



Community Gun Violence
Prevention Alliance

Stakeholder Meeting 7

December 11, 2024

[Link to meeting recording](#)
[Link to previous meeting reports](#)

Agenda

1. City of Gainesville Youth Steering Committee Update
2. Ground rules
3. Gainesville Police Dept Data Update
4. Recap of the November 13 meeting
5. Cure Violence Global Presentation

City of Gainesville Youth Steering Committee Update

Christopher Suarez, liaison for the YSC gave an update on their activities. The YSC meets once a month. They attended a City Commission meeting in August and presented some of the solutions to problems they came up with. The City Commission voted to allocate \$173,000 to incorporate some of their solutions and fund additional gun violence programming. They had dinner with Mayor Harvey Ward over the summer YSC continues to work on their professional development skills. They attended a brunch in which they got to meet Shaquille O'Neal. YSC is currently recruiting additional members (4-5) to increase the perspectives on the issues they discuss, specifically from all the local high schools.

GPD update

Major Jaime Kurnick from the Gainesville Police Department gave an update on Gainesville Gun-Related Statistics. She noted a drastic decrease in the number of gun-related violence in the last quarter, particularly in the number of homicides. The number of shots fired was 14 (compared to 25 during the same period last year), and there have been no homicides since May of this year. The information is summarized in Table 1 on the next page.

There were 20 reported stolen firearms (compared to 25 during the same period last year); the period before that it was much higher (35). More than half of the stolen firearms were from vehicles, and most of those cars were unlocked.

The data on death by suicide is not available because those are determined by the medical examiner and there has been turnover in the medical examiner's office. During the first 6 months of the year there were 12 suicides. There is no data available for the second half of the year.

GPD Gun-Related Statistics

Table 1 This year's GPD Gun-related Statistics up to November 30, 2024

Crime	Jan 1—Mar 31, 2024	April 1—Jun 30, 2024	Jul 1—Sept 30, 2024	Oct 1—Nov 30, 2024
Stolen Firearms**	21 (11 Conveyance Burglary)	32 (16 Conveyance Burglary)	25 (16 Conveyance Burglary)	20 (9 Conveyance Burglary)
Firearms Seized/Recovered by LEO***	64	72	68	43
Number of Shots Fired	45	35	25	14
Number of Persons Shot or Injured by Gunfire	13 (3 Accidental)	Updated: 15 (3 Accidental) 16 (3 Accidental)	8 (1 Accidental)	2
Homicide Victims**	6 (5 Gun Related)	2 (2 Gun Related)	0	0
Suicide (From ME)	5	7		?

**Numbers can change due to updates in RMA. Numbers current as of 10/8/24.

***Numbers include any firearms seized as a result of criminal activity, as well as instances where a firearm was located, and could not be tracked back to an owner (i.e. found firearm with no record of being stolen and no owners located).

CVG

Carl Smart introduced Cure Violence Global (CVG). [CVG](#) approaches violence as a public health crisis. The City of Gainesville and Alachua County do so as well. This allows a particular approach to combating violence in the community.

Dr. Monique Williams

Dr. Monique Williams presented CVG to the stakeholders. CVG provides funds to community organizations to combat violence. They submitted a proposal for a Category 4 Grant to the Federal Department of Justice, which awarded \$4 million to CVG for a 36-month project targeting gun violence in two communities: Charlottesville (VA) and Gainesville (FL).

Category 4 grant: Prevention and reduction of violent crime in communities by supporting comprehensive, evidence-based community violence intervention and prevention programs. Three major objectives:

1. Deliver TTA and subawards designed to enhance community partners' capacity to implement and lead community violence intervention strategies.
2. Build community capacity to successfully seek and manage funding to sustain efforts long term
3. Ensure the responsible and effective administration of subawards.

Category 4 Deliverables:

- Develop a solicitation or RFP
- Host a pre-application webinar
- Conduct a CBO selection process to identify subrecipient sites
- Partner with OJP to administer subawards to CBOs
- Conduct meetings with subrecipient CBOs periodically and memorialize the proceedings with meeting notes, transcripts, and/or recordings
- Complete organizational capacity needs assessments for each participating CBO and work with them to prepare a capacity development plan
- Assess the gaps in CBOs capacity to implement CVIPI projects
- Develop CVI framework, tailored for each locale.
- Participate in a Community of Practice with other CVIPI intermediary partners.
- Participate in using an online resource platform.

Proposed project process & activities: Assessment → planning → implementation

- Civic participation
- Leadership
- Skills & resources
- Critical reflection
- Social/interorganizational networks
- Sense of community
- Community power & values

CVG's conceptual model consists of 3 phases with evaluation throughout the process, as presented in Figure 1.

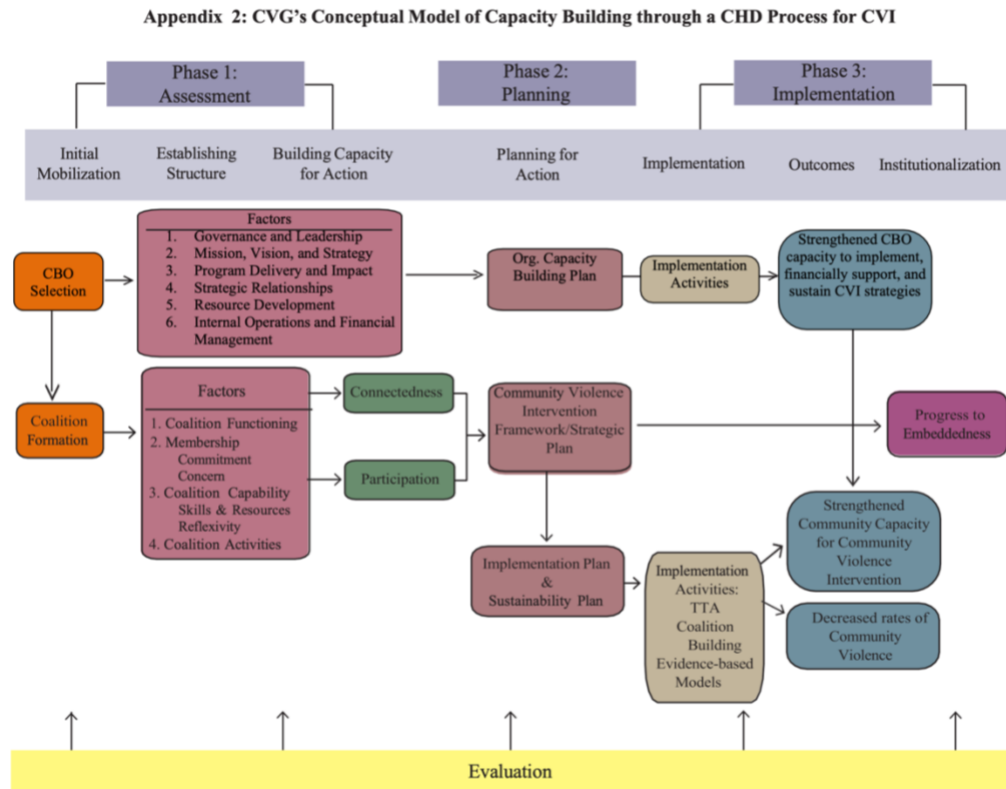


Figure 1 CVG Conceptual Model: Assessment, Planning, and Implementation.

Brent Decker

Brent Decker is the Chief Program Officer of CVG

DOJ Grant Overview

Role of CVG:

- Overall coordination of the grant
- Assessments
- Coordination of evidence-based national partner agreements
- Managing CVI subawards

Health Approach: Violence as a contagion.

- Clustering
- Spreads
- Modes of transmission

We know how to stop epidemics:

1. Interrupt transmission
2. Change behaviors
3. Norm change

CVGs approach has been studied throughout the world, including multiple cities in the US. How does the model interact with existing programs and coalitions?

Anthony Smith

Anthony Smith represents [Cities United](#)

Public Safety Redefined: helping jurisdictions create safe, healthy, and hopeful communities.

Safe: interrupting the cycle of violence

Healthy: dismantling systems of inequity

Hopeful: investing in infrastructure

A new narrative is necessary to address the root causes of gun violence.

1. Publicly identified goal owners and an accountability structure
2. Developed in partnership with those who have been most impacted
3. The plan is built into a strategy that informs the ecosystem

Every city should have a comprehensive public safety plan (=strategic plan) with a long-term vision.

Roadmap to safe, healthy, hopeful communities. How do we implement a plan and how do we sustain it? How do we evaluate ourselves?

Supporting cities in building a comprehensive ecosystem to identify, engage, and support those most at risk.

A fully implemented strategy includes political will from elected and appointed officials, young leaders fully integrated into the planning and implementation, a government office focused on community safety, clear, asset-framed messaging and communication strategy, enhanced community violence intervention system, and cross-sector collaboration.

James “JT” Timpson

JT Timpson is the Managing Director of the [Roca](#) Impact Institute

Roca uses a behavior change model and provides direct service for young people (16-24 years of age), categorized as the highest risk group. JT manages the training and coaching arm, helping to build the tools that fit into the structure that complements the CVG model. Roca developed a cognitive behavior theory, designed to be delivered by non-licensed clinicians, and sometimes by young people to their peers. The theory is based on the idea that behind all violence there is some type of trauma. The approach relies on building trusting relationships, and the development of expanded vocabularies for youth to deal with their emotions.

Erica Atwood

Erica Atwood represents [First Degree Consulting](#) First Degree Consulting's services include:

- Visioning & Short-Term Strategic Planning
- Community Outreach & Coalition Building
- Meeting Design and Execution
- Results based facilitation
- Certified Mediation
- Messaging & Communications Framing
- Authentic Youth Engagement
- Leadership Development
- Mission Alignment & Qualitative Evaluation
- Organizational Capacity Building

Approach:

- Prepare
- Listen
- Envision
- Plan
- Execute
- Evaluate

Deliverables

- Comprehensive needs assessment for each organization
- Organizational development plan for each organization
- Profile each organization to help understand progress made and future needs
- Evaluations of program and technical assistant consultant by participating organizations
- Recommendations to guide the future organizational development support

Comments & Questions

Participants asked the following questions (re-phrased for brevity):

Q= question

A= Answer

C= Comment

C: The county did not have a contract with CVG. The county wants to learn more about the grant award and how we move forward from here. The county is part of the Alliance between the city, the county, and Santa Fe College as the facilitator, and we are committed to working with the Alliance. The county and city commissions will decide how we will move forward.

C: The city was not aware of CVGs proposal.

A: The understanding was that the city was not interested in the process.

C. If that's what Dr. Williams was told, she was told something wrong.

A: It's not strange for CVG to be engaged by the city or the county.

C: The city is doing a lot of work to combat gun violence. Dr Williams said that CVG received a letter of support from Pastor Duncan and one from the county. Pastor Duncan took full responsibility. He pursued CVG to impact the community. He apologized to the City Manager. He should have come to her to keep her informed. Pastor Duncan also said that he'd never heard the city manager say that she was not interested in working with CVG.

Q: Was the grant awarded?

A: Yes.

Q: Was the City of Gainesville specifically named in the grant?

A: The grant quoted Gainesville statistics, but Alachua County was named in the grant.

Q: How is the coalition addressing suicide deaths?

A: CVG does not have a suicide focus. Roca has a trauma focus, and some of the skills they use come specifically out of the depression literature.

Q: What are the plans for being able to engage and fund the very smallest of frontline community groups, those without staff, for example?

A: We like bringing everybody to the table and seeing what everybody has got to say.

Q: What percentage of deaths in Alachua County slash Gainesville are homicides?

A: Data is not immediately available.

Q: How are anti-LGBTQ hate crimes with firearms addressed?

A: The focus is community violence intervention. If it comes up that one of the drivers of the violence is hate crimes, we start down the path of those conversations.

Q: Who is going to be the point person for coordinating the work in Gainesville?

A: A project director will be hired. That individual won't be local. CVG does support, management, and coordination, but the person will be there often. The people that will do the everyday work will be local.

Q: Who will be the organizations that CVG works with?

A: CVG cannot pre-choose the organizations. It has to go through the RFP process as determined by the DOJ.

C: The grant doesn't mention the county much, but it does mention Gainesville, which refers to the City of Gainesville, which is separate from the county. Q: When CVG goes into cities that have pre-existing infrastructure, how does it determine how much of the CVG model is implemented?

A: CVG goes into cities with pre-existing infrastructure all the time. They do an assessment and find that sometimes those programs don't work. CVG builds on the model that is already in place.

C: One of our difficulties as a community in obtaining certain grants has been the diversity of our county and the kind of communities we have. I must commend you for getting that grant, if you got it for the county, it makes a lot of sense. But if you got it for the city, ugh! You might want to change that to the county.

A: To clarify, the grant is for the county, we used the Gainesville data because that is what we had.

C. I spent time in Chicago and heard nothing but great things about the work that Cure Violence Global is doing. I worked over 30 years in this city collaboratively with the city, the county, the Sheriff's department and GPD and hope that we can move forward.

C: I'm looking forward to having further conversations about how the model fits into what the city's doing because I think there is absolutely an opportunity to partner. I just want to make that clear as the staff person that oversees gun violence work, that I was never told about this grant. I'm grateful for the opportunity to talk and hash out what this looks like.

Q: Now it looks like the CBO and coalitions interact at the beginning and then run 2 separate tracks. Are there cross-connections that aren't shown?

A: Yes, to ensure that the image doesn't have arrows running everywhere.

C: Unlike Chicago, Gainesville has a fragmented community.