THE EVIDENCE OF Effectiveness

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Cure Violence Global™ (CVG) pioneered a community health approach to preventing violence over 20 years ago because it saw the existing paradigm as both ineffective and toxic.

CVG’s public health approach views violence through an epidemiological lens, as a learned, transmissible behavior, which can be interrupted. CVG trains carefully selected community partners and local credible messengers to detect and interrupt conflict, promote safer and healthier behaviors and life directions among high-risk individuals, and build healthy social norms.

The approach’s efficacy has been demonstrated through independently funded and independently conducted multi-year, multi-site, mixed methods scientific evaluations that show 40-70% reductions in shootings and killings in the hardest hit communities in the U.S. and Latin America. In some cases, killings and shootings drop by 90% and retaliation killings stop completely. These evaluations also document other positive effects, including increased feelings of community safety, positive parenting outcomes, improved employment and education outcomes, changes in community norms about violence, among others.

CVG’s health-based approach not only reduces and prevents violence, it also builds local capacity and promotes social and economic growth. Additionally, a core component of the approach involves connecting high risk individuals with resources for job readiness, education, and health services.

Now is the time for transformative investment in the public health approach to violence prevention. CVG is positioned to help ensure that communities can achieve maximum results and impact.
The Cure Violence® model is based on the World Health Organization’s approach to reversing the epidemic spread of infectious diseases such as AIDS, tuberculosis, and cholera. The model applies three proven epidemic control strategies to stop violence. Trained, culturally appropriate workers interrupt the transmission of violence, prevent its future spread, and transform community norms.

The model has been successfully replicated in diverse settings, proving its effectiveness across a variety of communities, cultures, and ethnic groups.

THREE STRATEGIES

1. **Detect and Interrupt Potentially Violent Conflicts.**
   Violence interrupters are a new category of health workers who prevent violence by identifying and mediating potentially lethal conflicts in the community and following up to ensure conflict does not reignite.

2. **Identify and Treat Individuals at the Highest Risk.**
   Outreach workers help those at the highest risk to steer them away from violence by talking in their terms, discussing the costs of using violence, and helping them to obtain support and social services (e.g., education, job training, drug treatment) to foster long term behavior change and changes in life course.

3. **Mobilize the Community to Change Norms.**
   Workers engage community leaders, local business owners, residents, faith leaders, and particularly individuals at high risk, to shift the message, expectations, and norms around violence for the long term.

CREDIBLE WORKERS
Public health outreach strategies regularly employ workers who share the same background and come from the same neighborhood as those who need to be reached—in this case those most at risk for violence. Cure Violence sites hire violence interrupters and outreach workers who already have the trust of community members and are able to influence and change behavior.

THE Cure Violence Theory of Change

- Stop violent events before they happen
- Reduced violence
- Change community norms
- Create social pressure to stop violence
- Reduced number of violent individuals
- Identify and change the thinking of highest potential transmitters
- Interrupt transmission
## Summary of Independent Evaluations on Cure Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City/Region</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Major Findings</th>
<th>Other Findings</th>
<th>Research by (Funder)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cali (Colombia)</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>30% - 47% reduction in killings</td>
<td>40% participants went back to school</td>
<td>ICESI University (Alvaralice, Cali)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Port of Spain (Trinidad)</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>45% reduction in violent crime</td>
<td>39% reduction in shootings</td>
<td>Arizona State University (IADB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City (USA)</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>63% reduction in shooting victimizations</td>
<td>33% positive shift in norms</td>
<td>John Jay College of Criminal Justice (RWJF, NYC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia (USA)</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>30% reduction in shootings</td>
<td>2.4 shootings prevented per month</td>
<td>Temple University (DOJ)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago (USA)</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>31% reduction in killings</td>
<td>19% reduction in shootings</td>
<td>University of Illinois &amp; University of Chicago (McCormick Fdn.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City (USA)</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>20% reduction in shootings</td>
<td>norm change</td>
<td>Center for Court Innovation (DOJ)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore (USA)</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>56% reduction in killings</td>
<td>34% reduction in shootings</td>
<td>Johns Hopkins University (CDC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago (USA)</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>41% - 73% reduction in shootings</td>
<td>100% reduction in retaliation killings</td>
<td>Northwestern University (DOJ)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Summary of Studies & Reports on Cure Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>MAJOR FINDINGS</th>
<th>OTHER FINDINGS</th>
<th>RESEARCH BY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>San Pedro Sula (Honduras)</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>94% reduction in shootings</td>
<td>80% reduction in shootings</td>
<td>University of Illinois - Chicago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simulation (USA)</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>13% reduction in violent victimization</td>
<td>19% reduction with CV and more police</td>
<td>University of California - Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Orleans (USA)</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>56% reduction in shootings</td>
<td>85% reduction in retaliation killings</td>
<td>City of New Orleans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore (USA)</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>43% improvement in violence norms</td>
<td>Overall improvement in attitudes</td>
<td>Johns Hopkins University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loiza, PR (USA)</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>58% reduction in killings</td>
<td>38% reduction in total crime</td>
<td>University of Puerto Rico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Salvador (El Salvador)</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>64% of clients say violent behavior has dropped</td>
<td>2.4 shootings prevented per month</td>
<td>Save the Children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halifax (Canada)</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>100% reduction in killings</td>
<td>Successful adaptation</td>
<td>Dalhousie University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cookham Wood (UK)</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>95% reduction in group attacks</td>
<td>50% reduction in overall violence</td>
<td>Cure Violence &amp; Metropolitan Univ. of London</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York (USA)</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>18% reduction in killings</td>
<td>69% increase in control community</td>
<td>John Jay College of Criminal Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas City (USA)</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>42% reduction in killings</td>
<td>166 conflicts mediated</td>
<td>University of Kansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cape Town (South Africa)</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>38% reduction in killings</td>
<td>32% reduction in shootings</td>
<td>University of Cape Town</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago (USA)</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>45% reduction in re-injury</td>
<td>- -</td>
<td>Advocate Christ Medical Center</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Two studies (Baltimore 2021 and 2018) are excluded from this table due to lack of significant finding, but are included in this report.*
Cali, Colombia Evaluation (2020)

- 47% reduction in killings in Charco Azul community
- 30% reduction in killings in Comuneros community

FINDINGS

VIOLENCE REDUCTION
Implementation of the Cure Violence strategy between 2017 and 2019 showed significant results in Cali, Colombia. The program sought to reduce violence (homicides, injuries, and shootings) caused by young people in the neighborhoods of Charco Azul and the settlements of Comuneros.

The main results of this project included the reduction of violent dynamics in both neighborhoods. Through program implementation, the following outcomes were achieved:

- Between 2017 and 2019, homicides were reduced by 47% in Charco Azul and by 30% in the intervention area in Comuneros.
- 307 high-risk youths voluntarily joined the project (129 in Comuneros and 178 in Charco Azul).
- 40% of the young people linked to the project went back to school.

DATA
Crime data from the Crime Observatory of the National Police for homicides, personal injuries, threats, sexual violence, domestic violence, theft, and arrests from 2010 to 2019 was collected and sorted by neighborhood.

ABOUT THE EVALUATION

METHODS
The study defined its dependent variables as: the number of homicides, the number of personal injuries, and the number of threats that occur in intervention neighborhoods.

EVALUATION TEAM
- ICESI University (Instituto Colombiano de Estudios Superiores de Incolda), Social Impact Measurement Laboratory

EVALUATION FUNDING
- Fundación Alvaralice
- Ciudadana de la Alcaldía de Cali.

CITATION
Port of Spain, Trinidad Evaluation (2018)

- 45.1% lower violent crime
- 38.7% reduction in shootings (hospital injury)
- 23% reduction in calls to police for violent crime

FINDINGS

VIOLENT CRIME
One year after the launch of Cure Violence programming, the violent crime rate in the treatment area was 45.1% lower than in the comparison area. Two years after the launch, the violent crime rate in the treatment area was 44.9% lower than in the comparison area.

CALLS FOR SERVICE TO POLICE
Calls to police for murders, shootings, and woundings decreased in the treatment area by 22.6% and increased in the comparison area by 10%, a statistically significant difference.

HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS FOR GUNSHOT WOUNDS
The time series for the analyses ran from January 2010 to September 2017 and the results showed a clear pattern in the data, a statistically significant reduction in monthly shootings of roughly 38.7%.

NATIONAL SURVEY
Cure Violence was found to be effective in reducing fear of crime in the treatment communities with a small to medium effect size.

COST SAVINGS
Findings from the cost-effectiveness evaluation showed that Cure Violence cost, on average, approximately US$3,500 to US$4,500 for every violent incident it prevented.

ABOUT THE EVALUATION

DATA
- Reported crime (murders, attempted murders, shootings, and woundings)
- Hospital admissions for gunshot wounds
- Calls for service to police for violent crime

METHODS
A comprehensive, mixed-methods evaluation of the Cure Violence initiative was conducted from July 2015 to August 2017. The evaluation included a quasi-experimental impact evaluation using a synthetic control method and interrupted time series analysis, as well as quantitative findings on changes in participants’ behaviors and attitudes, a national survey, and a cost-effectiveness analysis.

EVALUATION TEAM
Arizona State University

EVALUATION FUNDING
Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)

CITATION

"Our study actually showed really powerful effects."
- Edward Maguire
Lead Evaluator
New York City Evaluation (2017)

- South Bronx: 63% reduction in shootings
- East New York: 50% reduction in gun injuries

FINDINGS

VIOLENCE REDUCTION

Gun injury rates fell by half (50%) in East New York while the matched comparison area for East New York (Flatbush) experienced only a 5% decline. The area of the South Bronx served by Cure Violence experienced strong and significant declines in both measures of gun violence: a 37% decline in gun injuries and a 63% reduction in shooting victimizations, compared with 29% and 17% reductions in the comparison area (East Harlem).

NORM CHANGE

The presence of Cure Violence in a neighborhood was associated with greater reductions in social norms that support violence when compared with similar neighborhoods without Cure Violence programs. Young men living in neighborhoods with Cure Violence programs expressed fewer violence endorsing norms over time in hypothetical scenarios involving both petty and serious disputes.

Cure Violence sites were also associated with a shift in attitudes towards police. Young men surveyed in the Cure Violence areas reported an increased willingness to call police and an increased trust in police.

"[Cure Violence] is potentially very cost-efficient, and it places less demand on the political and administrative resources of law enforcement and the larger criminal justice system. For this reason alone, the model deserves additional investment."

- Jeff Butts
  Lead Evaluator

ABOUT THE EVALUATION

DATA
- Gun injury data from New York State Dept. of Health
- Shooting victimization data from NYPD
- Community survey

METHODS

The study examined multi-year trends in gun violence using time series analysis and expressed norms about violence to test whether conditions improved after the implementation of the Cure Violence approach. Using police, hospital, and survey data, researchers created two measures of gun violence (monthly shooting victimizations and gun injuries) and two measures of social norms related to violence among young male residents ages 18 to 30 (willingness to use violence in petty and serious conflicts).

EVALUATION TEAM

John Jay College of Criminal Justice Research and Evaluation Center

EVALUATION FUNDING

- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- New York City Council
- NYC Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice

CITATION

New York City Evaluation Findings

**Violence Reduction**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Gun Injuries</th>
<th>Shooting Victimization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Man Up! East NY, Brooklyn</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Save Our Streets South Bronx</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gun Injuries**
Program site outperformed control

**Shooting Victimization**
Program site outperformed control

**Norm Change**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Support for use of violence</th>
<th>Police/Community relations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For serious disputes</td>
<td>-33%</td>
<td>+22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For petty disputes</td>
<td>-20%</td>
<td>+22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Norm Change for Serious Disputes**
Program site outperformed control

**Willingness to Call Police**
Program site outperformed control

- 30% lower shooting rate

**FINDINGS**

**VIOLENCE REDUCTION**

Implementation of the Cure Violence approach (known locally as Philadelphia Ceasefire) was associated with a statistically significant reduction in shootings in Police Service Areas (PSAs) 221, 222 and 393. The reduction was equivalent to 2.4 shootings per month per 10,000 residents.

Comparing the 24 months before implementation of the Cure Violence model to the 24 months after implementation showed that the model was likely associated with a 30% reduction in the rate of shootings in the three PSAs. Although in some statistical models, comparison groups also showed reductions in shootings, these reductions were either not statistically significant or not as large as those in the Cure Violence target areas.

**ABOUT THE EVALUATION**

**DATA**

Address-level data for all criminal shootings was received from the Philadelphia Police Department for the period 2003 through March 2015.

**METHODS**

Rates were created using the number of residents per Census Block Group. The evaluation assessed the effects of implementation on total shootings (all ages of victims) and shootings of individuals between the ages of 10 and 35. The unit of analysis for the evaluation was monthly shooting rates per 10,000 residents. The time series models utilized 123 months in the pre-implementation period and 24 months in the post-implementation period.

**EVALUATION TEAM**

- Temple Univ., Dept of Criminal Justice
- Temple Univ., Lewis Katz School of Medicine
- John Jay College of Criminal Justice Research and Evaluation Center

**EVALUATION FUNDING**

- US Dept of Justice, National Institute of Justice

**CITATION**

Chicago Evaluation (2014)

- 31% reduction in killings
- 19% reduction in shootings

FINDINGS

VIOLENCE REDUCTION
The results of the quantitative analyses evaluating change in violent crime from the year prior to intervention found a 31% overall reduction in homicides compared to a 24% reduction in the city overall. Shootings decreased by 19%, comparable to the remainder of the city. Additional analyses found immediate reductions in violent crime in both Woodlawn and North Lawndale, with stronger effects found in North Lawndale.

MENTORING, EMPLOYMENT, & MORE
The results of the qualitative analysis point to the effectiveness of Cure Violence workers in reaching high-risk individuals within the community, in large part due to the credibility workers have within the community. Both high-risk clients and non-clients pointed to mentoring, particularly around employment, and opportunities to “get off the street”, as particularly effective in reducing individual involvement in violence. Cure Violence staff’s impact went beyond the interruption of violence by also interrupting the extreme isolation that high-risk youth experienced, providing opportunities for youth to view life beyond their immediate block.

ABOUT THE EVALUATION

DATA
- Violent crime data
- Community interviews

METHODS
Propensity scores were used for selecting comparison areas and regression point displacement design and interrupted time series design were used to analyze effects of program implementation on violent crime.

EVALUATION TEAM
- University of Illinois at Chicago, Institute for Health Research and Policy
- University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration

EVALUATION FUNDING
McCormick Tribune Foundation

CITATION


"These findings add to a growing body of evidence supporting the effectiveness of [Cure Violence’s] intervention for reducing violence."

- Chicago Evaluation
New York City Evaluation (2013)

• Brooklyn Site: 20% lower shooting rate

FINDINGS

VIOLENCE REDUCTION
Results showed that average monthly shooting rates in Crown Heights decreased by 6% from the pre to the post periods, while increasing in the three comparison areas between 18% and 28%. The analysis suggested that gun violence in Crown Heights was 20% lower with Cure Violence intervention than it would have been had gun violence trends mirrored those of similar, adjacent precincts.

NORM CHANGE
Results suggested that perceptions shifted noticeably toward a belief that a community mobilization campaign could be effective in bringing down gun violence, with respondents who had been part of shooting responses more likely to feel that the campaign was “very likely” to reduce gun violence.

ABOUT THE EVALUATION

DATA
Official New York City Police Department COMPSTAT reports of shootings incidents, and a two-wave community survey.

METHODS
An interrupted time series method was used to analyze the impact of the Cure Violence approach on gun violence. The analysis compared Crown Heights to a matched comparison group of three adjacent police precincts with similar demographic and baseline violent crime rates. The comparison precincts approximately corresponded to the neighborhoods of Brownsville, East Flatbush, and parts of Bedford-Stuyvesant. The analysis spanned 18 months prior to implementation (pre period) and 21 months following implementation (post period).

EVALUATION TEAM
Center for Court Innovation

EVALUATION FUNDING
US Dept of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance

CITATION
Baltimore Evaluation (2012)

- 56% reductions in killings, 34% in shootings in one community
- Reductions across all 4 communities: Cherry Hill, McElderry Park, Ellwood Park, and Madison-Eastend
- Norms changed – less likely to accept use of a gun

FINDINGS

VIOLENCE REDUCTION
In Cherry Hill, the Cure Violence approach was associated with statistically significant reductions of 56% in homicide incidents and 34% in nonfatal shootings. McElderry Park did not experience a killing during the first 22 months of program implementation and killings dropped by 53% when the approach was fully implemented. Both Ellwood Park and Madison-Eastend’s Cure Violence interventions were associated with statistically significant reductions in nonfatal shootings (34% and 44%, respectively). There was also evidence that positive program effects extended into areas bordering the neighborhoods that implemented Cure Violence.

NORM CHANGE
Surveys found that residents in the program target area were much more likely to believe that it was okay to use a gun to resolve disputes, and were four times more likely to have the lowest level of support (“little or no”) for using violence.

ABOUT THE EVALUATION

DATA
- Crime data from homicide and nonfatal shootings
- Community survey

METHODS
Regression models were used to control for several possible confounders including measures of police initiatives directed at reducing neighborhood gun violence, arrests for weapon and drug violations, and baseline levels of homicide and nonfatal shootings.

EVALUATION TEAM
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

EVALUATION FUNDING
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Baltimore City Health Department

CITATION

"I just shook my head in disbelief at what they could do. It’s really changed my view about what’s possible."
- Daniel Webster
Lead Evaluator
Chicago Evaluation (2009)

- 41% to 73% reduction in shootings
- Hot spots cooled by up to 40%
- 100% reduction in retaliation killings

FINDINGS

VIOLENCE REDUCTION
The time series analysis of trends in three measures – all shots, actual shootings, and gun homicides – found reductions across all sites. For shootings, reductions ranged from 41% to 73% across seven sites. Reductions of 16% to 22% across four sites were specifically attributed to the program.

HOT SPOT REDUCTION
Density of hot spots reduced in all program sites from 6% to 40%, with reductions in four program sites specifically attributable to the program.

RETAILIATION KILLINGS
Five sites were found to have eliminated (100% reduction) retaliation killings.

NORM CHANGE
Clients reported stepping in to interrupt conflicts and discourage the use of violence. A survey of clients revealed that 82% received training in conflict mediation, 59% stopped a conflict in the community, and 60% talked someone out of using a gun.

HELP WITH PERSONAL ISSUES
Almost everyone (89% to 99%) who reported personal problems indicated that Cure Violence was able to help them. Overall, clients reported having an average of 2.6 problems and received help for an average of 2.3 problems. In total, clients obtained assistance for 88% of the problems they reported facing.

ABOUT THE EVALUATION

DATA
- Crime data - homicide and shootings
- Community, partner, client, and staff surveys
- Intensive program observation

METHODS
The evaluation of Cure Violence had both process and outcome components. The process portion documented how the program looked in the field, including surveys of staff, clients, local partners, and the community.

The outcome evaluation used time series analysis, hot spot maps and gang network analyses to assess the program's impact on shootings and killings. Crime data for the study were aggregated from a citywide database including 9.9 million individual incidents of all kinds that were reported to the Chicago police over 16 years.

EVALUATION TEAM
- Northwestern University, Institute for Policy Research
- Korean Advanced Institute of Science & Technology
- Loyola University-Chicago
- University of Massachusetts-Amherst

EVALUATION FUNDING
Dept of Justice, National Institute of Justice

CITATION
Chicago Evaluation Findings

**Violence Reduction**
- 41% to 73% reduction in shootings
- 15% to 40% cooling of hot spots
- 100% reduction in retaliation killings

**Norm Change**
- 44% received help interrupting a conflict from CVG
- 82% received training on mediating conflicts
- 59% stepped in to mediate a conflict on the streets
- 60% talked to someone else about not using a gun

**Client Assistance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Employment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>52% named their outreach worker as someone they could rely on (2nd only to a parent)</td>
<td>79% were very satisfied with the employment assistance received</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85% were very satisfied with their outreach worker’s ability to deal with difficult personal issues</td>
<td>52% who got help finding a job were later working full or part time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88% received assistance for problems they faced</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100% clients said Cure Violence could change minds about shootings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99% reported program had a positive impact on their lives</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Very Credible Staff**
- 99% reported their outreach worker was connected to streets (82% “very connected”)
- 77-90% felt comfortable talking to outreach workers about issues
- 91% were very satisfied with their outreach worker’s ability to listen

**Collaboration**
- 737 collaborating partners
  - clergy
  - service providers
  - political leaders
  - schools
  - police
  - businesses

**Employment**
- 79% were very satisfied with the employment assistance received
- 52% who got help finding a job were later working full or part time

**School**
- 30% who got help with school had completed high school

**Criminal Justice System**
- 72% had outreach worker go to court with them
- 60% talked to outreach worker about police abuse
The study used a comparative case study design to estimate the impact of Safe Streets on killings and nonfatal shootings for each site operating in Baltimore from 2007–2017.

**VIOLENCE REDUCTION**
Disparate results were found across sites. Cherry Hill had a reduction in homicides across a seven-year period, and an initial increase in and then decrease in nonfatal shootings. Sandtown-Winchester sites had a reduction in homicides, but not nonfatal shootings. Madison-Eastend and Mondawmin sites had increases in homicides and nonfatal shootings, the former was the center of a gang war and the latter was a center for the 2015 social protests. Lower Park Heights had nonsignificant decreases in both homicides and nonfatal shootings. This study did not examine or account for variations in implementation fidelity across sites.

**CITATION**

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The study used time series analysis to estimate the impact of Safe Streets on killings and nonfatal shootings.

**VIOLENCE REDUCTION**
Averaged across all sites and all time periods, Safe Streets sites had an 8% to 9% reduction in nonfatal shootings and a reduction in killings; however, the reductions were not statistically significant. Estimated effects for specific sites revealed statistically significant results: a reduction in killings of 39% in Cherry Hill and a doubling in killings in Ellwood Park. For nonfatal shootings, Cherry Hill had a 30% reduction, three other sites had reductions in shootings of 17% to 37%, and Sandtown-Winchester had an increase; however, none of the changes were statistically significant. This study did not examine or account for variations in implementation fidelity across sites.

**CITATIONS**

The Cure Violence model was adapted to reduce violence in San Pedro Sula. The final report details the adaptations made and the impact of the approach on violence.

**VIOLENCE REDUCTION**

Implementation began in three areas of Chamelecón in April 2013. Across three sites, shootings dropped by 80%, from 150 incidents from April to December 2013, to only 30 incidents during the same period in 2014. The largest reduction in magnitude occurred in Zone 3, which had 58 fewer shootings, a drop of 87%. The largest reduction in percentage was in Zone 1, which had a 100% drop in shootings, from 25 to zero. Zone 2 had 27 fewer shootings, a 64% reduction.

Implementation in Zones 4 and 5 began in January 2014. Across the five sites, shootings dropped by 94%, going from 89 incidents from January to May 2013, to only five incidents during the same period in 2015. The largest reduction occurred in Zone 2, which had 30 fewer shootings, a drop of 100%.

**CITATION**


Impact Simulation (2018)

Researchers used an agent-based model to simulate the effects of Cure Violence and policing approaches in New York City.

**VIOLENCE REDUCTION**

Implementing the violence interrupter intervention for 10 years decreased victimization by 13%. Implementing hot-spots policing and doubling the police force for 10 years reduced annual victimization by about 11%. Increasing the police force by 40% combined with implementing the violence interrupter intervention for 10 years decreased violence by 19%.

**CITATIONS**


"Overall, the results in San Pedro were very strong. Large drops in violence occurred in every program site, with average reductions in shootings of 88% in 2014 and 94% in 2015."

- Honduras Evaluation

"We found investment in Cure Violence could actually achieve the same reduction in victimization as did a much larger investment in targeted policing."

- Katherine Keyes Evaluator
New Orleans Report (2016)

The Cure Violence approach was implemented in the Central City neighborhood of New Orleans to reduce street violence. The program began operations in December 2012 and expanded to include a hospital component in fall 2013.

VIOLENCE REDUCTION

An analysis of crime and victimization data compared rates before and after implementation. It found that violence was reduced across several measures, including overall shooting rate, total shooting victims, and for specific groups of people at higher risk, including young men and group-involved men.

CITATION


Baltimore Study (2016)

The study looked at attitudes toward guns and shootings among high-risk individuals ages 18 to 24 in two Baltimore City neighborhoods pre-implementation and one year post-implementation of the Cure Violence intervention.

VIOLENCE REDUCTION

There was a statistically significantly 43% improvement in the attitudes assessed in the intervention community post-intervention compared to 13% improvement in the control community. Exposure to the intervention (e.g., seeing “stop shooting” signs in your neighborhood) was also associated with nonviolent attitudes. Overall, the study found greater improvement in attitudes toward violence in the intervention community following implementation.

CITATION

The report examined implementation of the Cure Violence approach in Loiza, Puerto Rico, which began in January 2012.

VIOLENCE REDUCTION
Crime data from the Puerto Rico Police Department showed that killings in the program area went from 43 (2011) to 20 (2012), a 57.5% reduction. Total incidents of crime in Loiza reduced from 469 (2011) to 292 (2012).

Analysis found that 59% of mediations had firearms at the location and 47% involved group-related violence.

SAVE THE CHILDREN


In collaboration with Cure Violence, Save the Children and APRODEHNI (Asociación Para Los Derechos Humanos De La Niñez) implemented an innovative project aimed at detecting and interrupting violent activities.

VIOLENCE REDUCTION
In a survey of clients, 64% of respondents said there had been a reduction in violent activity in the past year compared to the previous year.

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Halifax, Canada Report (2016)

The report examined implementation of the Cure Violence approach in Halifax, Canada over four years.

VIOLENCE REDUCTION
The intervention sites experienced a general downward trend in violent crimes, shootings, and killings. From May 2014 to December 2016, there were no killings in the program’s target areas.

"The program has been a total success for statistically lowering the deaths of the population they service/work with."
- Loiza Evaluation

"The model ... is an intervention that has the potential to consolidate itself in a true country response to the violence that overwhelms us."
- San Salvador Evaluation

"We’ve stopped some things from escalating, and we’ve caught some things on the back end to stop the retaliation. So I feel we have made a big difference."
- Halifax Evaluation
The Cure Violence approach was adapted to a juvenile prison setting for a one-year pilot project in 2013. Analysis of the impact of the program was conducted by Cure Violence staff using public data sources.

**VIOLENCE REDUCTION**

There was a 95% reduction in group violence, from 59 incidents in the prior year to three in the intervention year. There was also a 96% reduction in the number of young people involved in group violence, from 229 young people in the prior year to three in the intervention year, and a 50% reduction in violence among young people overall.

Violence decreased by another measure as well—the number of times that prison staff utilized various disciplinary or management approaches. The number of times that control and restraint was used dropped by 61%, the number of adjudications dropped by 44%, and the number of times that a "keep apart" list was utilized dropped by 74%.

After the one-year pilot ended, violence increased sharply in the prison. Assault incidents increased by 199% in 2014, and by 2018 assaults were up 360% from 2013 levels. Assaults on prison staff increased by 108% in 2014 and 554% by 2018. Serious assaults also increased from 0 in 2013 to 20 in 2014 (and 17 in 2018).

**CITATIONS**

**New York City Report (2015)**

Researchers at John Jay College of Criminal Justice analyzed crime data to compare areas with and without Cure Violence programs.

**VIOLENCE REDUCTION**
The presence of the Cure Violence programs was associated with an 18% drop in killings between 2010 and 2013, while killings in the comparison areas were 69% higher in 2013 than in 2010.

**CITATION**

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**UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS**

**Kansas City Report (2014)**

Between 2009 and 2015, the University of Kansas published annual reports on Kansas City’s implementation of Cure Violence, which examined program activities and outcomes.

**EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING, & MORE**
Of surveyed clients, 67% indicated that Cure Violence outreach workers assisted them in getting their needs for employment, housing, and other assistance met.

**NORM CHANGE**
The majority of survey participants (85%) reported having received conflict mediation training, and 71% of respondents were satisfied with their ability to mediate a conflict without violence. All participants indicated that they felt the program had positively impacted their lives and that it can change people’s minds about shooting, with nearly 76% of the respondents strongly agreeing.

**VIOLENCE REDUCTION**
Between 2013 and 2014, there was a decrease of eight homicides, a 42.1% reduction, and eight firearm aggravated assaults, a 4% reduction, in the A4P priority area.

**CITATION**

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"When compared with similarly situated neighborhoods not served by Cure Violence, areas of New York City that implemented Cure Violence programs in 2010 tended to experience greater declines in homicide by 2013."

- New York City Evaluation

"The street intervention workers offer a range of supports to the participants to assist them in attaining their goals and supporting positive lifestyle behavior changes."

- Kansas City Evaluation
Cape Town, South Africa Report (2014)

The report examined the implementation of the approach in Hanover Park in the first year.

VIOLENCE REDUCTION
In the first six months of the program, there was a 64% reduction in gang-related crimes. An internal gang conflict resulted in incidents, but an overall reduction of 34% in fatal and nonfatal shootings for the year was maintained.

CITATION

ADVOCATE CHRIST MEDICAL CENTER

Chicago Hospital Analysis (2014)

The study evaluated a hospital-situated intervention program aimed at disrupting the pattern of violent re-injury. It analyzed re-injury rates in the 48 months following injury among gunshot wound patients who received services from Cure Violence compared to those gunshot wound patients who did not.

VIOLENCE REDUCTION
Program participants were nearly half as likely to be readmitted for a violent injury. Only 6% (n=18) of subjects in the intervention group vs. 11% (n=33) of subjects in the non-intervention group returned to the same hospital with a new violent injury.

CITATIONS
Salzman, Steven, et al. (2014). Violence prevention programs are effective when intervention is initiated during the initial workup of violently injured patients in a urban level 1 trauma center. Unpublished manuscript.
INDEPENDENT ANALYSIS

Return on Investment

It is estimated that violence costs the United States $153-$173 billion dollars each year. Investing in effective violence prevention not only saves lives, it also saves money.

An analysis estimating the cost savings specifically attributable to Cure Violence was conducted by Dr. Sherry Towers, an independent researcher and statistician. Dr. Towers was contracted by Cure Violence Global to analyze open source crime data for the city of Chicago along with program data from Cure Violence Chicago and data from existing studies on costs of violence to calculate the return on investment for implementing the Cure Violence approach in Chicago. The analysis determined that the Cure Violence approach saved millions of dollars for every killing prevented.

Based on an analysis of 10 years (2006 to 2015) of Cure Violence implementation in Chicago, Dr. Towers found that $33 was saved for every $1 spent, with $4 in government savings.

A cost effectiveness analysis in the Trinidad and Tobago evaluation found that the Cure Violence approach prevented 218 gunshot hospital admissions at an average program cost of only US$4,300 per prevented injury.

CURE VIOLENCE SAVES $33 FOR EVERY $1 SPENT
"Fund Cure Violence and similar proven effective violence interruption models to stop violent incidents before they begin."

**Sen. Bernie Sanders**  
Member of US Senate (VT-D) and Former Presidential Candidate  
Quote from his Presidential Platform

"Cure Violence has given hope to millions by demonstrating that violence can be stopped using the strategies of public health."

**Risa Lavizzo-Mourey**  
Former President  
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

"From an evaluation of [Cure Violence] Chicago, we learned the value of a public health approach to public safety. And we learned that targeting a small, high-risk population can have significant, broader benefits."

**Eric Holder**  
Former Attorney General of the United States

"In 2005, I visited [Cure Violence] Chicago and saw how this program has revolutionized the city's approach to eradicating youth violence."

**Laura Bush**  
Former First Lady of the United States

"...invest in proven strategies. Proven strategies like community violence interruption - trusted messengers breaking the cycle of violence and trauma and giving young people some hope."

**President Joe Biden**  
President of the United States (D)  
State of the Union Address, 2022
"St. Louis' Cure Violence program has seen some very positive initial results in the reduction of crime. Proactive approaches like this are key to the long-term safety of our communities."

Tishaura Jones
Mayor of St. Louis

"Cure Violence is having a positive impact on violence in the target areas. Both sites have had a stretch of at least 25 days in a row without a shooting or killing."

Lenny Curry
Mayor of Jacksonville, Florida (R)

"[Cure Violence] is an important component of our citywide strategy to reduce homicides and gun violence, and a key to our plans to grow the city. By expanding this effective initiative, we help people build social capital and empower communities."

Stephanie Rawlings Blake
Former Mayor, Baltimore

"John Jay's study of the success of the Cure Violence program in East New York is no surprise to those of us who have been on the ground in this community."

Eric Adams
Mayor of New York City

"Violence interrupters are essential to helping calm the streets; they’re essential to helping keep the violence down; they’re essential to supporting our communities... My office is proud to support the Cure Violence model"

Karl Racine
Attorney General, Washington, DC

"The investments we have made in the Crisis Management System, Cure Violence movement, are some of the best resources we have ever spent in this city, some of the biggest impact in terms of stopping violence."

Bill de Blasio
Mayor Of New York City and Former Presidential Candidate (D)
References


Salzman, Steven, et al. (2014). Violence prevention programs are effective when intervention is initiated during the initial workup of violently injured patients in a urban level 1 trauma center. Unpublished manuscript.


Cure Violence Around the World*

17 COUNTRIES

25+ CITIES

100+ COMMUNITIES

- United States
- Canada**
- United Kingdom**
- Mexico
- Honduras
- El Salvador**
- Trinidad
- Colombia
- Nigeria**
- Jamaica**
- Morocco**
- Kenya**
- South Africa**
- West Bank
- Iraq**
- Syria**

*As of July 2022
**Former sites
Violence is contagious. Be part of the Cure!