent and reduce the impact of violence on children and their families. This includes those who are both direct victims of violence and those who witness, hear, see or experience the aftermath of violent events in the home, school and community.

Link: <https://safestartcenter.wordpress.com/>

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is the agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation. SAMHSA's mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities.

Link: <http://www.samhsa.gov/>

Coping With Grief After Community Violence: Tips for Survivors (**PDF**)

SAMHSA's *Tips for Survivors: Coping with Grief After Community Violence* reviews the signs of grief and anger, provides information about how to cope with grief, and offers tips for helping children cope with grief.

Visit SAMHSA's site to find this and other resources on dealing with trauma and grief.

Link: <http://store.samhsa.gov/shin/content/SMA14-4888/SMA14-4888.pdf>

Trauma Services Adaptation Center for Resilience, Hope and Wellness in Schools (TSA)

Works to promote trauma-informed school systems by assisting in the identification, development, evaluation and dissemination of evidence-based trauma services; prevention and support materials that focus on building resilience against violence and bullying; and early interventions and more intensive services for youth exposed to all types of trauma

Link: <http://traumaawareschools.org/>



Understanding Evidence

A new, interactive web resource developed by CDC's Division of Violence Prevention that supports public health practitioners in making evidence-informed decisions around violence prevention.

In this webinar, practitioners working to prevent child maltreatment will learn how to:

- Define the multiple forms of evidence involved in evidence-based decision making
- Identify standards of rigor for best available research evidence
- Identify sources of and ways to collect best available research evidence, contextual evidence, and experiential evidence
- Identify key stages and characteristics of an evidence-based decision making process

This webinar will also provide real-world scenarios illustrating how child maltreatment prevention practitioners, coalitions, and evaluators can use the tool to strengthen practice and evaluation of violence prevention strategies.

Link: <http://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/apps/evidence/#&panel1-1>

Urban Networks to Increase Thriving Youth (UNITY)

A national initiative designed to strengthen and support cities in preventing violence before it occurs and to help sustain these efforts

Promotes collaboration across public and private sectors to maximize resources, ensure sustainability, and encourage effectiveness to prevent violence before it occurs. UNITY wants urban youth to thrive in safe environments with supportive relationships and opportunities for success.

Link: <http://www.preventioninstitute.org/unity.html>

Urban Youth Trauma Center (UYTC)

The Urban Youth Trauma Center at the Institute for Juvenile Research is a Treatment and Service Adaptation Center for the National Child Traumatic Stress Network aiming to raise awareness about the needs of youth and families exposed to community violence and increase access to trauma informed services in urban communities. UYTC disseminates treatment programs specifically developed to meet the needs of urban youth and families impacted by community violence exhibiting traumatic stress, who may also be engaging in risky behaviors, including conduct problems and substance abuse. Additionally, the Center provides leadership through national and local collaborations to develop and disseminate resources for consumers, service providers, and policy makers targeting urban community violence and associated problems. Finally, UYTC develops partnerships with numerous community representatives in the Chicago area to share information and resources to improve the local community's ability to organize and mobilize responses to community violence, as they impact youth and their families.

Link: http://www.psych.uic.edu/Urban_Youth_Trauma_Center/



VetoViolence

Established by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to increase awareness and adoption of evidence-based approaches to prevent violence

VetoViolence.cdc.gov has been developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide grantees and partners with access to training and tools that focus on the primary prevention of violence. The portal includes free training, program planning resources, and an online application for the creation of success stories.

Link: <http://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/>

World Health Organization (WHO)

Violence Prevention Alliance (VPA)

The Violence Prevention Alliance (VPA) is a network of WHO Member States, international agencies and civil society organizations working to prevent violence. VPA participants share an evidence-based public health approach that targets the risk factors leading to violence and promotes multi-sectoral cooperation.

Links:
VPA: <http://www.who.int/violenceprevention/en/>
Violence and Injury Prevention: http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/youth/en/

