GETTING INFORMED ABOUT FIREARM VIOLENCE

DEVELOPED BY MACKENZIE FURNARI, MPH AND HSING-FANG HSIEH, PH.D., MPH

IN AN AVERAGE YEAR, 40,620 PEOPLE DIE BY FIREARMS IN THE UNITED STATES

ROOT FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH FIREARM VIOLENCE

CONCENTRATED POVERTY
COMMUNITY VIOLENCE
INCOME INEQUALITY
UNDERFUNDED PUBLIC HOUSING
FIREARM AVAILABILITY
LACK OF OPPORTUNITIES
UNDER-RESOURCED PUBLIC SERVICES

FIREARM VIOLENCE HAS A DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT

FIREARMS ARE THE LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH AMONG CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS IN THE UNITED STATES

BLACK CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS ARE 14 TIMES MORE LIKELY THAN WHITE CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS TO DIE BY FIREARM HOMICIDE

FIREARM SUICIDES BY RACE/ETHNICITY IN THE UNITED STATES

FIREARM HOMICIDES BY RACE/ETHNICITY IN THE UNITED STATES

DEATHS PER 100,000 PEOPLE

DEATHS PER 100,000 PEOPLE

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Root factors associated with firearm violence:
- Concentrated poverty
- Income inequality
- Community violence
- Underfunded public housing
- Firearm availability
- Lack of opportunities
- Under-resourced public services

Firearm violence has a disproportionate impact:
- Firearms are the leading cause of death among children and adolescents in the United States
- Black children and adolescents are 14 times more likely than white children and adolescents to die by firearm homicide

Death rates per 100,000 people:

- Firearm suicides by race/ethnicity in the United States
- Firearm homicides by race/ethnicity in the United States
FIREARM VIOLENCE INCREASES THE RISK OF NEGATIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES

- PTSD
- Depression
- Cancer
- Substance use
- Hypertension
- Early death
- Stunted cognitive and emotional development

MULTILEVEL STRATEGIES FOR PREVENTING FIREARM VIOLENCE

POLICY
- Extreme risk laws*
- Firearm purchasing and licensing laws
- Funding social services, education, housing, and job training

COMMUNITY
- Community greening*
- Abandoned housing remediation*
- Community and hospital-based violence interventions*

RELATIONSHIP
- Interventions improving neighborhood social cohesion

INDIVIDUAL
- Safe firearm storage
- Firearm training courses
- Recognizing and reporting warning signs of violence

*Extreme risk laws: Authorize law enforcement, family members, and, in certain states, educators, to act on warning signs of violence and temporarily prevent a person from having access to firearms.

*Community greening: Revitalizes unmaintained vacant lots into community gardens, urban farms, golf putting greens, parks, and vineyards, which generates community connectedness and vibrant neighborhoods resulting in a decrease in violence.

*Abandoned housing remediation: A place-based intervention that improves neighborhood conditions by cleaning, maintaining, and beautifying abandoned houses to reduce violence.

*Community-based violence interventions: Train outreach workers who are respected members from the community to detect and prevent potentially violent situations, facilitate connections between high-risk individuals and social services, and shift cultural norms away from using firearms as a means of conflict resolution to reduce firearm injuries.

*Hospital-based violence interventions: Offer comprehensive services, including educational assistance, vocational training, and mental health support, to individuals who have suffered firearm injuries. These programs aim to break the cycle of violence and lower the likelihood of recurrent firearm injury.

STRATEGIES FOR PREVENTING FIREARM VIOLENCE ARE NOT LIMITED TO THIS LIST.