



Violence Intervention Program



**The City of Albuquerque's gun violence
reduction program**

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Vision: We co-create a future with our community where violence is replaced with opportunity, and everyone has equitable pathways to safe and prosperous lives.

Mission: We reduce gun violence in Albuquerque through a public health approach that addresses trauma and root causes of violence, bridges gaps in the system, and connects families and individuals with a culturally responsive resources.

Our community and the Effects of Violent Crime

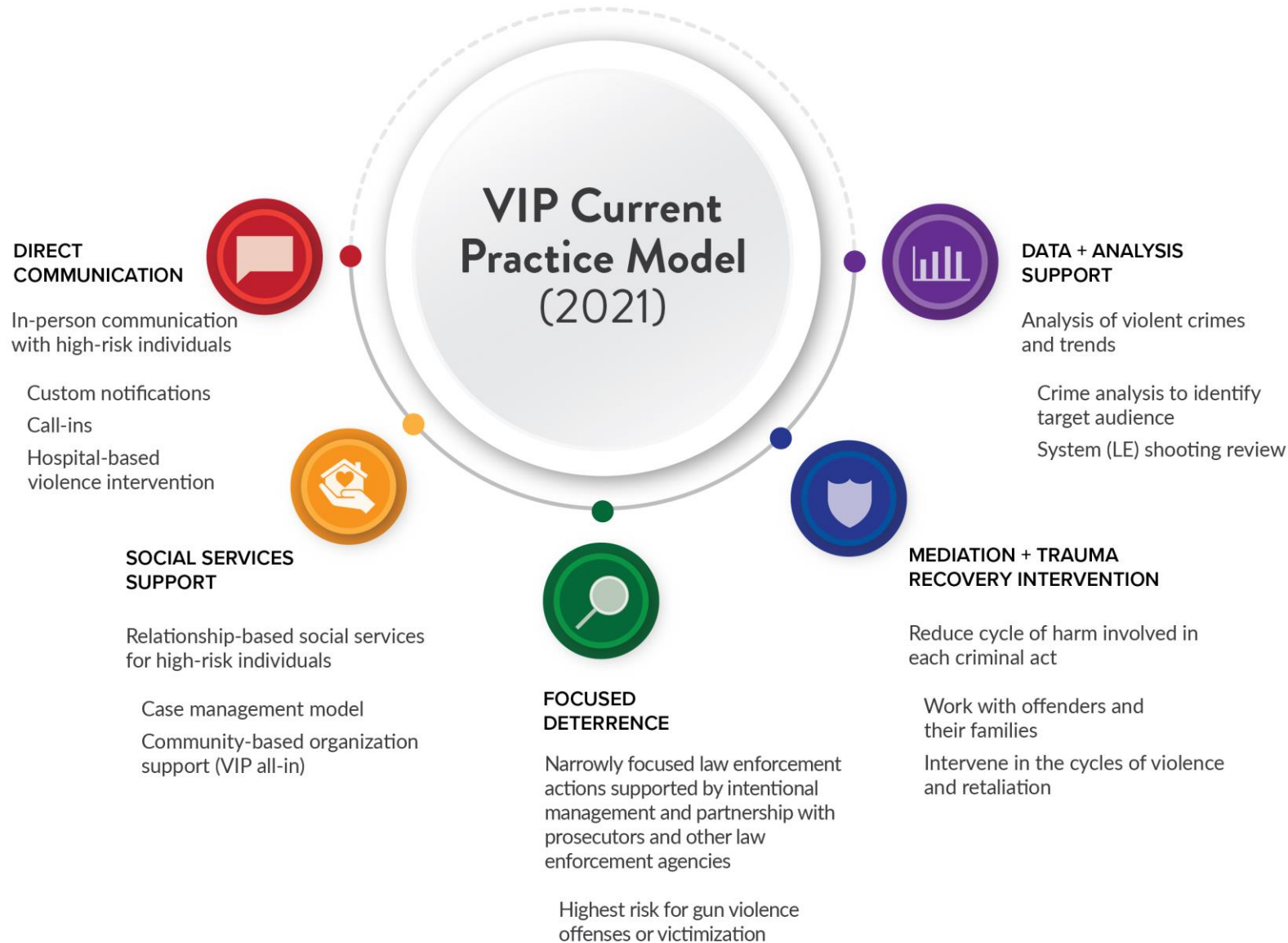
- 88% of known suspects and 86% of victims are over the age of 18;
- Two-thirds of victims and half of known suspects are between the ages of 18 and 44

Unaddressed Individual Trauma

- People who are survivors of gun violence, or even a witness, bystander, or a neighbor when gun violence occurs may experience PTSD, stress, depression, and/or anxiety. Nationally statistics show survivors are at much higher risk for victimization and/or gun violence offenses
- Children exposed to gun violence experience stress and can struggle to identify and regulate their emotions

Unaddressed Community Trauma

- Contributes to Economic Loss Contributes to Urban Decay
- Contributes Lack of Community Networks and the safety nets they provide
- Contributes to high incidents of trauma related medical and mental health problems and substance abuse



VIP: How We Work

A Public Health Approach to Gun Violence Reduction

- **Partnerships to intervene in the cycles of violence span multiple city departments, the County and the Community**
- **Public health strategies address the root causes of gun violence**
- **Narrowly focused Law Enforcement strategies address the much less than 1% of the city's population that drives gun violence**
- **Aligned network of CBO's with specialized training and more capacity to provide individualized services and assertive outreach to VIP Clients**
- **Grass Roots community efforts supported to enhance the safety of the community without police intervention**

VIP: How We Work

Critical Policing Shifts: Focused Deterrence

Focused Deterrence: 5 Key Aspects

1. Find those at **highest risk** of being involved with violence
2. Hold an intervention (Call In)
3. Provide services to those who are willing to change
4. Have peer community members provide support
5. Put those who are unwilling to change on notice- persisting in any law violations will end in quick arrest and charges

Problem Oriented Policing: 4 Steps

1. Scanning
2. Analysis
3. Response
4. Assessment

Problem-oriented policing is an analytic method used by police to develop strategies that prevent and reduce crime.

CEASEFIRE MODEL

CASE STUDY: In 2012, New Haven police offered housing assistance to members of the most violent gangs. In the program's first three years, monthly shootings fell nearly **73%**.



SOURCE: Yale University's Institution for Social and Policy Studies



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violence
intervention program

Custom Notifications

"Crime rises and falls for complex reasons. But almost every successful anti-violence strategy has one thing in common: face-to-face interaction..." -Washington Post March 16th, 2021

- **Urgent and Intensive Intervention**

The Violence Intervention Program serves the highest risk groups and individuals in the city. Safety and Stability. Integrated Care

- **Holistic - Long term Support**

Extend services to family. Wrap services. System Navigation. Relationship Based (Culture/Language/Ability/Age/Gender) Case Coordination - Clearly defined roles of service providers- follow through

- **Relevant-Customized services**

Youth 17 and under, Young Adults 18-25, Adults 25+, Ability, Gender, Culture, Language

- **Trust – Shifting the model of service provision with Credible Messengers**

Staff with lived experience. Staff who reflect the diversity of the population served. Agency willingness to refer to others when the services can not be customized to participant. Able to change service plan as individual progresses. Long term and lifetime supports. Holistic supports. Healing Inspired.

Hospital Based Intervention UNMH Pilot

Systems Investing in Community Safety

GOAL:

To provide a comprehensive approach to treating victims of gun violence addressing risk factors associated with violent injury, thereby providing more complete trauma care, and ultimately improving health outcomes, reducing recidivism and repeat hospital room visits.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Reduce the number of youth and adults who are repeat survivors of gun violence.
2. Promote positive development and quality of life for clients and families affected by violence.
3. Reduce the number of clients with injuries caused by violence (firearms, stabbings and assaults)
4. Reduce the number of recurring hospital and emergency room visits at UNM Hospitals.

Albuquerque Trauma Recovery Center

Healing Inspired Services for Violent Crime Survivors

1 IN 10 RECEIVE ASSISTANCE



ONLY ABOUT ONE IN 10 PEOPLE WHO SURVIVE A
VIOLENT CRIME RECEIVE DIRECT ASSISTANCE FROM
A VICTIM SERVICE AGENCY

The Trauma Recovery Center would act as a Trauma Recovery “hub”, existing to increase critical support services to victims of violent crime through peer-based models of assertive outreach and mediation.

The Trauma Recovery Center would not replace existing services but would look to fill gaps in service, increase service capacity and align the work of existing service providers in the Albuquerque community with the intention to serve underserved and unserved victims of violent crimes including impacted individuals, their families and surrounding community.

The Trauma Recovery Center will:

1. Increase services to victims of violent crime through peer-based models of assertive outreach and mediation,
2. Implement proven strategies, like motivational interviewing, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, psychotherapy and community and cultural healing, to address crime survivor needs,
3. Develop a clinical case management component to support violent crime victims,
4. Respond to under-served victims of crimes, like those who experience community violence and people who face challenges in accessing care such as youth, homeless and people from communities of color,
5. Provide legal services and intersect with local prosecutors on serving and supporting crime victims, and provide essential mediation services.

Is VIP Working? VIP Statistics Snapshot from March 2019- December 2021

From March 2019 through December 2021 the VIP team received 281 referrals for intervention with the individuals at highest risk to engage in the cycles of gun violence 210 of the custom notifications were delivered by the VIP team.

92.8% of those candidates have not recidivated. *Please note programmatic definition of recidivism.

88% of known suspects and 86% of gun violence victims are over the age of 18; two-thirds of victims and half of known suspects are between the ages of 18 and 44

27.1% of all Candidates VIP delivered custom notifications to requested and engaged in services. Out of those engaging in services 19.7% of victims ages 18-34 who received a VIP custom notification requested and engaged in services. This is well above the national average of 7.9% of victims of violent crime ages 18-34 service engagement.

* From; Warnken, H. & J.L. Lauritsen. 2019. "Who Experiences Violent Victimization and Who Accesses Services? Findings from the National Crime Victimization Survey for Expanding our Reach". Center for Victim Research; US Department of Justice, Washington D.C.

HVIP

Early analysis of UNMH pilot has yielded promising results. 19 referrals - 58.8 % service engagement rate

Recidivism

The VIP Program defines recidivism as: *No further Gun Violence victimization
*No further involvement in violent crime

Thank you

More in Depth Information on Programmatic Components will be posted on the VIP Gun Violence Task Force Page

<https://www.cabq.gov/vip/gun-violence-task-force>

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