

# A Regional Approach to Gun Violence Prevention in King County

King County Regional Law & Safety  
Committee Briefing

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Eleuthera Lisch, *Director, King County Regional Office  
of Gun Violence, Public Health – Seattle & King County*

**TOGETHER, WE  
END GUN VIOLENCE**

For more information or support,  
please visit [kingcounty.gov/RGV](https://kingcounty.gov/RGV)



# A Public Health Approach

Gun violence is a fatal epidemic and the leading cause of premature death in the U.S. King County supports a public health approach to preventing and eliminating gun violence through robust strategies that enlist multi-sector support, broad investments, and partnership with community leadership to determine and implement lasting solutions.



# Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention

## Functions:

Coordinate a Regional Approach and Implement Key Initiatives

- Convene and collaborate with community leaders, local and state agencies, and national subject matter experts to identify, implement, and sustain effective gun violence prevention strategies.
- Partner with directly impacted communities, community providers, elders, youth, and survivors to grow and advance equitable community-led solutions.
- Work with service providers, advisory groups, and subject matter experts to enhance strategies, inform policy, review data, identify resources, and align services.
- Provide capacity building, training and technical assistance for community organizations, and key partners
- Measure impact through results-based accountability evaluation
- Co-design, implement, and bring to scale key initiatives

## Current Initiatives:

- Regional Peacekeepers Collective (RPKC) - Community Violence Intervention (CVI)
- Hospital-based & Community Linked Violence Intervention Program
- Community Violence Intervention (CVI) Training Academy

# Coordination Framework





# ROGVP Current Initiatives

# Regional Peacekeepers Collective (RPKC) Initiative

The Regional Peacekeepers Collective (RPKC) Initiative provides proven Community Violence Intervention (CVI) services in King County. Through a network of community-based organizations and our level-one trauma center, those most impacted by gun violence are connected to life-affirming care, access to resources, and meaningful connections within the communities they live.

## Goal One:

**Deliver coordinated services to individuals and families most impacted by gun violence.**

### Partners:

RPKC Community-Based Partners and Harborview Medical Center

## Goal Two:

**Focus on underserved geographic areas.**

### 2024 Locations:

Skyway, Kent, Burien

### Potential next locations:

Renton, White Center, Auburn, Federal Way

# RPKC INITIATIVE OBJECTIVES



High-intensity Engagement and Violence Interruption



Critical Incident Response System with Hospital and Community Based Support



Service Linkage and Wrap Around Care for directly impacted Individuals via a Care Team



Support and Connection for Family Members



Decreased Negative Law Enforcement Contact



Increased Community Capacity for Restorative Justice Programs



Community Outreach, Public Awareness and Restorative Events



Long-term Sustainability including support from Local, State and Federal Gov. & Philanthropy

# RPKC Strategies

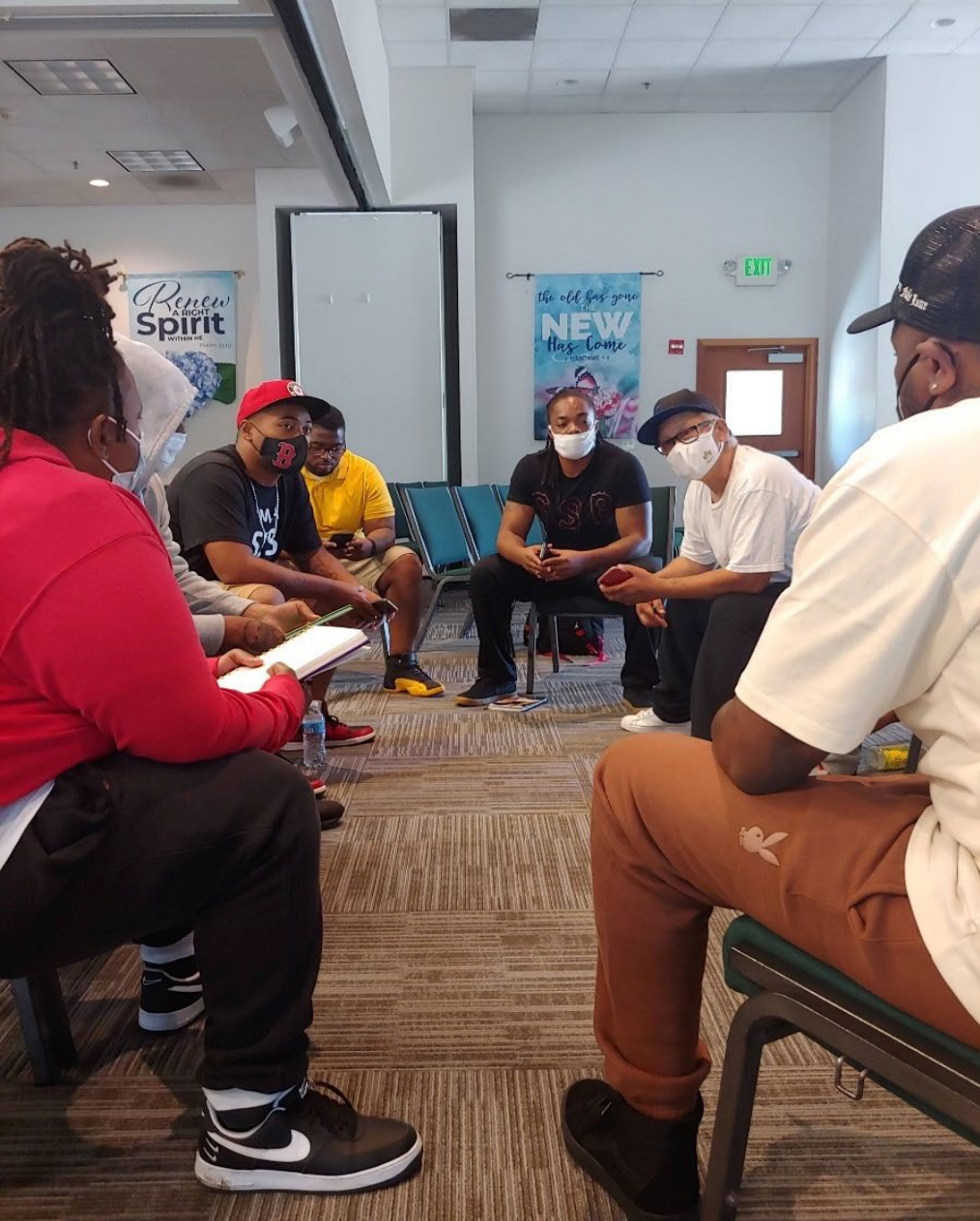


*\*The center arrow indicates referral pathways*



# RPKC Structure





# RPKC Results to Date

Since the launch of the RPKC initiative:

- **440 young people** directly impacted by gun violence were enrolled into RPKC services
- **272+ families** received support from RPKC providers
- **265+ critical incidents** were responded to
- **167+ hot spot remediation & engagement activities**
- **108+ community education & healing events** held
- **700 units of firearm safety equipment** distributed
- **Over 200 hours of training and professional development** for Community Violence Intervention workforce

Source: Results-Based Accountability, quarterly performance monitoring data, June 2021 to December 31, 2023

# Hospital-based & Community-linked Intervention

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Harborview Medical Center conducts a Hospital-based & Community-Linked Violence Intervention program that provides comprehensive bedside support and service connections to individuals with gunshot injuries and their families. Co-funded by Public Health - Seattle & King County, The City of Seattle, and the State of Washington, Hospital-based staff connect individuals and families with community-based resources.

## Results to Date

**135 young people between the ages 12-24** were admitted to Harborview Medical Center with gunshot injuries and referred to RPKC partners for ongoing care and support.

# Community Violence Intervention Training Academy

With funding from the State of Washington Department of Commerce, ROGVP will work collaboratively with community and key government partners to co-create, develop and implement the Community Violence Intervention (CVI) Training Academy. The goal of the Academy is to provide professional development and sustainable career opportunities for the regional CVI frontline workforce.

## The CVI Training Academy will seek to provide:

- Comprehensive skill training for the CVI workforce to strengthen their skills within violence prevention, including managing teams of frontline staff, and growing their expertise within the professional field, to lower turnover and burnout.
- Cross-training with the fire department, law enforcement, and hospital EMTs, who are colleagues and partners in our shared work around shots fired reports and as those who respond to incidents of gun violence.
- Methods for addressing trauma, including processing & integrating professional experiences that may be triggering or dangerous, and which can lead to staff burnout and turnover if they are not addressed.
- Techniques to encourage healthy living and long-term well-being.



# Executive Leadership Advisory Group (ELAG)

The Executive Leadership Advisory Group (ELAG) was originally established in 2021 with technical assistance from Cities United with the goal to support the development, implementation, and sustainability of a regional approach to addressing gun violence. The first three meetings were comprised of elected officials and other key leaders in the region.

## ELAG Goals:

- Build & leverage political will for Regional Approach to Gun Violence Prevention
- Review and influence policy & advocacy
- Support equitable resource alignment & allocation across regional efforts
- Be an active ambassador for the Regional Approach to Gun Violence Prevention

## ELAG tri-chairs:

- Executive Dow Constantine, King County
- Mayor Bruce Harrell, City of Seattle
- Councilmember Ed Prince, City of Renton Council President

## ELAG 2024 Overview:

**Facilitator(s):** King County Councilmember Girmay Zahilay

**Meeting Schedule:** Quarterly

**Planning Schedule:** Bi-weekly/Monthly

## Action Items from January 2024 Meeting:

- Convene a joint taskforce to inform the ELAG
- Shared Regional Policy Agenda & Communication Plan
- Sustainable Funding/ Funding Opportunities
  - Philanthropic, Grants, Revenue generating policy- i.e. Licensing fees, Firearms and Ammunition Tax

## Intergovernmental Work Group

- **Intergovernmental Work Group:** The Regional Gun Violence Prevention Intergovernmental Work Group will work on behalf of the ELAG to enhance the coordination to effectively reduce gun violence in King County. This group will collaborate to identify strategies, form recommendations, and provide regular updates to our Executive Leadership Advisory Group.

## April 2024 Meeting:

*April 2024 meeting planning is in progress.*