

ATTACHMENT

For Item

#12

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To: [Vargas, Nora \(BOS\)](#); [Desmond, Jim](#); [Anderson, Joel](#); [Lawson-Remer, Terra](#)
Cc: [FGG, Public Comment](#)
Subject: [External] GUN VIOLENCE COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT (Please include with agenda item 12)
Date: Thursday, July 13, 2023 11:08:04 AM
Attachments: [2023-07-18 Gun Violence Recommendations.pdf](#)

Hi Supervisors,

There are some good - very good, and long overdue - recommendations in here. But the equity stuff is divisive and old and more and more people are being turned off and not buying it.

Equity means fairness. You won't get equity by focussing on certain groups or zip codes. If you want to be truly equitable and fair, you need to focus on the individual.

The original 4/5 equity statement said (before the actual data analysis) "that countywide data shows that Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino victims of homicide are more likely to be killed by a firearm than another weapon type." A death is a death, and any death is a tragedy and the item at issue here, is death by guns in any number, whether Black, Latino, Asian, or Caucasian. So I hope we're over this nonsense thinking. Comments on the Recommendations (attached):

1 & 2: I think that it's a disservice to focus educational content on high-risk populations, particularly since it contains general items such as mental health, domestic violence, and suicide prevention which can happen anywhere even if gun and other violence is mostly in certain areas. Moreover, attendance at such events is often based on family or work considerations, so the exact location of these events usually does not really matter.

3 & 11: I think that the County should identify organizations that operate violence intervention programs, including street outreach and violence interruption all over the County, not just in the upper and lower corners.

Moreover, people in East County would have a hard time getting service, so this is discriminatory. And I don't know why HHSA should be involved - extra \$ for it?

4: Gun Lock distribution is great.

5: Not sure why County Employees need special training other than what is taught in the other seminars. Why not cancel this special training and save a buck (or \$150 thou.)?

7: BHS should already be aware of suicide risk and screening patients for this in the normal course of business. More extra \$?

8-10: Good. Communication is probably your best bet to mitigate this problem.

12. The Hospital is for patients recovering from their injuries. It is far more practical to locate such post-injury support services in the community (maybe pair them up with pre-injury support.) So save a buck (or \$100 thou.)

14. Equity stuff is OK after trying out a good comprehensive plan and not prejudging the situation based on equity (which BTW really isn't since equity really means fairness.)

And finally, I hope that the Community forums were free and open discussions not restricted to a few choices, and not just to assess the community's 'temperament' (as my wife described one such forum.)

Regards,

Paul Henkin

Gun Violence Community Needs Assessment Recommendations Work Plan

Guiding Principles:

- **Community-Led:** Those who are frequently and directly exposed to gun violence must be involved, and collaborative action is needed from representatives from diverse sectors.
- **Solution-Focused:** Actions should result in concrete assistance to those working on these issues and affected by gun violence.
- **Evidence-Informed:** Using reliable data and research is critical to understanding who is most affected by gun violence and what factors and circumstances are contributing to violence or helping to create safety. Combine research, context, and experience to inform this understanding.
- **Person-Centered:** Understand that racial injustice has created neighborhoods of concentrated disadvantage, perpetuated poverty, and caused multigenerational harm. Actions must promote healing and minimize harm.
- **Equity-Oriented:** Adequate resources, including tailored interventions, should be directed to people who are experiencing health and social inequities, so they have the opportunity to attain their full potential.

Time frame estimates for completion of proposed actions:

Short-term indicates actions are completed by the end of Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24. **Mid-term** indicates collaborative planning or actions precede an implementation anticipated by the end of FY 2024-25. **Long-term** indicates that infrastructure, funding, or significant collaboration or policy change may be needed to complete actions.

Work Plan actions include opportunities to enhance or expand upon existing efforts and explore new areas of focus or investment.

ACTION	PREVENTION STRATEGY	VIOLENCE TYPE	REPORT RECOMMENDATION	FISCAL IMPACT	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNERS	DESCRIPTION
<p>1. Develop educational content focusing on high-risk populations, to include the promotion of safe storage of firearms, behavioral treatment access, and other suicide prevention education. Collaborate with relevant County staff and community partners to disseminate content to clients, family members, and service providers.</p> <p>Short-term (FY 23-24) and ongoing</p>	Primary	Suicide	Awareness & Advocacy #1a	<p>FY 23-24 \$255,297</p> <p>FY 24-25 \$263,227</p> <p>FY 25-26 \$271,387</p> <p>FY 26-27 \$279,800</p> <p>(Funds are included in the FY 23-24 Operational Plan using Local Revenue Fund 2011, Community Corrections Subaccount funding)</p>	<p>Health & Human Services Agency (HHS) - Behavioral Health Services (BHS)</p> <p>Public Safety Group (PSG)</p>	<p>HHS – Aging & Independence Services (AIS)</p> <p>HHS – Homeless Solutions & Equitable Communities – Office of Equitable Communities (HSEC-OEqC)</p> <p>Healthcare</p>	<p>Behavioral Health Services will explore the ability to amend existing contracts to develop age specific content for individuals, caregivers, and workers such as tip cards and pamphlets. Behavioral Health Services will also increase suicide prevention trainings for age specific service providers, including those who provide services to older adults, to promote awareness and suicide prevention strategies. The Public Safety Group Executive Office will collaborate with HSEC-OEqC, AIS, healthcare entities, and community stakeholders to identify partners to distribute age specific materials to clients/individuals, caregivers/family, and workers/staff.</p>
<p>2. Develop educational content focusing on high-risk populations to share information</p>	Primary	Domestic/ Intimate Partner Violence	Awareness & Advocacy #1b	TBD	HHS – Public Health Services – Office of	Domestic Violence Council	The Office of Violence Prevention will collaborate with the Domestic Violence

<p>on relevant resources related to domestic/intimate partner violence prevention, to include healthy interpersonal communications and boundaries setting, victim services resources, protective/restraining order awareness, safe storage of firearms, and violence prevention strategies. Collaborate with relevant County staff and community partners to disseminate content to clients, family members, and service providers.</p> <p>Mid-term (FY 24-25)</p>					<p>Violence Prevention (PHS-OVP)</p>	<p>HHSA – Child Welfare Services (CWS) Community partners</p>	<p>Council, Child Welfare Services, and other community partners and experts to develop content and identify the best mechanisms to reach targeted audiences (e.g. tip cards, pamphlets). Additionally, the Office of Violence Prevention will identify partners to distribute materials to clients/individuals, caregivers/family, workers/staff, and service providers.</p>
<p>3. Identify organizations that operate violence intervention programs, including street outreach and violence interruption and disruption programs, in southeastern and</p>	<p>Primary Secondary</p>	<p>Community Violence</p>	<p>Awareness & Advocacy #1c</p>	<p>FY 24-25 Estimated \$100,000 for contracted planning, outreach, and facilitation services</p>	<p>PSG HHSA</p>	<p>HHSA – HSEC-OEqC Sheriff’s Department Community partners</p>	<p>The Public Safety Group will seek a contractor to collaborate with County and community partners to identify agencies and organizations that operate violence intervention programs in southeastern and</p>

<p>northern San Diego County and coordinate with these stakeholders to identify new and existing opportunities to enhance community-based intervention programs.</p> <p>Mid-term (FY 24-25) to Long-term</p>							<p>northern San Diego County and to coordinate with these stakeholders to identify new and existing opportunities to enhance violence intervention programs. Programs may include street outreach programs, violence interrupter programs, and other violence mediation programs. The structure may include hosting working meetings that lead to the creation of short- and long-term actions and outcomes related to gun violence reduction.</p>
<p>4. Partner with agencies to promote gun lock distribution programs, including offering gun locks at no cost.</p> <p>Short-term (FY 23-24)</p>	<p>Primary</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Awareness & Advocacy #2</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<p>PSG Sheriff's Department</p>	<p>Community partners</p>	<p>The Sheriff's Department will continue to coordinate with <i>Project ChildSafe</i> to request gun locks that can be distributed to the public free of charge. Gun locks are distributed with educational and informational brochures on firearm safety, including firearm safety for kids at Community Gun Safety Program events. The Public</p>

							Safety Group will identify community partners with gun lock distribution programs and will promote these resources, as appropriate.
<p>5. Identify County positions responsible for performing home visits and community outreach to offer gun safety awareness training and provide staff resources to educate clients on gun safety practices, safe storage, and violence prevention strategies.</p> <p>Mid-term (FY 24-25) to Long-term</p>	Primary	All	Awareness & Advocacy #3	<p>FY 24-25 Estimated \$150,000 for contracted training design and development services</p>	PSG	<p>HHSA – AIS HHSA – CWS HHSA – PHS HHSA – HSEC-OEqC Sheriff’s Department, Community engagement staff Community partners</p>	<p>The Public Safety Group will coordinate with HHSA to identify positions responsible for performing home visits, such as adult protective and child welfare services staff, or conducting community outreach, such as community health workers. The Public Safety Group will seek a contractor to develop a gun safety awareness training course for identified County positions. Content may include information on firearm safe storage laws, navigating through unsafe scenarios, and educating clients on gun safety practices and prevention strategies. Identified positions will also be provided educational materials on suicide prevention and domestic/intimate</p>

							partner violence prevention, as outlined in action #1 and #2 to distribute to clients/individuals, caregivers/family, and service providers.
<p>6. Monitor state and federal actions for opportunities to improve safe gun ownership and enhance investment in communities most impacted by gun violence.</p> <p>Short-term (FY 23-24)</p>	Primary	All	<p>Awareness & Advocacy #4</p> <p>Planning & Evaluation #3</p>	TBD	Office of Economic Development & Government Affairs (EDGA)	PSG	The Office of Economic Development & Government Affairs will monitor state and federal actions for opportunities to improve safe gun ownership in San Diego County and enhance investment in communities most impacted by gun violence. Actions may include federal and state grant opportunities that target gun violence reduction and other efforts that will contribute to safer communities.
<p>7. Promote implementation of a standard healthcare suicide screening tool for use by healthcare providers.</p> <p>Mid-term (FY 24-25)</p>	Primary	Suicide	Awareness & Advocacy #5	TBD	HHSA – BHS	Community partners	Behavioral Health Services will coordinate with community partners to promote the implementation of a brief, standardized, evidence-based tool to screen patients for suicide risk regardless of

							whether the patient is seeking care for psychiatric symptoms.
<p>8. Coordinate and support a Gun Violence Reduction Advisory Group and expand participation to include youth leadership.</p> <p>Short-term (FY 23-24) and ongoing</p>	Primary	All	Community Engagement & Collaboration #1	TBD	PSG		<p>The Public Safety Group will establish an ongoing Gun Violence Reduction Advisory Group to continue to serve as a collaboration and communication point for gun violence reduction efforts. Participation will be expanded to include youth leadership. PSG will conduct an open application process and select candidates with diverse experiences and expertise to serve one-year appointments on the Advisory Group.</p>
<p>9. Coordinate networking events/ roundtables for community organizations working to reduce gun violence.</p> <p>Mid-term (FY 24-25) and ongoing</p>	Primary	All	Community Engagement & Collaboration #2a	<p>FY 24-25 Estimated \$8,000 for facilities, materials, and language services</p> <p>FY 25-26 Estimated \$8,000 for facilities, materials, and language services</p>	PSG	Community partners	<p>The Public Safety Group will coordinate with the Gun Violence Advisory Group to plan and execute networking events/roundtables for community stakeholders working to reduce gun violence in San Diego County communities. Events may include in person and virtual affinity roundtables, panels with guest speakers, or</p>

							other types of gatherings designed to increase connection between those working in gun violence prevention, intervention, and trauma recovery and to enhance resource and information sharing.
<p>10. Create and host a platform to serve as a centralized communication and collaboration point for agencies and organizations working on gun violence prevention, intervention, and aftercare (recovery) in San Diego County.</p> <p>Short-term (FY 23-24) and ongoing</p>	Primary	All	Community Engagement & Collaboration #2b	TBD	PSG		The Public Safety Group will develop an online hub to serve as a collaboration point for agencies and organizations working on gun violence reduction issues. PSG will explore the integration of a service directory with information on community-based organizations addressing gun violence prevention, intervention, and aftercare in the county.
<p>11. Identify organizations that provide youth-focused programs and services in northern and southeastern San Diego County and coordinate with</p>	Primary Secondary Tertiary	Community Violence	Community Healing & Trauma Informed Practice #1a/1b	FY 24-25 Estimated \$100,000 for contracted planning, outreach, and facilitation services	PSG	HHSA – HSEC-OEqC Sheriff’s Department Community partners	The Public Safety Group will seek a contractor to collaborate with community and government leaders, community-based organizations, and non-governmental organizations to identify

<p>these stakeholders to identify new and existing opportunities to enhance youth-focused programs and services.</p> <p>Mid-term (FY 24-25) to Long-term</p>							<p>agencies and organizations that provide youth-focused programs/services in northern and southeastern San Diego County and will coordinate with these stakeholders to identify new and existing opportunities to enhance youth-focused prevention programs and services. Programs and services may include youth mentorship programs, afterschool programs, and social/emotional learning programs. The structure may include hosting working meetings that lead to the creation of short- and long-term actions and outcomes related to gun violence reduction.</p>
<p>12. Establish partnerships between trauma hospitals and community-based organizations to strengthen/enhance support services for firearm injury</p>	<p>Secondary Tertiary</p>	<p>Community Violence</p>	<p>Community Healing & Trauma Informed Practice #2</p>	<p>FY 24-25 Estimated \$100,000 for contracted planning, outreach, and facilitation services</p>	<p>PSG</p>	<p>Healthcare Community partners</p>	<p>The Public Safety Group will seek a contractor to coordinate with trauma hospitals, law enforcement agencies, and community-based organizations to develop a framework for strengthening/enhancing support services for</p>

<p>patients and their families.</p> <p>Mid-term (FY 24-25) to Long-term</p>							<p>firearm injury patients and their families. This work will include identifying community-based organizations that provide wraparound services, rapid response services, and recovery support services.</p>
<p>13. Plan for how gun violence reduction work will be structured and organized within the County.</p> <p>Short-term (FY 23-24)</p>	<p>Primary</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Planning & Evaluation #1a</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<p>PSG</p>	<p>HHSA Other entities as warranted</p>	<p>The Public Safety Group will assess whether these gun violence reduction efforts can be incorporated into other related prevention initiatives and will continue to work with County partners to establish collaborative structures for carrying out HARC's recommendations and planning for additional related actions.</p>
<p>14. Develop strategic plans to reduce gun violence in partnership with communities experiencing the highest incidence of violence.</p> <p>Mid-term (FY 24-25) to Long-Term</p>	<p>Primary</p>	<p>Community Violence</p>	<p>Planning & Evaluation #1b</p>	<p>FY 24-25 Estimated \$100,000 for contracted planning, design, outreach, facilitation services</p>	<p>PSG</p>	<p>Community partners</p>	<p>The Public Safety Group will seek a contractor to work with County and community partners to identify representatives from communities experiencing the highest incidence of violence to establish a collaborative structure that will foster the development of strategic plans to address gun violence.</p>

							The structure may include hosting working meetings that lead to the creation of short- and long-term actions and outcomes related to gun violence reduction.
<p>15. Establish a monitoring and evaluation framework for efforts implemented to reduce gun violence.</p> <p>Short-term (FY 23-24)</p>	Primary	All	Planning & Evaluation #2a	TBD	PSG	<p>Office of Evaluation, Performance, and Analytics (OEPA)</p> <p>Office of Equity and Racial Justice (OERJ)</p> <p>HHSA – PHS-OVP</p> <p>HHSA – BHS</p> <p>HHSA – PHS</p> <p>Sheriff’s Department</p> <p>Medical Examiner’s (ME) Office</p> <p>Emergency Medical Services (EMS)</p>	The Public Safety Group will collaborate with partners such as the Office of Evaluation, Performance, and Analytics; the Office of Equity and Racial Justice; the Health and Human Services Agency; Sheriff’s Department; Medical Examiner’s Office; and Emergency Medical Services to identify metrics and establish an evaluation framework to monitor and evaluate efforts implemented to reduce gun violence. Work will include identifying data needed to implement, monitor, and evaluate programs and services for equity, outcomes, and fidelity to evidence-based models, and establishing ways for implementation partners to share this data for evaluation.

<p>16. Share local aggregate data on gun violence in the county with stakeholders and the general public.</p> <p>Short-term (FY 23-24) and ongoing</p>	<p>Primary</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Planning & Evaluation #2b</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<p>PSG</p>	<p>The Public Safety Group recommends replacing the existing “annual gun violence report” provided each January with a new enhanced report. This enhanced annual report will include information on ghost gun seizures, as included in the previous “annual report,” as well as information on firearm-related deaths and injuries and metrics to be monitored and evaluated, as outlined in action #15.</p>
<p>17. Coordinate town halls/listening sessions to evaluate residents’ perception of success.</p> <p>Short-term (FY 23-24) and ongoing</p>	<p>Primary</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Planning & Evaluation #2c</p>	<p>FY 23-24 Estimated \$5,000 for language services (translation, interpretation)</p> <p>FY 24-25 Estimated \$5,000 for language services (translation, interpretation)</p> <p>FY 25-26</p>	<p>PSG</p>	<p>OERJ HHSA – HSEC- OEqC</p> <p>In collaboration with community stakeholders, the Public Safety Group will coordinate townhalls/listening sessions to share progress updates on gun violence reduction efforts and provide opportunity for residents to share their feedback and perspectives related to ongoing gun violence reduction work. The Public Safety Group will collaborate with the Office of Equity and</p>

				<p>Estimated \$5,000 for language services (translation, interpretation)</p>			<p>Racial Justice and the Health and Human Services Agency to identify stakeholders to include in the planning, outreach, and execution of the event(s) as well as to promote the event.</p>
<p>18. Identify and apply for grant funds to support prevention and intervention programs and services in San Diego County.</p> <p>Short-term (FY 23-24) and ongoing</p>	<p>Primary Secondary Tertiary</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Planning & Evaluation #3</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<p>PSG</p>	<p>EDGA</p>	<p>The Public Safety Group will work collaboratively with community stakeholders to identify, promote, and apply for grant funds to support gun violence reduction programs and services in San Diego County.</p>