

**100** 

**DAYS OF  
ACTION**

**2024**

**REPORT**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Launched on July 10, 2024, the 100 Days of Action was a short, intensive initiative intended to concentrate attention and mobilize resources to address firearm incidents in King County, specifically, the increase in firearm violence historically experienced during summer months in our local communities and across the nation. Called for by King County Executive Dow Constantine, and led by the King County Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention, the initiative incorporated strategies that have proven effective in other jurisdictions and included the key elements listed below:

- **100 Days of Peace:** A community-led initiative, which enhanced existing Community Violence Intervention (CVI) programs and services for young people and families most affected by gun violence and supported increased safety activities during the summer months and back to school transition.
- **Firearm Victims Support:** Harborview Medical Center's Violence Prevention & Intervention program provided increased peer support, referrals, and emergency short-term resources for victims and families awaiting victim support services awards.
- **Public Awareness and Education:** A multi-platform information campaign to increase public awareness of CVI practices, the importance of firearm safety, inspire positive action, and promote community responsibility.
- **Community Engagement:** Strategic engagement with underserved and underrepresented communities experiencing an increase in gun violence
- **Firearm Safety Equipment Distribution:** Large-scale distribution of firearm safety equipment and materials to increase the safe storage of firearms and promote responsible gun ownership.
- **Joint Legislative Agenda:** collaboration across agencies and with national subject matter experts to develop a joint local and state policy agenda supporting holistic public safety efforts and sensible gun safety legislation.

Key Highlights of the 100 Days of Action include:

- Community Violence Intervention programming over summer months increased community-led safety patrols and safe passages, expanded crisis response operations and interventions, provided more resources to help meet youth/young adult basic needs (e.g. food, overnight housing), prevention programming, provided increased outreach in South King County, as well as staff/employee training and implementation of Peace Camps. Community partners tracked participation and estimated that overall, the strategic 100 Days of Action efforts engaged more than 400 youth/young adults exposed to or at risk of gun violence involvement.
- Harborview staff provided expanded support for 181 patients involved in gun violence in the latter half of 2024.
- Social media posts shared with over 33,000 users since July 10, 2024, and reached over 1,000,000 engagements.
- Public Health – Seattle & King County Insider's "Day in the Life of a Violence Interrupter" [comic](#) generated over 5.7K reactions on social media and earned amplification via national social Community Violence Intervention accounts.



- The Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention and partner organizations distributed 5,000 lockboxes through numerous events including the City of Auburn’s Veteran’s Parade and a Seahawks Giveaway at Lumen Field stadium, and direct distribution to communities directly impacted by gun violence through community organizations.
- One-third of people who took a lockbox and completed an anonymous feedback survey indicated they had no other form of firearm security at home.
- Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention staff strategically engaged with communities experiencing an increase in gun violence through listening sessions and public safety meetings.
- Notable communities included East African, LGBTQIA+, and Veterans communities.
- Through the distribution of a county-wide survey gauging public perception of safety in communities, over two-thirds (66%) of respondents reported they were concerned about violence involving firearms in King County, with over one-third reporting "very concerned."
- When asked about potential causes of gun violence, the most prevalent responses were the access to firearms and the lack of available mental health services and support.
- Development of a joint local and state policy agenda supporting holistic public safety efforts and sensible gun safety legislation.

The 100 Days of Action Initiative concluded on October 18, 2024, while the community-led and hospital-based services continued through December 31, 2024. This report summarizes activities, impacts, lessons learned, and next steps toward strategic planning for an inclusive and coordinated approach to gun violence reduction in King County.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report is dedicated to all who serve on the frontlines of community-led public safety and work every day to support individuals and families impacted by gun violence. Special acknowledgment to our community partners.

We hope this report inspires actions that partner government and communities in uniting to create safer environments for all.



## INTRODUCTION

*“Over the past 100 days, we’ve made real progress, from investing in comprehensive support services to deepening community partnerships and enhancing existing community violence intervention programs. Moving forward we will increase and expand programming that will serve young people at the highest risk for involvement in gun violence and support victims and families directly impacted. We are dedicated to listening to the communities that are particularly vulnerable to harm and taking action that brings lasting change. Although the 100 Days of Action Initiative is completed, a new chapter in our work to reduce gun violence has just begun.”*

*- King County Executive Dow Constantine*



Gun violence is not simply a public safety issue. Gun violence is a public health crisis, and it demands urgent attention and action.

Recognizing the impact of gun violence and keeping with his long-standing commitment to addressing gun violence as a public health emergency, Executive Dow Constantine called for 100 Days of Action against gun violence during his State of the County Address on June 11, 2024, directing Public Health – Seattle & King County’s Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention to coordinate the effort.

Community partners already serving young adults and families impacted by gun violence simultaneously called for 100 Days of Peace- a community-led response. The Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention team worked in collaboration with these community partners, municipal and King County departments, and national experts to develop a comprehensive 100 Day of Action plan.

The plan also incorporated recommendations from the U.S. Surgeon General’s Firearm Violence: A Public Health Crisis in America [advisory](#) issued on June 25, 2024. The advisory called for strengthened data collection, increased research on the consequences of gun violence, research on prevention strategy implementation, community violence intervention implementation, increased role of emergency preparedness and the health care system in preventing gun violence, promotion of safe storage of guns and ammunition, policy changes, and improved mental health supports.

The overall goal of the plan was to complement current violence prevention efforts and tailor activities to support the needs of King County communities most disproportionately experiencing gun violence.

The 100 Days of Action Initiative concluded on October 18, 2024. This report summarizes activities and observations made during implementation, to help inform next steps.



## DATA SUPPORTING 100 DAYS APPROACH

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Public Health – Seattle & King County (PHSKC) and the PHSKC Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention conducted a problem analysis and literature review to inform the 100 Days of Action plan. Staff examined King County shots fired data provided by the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Firearm Data Dashboard from PHSKC, U.S. Surgeon General's Firearm Violence: A Public Health Crisis in America report, existing national data, and case studies to identify trends in data, effective strategies, and evidence-based interventions. Below is a summary of key findings and insights from these sources.

### *Firearm Violence in King County*

Firearm death rates in King County increased 16% overall between 2018 and 2022 and remained high in 2023. Increases in firearm violence are attributed to overlapping factors including (1) an increase in firearm purchases during the pandemic, (2) an increase in youth online exposure and time on social media, and (3) increased modifications of firearms into more dangerous, automatic weapons.

In King County, youth and young adults account for 60% of gun violence incidents, with victims disproportionately being male and people of color. Of the firearm victims under the age of 30 in 2024 (Q1-Q3), 52% were in Seattle, while 48% occurred in other parts of the county. Notably, nearly 62% of juvenile firearm victims were located outside of Seattle, highlighting the widespread impact of gun violence across the region.

Firearm injuries and deaths are a public health emergency in King County. Each year, injuries and deaths from firearm incidents cost over \$200 million in medical care and lost productivity. Beyond the immediate economic impact, gun violence has long-term effects on communities experiencing high rates of violence. In a birth cohort study, youth who lived in areas with frequent gun violence incidents were more likely to develop behavioral problems. However, youth with strong, positive social ties within their neighborhoods were less affected by these adverse outcomes.

### *Firearm Violence in King County During Spring and Summer Months*

Firearm incidents in King County have been shown to increase during the summer months, driven by factors such as higher temperatures and increased outdoor social activities. Data from the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office Firearm Violence Reports reveal a consistent pattern of increased firearm injuries and homicides during the spring and summer months, specifically in the second and third quarters of 2022 and 2023 (King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office - Crime Strategies Unit, 2022a, 2022b, 2023a, 2023b).

In Q2 2022, 86% of shooting victims were male, with 26% being 18-24 years old, and 70% were people of color. This trend continued in Q3 2022, with 86% male, 20% between the ages of 18 and 24, and 84% people of color. The data for Q2 2023 showed a significant increase, with 89% male, 31% aged 18-24, and 80% people of color. Notably, Q2 2023 saw a record-high number of shooting victims under the age of 30, reflecting a sharp rise in violence, particularly among younger individuals. This pattern continued into Q3 2023, with 82% male, 20% aged 18-24, and



82% people of color, highlighting the ongoing public safety concerns in King County during the warmer months.

### ***Short Intensive Initiatives to Address Firearm Violence***

Short intensive initiatives to address firearm violence offer an immediate, focused response to reduce violence while laying the groundwork for long-term reductions. These initiatives allow for concentrated efforts, focused interventions, and data collection that informs broader, sustained strategies to address the root causes of violence.

Short intensive interventions, like the Operation Peacemaker Fellowship in Richmond, California for example, have been shown to reduce gun violence by as much as 70% in high-risk neighborhoods. When implemented as part of a broader plan that connects short-term actions to mid- and long-term goals, these efforts build the collective buy-in necessary for achieving sustainable, lasting results.

### ***Scaling Up Community Services and Youth Programming During the Summer Season***

Scaling up community services and youth programming during the summer reduces gun violence by providing resources/supports and productive outlets for young people. Youth violence prevention programs that include mentorship, employment opportunities, and recreational activities can reduce violent crime involvement by up to 50% among participants (Heller et al., 2017; “Mentoring Programs for Youth: A Promising Intervention for Delinquency Prevention,” 2021). Summer programming for young people keeps them engaged and offers a safe and constructive way to spend their time out of school during the summer break.

In addition to providing direct support for youth, scaling up services during the summer strengthens the overall safety and stability of communities directly impacted by violence. Cities implementing public health-based violence prevention programs have seen a 40-50% reduction in violence after scaling up services, particularly during the summer, when violence among young people rises (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention et al., 2024; Heller et al., 2017). Increased programming during these months also promotes coordination between community organizations, law enforcement partners, and local government agencies, creating a more comprehensive approach to violence prevention.

### ***Short Intensive Initiatives to Address Firearm Violence***

Community Violence Intervention (CVI) programs are an effective approach to preventing gun violence by addressing violence at the local level (Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund, 2020). These programs are tailored to the unique needs of each community and concentrate on direct engagement with individuals at the highest risk of violence and implement targeted interventions such as street outreach, and violence interruption utilizing credible messengers—individuals from the communities most affected by gun violence, who establish relationships with high-risk individuals. CVI programs incorporate interventions like relentless engagement, conflict mediation, cognitive behavioral therapy, and community healing to address the root causes of violence (Everytown for Gun Safety Action Fund, n.d.).



CVI programs have proven to reduce firearm injuries and deaths by preventing retaliatory violence and fostering trust within communities. An evaluation of Safe Streets, a CVI program in Baltimore, found average reductions in homicides and nonfatal shootings between 2007 to 2022 ranged from 16% to 23% (Webster et al., 2023).

Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Programs (HVIPs) also engage survivors of violence and their families in trauma centers shortly after injury to prevent retaliation and recurring violence, offering support services such as case management, victim's assistance, and referrals to relevant community services. An evaluation of YouthAlive! Caught in the Crossfire program in Oakland, California, found 70% of young participants were less likely to be arrested for any offense, and 60% were less likely to have any criminal involvement after engaging with the program (Becker et al., 2004). Researchers also stated, "a total cost reduction derived from the intervention program annually was \$750,000 to \$1.5 million," when compared to the expenses of juvenile detention and hospitalization after firearm incidents (Shibru et al., 2007).

Grounded in research and evaluations, CVI and Hospital-Based Violence Intervention programs reduce firearm injuries and deaths by preventing retaliatory violence and fostering trust within communities.

### ***Raising Public Awareness***

Public education campaigns and community outreach initiatives highlighting evidence-based practices to prevent violence have been shown to increase awareness and promote safer behaviors (Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, n.d.). As reported by the Ad Council, gun violence is one of the top three concerns for U.S. citizens; campaigns that educate the public about the risks of gun violence, encourage safe firearm storage, and provide information about available resources and calls to action are additional strategies to reduce firearm-related injuries and deaths across the country (Feldmann et al., 2024).

### ***Promotion of Safe Storage for Guns***

Safe storage of firearms can reduce the risk of firearm-related injuries and deaths. Research shows that securing firearms in locked storage significantly reduces the risk of accidental shootings, suicides, and theft ("Locked and UN-loaded: The Importance of Safe and Secure Firearm Storage," 2023). Studies also indicate that households with locked storage are less likely to experience firearm-related violence, particularly in homes with children or individuals at risk of self-harm (Athey et al., 2024; Grossman, 2005). Additionally, legislation promoting safe storage practices has been associated with reductions in gun violence rates (Greenberg et al., 2024).

### ***Policy Recommendations for Gun Violence Prevention***

Coordinated policy efforts across all levels of government and in collaboration with public and private sectors have helped states like Washington implement strong gun violence prevention policies (Smart et al., 2023). Washington, ranked ninth in the nation for gun law strength by Everytown for Gun Safety, has implemented measures such as universal background checks,



Extreme Risk laws, and firearm storage regulations, leading to reductions in gun violence and a firearm death rate below the national average (Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund, 2025). Continued collaboration and alignment on policy agendas at the city, county, and state levels will remain important in keeping Washington's gun law strength strong and improving public safety throughout the state.

## 100 DAYS OF ACTION PLANNING

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In response to the directive from the King County Executive's Office, the Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention collaborated and consulted with the King County Executive's Office, Public Health – Seattle & King County Divisions to develop a comprehensive 100 Days of Action plan. A planning committee was formed and included staff from the following:

- King County Executive's Office
  - Performance, Strategy & Budget
- Public Health – Seattle & King County
  - Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention
  - Health Sciences Division
  - Government Relations
  - Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention
  - Office of Equity & Community Partnerships
  - Finance

Community partners who provide service to young people and families directly impacted by gun violence called for a community-led initiative within the 100 Days of Action. In response, the Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention received a 100 Days of Peace plan from community partners, outlining increased and enhanced community violence intervention programs and services for young people and families most affected by gun violence in King County.

Participating community planning partners included:

- Urban Family
- Community Passageways
- YMCA Alive & Free Program
- Progress Pushers
- Freedom Project
- Boys & Girls Clubs of King County - SE Network

Harborview Medical Center's Violence Intervention & Prevention Program was also engaged.

To support elements of the 100 Days of Action, the planning committee also consulted with:

- King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office Regional Domestic Violence Firearms Enforcement Unit about Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs) for the public education campaign.
- Policy Partners listed below to review the joint policy agenda:
  - Alliance for Gun Responsibility
  - Community Justice Action Fund
  - Everytown For Gun Safety
- Media Partners listed below to support content creation and amplification of the public education campaign.
  - King County TV (KCTV)
  - Converge Media

- University of Washington Firearm Injury & Policy Research Program to support literature review of Community Violence Intervention (CVI) best practices and review of the public perception and firearm safety equipment distribution survey.

King County staff actively supported 100 Days of Action planning and implementation weekly with no additional funds. Staff from the Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention and Executive's Office engaged in weekly progress monitoring throughout the duration of the initiative.

## INVESTMENTS IN SERVICES

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### *100 Days of Peace*

King County leadership directed \$1 million in one-time funding to support the community-led 100 Days of Peace initiative, expanding community-led gun violence intervention and prevention activities through the end of 2024. 100 Days of Peace contracted partner organizations included Urban Family, Community Passageways, YMCA, Progress Pushers, Freedom Project, and the Boys and Girls Club.

Activities included:

- Expanded programming and services
- Strategic engagement of young people at highest risk for involvement in gun violence
- Increased safety patrols during large-scale events and safe passage
- Increased operational hours
- Expanded geographic outreach in South King County
- Planning, staff training, and recruiting for Fall Peace Camps

### *Harborview Medical Center Violence Intervention & Prevention Program:*

In response to needs raised by Harborview Medical Center Violence Intervention & Prevention Program staff, King County allocated \$250,000 in one-time funding to Harborview Medical Center's Hospital-based Intervention program through the end of 2024. Funds were allocated to expand services for victims and families directly impacted by gun violence and provide additional peer support, referrals as needed, and emergency short-term resources for families awaiting victim support services awards.

## 100 DAYS OF ACTION FOCUS AREAS

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In addition to the expanded services provided by the 100 Days of Peace community-led initiative and resources added to support victims and families served by Harborview Medical Center's Violence Intervention and Prevention program, 100 Days of Action focused on the following:

**Community & Key Partner Engagement:** Strategic engagement, relationship, and trust building with underserved communities in King County experiencing increases in gun violence, strengthening key municipal and government partnerships, distributing information, gathering community perspectives on community safety and violence involving firearms, and expanding community partnerships.

**Raise Public Awareness:** Increasing understanding of Community Violence Intervention (CVI) practices and the importance of firearm safety, information on emergency protection orders, and ways to take action against gun violence in communities.

**Distribution of Firearm Safety Equipment:** Large-scale distribution of firearm safety equipment and materials to increase safe storage of firearms and promote responsible gun ownership.

**Resource Guide Update & Provider Portal Planning:** Enhancing online resource guide and developing a strategy to leverage an existing database that provides community organizations with access to up-to-date information on resources for those affected by gun violence in the future.

**Joint Legislative Agenda and Budget Priorities:** Creation of joint local and state policy agenda that supports holistic public safety efforts and sensible gun safety legislation.

## 100 DAYS OF ACTION PROJECT OVERSIGHT

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With project management and oversight support from the King County Executive's Office Performance, Strategy, and Budget staff, Public Health – Seattle & King County developed service contracts, designed and implemented reporting measures, and a reporting process that reflected core components of the initiative.

Service delivery reports for 100 Days of Peace community contracts and Harborview Medical Center's reporting included:

- What was accomplished through 100 Days of Action?
- What were the short-term outcomes of these activities and this funding?
- What were the lessons learned?

The 100 Days of Action planning committee also managed all other core components of the 100 Days of Action including community engagement, public awareness, firearm safety equipment distribution, resource access information, and policy agenda development.



The committee engaged in daily updates and weekly progress meetings. Additionally, the committee monitored contracts and conducted performance metric development, data collection, analysis, and summary of accomplishments and short-term outcomes.

The 100 Days of Action and 100 Days of Peace initiatives launched on July 10, 2024, and concluded on October 18, 2024, though funded services continued through the end of 2024.

## **DATA SOURCES FOR ASSESSING 100 DAYS OF ACTION SHORT-TERM OUTCOMES**

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The assessment of 100 Days of Action Initiative accomplishments, short-term outcomes, and lessons learned relied on readily available information over the course of the initiative (and the length of partner contracts) to minimize the burden of data reporting for partners in this work. To facilitate assessment, Public Health – Seattle & King County developed performance measures that aligned with the core components of 100 Days of Peace and the community partners' expected timeframe (Appendix D). The six community-based organizations leading 100 Days of Peace activities in their communities, Harborview Medical Center's violence intervention team, and Public Health – Seattle & King County's 100 Days of Action planning team members provided narrative updates and reporting measures associated with the areas of work they led. These performance measures and narrative updates were aggregated and analyzed over the course of 100 Days of Action to determine specific accomplishments and short-term outcomes, and they contributed to lessons learned.

Specific accomplishments are further described within each of the 100 Days of Action focus areas: Community-led 100-Days of Peace activities, victim and family support through Harborview Medical Center, public awareness campaign, community engagement, firearm safe storage lockbox distributions, and collaborative policy and budget priority development.

Two surveys were also conducted as a part of two 100 Days of Action activities. The first was an anonymous, voluntary paper survey offered to recipients who received free firearm safety equipment at four distribution events. The second was an anonymous, online, county-wide community perspective survey, developed as a part of 100 Days' community engagement activities. Results from both are further discussed within the lockbox distributions and community engagement sections of 100 Days of Action Accomplishments.

## 100 DAYS OF PEACE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Community-led 100 Days of Peace enhanced existing Community Violence Intervention (CVI) programs and services for young people and families most affected by gun violence. Organizations emphasized that 100 Days of Peace was particularly effective “because it built on the work of existing Community Violence Intervention programs and simultaneously implemented four reinforcing workstreams: staff, community, individuals, and impacted families and community members.” The community partners engaged in a multi-faceted approach to preventing gun violence for the 100 days initiative, consisting of the following elements:

- **Expanding Community Violence Intervention staffing and operational hours:** Funding for 100 Days of Peace enabled the extension of operational hours and the hiring, training, and onboarding of 28 community violence intervention staff across the community organizations providing direct community support.
- **Addressing Community Violence Intervention staff’s job-related vicarious trauma:** The 100 Days of Peace organizations participated in a wellness retreat focused on mindfulness, creative expression, and professional development to strengthen team bonds and equip staff with skills for enhancing youth safety and engagement.
- **Outreach to engage youth and young adults exposed to and/or at heightened risk for involvement in gun violence:** During 100 Days of Peace, this included work within detention centers, the organization of peace camps for gang-involved youth and young adults, group life-skills classes for under-served youth at shelters, and relentless engagement strategies that actively supported youth and young adults with linkages to services or resources through regular, frequent contact using multiple methods to bridge connections to others.
- **Focused community incident response for community safety:** Preventing gun violence during 100 Days of Peace included public safety measures such as conflict or “beef” mapping between young people, safe passage in unsafe locations, safety patrol at public events, hotspot remediation in areas known to have active risk, conflict de-escalation, and community safety support after shots fired. Critical incident workers increase safety by engaging at the time a conflict is planned or occurring and they work to prevent retaliation.
- **Community safety pop-up events:** Events focused on young adults, their families, and communities and ranged from gun violence prevention information sharing events, gun lockbox giveaways, backpack giveaways, and culturally relevant youth support and engagement activities.
- **Case management and resource support:** Supporting youth in attaining safety goals, meeting basic needs, and connecting to well-being and education or employment training opportunities.

*Community power is the ability of communities most impacted by inequities to work together to set agendas, shift public discourse, increase opportunities for community ownership, and advance meaningful change. At its most basic level, community power is the ability of communities to decide what happens to their own communities. Building community power strengthens communities at the root.*

*- Community Organization Joint Report to King County*



### ***Expanding Community Violence Intervention staffing and operational hours***

The addition of staff and expansion of operational hours enabled outreach designed to increase community safety using multiple approaches. All six of the organizations hired additional staff and/or expanded their hours of operation.

This short-term funding enabled the hiring, training, and onboarding of 28 community violence intervention staff across the community organizations providing direct community support.

Staff increases across all organizations consisted of:

- Three critical incident response professionals (with four more being interviewed at the time of reporting)
- Twenty-one outreach and short-term case management professionals at multiple organizations
- One case manager who served youth and young adults referred from multiple organizations
- Three program management and administrative professionals

Two organizations, Community Passageways and YMCA, opted to extend hours for existing staff rather than hire. One staff person shared that it takes careful vetting to find the “right personnel for this project, which is a time-consuming process. Additionally, training these individuals for our specific needs typically takes around 30 days. This timeline does not account for the hiring process itself, which would have taken another 30 days, effectively delaying our initiative by two months. Understanding the urgency to start immediately, we decided to make use of our existing team.”

Staff from multiple organizations expressed that the additional resources, particularly the ability to enhance and extend staff’s time for cross-over outreach, critical incident response, pop-up community safety events, and case management, enabled the direct expansion of community supports. An organization staff noted the importance of extending outreach hours by explaining: “Our services do not follow a set schedule; instead, we respond whenever the community calls on us. This approach has required us to increase our Relentless Engagement, which includes ongoing meetings with the... School District to discuss potential programming and establishing a presence within their schools. Internally, we’ve been focused on planning our Youth Pilot Program, set to launch on November 1st. Additionally, we’ve been actively building relationships with the... Police Department to strengthen community partnerships and participating in events to maintain a continuous presence and support in the community.” Another organization’s staff person said that without funding for additional staff, they would not be able to provide case management support.

### ***Addressing Community Violence Intervention Staff Job-related Vicarious Trauma & Professional Development***

100 Days of Peace organizations worked to address the job-related vicarious trauma carried by their staff through an Urban Family and Community Passageways-hosted wellness retreat - an -

evidence-based practice that supports CVI effectiveness, especially during heightened summer gun violence activity (Bocanegra et al., 2021). A total of 113 CVI staff were guided through mindfulness, relaxation, creative expression, team building, and their personal and collective commitments. This helped to revitalize the team, strengthen their bonds, and empower them to move forward with renewed energy, clarity, purpose, and unity. Additionally, Urban Family provided professional development, empowering community safety professionals with elite youth worker training that equipped staff with essential skills in recruitment, safety protocols, youth camp fundamentals, engagement techniques, asset mapping, camp coordination/planning, and youth enrichment structure and presentation, ensuring safe, impactful and positive experiences for all engaged in 100 Days of Peace Camp activities.



### ***Outreach to engage youth and young adults exposed to and/or at heightened risk for involvement in gun violence***

All six of the community-based organizations offered enhanced outreach. Additional outreach workers and other strategic efforts led to engagement with more than 400 youth/young adults at greater risk for involvement in gun violence.

Example outreach activities include the following:

- Week-long outreach with 48 youth detained at the Patricia Clark Justice Center that led to additional programming with the Center.
- Case coordination for 8 people incarcerated that included court involvement, conflict mediation, resource navigation, and skills development.
- Relentless engagement, described previously, with more than 119 youth as part of conflict reduction/remediation, hot spot mapping, safe passages, and other community safety work.
- Life skills classes intertwined with Alive and Free curriculum for 147 youth and young adults identified through shelters and outreach engagement.
- A youth-led development of a comprehensive, “Voices of Brilliance” debate program curriculum that engaged 27 youth and young adults who are juvenile legal system involved and gun violence impacted - it includes modules on leadership development, conflict resolution, and strategies for addressing gun violence and systemic issues in their communities.





- Peace Camps for 38 group, clique, or gang-involved youth and young adults.
- Buffalo Soldiers Camp for 60 young people at heightened risk of involvement in gun violence.

### **Expanded Summer Programming**

#### **Peace Camps:**

A signature activity of 100 Days of Peace was the Peace Camps put on by Urban Family and Community Passageways. The Peace Camps were held over two weekends and strategically engaged youth and young adults most directly at risk for being involved in/impacted by gun violence.

Urban Family reported the following outcomes:

- The 100 Days of Peace collaboration successfully brought together 60 individuals from eight different gang sets (subgroups within larger gangs)— which helped lay the foundation for ongoing relationships and the trust needed for participation in Peace Camps.
- 60 gang-involved individuals participated in safe small group sessions to voice and process their experiences and express their needs.
- Of these 60 individuals engaged, 36 young men attended two Peace Camps at the Miracle Ranch on the Kitsap Peninsula on November 22-24, 2024, and December 19-21, 2024.
- During Peace Camps, participants experienced “a break from the cycle of violence” and shared that they experienced joy, a safe space for emotional healing, personal growth, social connection, and a sense of purpose.
- Nineteen of the 36 individuals who attended the first Peace Camp completed an anonymous survey administered by Urban Family staff.
  - The 19 individuals who shared information:
    - Identified as male and ranged in age from 14-18 years of age (with only one age 19-24 years)
  - Identified factors they thought contributed to gun violence
    - The most frequently identified contributors were peer pressure, a lack of family support, and no positive influences.

The respondents indicated that steps to end gun violence should include:

- Community programs (26%)
- Better opportunities (24%)
- More things to do (22%)
- Safer communities (15%).

Since returning home from Peace Camps all 36 have remained engaged in internships or job training, mentorship, and weekly community dinners where they continue to build new relationships.



### The Y (YMCA) Day Camp

The Y Violence Prevention Department provided 60 youth and young adults the opportunity to attend an outdoor equestrian day camp. There, participants learned practical trade skills, socializing skills, and a safe outdoor space for eight hours. A young adult participant shared, "The life skills camp has helped me a lot. It taught me how to work in teams, talk in groups, and handle real-life situations. I'm usually really shy, but this program helped me feel more confident. I've learned a lot and I'm really grateful for the experience."



### Boys and Girls Clubs of King County

100 Days of Peace funds helped to expand outreach and safe passage services for youth and young adults most impacted by gun violence in the White Center community, including the re-launch of the Teen Center at the Southwest Boys & Girls Club White Center location. Staff from the White Center community who share lived experiences with the youth were able to engage them near neighborhood schools and hot spots for violence. Their outreach fostered trust, respect, and a belief by youth that staff cared about them. Being able to connect them to the Teen Center and engage them in pro-social activities kept them both physically and mentally safe.





### Freedom Project's "Voices of Brilliance"

Voices of Brilliance is a debate program co-developed and co-led by youth to improve critical thinking, communication, and conflict resolution skills in their community. The program works with BIPOC youth and young adults who are system-involved, juvenile justice-involved, or impacted by gun violence who are engaged through locations in and around Renton Transit Center, Renton High School, and nearby neighborhoods, with an emphasis on engaging those involved in groups or cliques. With the support of 100 Days of Peace, Voices of Brilliance collaborated with youth leadership to create a comprehensive youth-informed and culturally attuned curriculum with modules on leadership development, conflict resolution, and strategies for addressing gun violence and systemic issues in their communities. Through debate, youth have the opportunity to express their perspectives on real-life subjects that impact their lives, learning how to engage in discussions with confidence and respect. By incorporating de-escalation and trauma-informed communication, the curriculum helps them navigate challenging conversations and situations they find themselves in, while effectively managing emotions.

Freedom project also weaves in trauma-informed circles to provide a deeper understanding of personal experiences and strategies to cope with stress and adversity and a life skills component to translate debate learnings into everyday situations, supporting informed decision-making, personal goal setting, and more positive engagement within their communities. A participant in November shared, "being here and involved help me find myself and who I really am and what I want to do...I know a lot of people struggle with not feeling heard or listened to, but here you're heard and listened to - and let me say that again - we are heard and listened to - we have a voice here." Another shared that earning the "Voices of Brilliance completion certificate "meant more than a high school diploma" to them after receiving Freedom Project's mentorship to push through.





### **Enhanced Critical Incident Response and Community Safety Activities**

Critical Incident Response occurred throughout King County, including Renton, Southeast Seattle, Tukwila, White Center, and Seattle. Community Safety activities were preventative, included providing visible safety presence, and were responsive to communities experiencing gun violence.

*“Because we responded [to the shooting] and supported the youth, we were able to eventually relocate some of the youth and de-escalate any potential violence that could have occurred after the initial shooting. This would also be considered safe passage.”*  
- Staff from Partner Organization

Four of the community-based organizations provided critical incident response and conflict mediation:

- Urban Family Freedom Project
- Community Passageways
- The Y (YMCA)
- Freedom Project

Critical incident response workers used the following strategies:

- **Safety Patrols** and **Safe Passage** at community events and during high traffic times and in areas deemed unsafe. Workers were available to accompany people as they traveled to and from public places or when conflict was anticipated.

Examples:

- Critical incident response professionals provided safety patrols and safe passage during the Chinatown Seafair Parade where they de-escalated two incidents, which might otherwise have resulted in violence.



- Supported an October 17th Gun Violence Awareness Event, where conflict mediation was needed.
- Safe passage was also provided to an apartment complex and middle school in response to active threats.
- **Conflict/Beef Mapping** to track issues and identify key individuals involved in or affected by gang activity, noting community dynamics influencing their behaviors and relationships. Knowing these connections is key for community interventions that place young people in the same area. Beef/conflict mapping supported 100 Days of Peace partners in planning for navigating the dynamics of Peace Camp attendees and identifying more participants for outreach, safety patrols, and enrollment in services.

Examples:

- Community Passageway leaders engaged eight of the most influential gang leaders, beginning to cultivate buy-in from other gang-involved individuals to participate in future events and services.
- Freedom Project outreach workers engaged over 25 youth in one community to understand where best to focus a safety presence and engage community in conversation about safety.
- **Hot Spot remediation** involved physical presence and conversations with youth and young adults in areas known to have active conflict and allows for workers to engage individuals, discourage gun carrying or retaliation, promote opportunities and programs, or discuss individual and community safety needs.

Examples:

- Freedom Project located outreach workers to engage youth in Renton Transit Center and school hot spots to support safety.
- Safety Patrol Outreach worker in August de-escalated a fight that broke out while tabling at an event - the staff member used conflict mediation skills to de-escalate the youth that he knew and worked with security and law enforcement to safely escort all participants to their vehicles.
- **Strategic Engagement** through the 100 Days of Peace safety pop-ups, safety patrols, relentless engagement, beef mapping, and trust-building efforts with gang leaders, community partners successfully brought together members from eight different gang sets.

Examples:

- Service providers met separately with groups to avoid the risk of conflict in safe spaces where they could listen to experiences and concerns.
- During these gatherings, participants completed surveys to share their perspectives on safety and their needs to support transitions away from a lifestyle involving gun violence. Among other questions, individuals were asked:
  - a) what would make them feel safer?
  - b) who do they trust?
  - c) how do they support each other?



Three key themes emerged:

- Youth and young adults want to live in safety. They do not want to live a life defined by gun violence. They want access to basic resources, and they want to be part of a community where people care for each other.
- They primarily trust family members and Community Violence Intervention (Community Passageways) staff.
- They support each other through emotional connection (e.g. checking in and encouragement) and practical assistance (e.g. support with resources and looking out for each other's safety)

100 Days of Peace service providers will use this information to help guide services and program development.

### **Community safety pop-up events**

As part of 100 Days of Peace community partners developed and implemented **36 pop-up community safety and care events** over the summer and fall reaching an estimated **1,800 community members**.

Events included a basketball tournament, a debate event, community meals, backpack and basic needs supports, gun violence prevention awareness-raising events, and gun lockbox giveaways. Many events were youth-driven and led, supporting their agency and connections while expanding outreach to a broader community. As one organization explained, "By having 11 outreach workers at our Pop-Up Community Safety Events, we significantly increased our presence in the community, in which we gained trust and strengthened relationships with community and the youth. Our outreach team engaged directly with community members, offering support, resources, and information about our programs, while also gathering feedback to better align our services with community needs. We also handed out over 200 gun lock boxes. Through this enhanced engagement, we were able to promote safety and well-being, deter potential conflicts, and expand our overall reach and impact in the community."

Events occurred in the following locations:

- Aki Kurose Middle School
- Alki Beach, West Seattle
- Barnett Park
- Burien & Burien Transit Center
- Garfield Highschool
- King County Fire station #2
- Matt Griffin YMCA
- Muckleshoot Plaza, Seattle
- Seahawks Stadium
- Patricia Clark Justice Center
- Rainer Beach Community Center
- Redmond
- Renton Football Stadium
- Todd Beamer High School
- Town Square Park, Federal Way
- South & Southeast Seattle
- Seattle Central District

### **Connection to resources**

Another core element of the 100 Days of Peace was ensuring that young people had greater access to resources.



While all partner organizations connected young adults and community members with urgently needed resources and supports using a variety of approaches, four organizations included **case management** services by hiring and/or connecting youth to existing case managers to provide longer-term support and case coordination services. Providers reported that 64 youth and young adults were connected to case management through the 100 Days of Peace.

Organizations report case management activities associated with 100 Days of Peace supported:

- Temporary shelter and/or transitioning to permanent housing (n=8)
- Training and education (n=67)
- Employment (n=15)

### **In total community organizations reported:**

- 253 youth/young adults were referred to a community violence intervention or prevention program within five of the six organizations with nearly half (n=123) becoming enrolled.
- 43 families were also referred for continued support and programming with those organizations.

### **Connection to resources**

The 100 Days of Peace work was founded on the existing commitment of community organizations actively engaged in preventing gun violence in their communities. Service providers reported that in several cases, the relationships they formed through outreach, critical incident responses, and community safety pop-up events led to referral and enrollment of youth and young adults into ongoing community violence intervention and prevention programs within 100 Days of Peace organizations.

The commitment continues beyond the 100 Days of Peace and important next steps were highlighted within the community-authored joint narrative report excerpts below.

*Figure 1. Excerpt From the 100 Days of Peace Community-Authored Joint Narrative*

*“A young person, Jones (name changed for privacy), first met Freedom Project during a 100 Days of Peace community event. At the time, Jones, who had been deeply affected by gang violence, hesitated to participate. Through ongoing outreach, meaningful conversations, and a supportive environment, Freedom Project staff connected him to the organization’s gun violence prevention program. Jones became involved in the Voices of Brilliance program, where he shared his story and contributed ideas to address community violence. This experience gave him access to mentorship, a renewed sense of direction, and a platform to turn his experiences into actionable steps for creating change. This connection marked a significant turning point in Jones’ life, allowing him to engage with his community in a constructive way.*

*- Staff from Partner Organization*



## WHAT'S NEXT

Connectedness and building community power can transform vicious cycles of intergenerational trauma into virtuous cycles of intergenerational thriving.

**Transforming systems is ultimately about transforming relationships** - among people who shape those systems. To do this, we must:

1. **See the larger system:** Understand the interconnected nature of challenges and opportunities to produce collective efficacy.
2. **Foster reflection and generative conversations:** Create spaces where individuals can pause, seek to understand differing viewpoints, and build trust.
3. **Shift from reactive problem-solving to co-creating the future we want:** Encouraging long-term visions that inspire collective action.

Most large-scale social challenges—such as violence, loneliness, homelessness, and environmental degradation—are complex. Just as in the Communities of Opportunity approach where processes and results develop dynamically when community builds power, we believe that many of the necessary resources and innovations already exist within the community; they simply need to be recognized, aligned, and mobilized.

With community-driven trust, curiosity, learning, and a commitment to a shared vision we can build safe, thriving communities.



## HARBORVIEW MEDICAL CENTER VIOLENCE PREVENTION & INTERVENTION PROGRAM

The 100 Days of Action allowed Harborview to provide direct emergency victim supports for **181 survivors** impacted by gun violence.

Harborview Medical Center's (HMC) 100 Days of Action support occurred between July and December 2024, during which 197 firearm-injury patients were seen. During this time HMC's Violence Intervention & Prevention Program (VIPP) team rapidly developed processes to provide direct, emergency short-term resources for families awaiting victim support services awards. In total, 181 patients seen between July and December (92%) received direct resources as they navigated the trauma of gun violence injury (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Number of Firearm Injury Patients Who Received Emergency Support Through Harborview Medical Center's Partnership in 100 Days of Action.



Data source: Monthly 100 days reports provided by Harborview Medical Center's Hospital-Based Intervention Program

Staff shared that the fall season, especially November, was busier and saw more firearm victims than in past years, whereas December saw a more expected seasonal decline in total patients. Harborview's VIPP team emphasized, that despite seasonal variance, there is a continued need to support all patients with short-term emergency resources. Prior to 100 Days funding, they did not receive direct patient and family support funds through King County and relied only on a Washington State Department of Commerce grant. They also highlighted the challenge of having limited direct resources for those over the age of 24 with few agencies serving adult survivors of gun violence trauma despite Harborview's average patient age being around 28 years old. 100 Days funding helped bridge these gaps.

The average amount of support per patient was the equivalent of \$280.92 (with a range of \$72 -554 per person/month). The cases with higher amounts of support most often included transportation costs or additional intensive therapy.



The most frequent types of support provided were:

- Hospital meal voucher
- Resources to meet daily needs including gift cards, temporary phones, self-care bags, and clothing
- Transportation and temporary housing for medical appointments and/or safe locations
- Utility support and rental assistance
- Uncovered medical equipment needed for survivors with extreme injuries

Harborview's program staff noted that in September they had numerous patients with extremity injuries that affected their ability to perform activities of daily living and were able to support people with grocery delivery, covering utility bills, and other interim supports. Multiple patients received assistance for themselves and their families with grocery cards to help cover basic needs during recovery when they were unable to work, as well as transportation to treatment services to support full recovery. Other patients received financial assistance to cover trauma therapy services as well as basic needs.

Harborview staff noted that providing rental support can be a challenge if the rental company will not accept available forms of payment (check or charge) or require the use of their renters' portal system. They shared that assisting families and patients with outstanding utility bills (including water, electricity, gas, garbage, Wi-Fi, and phone) reduced their financial stress and in many cases overall stress.

Staff reported community members needed:

- Flexible financial assistance to help with housing relocation and other supports, and
- Interpretation services to enable more agencies to serve more community members in language.

## RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS

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During the 100 Days of Action Initiative, public awareness efforts focused on increasing public understanding of Community Violence Intervention (CVI) practices, the critical importance of firearm safety, and promoting a sense of community responsibility by encouraging positive, proactive action. The Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention (ROGVP) team utilized a variety of communication platforms to amplify messages and inspire individuals to envision a future free from gun violence.

Key themes covered throughout the campaign included education on CVI strategies, the significance of safe firearm storage, and the role of Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs) in preventing gun violence. The initiative also highlighted local community violence intervention efforts in King County, focusing on the dedicated frontline workers who implement these interventions. In addition, it provided information on available community and county resources and shared actionable steps King County residents can take to enhance safety and prevent violence in their own communities.

To maximize outreach and ensure the message reached a broad and diverse audience, the Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention took a multi-channel approach during the 100 Days of Action Initiative. Communications channels included social media platforms such as Instagram, Instagram Stories, Facebook, and X (formerly Twitter), along with traditional media outlets such as local news stations, public radio, and blog posts. Video content and broadcasts on King County TV, Converge Media, and banner placement on King County Metro buses, further contributed to raising public awareness and engagement. The 100 Days of Action public awareness component garnered over 13 earned media placements in KUOW, Fox 13, PBS Cascades, Seattle Times Editorial Board, King 5, The Urbanist, and more.

### Public awareness activities included:

- 100 Days of Action featured for the special week-long edition of “Day with Trae” at the Paramount Theatre
  - Episode One: [Ed Prince, Dow Constantine, Mayor Bruce Harrell, Marisol Sanchez Best](#)
  - Episode Two: [Eleuthera Lisch & Jamoni Owens](#)
  - Episode Three: [Mark Rivers & Shantel Patu](#)
  - Episode Four: [Paul Carter III, Tarrell Harrison Jr Chevonna Gaylor](#)
  - Episode Five: [Dylan O'Connor, Karyn Brownson, Deaunte Damper](#)
- Four public awareness videos produced by Converge Media to be used over the next three to five years
- Expansion of bus banner campaign through King County Metro
- Social media posts shared with over 33K users since July 10, 2024
- “Day in the Life of a Violence Interrupter” [comic](#) that generated over 5.7K impressions, national attention, and amplification on national Community Violence Intervention accounts
- Three published blog posts published in English and Spanish on Public Health – Seattle & King County’s Public Health Insider blog:
  - [Gun violence is a public health crisis, and we’re taking action in King County](#)

- [100 Days of Action: Gun lockbox giveaway event September 26 with Seattle Seahawks](#)
- [“I got you”: the work of a Violence Interrupter](#)
- The Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention provided an overview and presented Converge Media content to 1,000 national partners at the 11th Annual Cities United Conference co-hosted by the City of Seattle



## FIREARM SAFETY EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTION

To promote responsible gun ownership during the 100 Days of Action Initiative, the Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention team, in collaboration with the King County Lock-It-Up program and partner organizations, distributed firearm safety equipment and educational materials throughout King County. 5,000 firearm lockboxes were distributed throughout the initiative to encourage firearm owners to securely store their firearms to reduce the risk of accidental injuries or misuse.

The distribution was carried out through a variety of community events, including a large distribution event held at Lumen Field in partnership with the Seattle Seahawks Community team, a community backpack giveaway hosted by Progress Pushers in West Seattle, a community resource event hosted by Progress Pushers in Federal Way, a Veterans Day Parade in Auburn, and a holiday market in West Seattle. All events attracted diverse audiences and supported the Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention in raising awareness about the importance of secure firearm storage and responsible gun ownership.



At each distribution event, recipients voluntarily provided their ZIP code of residence to help track the reach of gun lockboxes that were distributed. The subset of recipients (n=1263) who provided their ZIP codes are mapped below. The three most frequent neighborhoods represented by the ZIP codes shared by lockbox recipients were Auburn/Lakeland area (n=116), Southeast Seattle (n=112), and West Seattle (n=45).

Recognizing that some families and individuals, particularly in areas like South King County and South Seattle, might not be able to participate in these larger events as most took place during the workday, Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention staff worked closely with community partners to distribute lockboxes directly to these populations. This focused approach ensured that firearm safety equipment was accessible to as many people as possible, especially those who may face barriers to attending public events.

To gauge the motivations among people who picked up the firearm safety equipment, the Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention staff developed the 'Gun Lockbox Distribution Survey', an anonymous, voluntary paper survey. This survey was distributed at four firearm equipment distribution events and completed by attendees who chose to participate. The team collected data from 331 respondents.



*“Responsible gun ownership means that unauthorized people aren’t able to access firearms which reduces community violence.”  
- Firearm Lockbox Recipient*

About half (50%) of respondents lived with a significant other, partner, or spouse and 43% lived with children (Appendix A Table A1), and 20% lived alone. Respondents wanted the gun safety lockbox to safely store existing guns and ammunition (67%), and/or to keep children and youth safe from injury (59%; Figure 3). A quarter of respondents reported they had no prior safety device (Appendix A Table A1).

Most (66%) respondents reported their lockbox would be used to store existing guns. Around one-third (28%) planned to obtain and store a gun and/or ammunition in the future.

Survey respondents reported responsible gun ownership meant restricting access, educating people, and/or using firearms purposefully (e.g. self-defense). Roughly a third responded that protecting the safety of others, family members, children, and community members is important (e.g. “keeping the community safe with tools like this” and “keep guns away from kids”). Multiple respondents mentioned education, teaching children or others, and ensuring people take gun safety classes (one noted “being educated” and another “Learning correct use and laws of Washington state”). Others noted that limiting firearm use to “only when necessary” is key. One respondent volunteered “only using it when absolutely life depends on it”; another noted “use only for self-defense.”



## COMMUNITY AND KEY PARTNER ENGAGEMENT

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The community engagement component of the 100 Days of Action Initiative focused on building relationships and trust within underserved communities in King County experiencing an increase in gun violence, strengthening partnerships with local organizations and municipal partners, distributing information on resources, and gathering perspectives on firearm-related violence in communities across the county.

### Community engagement activities include:

- Strategic engagement with directly impacted communities including:
  - East African Community in South Seattle and South King County
  - LGBTQIA+
  - Veterans
- Increased engagement with municipal leaders and service providers in City of Auburn, City of Renton, and City of Federal Way
- Facilitated three service provider network development convenings in the City of Burien with 10 community organizations and city leaders
- Increased collaboration with King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office and law enforcement partners
- Developed and distributed a county-wide anonymous survey. The survey:
  - was translated into nine languages (English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Somali, Russian, Amharic, Marshallese, and Samoan)
  - included eighteen questions focused on perceptions of gun violence and public safety in neighborhoods/ZIP codes
  - Was distributed between October 5, 2024, and December 20, 2024
- Expanded [Community Resource Guide](#) to include emergency contacts/hotlines, new service providers, and county and community resources and care available for those experiencing the impacts of gun violence
- Finalized plans for a Community Advisory group which will include survivors of gun violence, young people and elders directly impacted by gun violence

### Community Survey of Gun Violence Perspectives

To gain a better understanding of public opinion on safety, the Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention team distributed an online, anonymous, voluntary survey that was translated into nine languages (English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Somali, Russian, Amharic, Marshallese, and Samoan) and administered county-wide via an electronic link and QR code. The survey, distributed from October 5 to December 20, 2024, included 18 questions focused on perceptions of gun violence and public safety (See Appendix C to review the survey questions). The data collected helped gauge the community's concerns and awareness of local efforts. This laid the groundwork for engaging communities by connecting focused, effective solutions to their beliefs and concerns.

Partners such as Public Health – Seattle & King County (PHSKC), direct service organizations, and community leaders, including select city council members, helped distribute the survey and

encourage participation within their communities. These partners utilized many outlets to distribute the survey, including outreach to community partners, municipal partners, health boards, local advocacy groups, University of Washington, residential apartments, small businesses, and more to help ensure that diverse community members knew of it. Findings with low numbers (between 1 and 5) have been suppressed to protect confidentiality. Below is a summary of survey findings:

### Survey Respondents were more likely to live in South King County or Seattle

Between October 5 and December 20, 2024 (slightly over 10 weeks), 844 people completed the survey. This survey was carried out via convenience sampling and is not generalizable to King County’s population. Therefore, certain groups may be over-, or under-represented relative to their composition in the general King County adult population as shown in Table 1. Residents from East and South regions are under-represented while those from Seattle are over-represented. White residents and female residents are over-represented, while younger adults 18-24 years in age, Asian, and Hispanic respondents are under-represented.

| Table 1<br>Demographics of Gun Violence Perspectives Community Survey respondents compared to King County adults |        |                  |
|--|--------|------------------|
| Demographics   | Survey | King County 2023 |
| Sample/population count  | 844    | 2.27 million     |
| Age  |        |                  |
| <18  | 0.7%   | NA               |
| 18-24  | 3.9%   | 10.4%            |
| 25-44  | 39.5%  | 41.9%            |
| 45-64  | 37.7%  | 29.8%            |
| 65+  | 18.2%  | 17.8%            |
| Gender   |        |                  |
| Female   | 65.1%  | 50.0%            |
| Male   | 25.7%  | 50.0%            |
| LGBTQ  | 9.2%   | NA               |
| Race/ethnicity   |        |                  |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native (AIAN)  | 0.8%   | 0.5%             |
| Asian  | 8.3%   | 21.5%            |
| Black  | 6.1%   | 6.3%             |
| Hispanic   | 5.3%   | 9.6%             |
| Middle Eastern/North African   | 0.6%   | NA               |
| Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (NHPI)  | 0.5%   | 0.8%             |
| White  | 66.9%  | 55.7%            |
| Multiracial  | 11.6%  | 5.5%             |
| King County Region   |        |                  |
| East   | 16.2%  | 24.9%            |
| South  | 26.4%  | 35.5%            |
| Seattle  | 47.0%  | 33.5%            |
| North  | 10.4%  | 6.0%             |

Source: population data are from the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM), Forecasting Division, July 2024. Estimations may change in the future.

Note: For survey respondents, the percentages are for those who provided an answer to each of the questions. The current King County population data do not include data on sexual orientation. Currently, “Middle Eastern/North African” category is not included in the population data. While the survey was designed for and disseminated to adults, a very small number of youth responses were received.



Nearly half (49%) of the respondents reported feeling somewhat safe or safe from gun violence in their neighborhood. While 24% of survey respondents reported feeling unsafe from gun violence in their neighborhood, over two-thirds (66%) were concerned about violence involving firearms in greater King County, with over one-third very concerned.

The most prevalent firearm-related safety concerns respondents had in their neighborhoods were as follows (Appendix Table A3):

- Youth public violence (45%)
- Bystander or random violence (41%)
- Adult public violence (39%)
- Mass shootings (31%)
- Shootings involving law enforcement (26%)
- Family/relationship violence (26%)

Fifty-nine respondents (7%) also specified 'other' gun violence concerns in their neighborhoods including being shot randomly via drive-by, highway shooting, or in a robbery; being shot by law enforcement; guns and violence in schools; and transphobia-motivated violence.

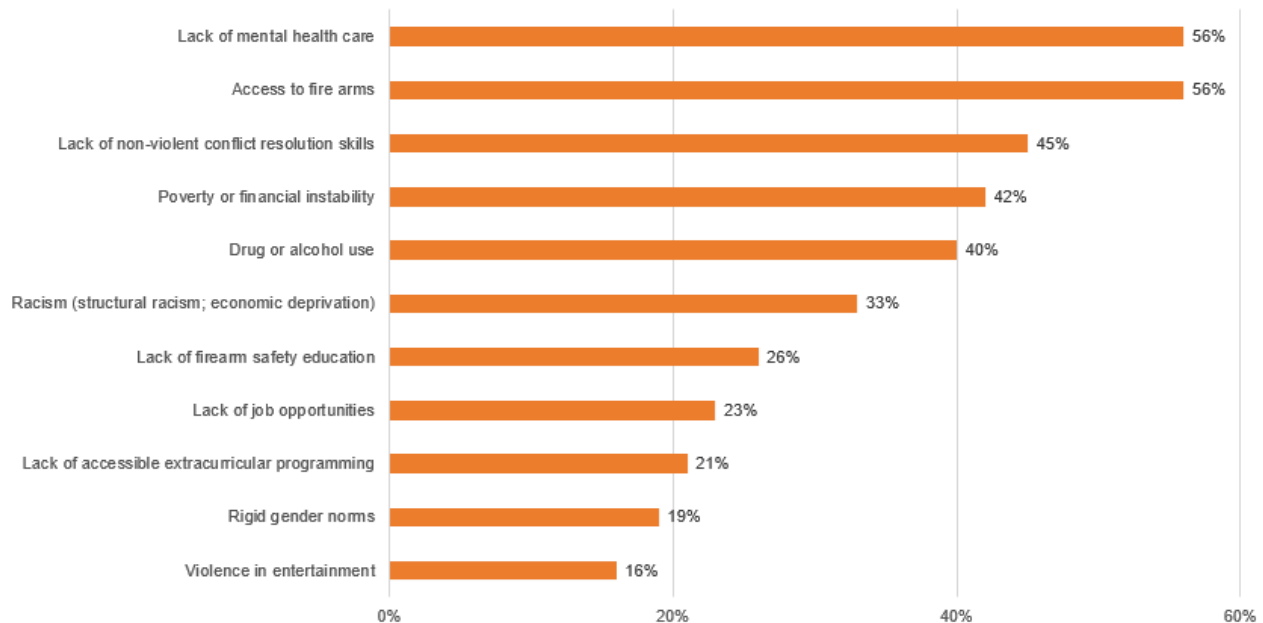
Less than one-fifth (16%) of respondents reported having a firearm, and just over one-fifth (21%) were thinking about getting a firearm/gun (Appendix Table A5). The most common reasons motivating people to have or consider having a firearm were self-defense and safety concerns (Appendix Table A95).

### Respondents most often identified the causes of gun violence as access to firearms and/or a lack of mental health services

Survey respondents were asked, “What do you believe are the main causes of violence involving firearms/guns in King County?” Respondents could select all that apply. More than half of respondents attributed gun violence to easy access to firearms and the lack of mental health services and supports (Figure 3). Between 42-45% offered that a lack of nonviolent conflict resolution skills and financial instability or poverty contribute to or cause gun violence.

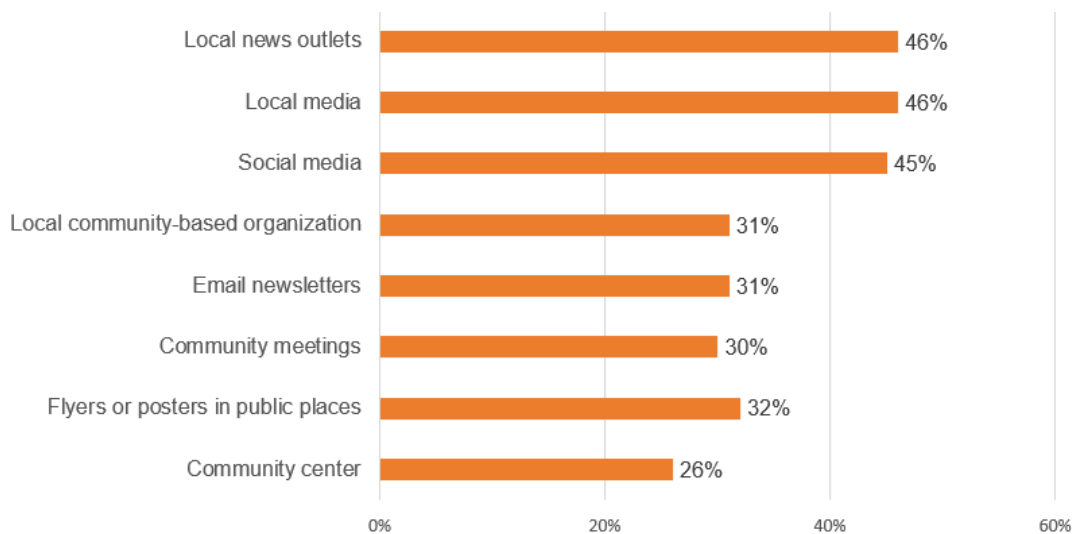


Figure 3. Survey Respondents' Perspectives on the Main Causes of Violence Involving Firearms/ Guns in King County



When asked, “How would you prefer to receive information about firearms/ gun violence prevention and community safety efforts?,” nearly half of the respondents preferred getting information about community safety and gun violence reduction work through local news media and/or social media (Figure 4). One-third noted getting information from a local community-based organization, community meetings, and/or flyers or posters hung in public areas. The 63 respondents (7%) who specified other preferences highlighted a multiple media and language approach, including in-language flyers that can be downloaded and hung in community-centered spaces.

Figure 4. Survey Respondents' Preferences for Staying Informed about Firearm Violence Prevention and Community Safety Efforts in King County



Note: Respondents could choose multiple options.



## PROVIDER PORTAL ACCESS

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During the 100 Days of Action Initiative, members from the Public Health – Seattle & King County team explored the feasibility of either developing a new system or leveraging an existing provider portal and resource database to provide community organizations with access to real-time information on resources for those affected by gun violence. To ensure the portal effectively meets the needs of community partners, the initiative engaged with both the State of Washington and King County Departments to explore existing provider portals and identify best practices. Collaborating closely with the Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) and its Children, Youth, and Young Adults Division (CYAD), the team reviewed a landscape analysis of resource databases and provider portals in King County that CCYAD has developed over the past five years. This review highlighted key insights into the resources available, information gaps, and opportunities for improvement.

Moving forward, the Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention will look for opportunities to partner with the Department of Community and Human Services and King County Information Technology to leverage and build upon one of the many existing resource databases in King County identified through the landscape analysis to share gun violence response resources. This coordinated effort will ensure that community organizations have the tools and information necessary to support individuals and families affected by gun violence in King County.

## JOINT LEGISLATIVE AGENDA AND BUDGET PRIORITIES

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The final component of the 100 Days of Action Initiative included creating a joint local and state policy agenda focused on supporting public safety efforts and advancing sensible gun safety legislation. To inform this agenda, staff from Public Health – Seattle & King County and Government Relations drew from a range of key sources, including an Executive Leadership Advisory Group meeting held on July 10, 2024, a Child Mortality Review on homicides held on August 14, 2024, the preliminary state legislative agenda from the Alliance for Gun Responsibility, and best practices in gun violence prevention. The development of this policy agenda was driven by a collaborative approach that solicited input from a diverse group of partners, including municipal leaders from the City of Seattle, State of Washington, and national and local advocacy organizations dedicated to gun violence prevention.

Through strategic engagement with local, state, and national partners, the team worked to refine legislative and budget priorities for both local and state government action. The process involved gathering feedback from national partners such as the Community Justice Action Fund and Everytown for Gun Safety, and local partners including the UW Firearm Injury & Policy Research and the Alliance for Gun Responsibility. Additionally, local and state government leadership provided critical feedback to ensure alignment with broader public safety goals. This collaborative effort resulted in the development of robust local and state legislative agendas that are grounded in evidence-based practices and are positioned to drive meaningful progress.



**Proposed state legislative & budget priorities included:**

- Establish a permit to purchase firearms
- Reduce theft of firearms from vehicles
- Medicaid reimbursement for hospital-based violence intervention programs
- Increase funding sources for community violence intervention programs
- Change state law to allow local control of local firearm policy
- Prohibit bulk firearms purchases
- Expand access to mental health services for youth and adults
- Improve quality of and access to statewide gun violence data

## LESSONS LEARNED

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The 100 Days of Action Initiative was an intensive effort to address the rise in gun violence often seen in King County during the summer months. The initiative expanded community programs for young people and families, provided additional resources for victims of firearm violence, and raised awareness of local community violence intervention efforts, safe storage practices, and Emergency Protection Orders. It also engaged directly impacted communities and aligned government agencies around key policy agendas. Reflecting on the accomplishments of this initiative, below are lessons learned to guide and strengthen our future gun violence prevention efforts.

### *Community Violence Intervention Service Expansion*

A key lesson learned from the 100 Days of Action Initiative is the critical need for consistent and sustained funding for community violence intervention services provided through local partners. The community organizations played a pivotal role in supporting families and young people directly impacted by gun violence during the 100 Days of Peace and 100 Days of Action initiatives. The impact of their efforts could be strengthened with dedicated, year-round funding. These community partners are on the frontlines, building trust and offering needed support and services, but without stable resources, their ability to respond to needs and prevent violence over time remains limited and uncertain. Long-term, sustained funding would provide financial security for these organizations to provide continuous, critical services that break cycles of violence and support healing in the community.

### *Victim Support Services*

Another valuable lesson was the ongoing need for victim support services, as reported by the Harborview Medical Center Violence Intervention & Prevention Program staff. While funding for victim support services supported several families, there remains a significant gap in providing adequate support for victims of violence year-round.

### *Data Sharing*

Secured data sharing between government entities is necessary for the effective deployment of resources and coordination of interventions. Access to accurate, timely data allows agencies to collaborate more efficiently, ensuring that resources are allocated where they are needed most and reducing the chance of duplicative efforts. This approach strengthens the collective impact of gun violence reduction efforts.

### *Real-time Data Access*

Having up-to-date firearm incident data could significantly improve the ability to respond quickly and more effectively, particularly in areas where gun violence is prevalent. Timely data would allow community organizations to better allocate resources and focus interventions where they are needed most.

### *Community Engagement*

Underserved and underrepresented communities experiencing spikes in gun violence are eager to collaborate on tailored solutions that address their unique needs. Communities such as the East African community and the Veteran's community have demonstrated a strong willingness to engage in partnerships and actively participate in efforts to reduce the violence they are experiencing.

### *Safe Firearm Storage*

Creating access points for safe firearm storage provided an opportunity to engage with a wider range of residents across King County. Safe firearm equipment distribution events promote responsible gun ownership while also opening the door for partnerships with law enforcement partners and communities who may not have been part of collaboration efforts previously.

## NEXT STEPS

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### *Immediate next steps*

The 100 Days of Action Initiative laid the foundation for the Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention, King County Executive Office, and King County Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget to develop a strategic plan that guides the future of the ROGVP work. This process will begin in Q1 2025.

### *Recommended next steps contingent on funding and resources*

Building on the lessons learned during the 100 Days of Action initiative, the following recommended next steps outline examples of potential actions, contingent on available funding and resources.

- Identify funds to sustain the work of the Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention and the work of community partners using data to increase the effectiveness of King County's community-led efforts to reduce gun violence
- Expand coordination, and data sharing and establish referral pathways to services for highest risk individuals by local law enforcement agencies, criminal legal partners, and courts
- Engage national expert advisor(s) to provide technical assistance to design and support the implementation of a comprehensive evidence-based Group/Gun Violence Reduction Strategy
- Implement Community Violence Intervention (CVI) Training and Well-being Academy to strengthen workforce training and professional development for frontline staff and managers
- Work with East African, Latinx, and LGBTQIA+ community service providers to identify "credible messengers" and establish tailored plans to implement culturally relevant CVI services within each community
- Implement a pilot program with Veterans Association and community partners to mentor youth and young adults at highest risk for gun violence involvement
- Continue developing a strategy to leverage an existing provider portal/resource database that provides community organizations with access to up-to-date information on resources for those affected by gun violence

## REPORT CONTACT

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# APPENDICES



## APPENDIX A. SURVEY DATA

Table A1. RESULTS: Gun Lockbox Distribution Survey

|   | Total<br>(334 surveys) |       | Seahawks<br>Event<br>(September)<br>177 surveys |       | Federal Way<br>Event<br>(October)<br>14 surveys |       | Veterans Event<br>(November)<br>113 surveys |       | Jet City Event<br>(December)<br>30 surveys |       |
|---|------------------------|-------|---|-------|---|-------|---|-------|--|-------|
|   | percent                | count | percent   | count | percent   | count | percent                                     | count | percent                                    | count |
| <b>I'm picking up this lockbox today... (Mark all that apply)</b>                 |                        |       |   |       |   |       |   |       |  |       |
| To practice secure storage of guns, ammunition                                    | 66.5%                  | 222   | 64.4%   | 114   | 85.7%   | 12    | 70.8%                                       | 80    | 53.3%                                      | 16    |
| To keep kids safe from injury   | 59.3%                  | 198   | 58.8%   | 104   | 85.7%   | 12    | 60.2%                                       | 68    | 46.7%                                      | 14    |
| To keep other adults from accessing guns, ammunition                              | 35.6%                  | 119   | 39%   | 69    | 50%   | 7     | 27.4%                                       | 31    | 40%  | 12    |
| To protect guns from being stolen   | 48.8%                  | 163   | 50.8%   | 90    | 71.4%   | 10    | 45.1%                                       | 51    | 40%  | 12    |
| To store other valuables (not guns)   | 24.0%                  | 80    | 19.2%   | 34    | 28.6%   | 4     | 23.9%                                       | 27    | 50%  | 15    |
| To give to someone else   | 22.8%                  | 76    | 29.4%   | 52    | 14.3%   | 2     | 10.6%                                       | 12    | 33.3%                                      | 10    |
| To store medication   | 9.3%                   | 31    | 7.3%  | 13    | 14.3%   | 2     | 9.7%  | 11    | 16.7%                                      | 5     |
| Because it was free/convenient  | 21.6%                  | 72    | 21.5%   | 38    | 14.3%   | 2     | 19.5%                                       | 22    | 33.3%                                      | 10    |
| Other   | 3.3%                   | 11    | 2.8%  | 5     | 7.1%  | 1     | 1.8%  | 2     | 10%  | 3     |
| <b>What kind of gun safety device to you currently use? (Mark all that apply)</b> |                        |       |   |       |   |       |   |       |  |       |
| None (currently no gun safety device)   | 25.1%                  | 84    | 31.1%   | 55    | 7.1%  | 1     | 14.2%                                       | 16    | 40%  | 12    |
| Gun safe  | 44.9%                  | 150   | 39.5%   | 70    | 50%   | 7     | 59.3%                                       | 67    | 20%  | 6     |
| Gun lockbox   | 20.4%                  | 68    | 19.8%   | 35    | 7.1%  | 1     | 23%   | 26    | 20%  | 6     |
| Cable lock  | 12.3%                  | 41    | 10.7%   | 19    | 14.3%   | 2     | 11.5%                                       | 13    | 23.3%                                      | 7     |
| Trigger lock  | 17.4%                  | 58    | 16.4%   | 29    | 28.6%   | 4     | 21.2%                                       | 24    | 3.3%                                       | 1     |
| Other   | 0.9%                   | 3     | 0%  | 0     | 21.4%   | 3     | 0%  | 0     | 0%   | 0     |
| Unsure/prefer not to answer   | 3.3%                   | 11    | 1.7%  | 3     | 14.3%   | 2     | 2.7%  | 3     | 10%  | 3     |



| <b>This lockbox is for... (Mark all that apply)</b> |       |     |       |     |       |    |       |    |       |    |
|---|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|----|-------|----|-------|----|
| Existing gun  | 65.9% | 220 | 64.4% | 114 | 71.4% | 10 | 71.7% | 81 | 50%   | 15 |
| Existing ammunition                                 | 21.9% | 73  | 20.9% | 37  | 35.7% | 5  | 22.1% | 25 | 20%   | 6  |
| Future gun/ammunition                               | 27.8% | 93  | 28.2% | 50  | 35.7% | 5  | 25.7% | 29 | 30%   | 9  |
| Not applicable                                      | 8.1%  | 27  | 7.9%  | 14  | 14.3% | 2  | 5.3%  | 6  | 16.7% | 5  |
| Unsure/prefer not to answer                         | 6.3%  | 21  | 7.3%  | 13  | 7.1%  | 1  | 2.7%  | 3  | 13.3% | 4  |
| <b>I live with ... (Mark all that apply)</b>        |       |     |       |     |       |    |       |    |       |    |
| Not applicable -- I live alone                      | 19.8% | 66  | 27.1% | 48  | 7.1%  | 1  | 11.5% | 13 | 13.3% | 4  |
| Significant other/ Spouse/Partner                   | 50.3% | 168 | 41.8% | 74  | 71.4% | 10 | 62.8% | 71 | 43.3% | 13 |
| Other adults  | 18.6% | 62  | 18.1% | 32  | 14.3% | 2  | 18.6% | 21 | 23.3% | 7  |
| Children 10 years or younger                        | 21.6% | 72  | 20.9% | 37  | 57.1% | 8  | 18.6% | 21 | 20%   | 6  |
| Children 11-18 years                                | 21.0% | 70  | 16.9% | 30  | 42.9% | 6  | 24.8% | 28 | 20%   | 6  |
| Young adults 19-24 years                            | 4.5%  | 15  | 5.1%  | 9   | 0%    | 0  | 5.3%  | 6  | 0%    | 0  |

Table A2. RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS: Community Survey of Gun Violence Perspectives Between October 9 and December 23, 2024 (11 weeks), 844 people completed an online survey.

|                                   | Respondent percent | Respondent count |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| <b>Language spoken*</b>           |                    |                  |
| English                           | 97.0%              | 816              |
| Spanish                           | 2.0%               | 21               |
| Chinese Traditional               | 0.2%               | 2                |
| Chinese Simple                    | 0.2%               | 2                |
| Russian                           | 0.1%               | 1                |
| Amharic                           | 0.1%               | 1                |
| Marshallese                       | 0.1%               | 1                |
| <b>Region (based on ZIP code)</b> |                    |                  |
| South                             | 20.0%              | 166              |
| Seattle                           | 35.0%              | 295              |
| East                              | 12.0%              | 102              |
| North                             | 8.0%               | 65               |
| Missing                           | 26.0%              | 216              |
| <b>Gender</b>                     |                    |                  |
| Female                            | 51.0%              | 430              |
| Male                              | 20.0%              | 169              |
| Non-binary                        | 5.0%               | 39               |
| Gender queer/fluid                | 2.0%               | 19               |
| Transgender                       | 3.0%               | 23               |
| Agender                           | 1.0%               | 6                |
| Questioning/unsure                | 0.2%               | 2                |
| Missing                           | 24%                | 199              |
| <b>Race/Ethnicity</b>             |                    |                  |
| White                             | 51.0%              | 428              |
| Other/unknown                     | 24.0%              | 204              |
| Multi-racial                      | 9.0%               | 74               |
| Asian                             | 6.0%               | 53               |
| Black                             | 5.0%               | 39               |
| Hispanic                          | 4.0%               | 34               |
| AIAN                              | 0.6%               | 5                |
| Middle Eastern/North African      | 0.5%               | 4                |
| NHPI                              | 0.4%               | 3                |

| Age group (years) <sup>†</sup> |       |     |
|--------------------------------|-------|-----|
| 18 – 24                        | 3.0%  | 26  |
| 25 – 34                        | 14.0% | 119 |
| 35 – 44                        | 17.0% | 146 |
| 45 – 54                        | 18.0% | 155 |
| 55 – 64                        | 12.0% | 98  |
| 65+ years                      | 14.0% | 122 |
| Missing                        | 20.0% | 173 |

\* The survey was made available in nine languages. No respondents completed the survey in Samoan or Vietnamese.

† While the survey was designed for and disseminated to adults, a very small number of youth responses were inadvertently received. These have been included in overall findings and excluded from age breakdown results. Unique IP addresses are assumed to be unique respondents.

Table A3. PERCEPTIONS OF SAFETY & NEIGHBORHOOD VIOLENCE: Community Survey of Gun Violence Perspectives

| How safe from gun violence do you feel in your neighborhood?  | Respondent percent | Respondent count |
|---|--------------------|------------------|
| Not safe at all   | 6%                 | 48               |
| Somewhat safe   | 18%                | 150              |
| Neutral   | 10%                | 82               |
| Somewhat safe   | 26%                | 223              |
| Very safe   | 23%                | 191              |
| Not applicable  | 18%                | 150              |
| <b>What forms of violence involving firearms/guns are you most concerned about in your neighborhood? (Please select up to five)</b> |                    |                  |
|   | Respondent percent | Respondent count |
| Adult public violence   | 39%                | 329              |
| Youth public violence   | 45%                | 381              |
| Family/relationship violence  | 26%                | 222              |
| Suicide/self-inflicted injury   | 20%                | 168              |
| Unintentional/accidental discharge  | 18%                | 156              |
| Organized crime   | 25%                | 211              |
| Mass shootings  | 31%                | 263              |
| Shootings involving law enforcement   | 26%                | 216              |
| Bystander/random violence   | 41%                | 347              |
| Hate/racially motivated violence  | 19%                | 164              |
| Other (please specify)  | 7%                 | 59               |
| <b>How concerned are you about violence involving firearms/guns in King County?</b>   |                    |                  |
|   | Respondent percent | Respondent count |
| Not concerned at all  | 3%                 | 27               |
| Somewhat unconcerned  | 5%                 | 42               |
| Neutral   | 7%                 | 61               |
| Somewhat concerned  | 29%                | 245              |
| Very concerned  | 37%                | 309              |
| Not applicable  | 19%                | 160              |

| <b>What do you believe are the main causes of violence involving firearms/guns in King County? (Please mark all that apply)</b> | <b>Respondent percent</b> | <b>Respondent count</b> |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Access to firearms  | 56%                       | 470                     |
| Lack of mental health care  | 56%                       | 477                     |
| Lack of non-violent conflict resolution skills  | 45%                       | 379                     |
| Poverty or financial instability  | 42%                       | 350                     |
| Drug or alcohol use   | 40%                       | 333                     |
| Racism (structural racism; economic deprivation)  | 33%                       | 276                     |
| Lack of job opportunities   | 23%                       | 197                     |
| Lack of firearm safety education  | 26%                       | 216                     |
| Lack of accessible extracurricular programming  | 21%                       | 176                     |
| Rigid gender norms (masculinity & violence associations)  | 19%                       | 161                     |
| Violence in entertainment   | 16%                       | 138                     |

Table A4. KNOWLEDGE OF, AND PERCEIVED EFFECTIVENESS OF EFFORTS TO ADDRESS REGIONAL GUN VIOLENCE: Community Survey of Gun Violence Perspectives

| <b>Have you heard about the King County Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention and its efforts to address violence involving firearms/guns?</b>   | <b>Respondent percent</b> | <b>Respondent count</b> |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Yes   | 28.0%                     | 237                     |
| No  | 46.0%                     | 391                     |
| Unsure  | 5.0%                      | 45                      |
| Missing   | 20.0%                     | 171                     |
|   |                           |                         |
| <b>How effective do you believe local community-based violence intervention programs are in addressing violence involving firearms/guns in King County? (Examples: community-led conflict interruption, high risk street outreach/youth mentorship, community safety presence/visibility, resource navigation for historically underserved communities, survivor healing support, etc.)</b> | <b>Respondent percent</b> | <b>Respondent count</b> |
| Not effective at all  | 14%                       | 117                     |
| Somewhat ineffective  | 12%                       | 105                     |
| Neutral   | 13%                       | 111                     |
| Somewhat effective  | 21%                       | 179                     |
| Very effective  | 10%                       | 89                      |
| Unsure  | 10%                       | 87                      |
| Not applicable  | 18%                       | 156                     |

Table A5. MOTIVATIONS CONCERNING FIREARM POSSESSION: Community Survey of Gun Violence Perspectives

| <b>Do you own/have access to firearms?</b>  | <b>Respondent percent</b> | <b>Respondent count</b> |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Yes   | 16%                       | 135                     |
| No  | 58%                       | 485                     |
| Prefer not to answer  | 8%                        | 69                      |
| <b>Have you considered owning/having access to firearms?</b>  |                           |                         |
|   | <b>Respondent percent</b> | <b>Respondent count</b> |
| Yes   | 21%                       | 174                     |
| No  | 38%                       | 317                     |
| Prefer not to answer  | 6%                        | 47                      |
| <b>What do you believe motivates people to have firearms or guns?<br/>(This question was asked of those who answered “no” or “prefer not to answer” to previous question on owning/having access to firearms)</b> |                           |                         |
|   | <b>Respondent percent</b> | <b>Respondent count</b> |
| Self defense  | 56%                       | 469                     |
| Safety concerns   | 55%                       | 467                     |
| Shooting sports/hunting   | 43%                       | 366                     |
| Family heirlooms/inheritance  | 22%                       | 190                     |
| Collecting  | 25%                       | 209                     |
|   |                           |                         |
| <b>What motivates you to have firearms/guns?<br/>(this question was asked of those who answered “yes” to owning/having access to firearms)</b>  |                           |                         |
|   | <b>Respondent percent</b> | <b>Respondent count</b> |
| Self defense  | 12%                       | 105                     |
| Safety concerns   | 9%                        | 75                      |
| Shooting sports/hunting   | 8%                        | 64                      |
| Family heirlooms/inheritance  | %                         | 51                      |
| Collecting  | 3%                        | 26                      |





Table A6. COMMUNICATION PREFERENCE: Community Survey of Gun Violence Perspectives

| How would you prefer to receive information about firearm/gun violence prevention and community safety efforts? (Please mark all that apply) | Respondent percent | Respondent count |
|--|--------------------|------------------|
| Local news outlets   | 46%                | 391              |
| Social media   | 45%                | 377              |
| Local media  | 46%                | 391              |
| Flyers or posters in public places   | 32%                | 273              |
| Local community-based organization   | 31%                | 257              |
| Community meetings   | 30%                | 253              |
| Email newsletters  | 31%                | 260              |
| Community center   | 26%                | 223              |
| Healthcare provider  | 15%                | 130              |
| Religious leader   | 8%                 | 66               |
| Other (please specify)   | 7%                 | 63               |

## APPENDIX B. STATE POLICY AGENDA IN DISCUSSION



### 100 Days of Action: State Policy Change to Prevent Gun Violence

One of the most impactful policy changes to reduce firearm injury and death in King County is to eliminate state policies that limit local control of firearm policies. However, until state preemption is lifted, policies that reduce the flow of illegal guns into communities and those that increase funding for community violence intervention programs are critical to reducing firearm injuries and deaths locally.

#### **Establish a permit to purchase firearms [House Bill 1163](#)**

Requiring individuals to undergo identity verification, additional safety training, and eligibility confirmation before purchasing a firearm is the highest priority policy change. Research shows that requiring a permit to purchase a gun reduces firearm-related deaths, including suicides and homicides, curbs illegal gun trafficking, reduces police shootings, decreases the odds of mass shootings, and helps prevent firearms from ending up in the hands of prohibited persons.

A study of permit laws across 80 large counties found that these laws were associated with an 11% decrease in firearm homicides. When Connecticut passed a permit to purchase law, its firearm homicide rate fell by 28% and its firearm suicide rate declined by 33%; when Missouri repealed a similar law, its firearm homicide rate rose by 47% and its firearm suicide rate increased by 24%.

#### **Reduce theft of firearms in vehicles [House Bill 1152](#)**

Update RCW 9.41.050 to require that firearms left in cars are securely locked up to prevent theft and misuse. Locked vehicle doors are not enough to prevent firearm theft from cars; firearms in vehicles should be stored in a lockable gun case or lockbox. Vehicles are the most common site of gun thefts in King County, and stolen firearms present a significant risk to community safety.

#### **Medicaid reimbursement for hospital-based violence intervention programs**

Allow community violence intervention professionals to bill Medicaid for their services. One-time federal funding from during the COVID-19 pandemic supported community violence intervention programs from 2023-2025, including hospital-based intervention models. These programs are now at risk due to unstable funding. Allowing Medicaid billing will create opportunities for these programs to be financially sustainable. Firearm injury and death is costly



to the healthcare system; funding violence prevention through Medicaid reimbursement will reduce healthcare costs while also preventing firearm injury and death.

### **Increase funding sources for community violence intervention programs [House Bill 1386](#)**

Increase funding sources for community violence intervention programs [House Bill 1386](#). Ensure funding is available for the Washington Department of Commerce's Office of Firearm Safety and Violence Prevention to support community violence intervention, safe storage promotion, and evaluation. Expand state funding for community violence intervention programs to more locations in South King County, support and professionalize community violence intervention staff by implementing a Training Academy and adopt and implement routine protocols for multiple government entities to use in the aftermath of a gun violence incident. Consider implementing firearm and ammunition taxes to fund gun violence prevention programs.

### **Change state law to allow local control of local firearm policies**

State firearm policy preemption prevents local and municipal governments from fulfilling their legal responsibility to protect the public's health through the passage of evidence-based firearm policies. Removing preemption is a key step to supporting local public health infrastructures and protections. It would allow local governments to pursue innovative laws about selling, using, storing, and registering firearms.

### **Prohibit bulk firearm purchases [House Bill 1132](#)**

Limiting the number of firearms that an individual can purchase within a certain period of time decreases the risk of weapon trafficking and illicit. Data suggest that firearms purchased as part of a "multiple sale," where one person purchases two or more firearms in five business days, are at increased odds of being used in a crime.

### **Expand access to mental health services for youth and adults**

Gun violence is pervasive in the U.S., with 54% of adults reporting that they or a family member have experienced a firearm incident, according to the U.S. Surgeon General. More funding is needed for health and mental health care providers and community-based organizations to address the mental health consequences of firearm violence. Access to mental health care can decrease the likelihood that someone will be involved in gun violence by reducing the impacts of stress and trauma.

### **Improve quality of and access to statewide gun violence data**

A public health approach to preventing gun violence brings together organizations, community, and subject matter experts across sectors to:

1. Define and monitor the problem,
2. Identify risk and protective factors,
3. Develop and test prevention strategies, and
4. Ensure widespread adoption of effective strategies.

The first step in using a public health approach is to define and monitor the problem with high quality and timely data. Providing additional funding and improved data sharing policies for state and local data collection is foundational to gun violence prevention work.

## APPENDIX C. COPIES OF SURVEYS

### Appendix C1: Community Survey of Gun Violence Perspectives

#### Select your language

- English - Select the "Next" button below to start the survey: Concerns About Safety and Violence Involving Firearms in King County
- Español- Seleccione el botón "Next" a continuación para comenzar la encuesta: Preocupaciones Sobre la Seguridad y la Violencia Relacionada Con Armas de Fuego en El Condado de King
- 繁體中文- 請選擇下方的 "Next" 按鈕以開始調查: 民眾對金縣槍械安全和暴力的擔憂 [Chinese Traditional]
- 簡體中文- 選擇下面的 "Next" 按鈕開始調查: 對金縣槍支安全和暴力問題的擔憂 [Chinese Simple]
- Soomaali- Dooro batoonka "Next" ee hoose si aad u bilowdo baadhitaanka: Walaacyo la xiriira badqabka iyo rabshada la xiriirta hubka ee ka jira Degmada King
- Tiếng Việt- Chọn nút "Next" bên dưới để bắt đầu khảo sát: Mối quan ngại về an toàn và bạo lực liên quan đến súng ở Quận King
- Русский- Нажмите кнопку "Next" ниже, чтобы начать опрос: Опасения по поводу безопасности и насилия с применением огнестрельного оружия в округе Кинг
- አማርኛ- ጥናቱን ለመጀመር ከታች ያለውን "Next" የሚለውን ቁልፍ ይምረጡ : በኪንግ ካውንቲ ውስጥ የጦር መሳሪያን በተመለከተ የደህንነት እና ጥቃት ስጋት
- Kajin Majol- Jiped e "Next" Ki eo ilal ñan jinoe uak e laajrak in kajitok kein : Abinono ko ikijen kōjbarok im jorāān ko rej koneek ippen kein bū ilo King County
- Samoa- Filifili le faamau "Next" o loo i lalo e amata ai le sailiiliga: O popolega i le saogalemū ma fevesia'iga e fa'aaogaina ai laau malosi i le itumalō o King County

Why we want to hear from you: This survey will gather resident's insights and concerns about violence involving guns/firearms to support King County Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention's efforts to improve community safety. How long will this take you? Five to seven minutes.

#### How safe from gun violence do you feel in your neighborhood?

- Not safe at all
- Somewhat unsafe
- Neutral
- Somewhat safe
- Very Safe

#### What forms of violence involving firearms/guns are you most concerned about in your neighborhood? Please select up to five

- Adult public violence (ex: adults engaging in shootings in public because they know each other/have a conflict that's not affiliated with organized crime)
- Youth public violence (ex: youth/young adults engaging in shootings in public because they know each other/have a conflict that's not affiliated with organized crime)



- Family/relationship violence (ex: domestic, intimate partner, household)
- Suicide/self-inflicted injury
- Unintentional/Accidental discharge
- Organized crime (ex: gangs, groups, cliques)
- Mass shootings (ex: school shootings and public shootings where four or more people are injured)
- Shootings involving law enforcement
- Bystander/Random violence (ex: robbery, burglary, free-way shootings, etc.)
- Hate/racially-motivated violence
- Other (please specify):

**How concerned are you about violence involving firearms/guns in King County?**

- Not concerned at all
- Somewhat unconcerned
- Neutral
- Somewhat concerned
- Very concerned

**What do you believe are the main causes of violence involving firearms/guns in King County? Please mark all that apply**

- Access to firearms
- Drug or alcohol usage
- Poverty or financial instability
- Racism (ex: social/structural racism, economic deprivation)
- Rigid gender norms (ex: associations of masculinity with violence)
- Violence in entertainment (ex: video games, movies, social media, etc.)
- Lack of accessible extracurricular and summer programming
- Lack of job opportunities
- Lack of education around firearm safety
- Lack of mental health care (ex: behavioral, mental illness, trauma support)
- Lack of non-violent conflict resolution skills
- Other (please specify):

**How effective do you believe local community-based violence intervention programs are in addressing violence involving firearms/guns in King County? (Examples: community-led conflict interruption, high risk street outreach/youth mentorship, community safety presence/visibility, resource navigation for historically underserved communities, survivor healing support, etc.)**

- Not effective at all
- Somewhat ineffective
- Neutral
- Somewhat effective
- Very effective
- Unsure



**Do you own/have access to a firearm?**

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

**Have you considered owning/having access to a firearm?**

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

**What do you believe motivates people to have firearms/guns? Please mark all that apply**

- Safety concerns
- Self defense
- Shooting Sports / Hunting Wildlife
- Collecting
- Family heirlooms / Inheritance
- Other (please specify)

**What motivates you to have a firearm/gun? Please mark all that apply**

- Safety concerns
- Self defense
- Shooting Sports / Hunting Wildlife
- Collecting
- Family heirlooms / Inheritance
- Other (please specify)

**Have you heard about the King County Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention and its efforts to address violence involving firearms/guns? (Examples: The Regional Peacekeepers (RPKC) Initiative for community-based interventions, hospital-based support for survivors of gun violence, firearm safe storage giveaway events, The Together We End Gun Violence Conference, etc.)**

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

**How would you prefer to receive information about firearm/gun violence prevention and community safety efforts? Please mark all that apply**

- Social media
- Community meetings
- Local news outlets
- Email newsletters
- Flyers or posters in public places
- Through a healthcare provider
- Religious leader

- A community center
- A local community organization
- Other (please specify):

**What is your age range?**

- Under 18
- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65+

**Which race(s) and ethnicity(s) do you use to describe yourself? Please mark all that apply**

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian (East Asian, Southeast Asian, Asian American)
- Black or African American
- Latino/a/e/x or Hispanic
- Middle Eastern or North African
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- White (European American)
- Self-identified race or ethnic origin not listed (please write):

**What is your ZIP code (or the ZIP code of the place where you most consistently live/reside/shelter)? This tells us more about your neighborhood**

**Which gender(s) best describe you? Please mark all that apply**

- Non-binary
- Woman/Girl/Female
- Man/Boy/Male
- Genderqueer/Gender fluid
- Transgender
- Agender
- Questioning/unsure
- Another gender (please specify)

## Appendix C2: Gun Lockbox Distribution Survey

334 people attending four lockbox giveaway events voluntarily completed the anonymous survey below:

### I'm picking up this lockbox today...(Mark all that apply)

- To practice secure storage of guns and/or ammunition
- To keep kids safe from injury
- To keep other adults from accessing guns and/or ammunition
- To protect guns from being stolen
- To store other valuables (not guns)
- To give to someone else
- To store medication
- Because it was free/convenient
- Other (any other motivations for coming out:\_\_\_

### What kind of gun safety device do you currently use? (Mark all that apply)

- None (I don't use a gun safety device currently)
- Gun safe
- Gun lockbox
- Cable lock
- Trigger lock
- Other:\_\_\_\_\_
- Unsure/Prefer not to answer

### This lockbox is for...(Mark all that apply)

- Existing gun
- Existing ammunition
- Future gun and/or ammunition
- Not applicable
- Unsure/Prefer not to answer

### I live with...(Mark all that apply)

- Not applicable -- I live alone
- Significant other/Spouse/Partner
- Other adults (over 24 years old)
- Children 10 years or younger
- Children 11 to 18 years
- Young adult(s) 19 to 24 years

### Zipcode

\_\_\_\_\_

### Tell us what responsible gun ownership means to you...

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## APPENDIX D: CORE REPORTING MEASURES FOR 100 DAYS OF ACTION

| Core Reporting Areas of 100 Days'   | Objectives  | Reporting measures   |
|---|---|--|
| 1. 100 Days of Peace: Enhancement of youth and young adult community violence intervention (CVI) services | Enhanced resources and services available to young people and their families this summer/fall                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Description of the kinds of added CVI services</li> <li>Number of youth reached with CVI services</li> <li>Number of new outreach staff, critical incident response staff, and other supportive staff onboarded (ex: trained 'boots on the ground') and/or changed operational hours for outreach and safety</li> </ul>   |
|   | Enhanced community visibility   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Description of the visibility actions taken for public safety</li> <li>Number of community safety pop-up events held and number of attendees</li> </ul>   |
|   | Youth attendance of Peace Camps   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Description of Peace camp interventions</li> <li>Number of Peace camps held</li> <li>Number of youth participating in peace camps</li> <li>Description of positive impacts and lessons learned</li> </ul>   |
| 2. Victim and Family Support through Harborview Medical Center's Violence Intervention Program            | Emergency short-term supports for families impacted by gun violence   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Types of emergency supports provided to victims</li> <li>Number of victims who received short-term supports</li> <li>Avg. amount of emergency short-term supports provided</li> <li>Story of personal impacts of emergency short-term supports (victim/patient perspective)</li> <li>Observed trends in gun violence</li> <li>Lessons learned about supports leveraged during 100 days - supports that should continue</li> </ul> |
| 3. Public Awareness Campaign  | Increased communication and reach about CVI practices, local efforts, resources, and ways to "take action" against gun violence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Description of campaign components and creative engagement strategies (ex: comic)</li> <li>Number of earned media stories (ex: interviews)</li> <li>Number of social media post (ex: views, likes, and impressions)</li> </ul>  |
| 4. Community Engagement   | Community opinion and awareness of gun violence and community-based solutions in King County                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Formation and distribution of King County-wide public survey</li> <li>Number of community safety meetings attended to share an update on the work of ROGVP</li> <li>Types of seeds planted for expanded community engagements</li> </ul>  |
| 5. Lockbox Distribution   | Distribution of gun lockboxes to King County residents  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gun lockbox events held and locations</li> <li>Number of gun lockboxes available</li> <li>Number of gun lockboxes distributed</li> <li>ZIP codes of recipients who volunteered to provide (reach)</li> <li>Importance of lockbox to recipients (though voluntary survey)</li> </ul>   |



|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <p>6. Strategic Planning, Policy Development, and Budget Priorities</p> | <p>Collaboration with gun violence experts and use of data to inform budget, policy priorities, and strategic planning including updated state and local policy recommendations that address the root causes of gun violence and promote safer communities</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completion of NICJR cost of gun violence analysis</li> <li>• Description of public health approach to gun violence in King County</li> <li>• SMEs/agencies consulted on state and local policy recommendations (ex: University of Washington Firearm Injury Prevention Research Program)</li> <li>• Completion of state and local policy recommendations</li> </ul> |
| <p>7. Community Resources &amp; Portal</p>                              | <p>Assess current capacity and readiness to develop</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cross-department assessment of existing community resource portal advancements and prioritization of next steps</li> <li>• ROGVP website updated with new resources</li> </ul>  |

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