

Gun Violence in Chicago: Uncovering Root Causes & Solutions through Community Voices

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 On behalf of the Chicago Gun Violence Research Coalition (CGVRC)

Now in its second year, the CGVRC fellowship aims to facilitate interviews with Chicagoans who offer valuable perspectives on the root of the city's gun violence epidemic.

Take a Multi-level Approach



Invest in the Youth

“We label them our at risk young people. We gotta get rid of the labels and start seeing them as partners, as resources. They can be solutions to the problems that are going on in the city with gun violence.”

-Jorge Roque, New Life Centers

Build Community Capacity

“The problem are the silos. So many people are doing work that no one else knows about, and so we're not accessing those resources. [We must] connect the community through collaborations and partnerships, so that we [can] leverage our resources.”

-Bradley Johnson, BUILD

Understand Gun Culture

“What generates gun violence is that individuals feel powerless in their life, and this is the first power they hold in their hand. When you grow up being beaten up physically, emotionally, spiritually -- you come across a gun and all of a sudden you feel empowered.”

- Richard Juarez, Lawndale Christian Health Center

Seek Missing Voices

“Have the researchers talk to perpetrators who, people who have actually shot at people, people who have killed people with guns, and ask them their motives. Ask [someone] in jail, and if you get their perspective, you will have an answer to your questions.”

- Richard Juarez, Lawndale Christian Health Center

Community Partners

