THE INTERSECTION EXCHANGE

Revised Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cure Violence Global and National Network for Safe Communities Launch The Intersection Exchange to Strengthen the Field at the Intersection of Community Violence and Intimate Partner Violence

Ford Foundation-supported learning collaborative brings together eight jurisdictions to strengthen local practice and generate learning that can inform a stronger national framework, practical guidance, tools, and adaptable approaches for the field

October 20, 2026 - Cure Violence Global and the National Network for Safe Communities (NNSC) at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, with support from the Ford Foundation, today announced the launch of The Intersection Exchange, a cross-sector learning collaborative designed to strengthen connections between community violence intervention (CVI) and intimate partner violence (IPV) prevention and response.

The inaugural cohort brings together eight jurisdictions: Baltimore, Maryland; Delaware; Miami-Dade County, Florida; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; New York City, New York; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Pittsburgh/Allegheny County, Pennsylvania; and Tucson, Arizona.

The Intersection Exchange begins from a simple premise: violence does not always occur within the boundaries established by programs, agencies, or systems. Individuals and families affected by community violence may also be navigating intimate partner violence, while practitioners responding to either form of violence may encounter risks and circumstances that cross traditional areas of expertise.

The initiative builds on Cure Violence Global and the National Network for Safe Communities' existing national and international experience working at the intersection of community violence and intimate partner/gender-based violence. The Learning Lab brings that experience together with what participating communities are already doing, learning, and testing locally – creating an opportunity to strengthen practice while growing the fields together.

Through shared learning, peer exchange, cross-sector dialogue, and local implementation, participating jurisdictions will examine how CVI and IPV systems can work together more effectively. Areas of learning include practitioner and survivor safety, cross-training, referrals, information sharing, intervention practices, trust between fields, and stronger local protocols and partnerships.

The long-term vision for The Intersection Exchange extends beyond the eight participating jurisdictions. Learning generated through the inaugural cohort will help inform a stronger national framework, practical guidance and tools, and promising approaches that communities can adapt to their own contexts. By examining the conditions, barriers, relationships, and practices that shape effective collaboration, the initiative aims to strengthen how communities prevent and respond to violence.

In this way, the inaugural cohort serves as both a learning community and a field-building laboratory. The Intersection Exchange is designed to translate local experience into actionable knowledge that can strengthen practice across both fields and support safer, more coordinated responses in communities nationwide.

"The people experiencing violence don't live their lives in the silos we've created to address it. Community violence and intimate partner violence require different expertise, but that doesn't mean our responses should be disconnected. The Intersection Exchange is about bringing the strengths of both fields together, learning from communities, and finding better ways to prevent violence and protect the people most impacted at this intersection."

— Dr. Monique Williams, CEO, Cure Violence Global

"The strength of this collaborative is the opportunity to bring national expertise and local experience together. NNSC and Cure Violence Global are bringing our expertise, lessons learned, and experience working at the intersection of intimate partner violence and community violence intervention to support jurisdictions in strengthening their work. Just as important, the learning lab creates space for jurisdictions to learn from one another, share lessons from implementation, and build a collective understanding of what effective collaboration looks like and how it can be adapted to local contexts. We all have something to teach and something to learn. That's the power of partnership."

— Sasha Cotton, Executive Director, National Network for Safe Communities

Eight Communities Learning Together, Strengthening the Field

Each jurisdiction enters The Intersection Exchange with different local structures, partnerships, strengths, and challenges. That diversity is central to the learning process. The initiative is designed to understand not only what communities are trying, but what conditions support effective collaboration and how promising approaches can be adapted across different local contexts.

The public launch coincides with Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October. The eight participating jurisdictions will come together in Memphis, Tennessee, on October 20, 2026, for an in-person Learning Lab held in conjunction with the Cities United Annual Convening. The Memphis gathering will provide a full day for cross-jurisdictional learning, relationship building, and idea incubation before the initiative continues through virtual learning, local planning, and ongoing collaboration.

Following Memphis, The Intersection Exchange will continue sharing the story of the work through jurisdiction spotlights, participant reflections, and learning from the cohort. Tucson, Arizona, will be the first jurisdiction spotlighted.

Lessons from the cohort will help inform a stronger national framework, practical guidance and tools, and approaches that can support communities in strengthening coordination between CVI and IPV systems in ways that fit their local context.

"*To be selected as one of the eight jurisdictions to receive this training is an honor and a great sign of what's to come in Miami-Dade County. Moreover, the critical areas of community violence intervention and intimate partner violence have many folds and intersecting points. Learning about the best national practices can be a blessing to families and communities across the country. As a practitioner, being a student of best practices will help heal people and create a much-needed synergy nationwide."*

—Brother Lyle Muhammad, Executive Director, Circle of Brotherhood

Eight communities. Two fields. One shared commitment to safety.
Where violence intersects, prevention must connect.

About The Intersection Exchange

The Intersection Exchange is a learning collaborative led in partnership by Cure Violence Global and the National Network for Safe Communities at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, with support from the Ford Foundation. The inaugural cohort brings together eight jurisdictions to strengthen connections between community violence intervention and intimate partner violence prevention and response through shared learning, cross-sector collaboration, peer exchange, and local implementation. Learning from the cohort will help inform a stronger national framework, practical guidance and tools, and approaches that communities can adapt to their own contexts while strengthening the broader violence prevention field.

About Cure Violence Global

Cure Violence Global is a nonprofit organization advancing an evidence-based public health approach to end violence globally. The organization helps communities implement violence prevention programs using health-based methods, local partnerships, and data-informed strategies to prevent violence and build safer communities.

About the National Network for Safe Communities

The National Network for Safe Communities (NNSC) is an internationally recognized action research center at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. NNSC works in partnership with communities to reduce violence, build trust, and transform public safety through evidence-based violence reduction strategies and community-centered approaches.

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