



CURE VIOLENCE HOSPITAL RESPONSE

An integrated hospital and community approach to preventing violence

The Cure Violence Hospital Response Program partners with local hospital trauma centers to provide a comprehensive response whenever a gunshot, stabbing, or blunt trauma victim arrives at the hospital. Program staff intervened during the critical window after a violent incident to prevent retaliation and interrupt the cycle of violence.

Cure Violence Model



1. Detect and interrupt the transmission of violence.

Anticipate where violence may occur and intervene before it erupts.



2. Change the behavior of the highest potential transmitters.

Identify those at highest risk for violence and work to change their behavior.



3. Change community norms.

Influence social norms to discourage the use of violence.



"It is not one or two kids. I'm talking about a serious number of people whose lives have been impacted so enormously that I cannot give it the billing it deserves."

Dr. Steve Salzman, Trauma Surgeon
Advocate Christ Medical Center

HOW CURE VIOLENCE HOSPITAL RESPONSE WORKS

Immediately upon a patient's arrival in the emergency room, medical staff contacts the Hospital Response Hotline and a Hospital Responder arrives at the patient's emergency room bedside within the hour.



Hospital Responders

- “Credible messengers” from the community, similar backgrounds to trauma victims
- Trained in crisis intervention, trauma-informed care, and de-escalation
- Provide immediate intervention to prevent retaliatory violence from family, friends, or the victim
- Use persuasive dialogue and motivational interviewing techniques, capitalizing on this potential turning point, to encourage the victim to set a new course



Community Staff

- Hospital responders activate community-based staff in program site to intervene in the neighborhood to prevent ongoing violence.



Case Managers

- Provide support to victims as they transition back into the community
- Coordinate long-term recovery, community-based support, and connect patients to outpatient counseling, job training, employment and education services in an effort to prevent re-injury or retaliation
- Provide assistance during hospital stay and at the trauma follow-up clinic in order to pair prevention intervention with all clinical care

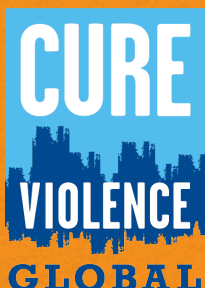
Results

↓ 50%

Evaluation of the Cure Violence Hospital Response Program in Chicago found that it was associated with an almost 50% decrease in readmission for violent injury over three years. Similar hospital programs have been found to reduce retaliatory violence, prevent increasingly injurious and frequently fatal hospital readmissions, and drastically reduce the costs of violent injury.

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How Cure Violence Can Help

- A proven theory of change - across types of violence
- Training in implementing health approach
- Community assessment and capacity building
- Interruption and outreach training
- Cure Violence Model replication
- Immediate and sustained reductions in violence