The Johns Hopkins Hospital
Break the Cycle Violence Intervention Program

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1/17/2024
Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Programs

- Program is located or affiliated with hospital
- Premise that violence and re-injury are preventable
- Seize the opportunity for a teachable moment
- Hospital-based programs provide hope, healing, and access to support along a pathway to success

Purtle, 2013
Break The Cycle Hospital Based Violence Intervention Program

- Funded by Johns Hopkins Hospital
- Engages victims of shootings, stabbings, and violent assaults
- Goal to prevent recurrent injury and support healing and growth moving forward
Who we are:

- Multidisciplinary Team
  - Case Management
  - Social Work
  - Violence Intervention Specialists
  - Physicians (ED, Trauma, Peds)
- Credible Messengers/Harness power of lived experiences
## Program Overview

### Eligibility Criteria

- **JHH Patients** with gunshot or stabbing wounds
- **Baltimore City Resident**
- **Ages 15 to 35**

### Holistic Support

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<td><strong>JHH Break the Cycle</strong></td>
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<td>Community Partnership</td>
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In FY2023, there were **490** emergency department visits due to assault. **50%** were localized to 5 Baltimore City zip codes.

**Who we serve:**
- Baltimore City residents 15 - 35 yrs.; average age: 24

**Results:**
- Of **130** program participants; **3%** returned to a MD hospital with a new firearm injury within 12-months of follow-up

**Interventions may include:**
- Conflict mediation skills training
- Linkage to community-based violence intervention programs
- Linkage to mental health and addiction recovery services
- Job training and employment programs
- Temporary housing
- Transportation vouchers
Stories from the Field

Violence Intervention Specialists:

The credible messengers who bridge the gaps between health care providers and survivors of violent injury.
Recommendations

• Expand and invest in HVIP programs across all Maryland trauma centers.

• Collect and analyze longitudinal data on gun violence and interventions.

• Expand access to mental health services for victims and families.

• Work cooperatively to develop and support proactive peer and adult mentorship programs.

• Create access to temporary housing and transportation for victims of crime.
Community Based Violence Intervention & Prevention Initiative: US & Baltimore City Eco-System Model (Collaboration)

Key Components of Successful Models

- Community Outreach
  - Relationship Building, Education Campaigns,
  - Neighborhood Stabilization Response

- Mediation and Violence Intervention
  - Safe Streets, We Our Us, School-Based Interventions

- Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Programs
  - All Baltimore-Area Hospital Systems

- Life Coaching
  - Roca, Youth Advocate Programs (YAP)

- Victim Services
  - Protection, Housing, Relocation Support, Mental Health, Employment
LBH Public Health Approach to Gun Violence

6 Community Based Safe Streets Sites

Community Partnerships

Clinical Services & Support Groups

Focus on Youth

Support for CVI programs

Support for CVI team members

ED & Medical Response

Hospital Violence Teams

Public Action
902 Mediations → 216 Community Events → 638 Bedside Visits

17% Reduction in Homicide Pace in Baltimore

28% Reduction Sinai GSW Victims

FY2023 Results:
35 shootings
7 homicides
Belvedere & Park Heights
0 homicides!
Recommendations

Reform & Improve
- Reform & Improve Victims Compensation Fund

Educate & Divert
- Educate & Divert Gun Violence: Implement Conflict Resolution Programs for students & non-violent offenders

Approach
- Approach Gun Violence as other Public Health Crisis
  - Make available gun locks & gun safes
  - Promotion of Gun Free Zones around schools & hospitals

Support
- Financial & Program Support for CVI Professionals
Thank You-Questions

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