

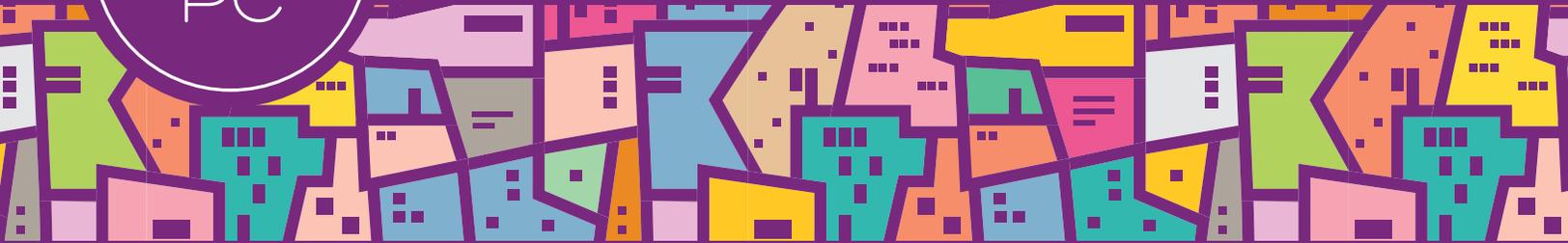


# Building Community. Preventing Violence.



YV  
PC

YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION CENTERS



## THE TOLL OF YOUTH VIOLENCE

Youth violence is a widespread public health issue that negatively effects youth, families, and communities. Each day, about 13 youth die from homicide and more than 1,300 are treated in emergency departments for nonfatal injuries. Nationally, the lifetime costs of assault-related injuries among youth, including medical care, lost work, and household productivity, are estimated to exceed \$18 billion.

## EVALUATING STRATEGIES TO PREVENT YOUTH VIOLENCE

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is a leader in youth violence prevention research. CDC:

- Collects data and monitors trends in youth violence;
- Assesses factors that increase risk and factors that protect youth;
- Evaluates programs and strategies aimed at preventing violence; and
- Supports adoption of evidence-based programs and practices in communities through CDC's technical package for prevention.



Help youth develop valuable skills on an **individual** level

Strengthen positive **relationships** between youth and their parents, peers, etc.

Encourage **school-based** interventions to build positive environments

Empower youth to create change within their **communities**

## YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION CENTERS

Reducing youth violence is not an easy task. It involves supporting communities with resources and technical expertise to create, implement, and monitor a youth violence prevention strategy. The National Centers of Excellence in Youth Violence Prevention (YVPCs) program helps communities benefit from scientific advances that prevent youth violence. Through these local partnerships, CDC funds programs to help develop, implement, and evaluate promising prevention efforts. An emphasis on evaluation ensures that CDC and community partners learn what works to promote thriving youth and create safer environments.

CDC has funded 16 YVPCs across the country since 2000 and is now supporting five centers.

Visit [www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/yvpc](http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/yvpc) for more information about the YVPC Program and its history.

Visit [www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention](http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention) to learn more about CDC and youth violence prevention.

Visit [www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/yv-technicalpackage.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/yv-technicalpackage.pdf) to learn more about strategies states and communities can take to prevent youth violence.

## ABOUT THE CURRENT YVPC PROGRAM

YVPCs currently funded are:

- Partnering with community organizations, schools, and law enforcement with the common goal of reducing youth violence.
- Conducting and evaluating prevention strategies in communities experiencing high levels of youth violence.
- Working to ensure programs found to be effective can work in other communities.

The YVPCs evaluate their work to determine how effectively these strategies prevent violence and promote safe communities. They see if programs result in lower rates of youth arrests for violent crime and violence-related injuries. This work can inform national violence prevention efforts for youth by identifying effective strategies that can be adapted in other communities across the country.



**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention