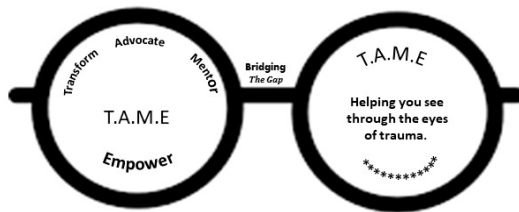


TAME on SB 0833.pdf

Uploaded by: Adrian Muldrow

Position: FAV



T.A.M.E supports SB 0833 because we believe that without the proper resources, we fail programs by not giving them what they need to serve the most impacted the best.

T.A.M.E
Transformative Advocacy Mentoring Empower
www.tame1.org

SB833_PGCEX_FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Angela Alsobrooks

Position: FAV



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

BILL: Senate Bill 833 – Prince George's County Violence Interrupter Support Program Fund

SPONSOR: Prince George's County Senators

HEARING DATE: February 22, 2023

COMMITTEE: Budget and Taxation

CONTACT: Intergovernmental Affairs Office, 301-780-8411

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Office of the Prince George's County Executive **SUPPORTS Senate Bill 833 – Prince George's County Violence Interrupter Support Program Fund**, which establishes the Prince George's County Violence Interrupter Support Program Fund, a special, nonlapsing fund, to provide funding for violence interrupter support programs that use community-based efforts to reduce incidents of violence in Prince George's County. For fiscal 2025 through 2028, the Governor must include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$1.0 million to the fund.

When community institutions are weakened, people feel they're on their own and may respond to uncertainty by assuming the worst, carrying weapons and reacting to aggression with even greater aggression. An analysis of police searches conducted in Prince George's County showed that more firearms were found during street and traffic stops. This data suggests that more people are carrying guns than before. In August 2022, Prince George's County experienced the deadliest month in history as a result of the increased number of homicides. Daily, the reports of murders being committed by juveniles as young as 12 sent shock waves to the community. The number of young lives being lost has left many residents feeling hopeless and unsafe in their own neighborhoods.

SB 833 will expand and deepen the current Violent Interrupters program in Prince George's County, which is an anti-violence initiative that supports community-based efforts at reducing incidents of violence within Prince George's County. Direct services included as part of the program include:

- sessions with accredited mental health clinicians;

- 1:1 mentorship relationships and workshops on goal setting, conflict resolution, addiction and grief management;
- case management to include referrals to appropriate services and resources;
- resource distributions such as food, clothing, and hygiene kits;
- financial literacy workshops and credit counseling;
- eviction and foreclosure prevention training;
- job training and certification (customer service, CDL, computer skills); and
- summer internships to youth paired with participating organizations.

There are currently four highly trained Violence Interrupters deployed in Prince George's County. Their deployment location is determined using Prince George's Police Department crime stats to engage in a data-driven approach to identify and respond to hotspot areas and communities would help further reduce violent crime. Violence Interrupters are deployed to District Heights, Forestville, and Suitland and began building relationships and establishing trust within those communities. The additional funding from **SB 833** will significantly increase the impact of this program to reduce violence in our community.

For the reasons stated above, the Office of the Prince George's County Executive **SUPPORTS Senate Bill 833** and asks for a **FAVORABLE** report.

MD Association of Youth Service Bureaus - 2023 SB

Uploaded by: Liz Park

Position: FAV



"Being here for Maryland's Children, Youth, and Families"

**Testimony submitted to Senate Budget and Tax Committee
Support**

February 22, 2023

Senate Bill 833 – Prince George's County Violence Interrupter Support Program Fund

The Maryland Association of Youth Service Bureaus, which represents a network of Bureaus throughout the State of Maryland, Supports Senate Bill 833 - Prince George's County Violence Interrupter Support Program Fund. Youth Service Bureaus provide prevention, intervention and treatment services and understand the importance of community based programs in addressing violence in our communities.

This bill will establish a fund to provide violence interrupter programs to reduce incidents of violence in Prince George's County. In 2021 there were over 130 homicides in Prince George's County, the highest number since 2007, and the County has also experienced a rise in crimes such as car jackings. This bill takes a holistic approach to address the many factors that can lead to incidents of violence. Community programs will provide services and resources to county residents such as food, housing, health care, employment workforce development, educational enrichment, mental and behavioral health services, financial literacy, and violence intervention programs.

According to the CDC, two-thirds of adults experienced at least one Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) and many people experienced more than one such event. ACEs include all types of abuse and neglect as well as parental mental illness, substance use, divorce, incarceration, and domestic violence. Research has shown that children exposed to multiple ACEs are in a constant state of stress and may struggle with following rules and authority, leading to disruptive behaviors including violence. The holistic approach proposed in this bill will help to address some of these factors as well as teaching youth and adults ways to resolve conflict without violence.

We respectfully ask you to support this bill.

Respectfully Submitted:

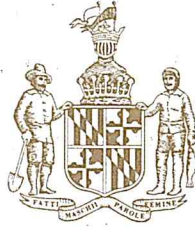
Liz Park, PhD
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Jackson2023SB833Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Michael Jackson

Position: FAV

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Budget and Taxation Committee
Subcommittees
Chair, Pensions
Public Safety, Transportation, and
Environment

District Office
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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

TESTIMONY – SENATE BILL 833
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY VIOLENCE INTERRUPTER
SUPPORT PROGRAM FUND
BUDGET & TAXATION COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 22, 2023

Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and Fellow Committee Members:

Senate Bill 833 is a very straightforward bill that simply requires the Governor to appropriate \$1,000,000 in fiscal years 2025 through 2028 for the Prince George's County Violence Interrupter Support Program Fund.

This is a simple piece of legislation that helps to ensure the success of this important effort. Through the Prince George's County Violence Interrupter Support Program, the county is taking a proactive approach to stop violent crime before it occurs. This funding will prove an invaluable asset in engaging numerous innovative and essential techniques in an effort to reduce incidents of violence in Prince George's County. These dedicated funds will clearly create a positive overall impact and measurable social benefits for the county and state as a whole.

For the reasons listed above, I ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 833.