

COMMUNITY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM

Overview

Public Health Madison & Dane County uses a whole-government and whole-community approach to create a coordinated response to people who have experienced violence and trauma. We also aim to prevent future violence from occurring. The Community Violence Intervention Program focuses on interrupting violence in our community by building relationships, connecting with people engaging in violence, and helping connect them to services and resources that will address the underlying causes of violence.

Goals

1. Create recognition and integration of our intervention program into the larger system of services in violence prevention, intervention, and healing.
2. Support individuals through behavior change, safety planning, and connection to resources and services.
3. Create relationships with communities to provide stability and support to those affected by violence.
4. Build community leadership and engagement to prevent future violence and increase safety.

Staffing

There are four staff on this team:

- The Violence Intervention & Outreach Coordinator serves as the Lead Worker and oversees the day-to-day operations of the program.
- Three part-time Outreach & Intervention Specialists provide direct services and support to individuals who are engaging in violence including intermediate supportive services and connections to service providers.

Violence Intervention staff are trained in a variety of outreach and community engagement strategies, as well as de-escalation techniques. There are three program areas that the team focuses on: community engagement; outreach/brief intervention; and support with ongoing connections.

Hours of Operation

- Violence Intervention Program staffing hours will vary depending on the needs of the program or trends in violent incidents.
- The Violence Intervention Coordinator will typically work Monday – Friday, 9:30am – 6:00pm.
- The three Outreach & Response Specialists will stagger their days/hours, weekdays and weekends, during the late afternoon into the evening.
- All staffing hours are subject to change.

Areas of Focus

The Violence Intervention Program's geographic areas of focus may be informed by several sources:

- Violent Crime Data, identifying geographic areas showing more violent incidents
- Community Safety Intervention Team (CSIT) Information on violence occurring
- Violent Incident Location, when an incident occurs, the team will assess the situation and determine the response and engagement.
- Other trends or needs identified by Public Health or violence prevention/intervention partners.

Program Areas

There are three program areas that the team focuses on: community engagement; outreach/brief intervention; and support with ongoing connections.

| Community Engagement |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stationed/Assigned in specific geographical areas based on violent crime rates and personal community connections• Actively build connections with residents, neighborhood centers, Neighborhood Resource Teams, and community organizations based in their designated zone• Attend events in the community to build relationship and ensure program visibility |

| Outreach & Brief Intervention |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connect with individuals identified through CSIT or other referrals; Known individuals are a priority• Work with Sheriff's department on a referral contact program for those being released from custody who may have ongoing conflict• Connect with identified individuals about safety planning and work with other re-entry service providers• Initial contact with people includes a screening and brief intervention with the ultimate goal of getting people enrolled in supportive services either with Public Health (moderate services), or another provider |

| Supportive Services & Community Connections |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connect and meet with individuals and support them in solving conflict without using firearms.• Examine potential barriers and provide safety planning• Connect with other violence prevention and intervention efforts for comprehensive planning• Connection to other service providers (mental health, housing, childcare, food, etc.)• Follow up for outcomes |

Evaluation

Evaluation will be determined by several factors, including preliminary metrics developed to assess overall program success. These metrics include:

- Overall incidents of gun violence and people with repeat offenses
- Number of people served by the program
- Quality of services/care delivered through program surveys
- Ability to connect to other services