

# CDC's Community Violence Prevention Resource for Action

## We Can Prevent Community Violence

CDC's *Community Violence Prevention Resource for Action* details strategies with the best available evidence to prevent and reduce community violence—fights, assaults, and shootings that happen in public spaces between people who may or may not know each other.

The Resource for Action provides information that communities can use to begin new efforts or expand existing efforts to reduce violence and associated risk factors. Communities can prioritize strategies and approaches most suited to their unique needs. A comprehensive approach could involve implementing a combination of strategies in partnership with different sectors such as public health, housing, justice, and community-based organizations.

### THIS RESOURCE CONTAINS THREE KEY COMPONENTS:

- 1 **Strategies:** actions to achieve the goal of preventing community violence
- 2 **Approaches:** specific ways to advance each strategy
- 3 **Policies, programs, and practices:** evidence of impact on community violence, or behaviors or conditions that increase risk or protect against community violence

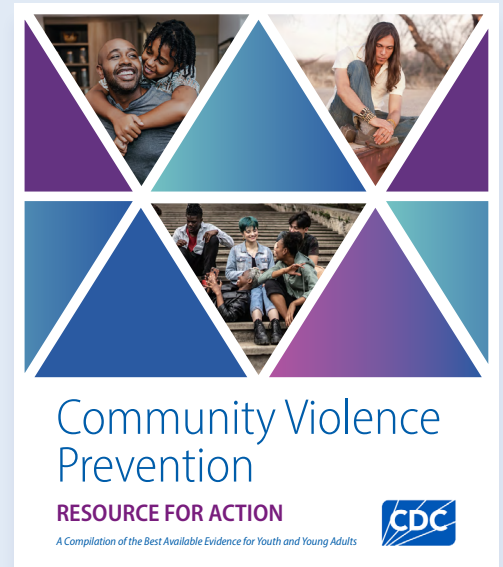
## Community Violence Prevention Saves and Improves Lives

Community violence hurts the short- and long-term health of everyone. Community violence affects people of all ages, and young people experience the greatest risk. Homicide is a leading cause of death for youth and young adults in the United States. Many more suffer from violence-related injuries or witness violence in their communities—1 in 5 high school students have seen someone physically attacked, beaten, stabbed, or shot in their neighborhood.

Homicide is a **leading cause of death** for people ages 34 and younger.

The good news is that together, we can prevent community violence. Strategies with the greatest potential for long-term public health impact address the physical and social conditions that increase risk for today's youth and young adults, as well as future generations. Other strategies focus on the needs of individuals and families. Policies, programs, and practices with the best available evidence can greatly reduce the risk of violence and create conditions in which Americans can be safe, healthy, and thriving. CDC's approach to preventing violence:

- ▶ **Collecting and analyzing data** to drive strategic decisions and approaches
- ▶ **Evaluating** prevention strategies to enhance resilience
- ▶ **Reducing** risk factors that make violence more likely



## Strategies for Action

This resource represents a select group of strategies based on the best available evidence to prevent community violence. The strategies focus on preventing community violence before it happens and reducing the immediate and long-term harm to individuals, families, communities, and society.



Strengthen Economic Security



Provide Quality Education



Create Protective Environments



Promote Healthy Family Relationships



Strengthen Youths' and Young Adults' Skills



Connect Young People to Caring Adults and Activities



Intervene to Lessen Harms and Prevent Future Violence

