

OUR CALL TO ACTION

REDUCING GUN VIOLENCE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

As of 2020, firearms became
#1 cause of death amongst
children and teens in
the United States.
(Kaiser Family Foundation)

In the first four months
of 2023, there were nearly

200 mass
shootings

in the United States.
(National Gun Violence Archive)

During 2022,

815 Los Angeles residents
committed suicide.

313 of these deaths
involved a firearm.

663 Los Angeles residents
died by homicide.

510 of these deaths
involved a firearm.

California Department of Public Health, California Comprehensive Death File (Dynamic) for Los Angeles County, 2022(Provisional). Data extracted 3/7/2023. ICD codes used to identify firearm deaths: W32-W34, X72-X74, X93-X95, Y22-Y24, Y35.0, U01.4

Americans are getting involved as never before in the effort to reduce gun violence across all states and all communities.

In Los Angeles County, the Department of Public Health's 40-point Gun Violence Prevention Platform provides municipalities and community groups with innovative strategies to stop gun violence. The Platform includes a broad range of strategies and prioritizes 4 strategies specifically to reduce gun violence in the next year.

Gun violence is predictable and preventable. Together we can make a difference and save lives.

Scan here to access the
40-point Gun Violence
Prevention Platform



Local and national data show that gun violence has become a full-blown public health crisis. In the first four months of 2023, there were nearly 200 mass shootings in the United States, according to the National Gun Violence Archive.

In 2022, in Los Angeles County, there were over 800 deaths that involved firearms. Gun violence in all its forms - domestic violence, suicide, homicide- remains pervasive, especially in communities of color, where it's abetted by systemic racism, and a lack of resources, as well as educational and economic opportunities that allow people to thrive and reach their full potential.

The costs of firearm violence are significant. In addition to the estimated \$12 billion in costs from firearm homicides and suicides in a single year, there are the unquantifiable social and emotional costs to society as a whole and to those individuals and families that are directly impacted.



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COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Public Health

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
OVP
OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION

LET'S STOP GUN VIOLENCE

The many forms of gun violence are a public health epidemic that threatens the safety of our communities. As local government, the Office of Violence Prevention works with county and community partners to serve communities disproportionately affected by gun violence. OVP aligns with advocates – including young people – who have mobilized locally and across the nation around this vital issue. We take informed action to protect our communities and we call on policymakers to listen to advocates, support gun safety measures, and work with us to ban assault weapons and high-capacity magazines. Everyone deserves the right to live free from violence.

HERE'S 10 THINGS YOU CAN DO:

- 1 Take direct Action!** Join 500 LA County college students who are gathering 100,000 signatures by December 31, 2023, to present to members of the House of Representatives and United States Senators calling for a reinstatement of the federal ban on assault weapons. In California, the ban on assault weapons – plus background checks – has led to a significant decrease in gun violence since the 1990s.
- 2 Get Informed.** Visit the LA County Department of Public Health Office of Violence Prevention website (<http://ph.lacounty.gov/ovp/>) to sign a pledge to stop gun violence in our communities. Obtain resources and information about ways to get involved and make a difference.
- 3 Help distribute 10,000 safe gun storage handbooks and gun safety locks to families across the County.** Talk to your friends, family, and neighbors about safe gun storage. Keep our children and youth safe from tragic accidents.
- 4 Talk to your health care provider about the urgency of performing gun safety screenings during primary care visits.** Help us achieve our goal of training 1,000 providers by the end of the year to perform this service in LA County.
- 5 Vote.** We must elect and re-elect people at all levels of government who are committed to gun safety and reducing gun violence. If they have not done so, urge your friends and family to register!
- 6 Become an expert on Gun Violence Restraining Orders (GVROs) and other legal tools to remove firearms from people intent on harming themselves or others.** View the new training video on GVROs and become a leader in your community!
- 7 Volunteer for trauma healing events in your community.** At least 10 are scheduled for each SPA by December 31, 2023.
- 8 Work with professionals to train more than 1,000 youth peer leaders on mental health first aid.**
- 9 Urge community leaders, elected officials, and others to sign the Gun Violence Prevention Platform pledge affirming their commitment to preventing gun violence.**
- 10 Post to social media.** #NationalGunViolenceAwarenessDay and #WearOrange on your social media platforms to amplify our message and inspire others to join the cause to stop gun violence.



Get Involved!
Scan here to learn more about the Gun Violence Prevention Platform.

