



# THE EVIDENCE - OF - Effectiveness

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# Summary of Evaluations & Studies



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# THE APPROACH THAT HAS COME TO PROMINENCE



Cure Violence Global™ (CVG) pioneered a community health approach to preventing violence over 20 years ago because it saw the existing paradigm as both ineffective and toxic.

CVG's public health approach views violence through an epidemiological lens, as a learned, transmissible behavior, which can be interrupted. CVG trains carefully selected community partners and local credible messengers to detect and interrupt conflict, promote safer and healthier behaviors and life directions among high-risk individuals, and build healthy social norms.

The approach's efficacy has been demonstrated through independently funded and independently conducted multi-year, multi-site, mixed methods scientific evaluations that show 40-70% reductions in shootings and killings in the hardest hit communities in the U.S. and

Latin America. In some cases, killings and shootings drop by 90% and retaliation killings stop completely. These evaluations also document other positive effects, including increased feelings of community safety, positive parenting outcomes, improved employment and education outcomes, changes in community norms about violence, among others.

CVG's health-based approach not only reduces and prevents violence, it also builds local capacity and promotes social and economic growth. Additionally, a core component of the approach involves connecting high risk individuals with resources for job readiness, education, and health services.

Now is the time for transformative investment in the public health approach to violence prevention. CVG is positioned to help ensure that communities can achieve maximum results and impact.

# THE MODEL USES PROVEN PUBLIC HEALTH METHODS TO STOP THE SPREAD OF VIOLENCE.

The Cure Violence® model is based on the World Health Organization's approach to reversing the epidemic spread of infectious diseases such as AIDS, tuberculosis, and cholera. The model applies three proven epidemic control strategies to stop violence. Trained, culturally appropriate workers interrupt the transmission of violence, prevent its future spread, and transform community norms.

The model has been successfully replicated in diverse settings, proving its effectiveness across a variety of communities, cultures, and ethnic groups.

## THREE STRATEGIES

### 1 Detect and Interrupt Potentially Violent Conflicts.

Violence interrupters are a new category of health workers who prevent violence by identifying and mediating potentially lethal conflicts in the community and following up to ensure conflict does not reignite.

### 2 Identify and Treat Individuals at the Highest Risk.

Outreach workers help those at the highest risk to steer them away from violence by talking in their terms, discussing the costs of using violence, and helping them to obtain support and social services (e.g., education, job training, drug treatment) to foster long term behavior change and changes in life course.

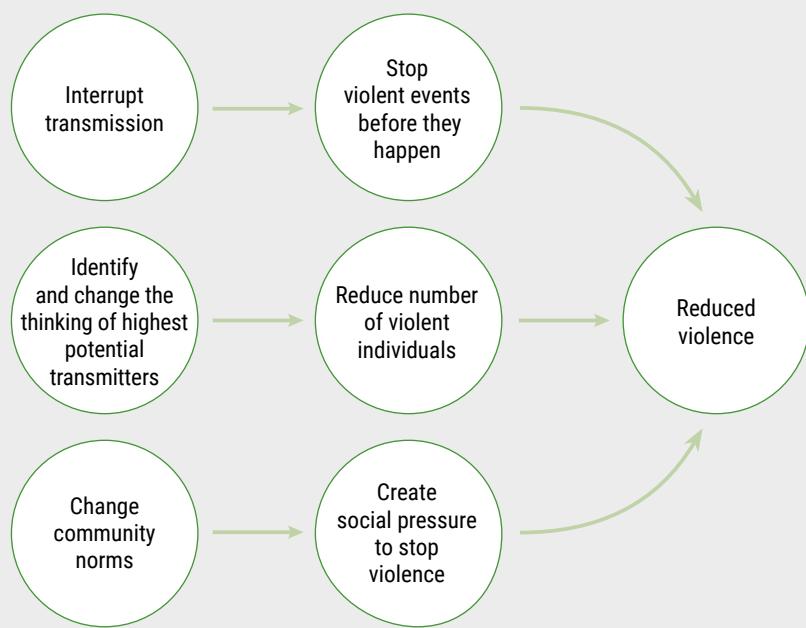
### 3 Mobilize the Community to Change Norms.

Workers engage community leaders, local business owners, residents, faith leaders, and particularly individuals at high risk, to shift the message, expectations, and norms around violence for the long term.

#### CREDIBLE WORKERS

Public health outreach strategies regularly employ workers who share the same background and come from the same neighborhood as those who need to be reached—in this case those most at risk for violence. Cure Violence sites hire violence interrupters and outreach workers who already have the trust of community members and are able to influence and change behavior.

## THE Cure Violence Theory of Change



# Summary of Independent Evaluations on Cure Violence

	YEAR	MAJOR FINDINGS	OTHER FINDINGS	RESEARCH BY (FUNDER)
Cali (Colombia)	2020	<b>30% - 47%</b> reduction in killings	<b>40%</b> participants went back to school	ICESI University (Alvaralice, Cali)
Port of Spain (Trinidad)	2018	<b>45%</b> reduction in violent crime	<b>39%</b> reduction in shootings	Arizona State University (IADB)
New York City (USA)	2018	<b>63%</b> reduction in shooting victimizations	<b>33%</b> positive shift in norms	John Jay College of Criminal Justice (RWJF, NYC)
Philadelphia (USA)	2017	<b>30%</b> reduction in shootings	<b>2.4</b> shootings prevented per month	Temple University (DOJ)
Chicago (USA)	2014	<b>31%</b> reduction in killings	<b>19%</b> reduction in shootings	University of Illinois & University of Chicago (McCormick Fdn.)
New York City (USA)	2013	<b>20%</b> reduction in shootings	norm change	Center for Court Innovation (DOJ)
Baltimore (USA)	2012	<b>56%</b> reduction in killings	<b>34%</b> reduction in shootings	Johns Hopkins University (CDC)
Chicago (USA)	2009	<b>41% -73%</b> reduction in shootings	<b>100%</b> reduction in retaliation killings	Northwestern University (DOJ)

# Summary of Studies & Reports on Cure Violence

	YEAR	MAJOR FINDINGS	OTHER FINDINGS	RESEARCH BY
San Pedro Sula (Honduras)	2018	94% reduction in shootings	80% reduction in shootings	University of Illinois - Chicago
Simulation (USA)	2018	13% reduction in violent victimization	19% reduction with CV and more police	University of California - Davis
New Orleans (USA)	2016	56% reduction in shootings	85% reduction in retaliation killings	City of New Orleans
Baltimore (USA)	2016	43% improvement in violence norms	Overall improvement in attitudes	Johns Hopkins University
Loiza, PR (USA)	2016	58% reduction in killings	38% reduction in total crime	University of Puerto Rico
San Salvador (El Salvador)	2016	64% of clients say violent behavior has dropped	2.4 shootings prevented per month	Save the Children
Halifax (Canada)	2016	100% reduction in killings	Successful adaptation	Dalhousie University
Cookham Wood (UK)	2016	95% reduction in group attacks	50% reduction in overall violence	Cure Violence & Metropolitan Univ. of London
New York (USA)	2015	18% reduction in killings	69% increase in control community	John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Kansas City (USA)	2014	42% reduction in killings	166 conflicts mediated	University of Kansas
Cape Town (South Africa)	2014	38% reduction in killings	32% reduction in shootings	University of Cape Town
Chicago (USA)	2014	45% reduction in re-injury	--	Advocate Christ Medical Center

\* Two studies (Baltimore 2021 and 2018) are excluded from this table due to lack of significant finding, but are included in this report.

# Independent Evaluations

ICESI UNIVERSITY

## Cali, Colombia Evaluation (2020)

- 47% reduction in killings in Charco Azul community
- 30% reduction in killings in Comuneros community

### FINDINGS

#### VIOLENCE REDUCTION

Implementation of the Cure Violence strategy between 2017 and 2019 showed significant results in Cali, Colombia. The program sought to reduce violence (homicides, injuries, and shootings) caused by young people in the neighborhoods of Charco Azul and the settlements of Comuneros.

The main results of this project included the reduction of violent dynamics in both neighborhoods. Through program implementation, the following outcomes were achieved:

- Between 2017 and 2019, homicides were reduced by 47% in Charco Azul and by 30% in the intervention area in Comuneros.
- 307 high-risk youths voluntarily joined the project (129 in Comuneros and 178 in Charco Azul).
- 40% of the young people linked to the project went back to school.

### DATA

Crime data from the Crime Observatory of the National Police for homicides, personal injuries, threats, sexual violence, domestic violence, theft, and arrests from 2010 to 2019 was collected and sorted by neighborhood.

### ABOUT THE EVALUATION

#### METHODS

The study defined its dependent variables as: the number of homicides, the number of personal injuries, and the number of threats that occur in intervention neighborhoods.

#### EVALUATION TEAM

- ICESI University (Instituto Colombiano de Estudios Superiores de Incolda), Social Impact Measurement Laboratory

#### EVALUATION FUNDING

- Fundación Alvaralice
- Ciudadana de la Alcaldía de Cali.

#### CITATION

[León, C. E. M., Muñoz, M. I. I., & Benavides, J. C. G. Informe Final de la Evaluación de Impacto del Programa Abriendo Caminos de la Fundación Alvaralice.](#)



## Violence Reduction

47%

REDUCTION IN KILLINGS IN CHARCO AZUL

30%

REDUCTION IN KILLINGS IN COMUNEROS

40%

PARTICIPANTS WENT BACK TO SCHOOL

# Port of Spain, Trinidad Evaluation (2018)

- 45.1% lower violent crime
- 38.7% reduction in shootings (hospital injury)
- 23% reduction in calls to police for violent crime

## FINDINGS

### VIOLENT CRIME

One year after the launch of Cure Violence programming, the violent crime rate in the treatment area was 45.1% lower than in the comparison area. Two years after the launch, the violent crime rate in the treatment area was 44.9% lower than in the comparison area.

### CALLS FOR SERVICE TO POLICE

Calls to police for murders, shootings, and woundings decreased in the treatment area by 22.6% and increased in the comparison area by 10%, a statistically significant difference.

### HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS FOR GUNSHOT WOUNDS

The time series for the analyses ran from January 2010 to September 2017 and the results showed a clear pattern in the data, a statistically significant reduction in monthly shootings of roughly 38.7%.

### NATIONAL SURVEY

Cure Violence was found to be effective in reducing fear of crime in the treatment communities with a small to medium effect size.

### COST SAVINGS

Findings from the cost-effectiveness evaluation showed that Cure Violence

cost, on average, approximately US\$3,500 to US\$4,500 for every violent incident it prevented.



## ABOUT THE EVALUATION

### DATA

- Reported crime (murders, attempted murders, shootings, and woundings)
- Hospital admissions for gunshot wounds
- Calls for service to police for violent crime

### METHODS

A comprehensive, mixed-methods evaluation of the Cure Violence initiative was conducted from July 2015 to August 2017. The evaluation included a quasi-experimental impact evaluation using a synthetic control method and interrupted time series analysis, as well as quantitative findings on changes in participants' behaviors and attitudes, a national survey, and a cost-effectiveness analysis.

*"Our study actually showed really powerful effects."*

- Edward Maguire  
Lead Evaluator

### EVALUATION TEAM

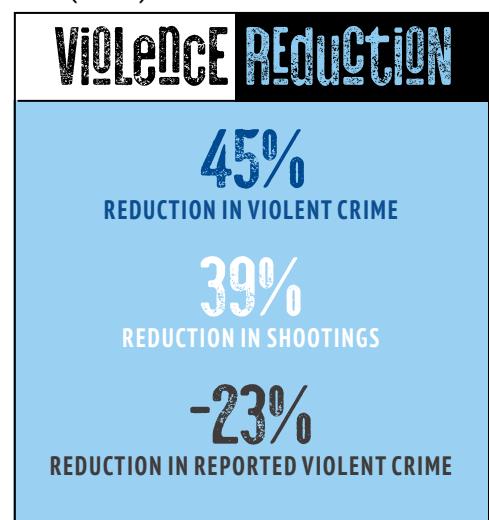
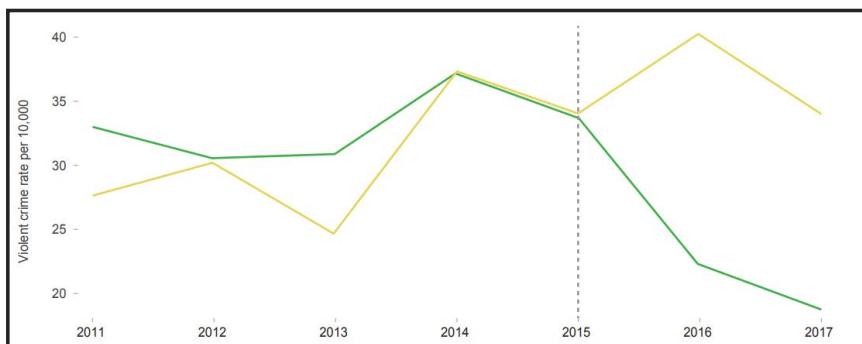
Arizona State University

### EVALUATION FUNDING

Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)

### CITATION

Maguire, E. R., Oakley, M. T., & Corsaro, N. (2018). *Evaluating Cure Violence in Trinidad and Tobago*. Inter-American Development Bank.



# New York City Evaluation (2017)

- South Bronx: 63% reduction in shootings
- East New York: 50% reduction in gun injuries

*"[Cure Violence] is potentially very cost-efficient, and it places less demand on the political and administrative resources of law enforcement and the larger criminal justice system. For this reason alone, the model deserves additional investment."*

- Jeff Butts  
Lead Evaluator

## FINDINGS

### VIOLENCE REDUCTION

Gun injury rates fell by half (50%) in East New York while the matched comparison area for East New York (Flatbush) experienced only a 5% decline. The area of the South Bronx served by Cure Violence experienced strong and significant declines in both measures of gun violence: a 37% decline in gun injuries and a 63% reduction in shooting victimizations, compared with 29% and 17% reductions in the comparison area (East Harlem).

### NORM CHANGE

The presence of Cure Violence in a neighborhood was associated with greater reductions in social norms that support violence when compared with similar neighborhoods without Cure Violence programs. Young men living in neighborhoods with Cure Violence programs expressed fewer violence endorsing norms over time in hypothetical scenarios involving both petty and serious disputes.

Cure Violence sites were also associated with a shift in attitudes towards police. Young men surveyed in the Cure Violence areas reported an increased willingness to call police and an increased trust in police.



## ABOUT THE EVALUATION

### DATA

- Gun injury data from New York State Dept. of Health
- Shooting victimization data from NYPD
- Community survey

### METHODS

The study examined multi-year trends in gun violence using **time series analysis** and expressed norms about violence to test whether conditions improved after the implementation of the Cure Violence approach. Using police, hospital, and survey data, researchers created two measures of gun violence (monthly shooting victimizations and gun injuries) and two measures of social norms related to violence among young male residents ages 18 to 30 (willingness to use violence in petty and serious conflicts).

### EVALUATION TEAM

John Jay College of Criminal Justice Research and Evaluation Center

### EVALUATION FUNDING

- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- New York City Council
- NYC Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice

### CITATION

Delgado, SA., L Alsabahi, K Wolff, N Alexander, Pa Cobar, and JA. Butts (2017). *The Effects of Cure Violence in the South Bronx and East New York, Brooklyn. In Denormalizing Violence: A Series of Reports From the John Jay College Evaluation of Cure Violence Programs in New York City*. New York, NY: Research and Evaluation Center, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York.



# New York City Evaluation Findings

Violence Reduction		
	Gun Injuries	Shooting Victimization
Man Up! East NY, Brooklyn	50%	15%
Save Our Streets South Bronx	37%	63%

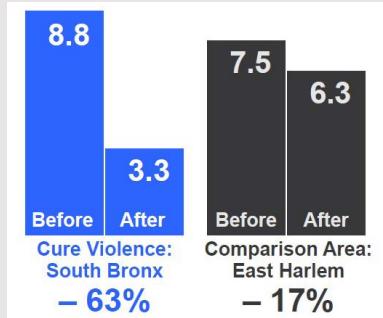
## Gun Injuries

Program site outperformed control



## Shooting Victimization

Program site outperformed control

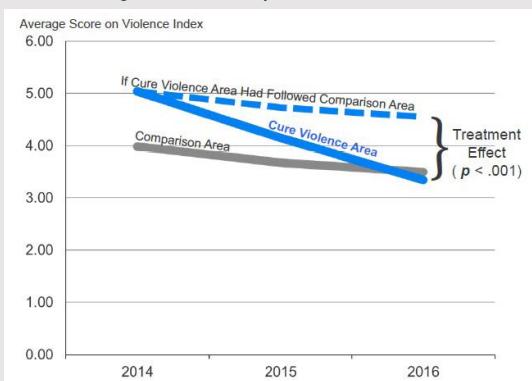


## Norm Change

Support for use of violence	Police/Community relations
For serious disputes <b>-33%</b>	Trust in Police <b>+22%</b>
For petty disputes <b>-20%</b>	Willingness to call police <b>+22%</b>

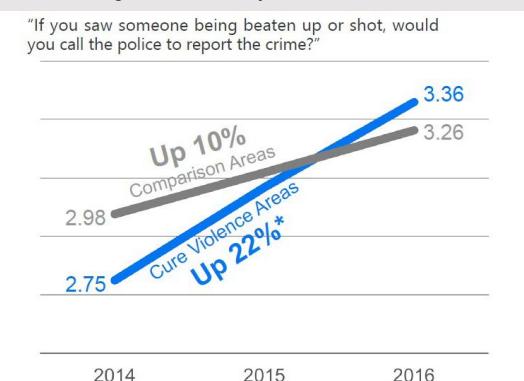
## Norm Change for Serious Disputes

Program site outperformed control



## Willingness to Call Police

Program site outperformed control



# Philadelphia Evaluation (2017)

- 30% lower shooting rate

*"The time is more than right for a large investment in Cure Violence."*

- Caterina Roman  
Lead Evaluator

## FINDINGS

### VIOLENCE REDUCTION

Implementation of the Cure Violence approach (known locally as Philadelphia Ceasefire) was associated with a statistically significant reduction in shootings in Police Service Areas (PSAs) 221, 222 and 393. The reduction was equivalent to 2.4 shootings per month per 10,000 residents.

Comparing the 24 months before implementation of the Cure Violence model to the 24 months after implementation showed that the model was likely associated with a 30% reduction in the rate of shootings in the three PSAs. Although in some statistical models, comparison groups also showed reductions in shootings, these reductions were either not statistically



significant or not as large as those in the Cure Violence target areas.

### ABOUT THE EVALUATION

#### DATA

Address-level data for all criminal shootings was received from the Philadelphia Police Department for the period 2003 through March 2015.

#### METHODS

Rates were created using the number of residents per Census Block Group. The evaluation assessed the effects of implementation on total shootings (all ages of victims) and shootings of individuals between the ages of 10 and 35. The unit of analysis for the evaluation was monthly shooting rates per 10,000 residents. The time series models utilized 123 months in the pre-implementation period and 24 months in the post-implementation period.

#### EVALUATION TEAM

- Temple Univ., Dept of Criminal Justice
- Temple Univ., Lewis Katz School of Medicine
- John Jay College of Criminal Justice Research and Evaluation Center

#### EVALUATION FUNDING

- US Dept of Justice, National Institute of Justice

#### CITATION

Roman, C., Klein, H., Wolff, K. T., Bellamy, M. D., & Reeves, K. (2017). *Philadelphia CeaseFire: Findings from the impact evaluation*. Temple University.



## Chicago Evaluation (2014)

- 31% reduction in killings
- 19% reduction in shootings

### FINDINGS

#### VIOLENCE REDUCTION

The results of the quantitative analyses evaluating change in violent crime from the year prior to intervention found a 31% overall reduction in homicides compared to a 24% reduction in the city overall. Shootings decreased by 19%, comparable to the remainder of the city. Additional analyses found immediate reductions in violent crime in both Woodlawn and North Lawndale, with stronger effects found in North Lawndale.

#### MENTORING, EMPLOYMENT, & MORE

The results of the qualitative analysis point to the effectiveness of Cure Violence workers in reaching high-risk individuals within the community, in large part due to the credibility workers have within the community. Both high-risk clients and non-clients pointed to mentoring, particularly around employment, and opportunities to "get off the street", as particularly effective in reducing individual involvement in violence. Cure Violence staff's impact went beyond the interruption of violence by also interrupting the extreme isolation that high-risk youth experienced, providing opportunities for youth to view life beyond their immediate block.



### ABOUT THE EVALUATION

#### DATA

- Violent crime data
- Community interviews

#### METHODS

Propensity scores were used for selecting comparison areas and regression point displacement design and interrupted time series design were used to analyze effects of program implementation on violent crime.

#### EVALUATION TEAM

- University of Illinois at Chicago, Institute for Health Research and Policy
- University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration

#### EVALUATION FUNDING

McCormick Tribune Foundation

#### CITATION

Henry, D. B., Knoblauch, S., & Sigurvinssdottir, R. (2014). *The effect of intensive ceasefire intervention on crime in four Chicago police beats: Quantitative assessment*. Chicago, IL: Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

Gorman-Smith, D., & Cosey-Gay, F. (2014). *Residents and clients' perceptions of safety and ceasefire impact on neighborhood crime and violence*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration.

"These findings add to a growing body of evidence supporting the effectiveness of [Cure Violence's] intervention for reducing violence."

- Chicago Evaluation



# New York City Evaluation (2013)

- Brooklyn Site: 20% lower shooting rate

## FINDINGS

### VIOLENCE REDUCTION

Results showed that average monthly shooting rates in Crown Heights decreased by 6% from the pre to the post periods, while increasing in the three comparison areas between 18% and 28%. The analysis suggested that gun violence in Crown Heights was 20% lower with Cure Violence intervention than it would have been had gun violence trends mirrored those of similar, adjacent precincts.

### NORM CHANGE

Results suggested that perceptions shifted noticeably toward a belief that a community mobilization campaign could be effective in bringing down gun violence, with respondents who had been part of shooting responses more likely to feel that the campaign was "very likely" to reduce gun violence.

*"The core of the outreach workers' role was to act as a role model, and deliver the message of nonviolence to high-risk participants."*

- New York City Evaluation

## ABOUT THE EVALUATION

### DATA

Official New York City Police Department COMPSTAT reports of shootings incidents, and a two-wave community survey.

### METHODS

An interrupted time series method was used to analyze the impact of the Cure Violence approach on gun violence. The analysis compared Crown Heights to a matched comparison group of three adjacent police precincts with similar demographic and baseline violent crime rates. The comparison precincts approximately corresponded to the neighborhoods of Brownsville, East Flatbush, and parts of Bedford-Stuyvesant. The analysis spanned 18 months prior to implementation (pre period) and 21 months following implementation (post period).

### EVALUATION TEAM

Center for Court Innovation

### EVALUATION FUNDING

US Dept of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance

### CITATION

Picard-Fritsche, S., & Cerniglia, L. (2013). *Testing a public health approach to gun violence: An evaluation of Crown Heights Save Our Streets, a replication of the Cure Violence Model*. New York, NY: Center for Court Innovation.



# Baltimore Evaluation (2012)

- 56% reductions in killings, 34% in shootings in one community
- Reductions across all 4 communities: Cherry Hill, McElderry Park, Ellwood Park, and Madison-Eastend
- Norms changed – less likely to accept use of a gun

## FINDINGS

### VIOLENCE REDUCTION

In Cherry Hill, the Cure Violence approach was associated with statistically significant reductions of 56% in homicide incidents and 34% in nonfatal shootings. McElderry Park did not experience a killing during the first 22 months of program implementation and killings dropped by 53% when the approach was fully implemented. Both Ellwood Park and Madison-Eastend's Cure Violence interventions were associated with statistically significant reductions in nonfatal shootings (34% and 44%, respectively). There was also evidence that positive program effects extended into areas bordering the neighborhoods that implemented Cure Violence.

### NORM CHANGE

Surveys found that residents in the program target area were much less likely to believe that it was okay to use a gun to resolve disputes, and were four times more likely to have the lowest level of support ("little or no") for using violence.

## ABOUT THE EVALUATION

### DATA

- Crime data from homicide and nonfatal shootings
- Community survey

### METHODS

Regression models were used to control for several possible confounders including measures of police initiatives directed at reducing neighborhood gun violence, arrests for weapon and drug violations, and baseline levels of homicide and nonfatal shootings.

### EVALUATION TEAM

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

### EVALUATION FUNDING

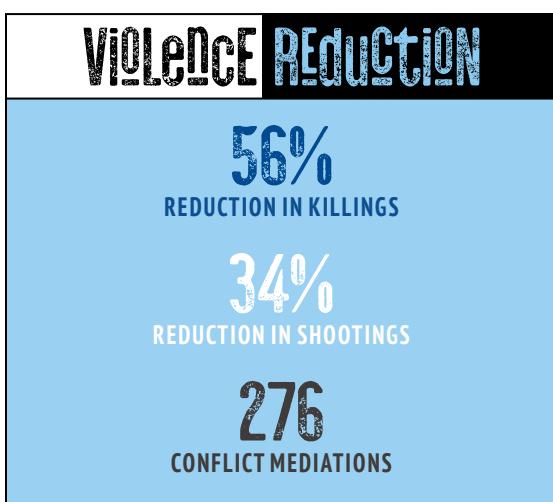
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
Baltimore City Health Department

### CITATION

Webster, D. W., Whitehill, J. M., Vernick, J. S., & Parker, E. M. (2012). *Evaluation of Baltimore's Safe Streets Program: effects on attitudes, participants' experiences, and gun violence*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins Center for the Prevention of Youth Violence.

*"I just shook my head in disbelief at what they could do. It's really changed my view about what's possible."*

- Daniel Webster  
Lead Evaluator



# Chicago Evaluation (2009)

- 41% to 73% reduction in shootings
- Hot spots cooled by up to 40%
- 100% reduction in retaliation killings

## FINDINGS

### VIOLENCE REDUCTION

The time series analysis of trends in three measures – all shots, actual shootings, and gun homicides – found reductions across all sites. For shootings, reductions ranged from 41% to 73% across seven sites. Reductions of 16% to 22% across four sites were specifically attributed to the program.

### HOT SPOT REDUCTION

Density of hot spots reduced in all program sites from 6% to 40%, with reductions in four program sites specifically attributable to the program.

### RETALIATION KILLINGS

Five sites were found to have eliminated (100% reduction) retaliation killings.

### NORM CHANGE

Clients reported stepping in to interrupt conflicts and discourage the use of violence. A survey of clients revealed that 82% received training in conflict mediation, 59% stopped a conflict in the community, and 60% talked someone out of using a gun.

### HELP WITH PERSONAL ISSUES

Almost everyone (89% to 99%) who reported personal problems indicated that Cure Violence was able to help them. Overall, clients reported having an average of 2.6 problems and received help for an average of 2.3 problems. In total, clients obtained assistance for 88% of the problems they reported facing.

*"I found the statistical results to be as strong as you could hope for."*

- Wesley Skogan  
Lead Evaluator

## ABOUT THE EVALUATION

### DATA

- Crime data - homicide and shootings
- Community, partner, client, and staff surveys
- Intensive program observation

### METHODS

The evaluation of Cure Violence had both process and outcome components. The process portion documented how the program looked in the field, including surveys of staff, clients, local partners, and the community.

The outcome evaluation used time series analysis, hot spot maps and gang network analyses to assess the program's impact on shootings and killings. Crime data for the study were aggregated from a citywide database including 9.9 million individual incidents of all kinds that were reported to the Chicago police over 16 years.

### EVALUATION TEAM

- Northwestern University, Institute for Policy Research
- Korean Advanced Institute of Science & Technology
- Loyola University-Chicago
- University of Massachusetts-Amherst

### EVALUATION FUNDING

Dept of Justice, National Institute of Justice

### CITATION

Skogan, W. G., Hartnett, S. M., Bump, N., & Dubois, J. (2008). *Evaluation of Ceasefire-Chicago*. Chicago: Northwestern University, 42(5).

# Chicago Evaluation Findings

## Violence Reduction

**41% TO 73%**  
REDUCTION IN SHOOTINGS

**15% TO 40%**  
COOLING OF HOT SPOTS

**100%**  
REDUCTION IN RETALIATION KILLINGS

## Norm Change

**44%** RECEIVED HELP INTERRUPTING A CONFLICT FROM CVG

**82%** RECEIVED TRAINING ON MEDIATING CONFLICTS

**59%** STEPPED IN TO MEDIATE A CONFLICT ON THE STREETS

**60%** TALKED TO SOMEONE ELSE ABOUT NOT USING A GUN

## Client Assistance

### Overall

**52%** NAMED THEIR OUTREACH WORKER AS SOMEONE THEY COULD RELY ON (2ND ONLY TO A PARENT)

**85%** WERE VERY SATISFIED WITH THEIR OUTREACH WORKER'S ABILITY TO DEAL WITH DIFFICULT PERSONAL ISSUES

**88%** RECEIVED ASSISTANCE FOR PROBLEMS THEY FACED

**100%** CLIENTS SAID CURE VIOLENCE COULD CHANGE MINDS ABOUT SHOOTINGS

**99%** REPORTED PROGRAM HAD A POSITIVE IMPACT ON THEIR LIVES

### Employment

**79%** WERE VERY SATISFIED WITH THE EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE RECEIVED

**52%** WHO GOT HELP FINDING A JOB WERE LATER WORKING FULL OR PART TIME

### School

**30%** WHO GOT HELP WITH SCHOOL HAD COMPLETED HIGH SCHOOL

### Criminal Justice System

**72%** HAD OUTREACH WORKER GO TO COURT WITH THEM

**68%** TALKED TO OUTREACH WORKER ABOUT POLICE ABUSE

## Very Credible Staff

**99%** REPORTED THEIR OUTREACH WORKER WAS CONNECTED TO STREETS (82% "VERY CONNECTED")

**77-90%** FELT COMFORTABLE TALKING TO OUTREACH WORKERS ABOUT ISSUES

**91%** WERE VERY SATISFIED WITH THEIR OUTREACH WORKER'S ABILITY TO LISTEN

## Collaboration

**737** COLLABORATING PARTNERS

- CLERGY
- SERVICE PROVIDERS
- POLITICAL LEADERS
- SCHOOLS
- POLICE
- BUSINESSES

# Scientific Studies & Reports

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA – DAVIS

## Baltimore Study (2022)

*"This research also points to a greater need to more deliberately identify and replicate critical components of effective community outreach and violence interruption work."*

- Baltimore Evaluation

The study used a **comparative case study design** to estimate the impact of Safe Streets on killings and nonfatal shootings for each site operating in Baltimore from 2007–2017.

### VIOLENCE REDUCTION

**Disparate results were found across sites.** Cherry Hill had a reduction in homicides across a seven-year period, and an initial increase in and then decrease in nonfatal shootings. Sandtown-Winchester sites had a reduction in homicides, but not nonfatal shootings. Madison-Eastend and Mondawmin sites had increases in homicides and nonfatal shootings, the former was the center of a gang war

and the latter was a center for the 2015 social protests. Lower Park Heights had nonsignificant decreases in both homicides and nonfatal shootings. *This study did not examine or account for variations in implementation fidelity across sites.*

### CITATION

Buggs, S. A., Webster, D. W., & Crifasi, C. K. (2022). Using synthetic control methodology to estimate effects of a Cure Violence intervention in Baltimore, Maryland. *Injury Prevention*, 28(1), 61-67.

JOHNS HOPKINS BLOOMBERG SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

## Baltimore Study (2018)

*"The pattern of findings in Baltimore and in other cities leaves us optimistic that increased commitment to provide Safe Streets workers with greater supports ... will produce meaningful reductions in gun violence in the communities served by the program."*

- Baltimore Evaluation

The study used **time series analysis** to estimate the impact of Safe Streets on killings and nonfatal shootings.

### VIOLENCE REDUCTION

Averaged across all sites and all time periods, Safe Streets sites had an 8% to 9% reduction in nonfatal shootings and a reduction in killings; however, **reductions were not statistically significant**. Estimated effects for specific sites revealed statistically significant results: a reduction in killings of 39% in Cherry Hill and a doubling in killings in Ellwood Park. For nonfatal shootings, Cherry Hill had a 30% reduction, three other sites had reductions

in shootings of 17% to 37%, and Sandtown-Winchester had an increase; however, none of the changes were statistically significant. *This study did not examine or account for variations in implementation fidelity across sites.*

### CITATIONS

Webster, D. W., Buggs, S. A., & Crifasi, C. K. (2020). Estimating the effects of law enforcement and public health interventions intended to reduce gun violence in Baltimore. Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research. 2018. Google Scholar, Issue 1 - p 142-150.

## San Pedro Sula, Honduras Report (2018)

The Cure Violence model was adapted to reduce violence in San Pedro Sula. The final report details the adaptations made and the impact of the approach on violence.

### VIOLENCE REDUCTION

Implementation began in three areas of Chamelecón in April 2013. Across three sites, shootings dropped by 80%, from 150 incidents from April to December 2013, to only 30 incidents during the same period in 2014. The largest reduction in magnitude occurred in Zone 3, which had 58 fewer shootings, a drop of 87%. The largest reduction in percentage was in Zone 1, which had a 100% drop in shootings, from 25 to zero. Zone 2 had 27 fewer shootings, a 64% reduction.

Implementation in Zones 4 and 5 began in January 2014. Across the five sites, shootings dropped by 94%, going from 89 incidents from January to May 2013, to



only five incidents during the same period in 2015. The largest reduction occurred in Zone 2, which had 30 fewer shootings, a drop of 100%.

*"Overall, the results in San Pedro were very strong. Large drops in violence occurred in every program site, with average reductions in shootings of 88% in 2014 and 94% in 2015."*

- Honduras Evaluation

### CITATION

Ransford, C., Decker, R. B., Cruz, G. M., Sánchez, F., & Slutkin, G. (2017). El modelo Cure Violence: reducción de la violencia en San Pedro Sula (Honduras)/The Cure Violence model: violence reduction in San Pedro Sula (Honduras). *Revista CIDOB d'Afers Internacionals*, 179-204.

## Impact Simulation (2018)

Researchers used an agent-based model to simulate the effects of Cure Violence and policing approaches in New York City.

### VIOLENCE REDUCTION

Implementing the violence interrupter intervention for 10 years decreased victimization by 13%. Implementing hot-spots policing and doubling the police force for 10 years reduced annual victimization by about 11%. Increasing the police force by 40% combined with implementing the violence interrupter intervention for 10 years decreased violence by 19%.



### CITATIONS

Cerdá, M., Tracy, M., & Keyes, K. M. (2018). Reducing urban violence: a contrast of public health and criminal justice approaches. *Epidemiology* (Cambridge, Mass.), 29(1), 142.

*"We found investment in Cure Violence could actually achieve the same reduction in victimization as did a much larger investment in targeted policing."*

- Katherine Keyes  
Evaluator

# New Orleans Report (2016)

*"When I became a [Cure Violence] participant, I started changing my mindset and my outlook on life. I learned so much from the staff about life, patience and goals, and now I share the same message with the other guys like me in my community."*

– Terrence Thomas,  
participant

- New Orleans Evaluation

The Cure Violence approach was implemented in the Central City neighborhood of New Orleans to reduce street violence. The program began operations in December 2012 and expanded to include a hospital component in fall 2013.

## VIOLENCE REDUCTION

An analysis of crime and victimization data compared rates before and after implementation. It found that violence was reduced across several measures, including overall shooting rate, total shooting victims, and for specific groups of people at higher risk, including young men and group-involved men.

## CITATION

[City of New Orleans. \(2016\). NOLA FOR LIFE: 2016 Progress Report. New Orleans, LA: City of New Orleans.](#)

## Violence Reduction

<b>56%</b>	REDUCTION IN SHOOTING VICTIMS FOR TARGET POPULATION
<b>85%</b>	REDUCTION IN RETALIATION KILLINGS
<b>48%</b>	REDUCTION IN GROUP-INVOLVED KILLINGS
<b>100%</b>	OF IDENTIFIED VIOLENT CONFLICTS SUCCESSFULLY MEDIATED
<b>44%</b>	REDUCTION IN SHOOTING REPEAT VICTIMIZATION

## JOHN JAY COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH AND EVALUATION CENTER

# Baltimore Study (2016)

*"After implementation of the intervention, there were more attitudes that improved within the intervention community as compared to the control community."*

- Baltimore Evaluation

The study looked at attitudes toward guns and shootings among high-risk individuals ages 18 to 24 in two Baltimore City neighborhoods pre-implementation and one year post-implementation of the Cure Violence intervention.

## VIOLENCE REDUCTION

There was a statistically significantly 43% improvement in the attitudes assessed in the intervention community post-intervention compared to 13% improvement in the control community. Exposure to the intervention (e.g., seeing "stop shooting" signs in your neighborhood) was also associated with nonviolent attitudes. Overall,

## Norm Change

<b>43%</b>	IMPROVEMENT IN ATTITUDES TOWARD PERSONAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION
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the study found greater improvement in attitudes toward violence in the intervention community following implementation.

## CITATION

[Milam, A. J., Bugs, S. A., Furr-Holden, C. D. M., Leaf, P. J., Bradshaw, C. P., & Webster, D. \(2016\). Changes in attitudes toward guns and shootings following implementation of the Baltimore Safe Streets intervention. \*Journal of Urban Health\*, 93\(4\), 609-626.](#)

## Loiza, Puerto Rico Report (2016)

The report examined implementation of the Cure Violence approach in Loiza, Puerto Rico, which began in January 2012.

### VIOLENCE REDUCTION

Crime data from the Puerto Rico Police Department showed that killings in the program area went from 43 (2011) to 20 (2012), a 57.5% reduction. Total incidents of crime in Loiza reduced from 469 (2011) to 292 (2012).

Analysis found that 59% of mediations had firearms at the location and 47% involved group-related violence.



*"The program has been a total success for statistically lowering the deaths of the population they service/work with."*

- Loiza Evaluation

### CITATION

Nina, D & Castedo, V. (2013). *Cure Violence Replication Site Evaluation Highlights*. Loiza, PR: Southern Hemisphere Consulting and Development Services.

## SAVE THE CHILDREN

## San Salvador, El Salvador Report (2016)

In collaboration with Cure Violence, Save the Children and APRODEHNI (Asociación Para Los Derechos Humanos De La Niñez) implemented an innovative project aimed at detecting and interrupting violent activities.

### VIOLENCE REDUCTION

In a survey of clients, 64% of respondents said there had been a reduction in violent activity in the past year compared to the previous year.



*"The model ... is an intervention that has the potential to consolidate itself in a true country response to the violence that overwhelms us."*

- San Salvador Evaluation

### CITATION

Mendoza, L. B. Montes, F. Alas. (2017). *Informe Final de Evaluación del Proyecto: "Interrumpiendo la Violencia en El Salvador."* San Pedro Masahuat, El Salvador: Save the Children El Salvador.

## DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

## Halifax, Canada Report (2016)

The report examined implementation of the Cure Violence approach in Halifax, Canada over four years.

### VIOLENCE REDUCTION

The intervention sites experienced a general downward trend in violent crimes, shootings, and killings. From May 2014 to December 2016, there were no killings in the program's target areas.



### CITATION

Ungar, M., & Brisson, J. (2016). Ceasefire annual evaluation report. Halifax, Nova Scotia: Resilience Research Centre. Annual evaluation report submitted to the National Crime Prevention Centre, Public Safety Canada (Unpublished).

*"We've stopped some things from escalating, and we've caught some things on the back end to stop the retaliation. So I feel we have made a big difference."*

- Halifax Evaluation

# Prison – Cookham-Wood Prison (UK – 2016)

*"The adaptation of the Cure Violence Health Model to a prison setting was a significant step in advancing the utilization of the epidemic control approach to reducing violence."*

- Prison Evaluation

The Cure Violence approach was adapted to a juvenile prison setting for a one-year pilot project in 2013. Analysis of the impact of the program was conducted by Cure Violence staff using public data sources.

## VIOLENCE REDUCTION

There was a 95% reduction in group violence, from 59 incidents in the prior year to three in the intervention year. There was also a 96% reduction in the number of young people involved in group violence, from 229 young people in the prior year to three in the intervention year, and a 50% reduction in violence among young people overall.

Violence decreased by another measure as well—the number of times that prison staff utilized various disciplinary or management approaches. The number of times that control and restraint was used dropped by 61%, the number of adjudications dropped by 44%, and the number of times that a “keep apart” list was utilized dropped by 74%.

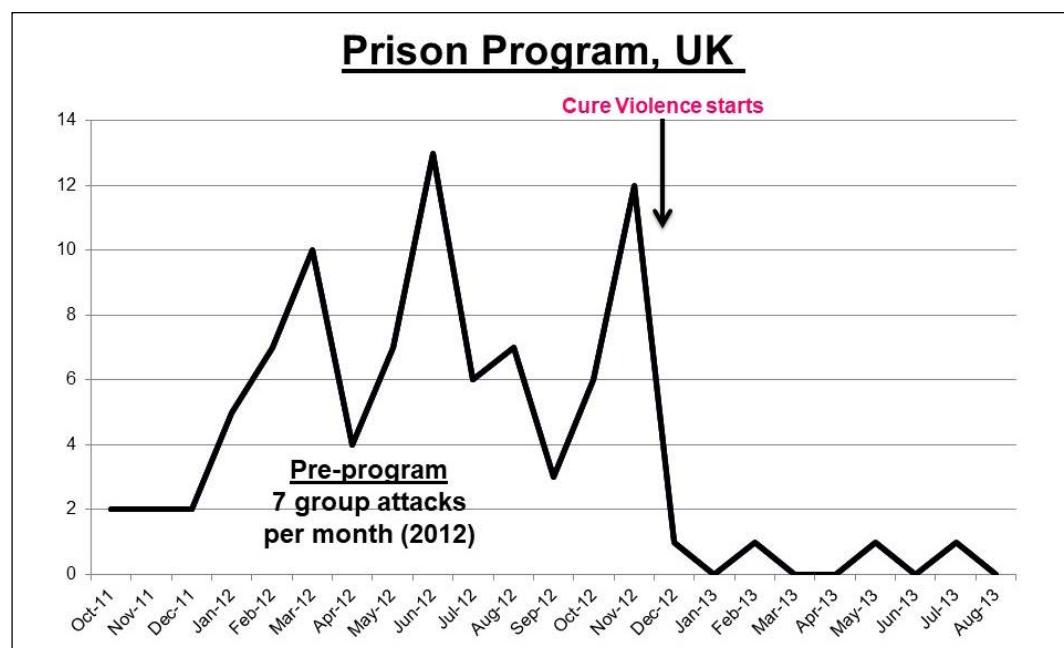
After the one-year pilot ended, violence increased sharply in the prison. Assault



incidents increased by 199% in 2014, and by 2018 assaults were up 360% from 2013 levels. Assaults on prison staff increased by 108% in 2014 and 554% by 2018. Serious assaults also increased from 0 in 2013 to 20 in 2014 (and 17 in 2018).

## CITATIONS

Ransford, Charles, et al. (2018). *Cure Violence Public Health Approach Reduces Prison Violence*. Unpublished manuscript.



# New York City Report (2015)

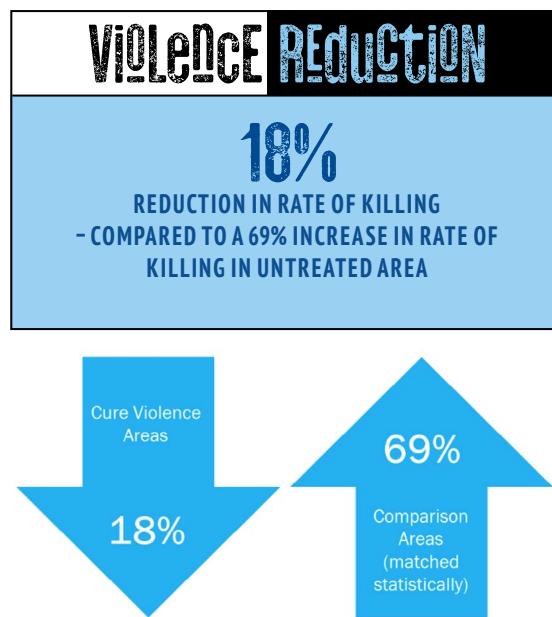
Researchers at John Jay College of Criminal Justice analyzed crime data to compare areas with and without Cure Violence programs.

## VIOLENCE REDUCTION

The presence of the Cure Violence programs was associated with an 18% drop in killings between 2010 and 2013, while killings in the comparison areas were 69% higher in 2013 than in 2010.

## CITATION

Butts, Jeffrey A., Kevin T. Wolff, Evan Misshula, and Sheyla Delgado (2015). *Effectiveness of the Cure Violence Model in New York City*. [Research Brief 2015-01]. New York, NY: John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Research & Evaluation Center.



"When compared with similarly situated neighborhoods not served by Cure Violence, areas of New York City that implemented Cure Violence programs in 2010 tended to experience greater declines in homicide by 2013."

- New York City Evaluation

## UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

# Kansas City Report (2014)

Between 2009 and 2015, the University of Kansas published annual reports on Kansas City's implementation of Cure Violence, which examined program activities and outcomes.

## EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING, & MORE

Of surveyed clients, 67% indicated that Cure Violence outreach workers assisted them in getting their needs for employment, housing, and other assistance met.

## NORM CHANGE

The majority of survey participants (85%) reported having received conflict mediation training, and 71% of respondents were satisfied with their ability to mediate a conflict without violence. All participants indicated that they felt the program had positively impacted their lives and that it can change people's minds about shooting, with nearly 76% of the respondents



strongly agreeing.

## VIOLENCE REDUCTION

Between 2013 and 2014, there was a decrease of eight homicides, a 42.1% reduction, and eight firearm aggravated assaults, a 4% reduction, in the A4P priority area.

## CITATION

Watson-Thompson, C. V., Jones, M., & Taylor, D. (2014). *Aim4Peace 2014 Annual Evaluation Report*. Lawrence, KS: University of Kansas Work Group for Community Health and Development.

"The street intervention workers offer a range of supports to the participants to assist them in attaining their goals and supporting positive lifestyle behavior changes."

- Kansas City Evaluation

# Cape Town, South Africa Report (2014)

*"The above stats basically show that 15 lives were saved and a further 18 persons were not wounded."*

- Cape Town Evaluation

The report examined the implementation of the approach in Hanover Park in the first year.

## VIOLENCE REDUCTION

In the first six months of the program, there was a 64% reduction in gang-related crimes. An internal gang conflict resulted in incidents, but an overall reduction of 34% in fatal and nonfatal shootings for the year was maintained.

## CITATION

First Community Resource Centre. (2014). *CeaseFire - Hanover Park, Second Six Months 2014*. Cape Town, South Africa: First Community Resource Centre.

## Violence Reduction

38%	REDUCTION IN KILLINGS (2013)
32%	REDUCTION IN SHOOTINGS (2013)
359	CONFLICT MEDIATIONS (2013)
15	LIVES SAVED
18	PERSONS NOT WOUNDED

# Chicago Hospital Analysis (2014)

*"Cure Violence could result in significant savings in healthcare and society costs associated with the re-injury rate reduction, and it constitutes a valuable adjunct to the clinical practice of Trauma Surgery."*

- Chicago Hospital Evaluation

The study evaluated a hospital-situated intervention program aimed at disrupting the pattern of violent re-injury. It analyzed re-injury rates in the 48 months following injury among gunshot wound patients who received services from Cure Violence compared to those gunshot wound patients who did not.

## VIOLENCE REDUCTION

Program participants were nearly half as likely to be readmitted for a violent injury. Only 6% (n=18) of subjects in the intervention group vs. 11% (n=33) of subjects in the non-intervention group returned to the same hospital with a new violent injury.

## CITATIONS

Salzman, Steven, et al. (2014). *Violence prevention programs are effective when intervention is initiated during the initial workup of violently injured patients in a urban level 1 trauma center*. Unpublished manuscript.



## Violence Reduction

45%	REDUCTION IN RE-INJURY
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## Return on Investment

It is estimated that violence costs the United States \$153-\$173 billion dollars each year. Investing in effective violence prevention not only saves lives, it also saves money.

An analysis estimating the cost savings specifically attributable to Cure Violence was conducted by Dr. Sherry Towers, an independent researcher and statistician. Dr. Towers was contracted by Cure Violence Global to analyze open source crime data for the city of Chicago along with program data from Cure Violence Chicago and data from existing studies on costs of violence to calculate the return on investment for implementing the Cure Violence approach in Chicago. The analysis determined that the Cure Violence approach saved millions of dollars for every killing prevented.

Based on an analysis of 10 years (2006 to 2015) of Cure Violence implementation

in Chicago, Dr. Towers found that \$33 was saved for every \$1 spent, with \$4 in government savings.

A cost effectiveness analysis in the Trinidad and Tobago evaluation found that the Cure Violence approach prevented 218 gunshot hospital admissions at an average program cost of only US\$4,300 per prevented injury.



# Prominent Endorsements

## National Leaders



### State of the Union 2022

"...invest in proven strategies. Proven strategies like community violence interruption - trusted messengers breaking the cycle of violence and trauma and giving young people some hope."

**President Joe Biden**

*President of the United States (D)  
State of the Union Address, 2022*



"Fund Cure Violence and similar proven effective violence interruption models to stop violent incidents before they begin."

**Sen. Bernie Sanders**

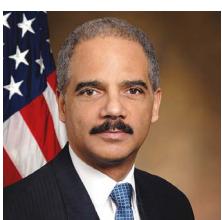
*Member of US Senate (VT-D) and Former Presidential Candidate  
Quote from his Presidential Platform*



"Cure Violence has given hope to millions by demonstrating that violence can be stopped using the strategies of public health."

**Risa Lavisso-Mourey**

*Former President  
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*



"From an evaluation of [Cure Violence] Chicago, we learned the value of a public health approach to public safety. And we learned that targeting a small, high-risk population can have significant, broader benefits."

**Eric Holder**

*Former Attorney General of the United States*



"In 2005, I visited [Cure Violence] Chicago and saw how this program has revolutionized the city's approach to eradicating youth violence."

**Laura Bush**

*Former First Lady of the United States*

# Prominent Endorsements

## Mayors



"St. Louis' Cure Violence program has seen some very positive initial results in the reduction of crime. Proactive approaches like this are key to the long-term safety of our communities."

**Tishaura Jones**  
Mayor of St. Louis



"Cure Violence is having a positive impact on violence in the target areas. Both sites have had a stretch of at least 25 days in a row without a shooting or killing."

**Lenny Curry**  
Mayor of Jacksonville, Florida (R)



"[Cure Violence] is an important component of our citywide strategy to reduce homicides and gun violence, and a key to our plans to grow the city. By expanding this effective initiative, we help people build social capital and empower communities."

**Stephanie Rawlings Blake**  
Former Mayor, Baltimore



"John Jay's study of the success of the Cure Violence program in East New York is no surprise to those of us who have been on the ground in this community."

**Eric Adams**  
Mayor of New York City



"Violence interrupters are essential to helping calm the streets; they're essential to helping keep the violence down; they're essential to supporting our communities... My office is proud to support the Cure Violence model"

**Karl Racine**  
Attorney General, Washington, DC



"The investments we have made in the Crisis Management System, Cure Violence movement, are some of the best resources we have ever spent in this city, some of the biggest impact in terms of stopping violence."

**Bill de Blasio**  
Mayor Of New York City and Former Presidential Candidate (D)

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## Cure Violence Around the World\*

17  
COUNTRIES

25+  
CITIES

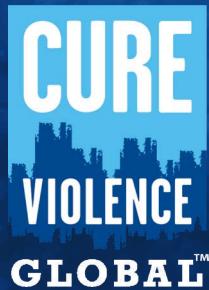
100+  
COMMUNITIES

United States  
Canada\*\*  
United Kingdom\*\*  
Mexico  
Honduras  
El Salvador\*\*  
Trinidad  
Colombia  
Nigeria\*\*  
Jamaica\*\*  
Morocco\*\*  
Kenya\*\*  
South Africa\*\*  
West Bank  
Iraq\*\*  
Syria\*\*

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\*As of July 2022

\*\*Former sites



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[www.cvg.org](http://www.cvg.org)

[twitter.com/CureViolence](https://twitter.com/CureViolence)  
[facebook.com/CureViolence](https://facebook.com/CureViolence)

..... *Violence is contagious. Be part of the Cure!* .....