

January 2024 - June 2024 Summary



Cure Violence Annapolis

Program Overview

The Violence Interruption Program (VIP) is a public health approach to violence prevention that works with high-risk youth aged 15–35. Cure Violence Annapolis (CVA) follows the Cure Violence Global (CVG) model, treating violence as a learned behavior influenced by social determinants. The program focuses on the Eastport community, detecting and interrupting potentially violent situations, changing high-risk behaviors, and altering community norms around violence. In 2023, Kingdom Kare, Inc. (KKI) was selected to lead the VIP in Eastport, with a goal of reaching the highest risk individuals and preventing gun violence.

The CVA team operates on four key pillars:

Violence Interruption

Teams canvass daily, identify hotspots, mediate conflicts, and engage individuals or groups at risk of retaliatory violence.

Outreach and Support

Outreach workers build relationships with participants, offering resources like job training, education, and community events to promote nonviolence.

Community Mobilization

Public education and partnerships with local organizations help change behavioral norms supporting violence.

Continual Monitoring

CVA uses a web-based system to collect data on interventions, hot spots, mediations, and participant engagement.

Community Partnerships and Events

Collaboration with local organizations such as the Opportunities of Industrialization Center (OIC) and the Anne Arundel County Public Library allowed CVA to support the exploration of job placement opportunities for community residents and the distribution of resources like Chromebooks and gun locks. The team hosted several community events, including youth field trips and gun violence awareness cookouts, creating opportunities for engagement and building trust while promoting nonviolence.

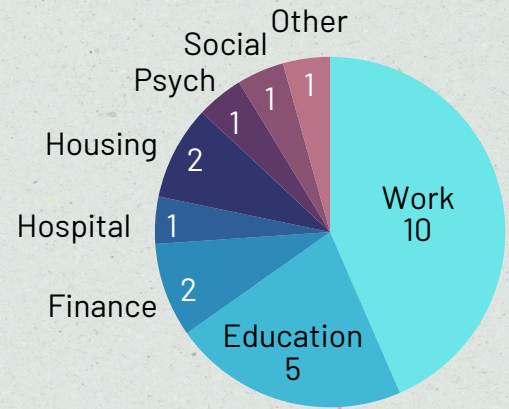


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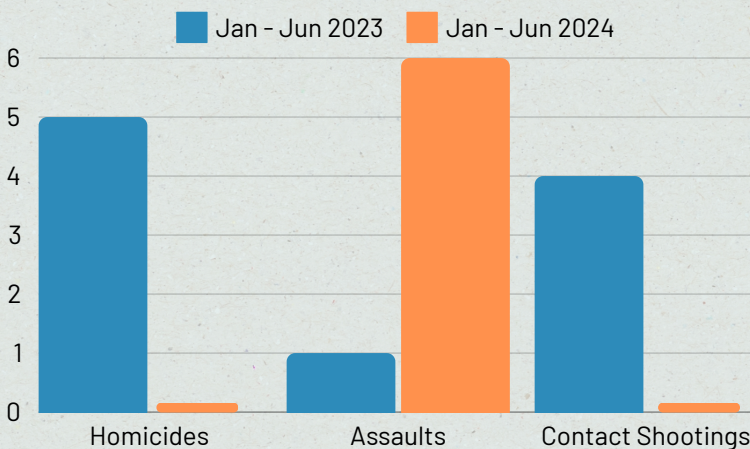


Progress Update

From April to June, CVA staff logged over 1,300 hours on violence interruption, behavior change, and norm change efforts. During this time, they referred community members to services such as education and job placement, with job referrals being the most frequent. Although only one violence interruption was needed, the team recruited seven high-risk participants. This recruitment was slower than expected due to fewer violent incidents, possibly reflecting some success in violence reduction.



Gun-Related Homicides, Assaults, and Contact Shootings Occurring in ZIP Code 21403, January-June 2023 and 2024



Community Violence

Gun-related homicides and shootings decreased from January to June 2024 compared to the same period in 2023. However, gun-related assaults increased. Continued monitoring is necessary to guide intervention efforts.

Lessons Learned and Next Steps

The team initially faced delays in receiving equipment for logging data and reported challenges in recruiting participants. Although early buy-in is often slow, the continued partnership and engagement have shown promise.

Looking forward, CVA plans to be more intentional in targeting high-risk individuals through key indicators. They also hope to expand programming efforts such as the Sister-to-Sister initiative and job fairs. The AACDOH will continue to provide oversight and monitor the progress of the program ensuring it maintains the fidelity of the CVG model and addresses gun violence in the community.

More information

AAHealth.org/cure-violence-global

