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I had the opportunity to work with a community fellow, and that was a great experience. With the help of the community fellow, my team and I could get a better insight into how COVID has affected his community. The community fellow is an active violence interrupter and his work to prevent gun violence in the Greater Englewood neighborhood is crucial. I learned from him and from the two other violence interrupters that to decrease gun violence when need to understand the cause that makes a person use a gun. For these violence interrupters, gun violence goes beyond gang activity. During the interviews with the violence interrupters, all of them identify that a first step to address gun violence is by using a Trauma-Informed glance.

Similarly, this made me reflect on the way gun violence is being addressed. As a future social worker, I believe that to address the root cause of gun violence. We need to understand what causes someone to use and purchase a gun. What makes someone shot? How is our society contributing to this? Overall, I enjoyed being part of the Chicago Gun Violence Collaborative. I learned more about the effects of gun violence and the impact at a micro and macro level.