



VIOLENCE INTERVENTION
PROGRAM

ANNUAL REPORT

Violence Intervention Program



PREPARED BY:

Joshua Reeves, *ACS Division Manager*
Gerri Bachicha, *VIP Project Manager*
Amanda Gray, *VIP Data Analyst*

ALBUQUERQUE
COMMUNITY SAFETY

MAR 2020 - JUN 2022

Updates on outcomes and programmatic
milestones from the inception of VIP

VIP IN A NUTSHELL

TO-DATE INSIGHTS

This sheet serves as an addendum to the VIP Annual Report. This is an up-to-date, cumulative view on the metrics we use to measure our success. For further explanation of the significance of these metrics, please read the entire VIP Annual Report.

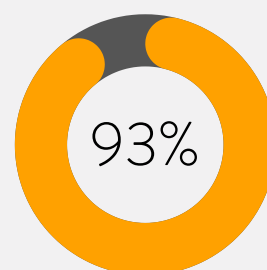
DEMOGRAPHIC	NATIONAL RATE*	CABQ VIP RATE
Age		
14-17	12%	25%
18-34	8%	25%
35-54	11%	36%
55+	10%	38%
Sex		
Female	14%	36%
Male	5%	26%
Race/Ethnicity		
Hispanic	8%	26%
Non-Hispanic White	10%	22%
Black	10%	51%
Native American	N/A	41%
Asian	N/A	0%
More than 1	N/A	0%
Unknown	12%	38%

*Based on the 2019 National Crime Victimization Survey



NOTIFICATIONS DELIVERED

VIP has performed 391 interventions since its inception.



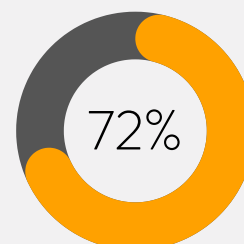
SUCCESS RATE

93% of participants did not engage in further violent crime.



CONNECTED TO SERVICES

28.6% asked for services, which is higher than the national average.



USE OF VIP PEER SUPPORT

81 of those 112 people asked to use VIP's in-house peer support service.



LEARN MORE!

VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM

To learn more about the Violence Intervention Program, visit cabq.gov/vip or follow the QR code on the side panel.



ALBUQUERQUE COMMUNITY SAFETY

To learn more about the Albuquerque Community Safety department, which houses VIP, visit cabq.gov/acs or follow the QR code on the side panel.





TABLE OF CONTENTS

3

OUR ROLE

Elements of the VIP model

4

OUR APPROACH

The value our team adds

5

OUR IMPACT

How VIP impacts gun violence

6

OUR CLIENTS

Who we serve

7

OUR SUCCESSES

Wins from successful clients

8

OUR FUTURE

What's on the horizon

OUR ROLE

THREE PARTNERS; ONE INTERVENTION

The Violence Intervention Program (VIP) uses the John Jay College ***focused deterrence*** strategy to reduce gun violence. This strategy relies on a unique partnership between Peer Support Workers, community members, and law enforcement to intervene with the individuals most likely to engage in gun violence. **When these partners work together**, the intervention applies social pressure within groups to deter violence, offers individuals a way out, and provides a supported path for those that want to change. Each of these partners play a vital role in the success of the intervention.



PEER SUPPORT

VIP Peer Support Workers give a genuine offer of help to those who want it. They connect with participants using their lived experience to deliver a message of hope and healing that creates an exit from a potentially deadly lifestyle. **They provide comprehensive, long-term support** to clients that leads to stability and economic mobility.

VIP employs four (4) Peer Support Workers with



67 YEARS
COMBINED LIVED EXPERIENCE

COMMUNITY VOICES

VIP Peer Support Workers identify community members with moral authority over these individuals to **deliver a strong message against violence**. VIP's current community partners are listed below.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Police officers put individuals on notice about the **consequences of continued violent activity**.

The intervention begins with a Custom Notification wherein **all partners go out together** to talk with the VIP candidate.

VIP COMMUNITY PARTNERS

UNM Young Children's Health Center
NM Black Leadership Council
Peace and Justice Center
New Mexico State LULAC
Transgender Resource Center
Women in Leadership
UNMH

God's Warehouse
Fathers Building Futures
Working Classroom
Goodwill Services
Crime Victims Reparation Commission
Dukes Up Guns Down
Youth Development, Inc.
New Mexico Leaders in Recovery

New Mexicans to Prevent Gun Violence
Center for Peace and Justice
Future Focus Education
Heading Home
Centro Savila
Endorphin Power Company
New Beginnings Church

OUR APPROACH

CASE MANAGEMENT

Following a Custom Notification, VIP Peer Support Workers work with clients to **identify and address their individual needs, then guide clients through risk-reduction resources.**

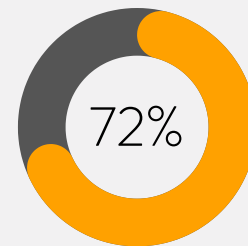


VIP Participants engage in services ranging from meeting basic needs to providing pathways to transformational education and careers.

VIP PEER SUPPORT SERVICES

Peer support services are critical to fostering change in high-risk individuals. VIP offers peer support services directly to clients, using an assertive outreach model. This involves mentoring and coaching from an individual with the lived experience of exiting a life of violence. VIP Peer Support Workers use non-traditional spaces to build trust and relationships.

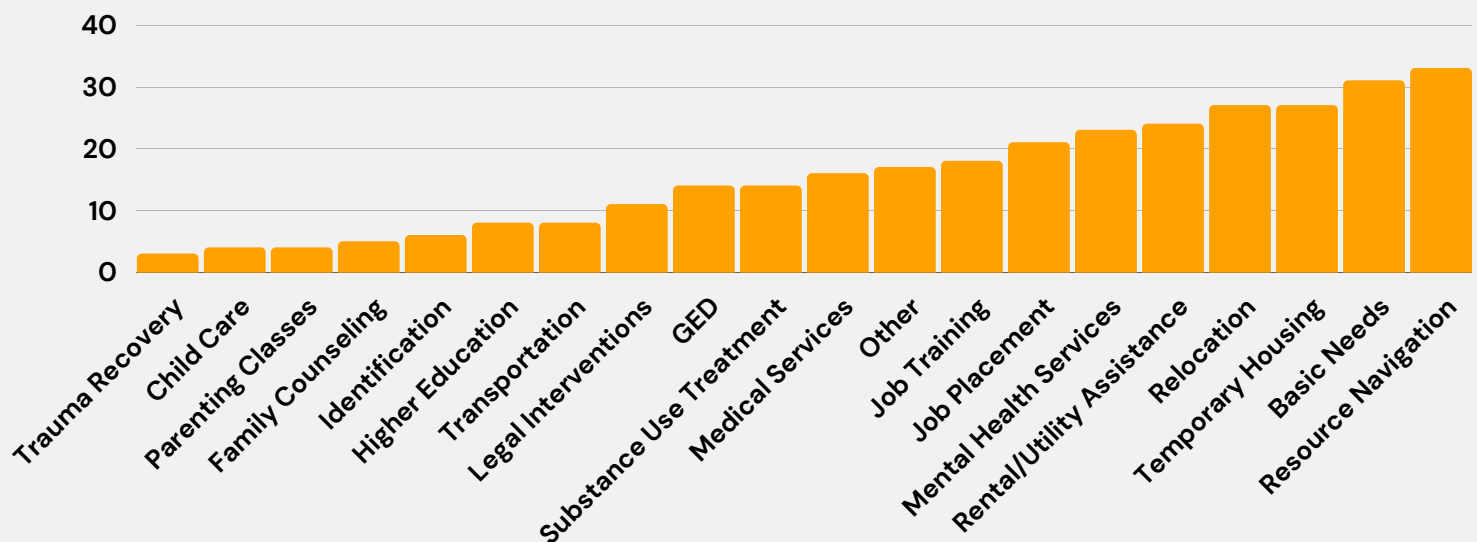
Of the 89 clients who chose to engage with services after their Custom Notification, 64 requested VIP's peer support services.



USAGE RATE OF VIP'S
PEER SUPPORT SERVICE

While managing a case Peer Support Workers typically **stay in consistent contact with VIP clients** between 6 - 12 months or more. They become part of the support network for these individuals and can leave lasting impacts in their lives.

TYPES OF SERVICES CONNECTED TO



OUR IMPACT

ENGAGING IN SERVICES

What sets VIP apart is our Peers' ability to get Participants to engage with the services that provide long term stability. VIP Participants have a higher engagement rate with social services than victims of crime nationally*.

DEMOGRAPHIC	NATIONAL RATE*	CABQ VIP RATE
Age		
14-17	12%	27%
18-34	8%	24%
35-54	11%	35%
55+	10%	63%
Sex		
Female	14%	33%
Male	5%	27%
Race/Ethnicity		
Hispanic	8%	19%
Non-Hispanic White	10%	15%
Black	10%	36%
Native American	N/A	28%
Asian	N/A	0%
More than 1	N/A	0%
Unknown	12%	18%

*Based on the 2019 National Crime Victimization Survey

REDUCING GUN VIOLENCE

The combination of Custom Notifications, case management, and peer support services lead to reduced gun violence. The primary way to measure the efficacy of these efforts is through recidivism – **whether or not that person was involved in further gun violence and violent crime.**



Of the 313 individuals VIP has intervened with since the program's inception, only 11% have recidivated. That's **280 people who are not participating in the cycles of gun violence and retaliation in Albuquerque.**

Currently, VIP receives referrals for intervention from the Albuquerque Police Department (APD) and the University of New Mexico Hospital (UNMH). The table below describes the total caseload of both interventions and services VIP Peer Support Workers have delivered to date.

VIP CASE LOAD TO DATE

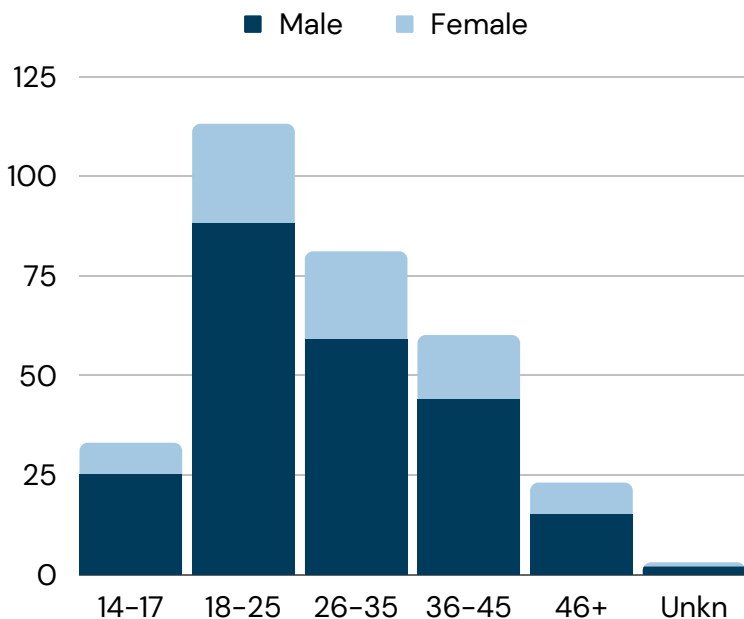
Referral Source	# Referrals to VIP	Custom Notifications Delivered	Connected to Services	Engagement Rate
APD	396	274	65	24%
UNMH	39	39	24	62%
Total	435	313	89	28%

OUR CLIENTS

SERVING THE HIGHEST RISK INDIVIDUALS

Albuquerque's young adult male population, between the **ages of 18 and 25**, are the most vulnerable population with the highest likelihood for becoming victims of gun violence. They are also the population that drives gun violence in Albuquerque.

This is of particular concern when one factors in that 18–24 year old's only make up 9% (in 2019) of Albuquerque's total population.



CULTURAL RELEVANCY

Both the Hispanic and the Black populations are over-represented in the cycles of gun violence in Albuquerque. **The majority of VIP candidates are Hispanic and Black (see chart below).** VIP Peer Support Workers seek age-appropriate, culturally and linguistically relevant services for the participants in the program.

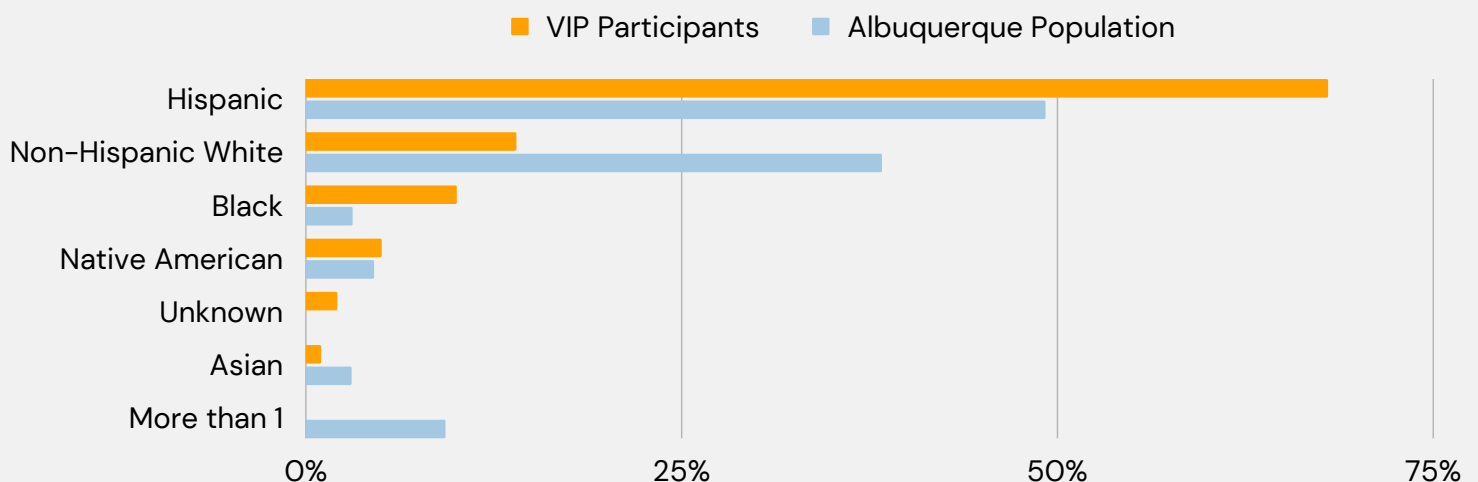
VIP Peer Support Workers reflect the diversity of the population we serve.



GUN VIOLENCE INTERVENTION

VIP monitors custom notification delivery weekly. Demographic data shows VIP Peer Support Workers are reaching and intervening with the highest risk populations in Albuquerque.

CUSTOM NOTIFICATIONS DELIVERED BY RACE AND ETHNICITY



OUR SUCCESSES

CASE STUDIES IN VIP SUCCESS STORIES

Below are stories of clients who worked with VIP Peer Support Workers and exited a life of violence. These stories better convey the power of lived experience to connect with at-risk individuals.

VIP began working with a male client in 2020 after he was involved in a shooting. As a direct result of cooperating with a Peer Support Worker, his charges were dropped without prejudice. His dream was to own a food truck; he was able to gain employment at Amazon, working to save enough money to purchase the truck. In August of 2021, he successfully completed all of his court-mandated obligations. In May 2022, he reached back out to the Peer Support Worker and asked for help with his spouse who was using meth. His exact words were: "I know that I could count on you guys to help. You guys go above and beyond and not make a person feel like they're being judged." VIP is now working to support him and his wife.

In June 2022, VIP received a referral from UNMH stating that a young man had been shot in both legs, reporting that he was unsheltered and struggling with substance use disorder, specifically fentanyl. Upon arrival, the individual was in the hallway of the hospital "overflow." He started explaining that he didn't want to be homeless and addicted to drugs anymore, asking urgently for help. He exclaimed over and over that he was ready to change and didn't want that lifestyle any longer. Immediately, the peer support team took action to identify possible resources for housing and addiction treatment. With his permission, they got him temporarily housed at Hoffman Hall and got him an appointment with Four Winds in Gallup for an assessment. Once he was eligible for discharge from the hospital, they transported him from UNMH to his new temporary home. They are currently working on a treatment plan for him.

In May 2022, a woman was referred to VIP after she had been the victim of a home invasion. Her brother had angered a group of people who knew where she lived, and they retaliated against her. She was concerned for her safety and the safety of her two young children. The client explained that she had lost both her parents in the past year. She believed this loss deeply impacted her brother and led to destructive behavior. The peer support worker shared with the client her own story; when she was struggling with drug addiction, her actions led to her sister and nieces being kidnapped. The peer support worker knew what it was like to not have anyone to lean on, and she offered to be that support system for the client. The client was receptive to this message and agreed to be relocated. The peer support worker helped her to apply for emergency relocation funds through the NM Crime Victims Reparation Commission. The peer support worker found a secure apartment for the family and maintained daily communication until they moved in. The team will continue to monitor her situation and support where they can.

OUR FUTURE

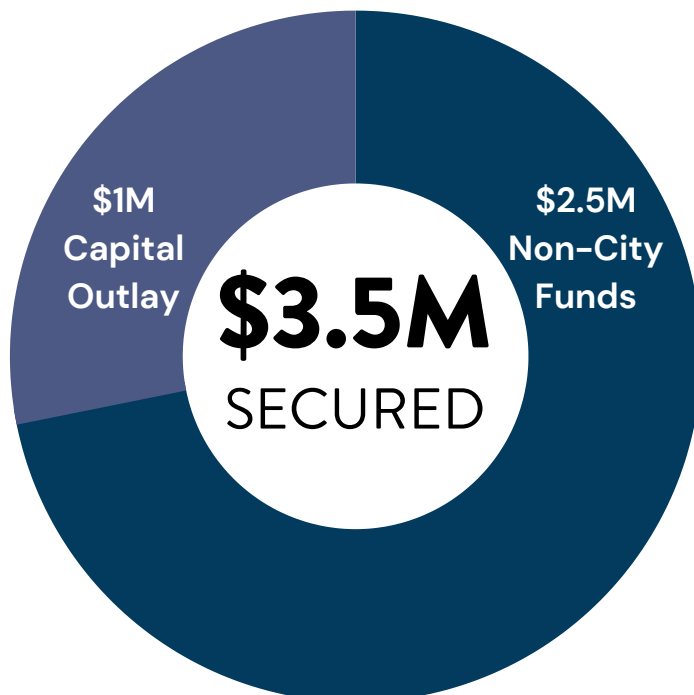
STREAMLINING THE CURRENT PROGRAM

Violence Intervention Program staff **continue to receive training and technical support from John Jay College** and the National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform to streamline and strengthen program implementation of the Group Violence Intervention model's core components and Peer Support Worker best practices.

Further, **Albuquerque Community Safety provides VIP with the necessary administrative and operational support** to expand within the next year.

ON THE HORIZON

Demand for VIP Peer Support and case management continues to increase. In 2022, **VIP secured private, state, and federal funds to expand the program.** Sources for the funding include the W.K Kellogg Foundation, DOJ Byrne Discretionary, NM Department of Health, as well as additional City capital outlay funds. Two programs on the horizon for VIP are being developed to accommodate the increase in partner referrals and to address the service gaps identified in VIP service data.



SCHOOL-BASED VIOLENCE INTERVENTION

VIP will expand its Peer Support Worker services to West Mesa High School, the site of a recent, tragic school shooting, involving a dispute between students over a ghost gun.

VIP will work with both high-risk students and their families, on and off campus, to interrupt and prevent that student from engaging in gun violence and other types of school violence.

VIP will work closely with the West Mesa school staff and with Community Organization partners to create a trusted community space in the school where students who are at the highest risk for engaging the gun violence can find mentorship, coaching, and a healthy connection to the school community.



ALBUQUERQUE TRAUMA RECOVERY CENTER

Untreated trauma from violent crime has costly consequences including addiction, injury, death and jail.

The Trauma Recovery Center (TRC) will utilize best practice strategies, like Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and cultural healing, to address crime survivor recovery. TRC staff will provide an intensive case management and clinical case management component to support violent crime victims.