Regional Peacekeepers Collective Strategy
A Public Health Approach

Public Health-Seattle & King County, Zero Youth Detention is undergoing a Community Safety and Well-being Planning process, which calls for a public health approach to ending gun violence. The two-pronged strategy includes:

- **Long-term Planning Process**: Work Groups that blend community and systems partners to identify solutions and provide recommendations in the domains of Juvenile Justice, Education, Workforce Development, Community-Led Safety and Health & Human Services

- **Immediate Go-First Strategy**: Regional Peacekeepers Collective- Multi organization Intervention, Prevention and Restoration services model including intensive engagement and wrap-around services to youth and families most impacted by gun violence
Background & Problem Statement

Gun violence is on the rise in Seattle & King County, with approximately 50% of the victims being African-American/Black men and boys. This violence also inflicts trauma on entire families, neighborhoods, and communities.

Homicides are the leading cause of death for young Black/African American men and boys. While the true cost can never be calculated, the CDC estimates that homicides cost the US economy $26.4 billion every year in medical expenses and work loss costs alone.

According to the 2021 year-end incident report from the King County Prosecutor’s Office, the total number of shots fired incidents in 2021 (1405) was up around 54% and the number of overall shooting victims (460) was up 70% over the four year average for 2017-2020.

More specifically, the number of fatal shooting victims (88) was up 54% while the number of nonfatal shooting victims (372) was up 75% over the four-year average.
Mission & Vision

Through a unique public health approach, the Regional Peacekeepers Collective seeks to prevent and eliminate youth gun violence -- and provide the life-affirming care and resources to the young people and families who are most impacted by unjust systems.
Theory of Change

Place-based social services, offered by culturally reflective providers, help connect young people at greatest risk to the services and support they need to develop lasting self-efficacy and positive community attachment.

Our community-led public health approach uses data driven strategies to ensure intensive support and wrap services for youth and families most directly involved in incidents of gun violence. Place-based strategies reduce violence by addressing important environmental and social contexts, such as economic and educational opportunity gaps, greening of vacant lots and remediating of active “hot-spots”.

Compassion-based care is trauma-informed, and emphasizes solution-focused positive youth development, by connecting young people locally to mentorship, skill development, emotional well-being and growth opportunities.
RPKC Objectives

- High-intensity Engagement and Support for Youth and Families
- Critical Incident Response System with Hospital and Community Based Support
- Wrap Around Care for High-Risk Youth via a Care Team
- Support and Connection for Families & Younger Siblings
- Decreased Negative Law Enforcement Contact
- Additional Community Capacity for Restorative Justice Programs
- Community Outreach, Public Awareness and Restorative Events
Population Served

As reported by Harborview Medical Center Emergency Room Admission data, 100-150 young people between the ages of 16-24 years of age are seen in the emergency room for gun related injury each year. By zeroing in on these high-risk young people, we can reduce shootings and fatalities by significant numbers.

According to the King County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office, there are 50-80 young people per year who emerge in court cases as being at highest risk for gun violence involvement.

The RPKC will focus our efforts on those at highest risk, tailoring our efforts to the needs of our clients.
Program Model

Our Intervention, Prevention and Restoration (IPR) framework is focused on rigorous intervention, targeted prevention, and follow-up support for community restoration.

**INTERVENTION**
Critical incident response and violence interruption based on real time notifications and strategic engagement based on data from shots fired reports.

Hospital Based Intervention

Hot spot remediation and direct community support.

**PREVENTION**
Connect highest risk youth with credible outreach workers to build resiliency and decrease negative law enforcement contact.

Provide access to services and group programs, also for families and siblings.

**RESTORATION**
Provide intensive support:
- Care Team- Outreach & Case Managers
- Client Services
- Restoration Services
- Family/Sibling Support

Community events, with grief and mental health resources.
Shared Methods of Practice

**Community Leadership**
Multi-partner approach, with centralized management, coordination and reporting.

**Rigorous Training & Professional Development**
To strengthen and build community capacity, all RPKC partners complete required trainings and teams are supported and managed via weekly meetings, on-going training and organizational level staff supervision and professional development.

**Coordinated Service Delivery**
Violence interruption, hospital-based intervention, client services, and family restoration services ensuring highest quality of care and support for youth and families.
RPKC Strategy

Keeping the Peace

Data Collection & Analysis

Weekly Shots Fired Reviews and action planning

Protocol Driven Critical Incident Notification, Violence Interruption & Hospital Response

Strategic School-based safe passage, Community Engagement/Hotspot Remediation

Enrollment with RPKC Care Team

Trauma Informed Outreach, Life Coaching & Case Management

Family & Sibling Services

Community Restoration & Healing Activities
Data Driven Engagement Process

Data Collection & Analysis

Weekly Shots Fired Reviews & Action Planning

Protocol Driven Critical Incident/Hospital Response

Strategic Community Engagement School-based safe passage & Hotspot Remediation

Assigned RPKC Care Team

Public Health Seattle and King County convenes leaders across King County and City of Seattle for 1/4ly reviews of regional data.

Prosecuting Attorney’s Office and the Police Departments provide shots fired data to RPKC team weekly and RPKC team create strategic action plans to engage youth in need of services.

CIR Managers are notified of critical incidents and deploy Violence Interrupters to critical incident locations to provide de-escalation, conflict resolution and mediation. Hospital-based interventionist works with eligible youth and families to connect to community-based services.

Data from weekly shots fired reviews and community outreach is used to identify locations for strategic community engagement activities and hotspot remediation per protocols.

Client services manager makes referrals of highest risk youth to RPKC partner orgs. for Care Teams support and wrap around service.
## Restorative Youth & Family Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrollment with RPKC Care Team</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youth are enrolled with Care Team who work to establish trust via continuous outreach and immediate connection to needed services including emergency/safety relocation, mental health counseling and more.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trauma Informed Outreach, Life Coaching &amp; Case Management</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Care Teams conduct safety planning and needs assessment and create service plans including:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Risk/Harm Reduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Education &amp; Employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Life Skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Social/Emotional Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Positive Community Attachment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family &amp; Sibling Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Restoration/family support specialists provide follow up care and victim assistance resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supports family with safety and care planning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referral for younger siblings for support services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Restoration &amp; Healing Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intentional healing centered events and community dialogues, with grief and mental health resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In the event of loss, community counseling, plus vigil, funeral &amp; memorial support is provided to family &amp; loved ones.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**RPKC a Public Health Approach Service Model**

- **RPKC/ZYD Lead**
- **Lead Organizations:** Community Passageways, Rainier Beach Action Coalition
- **Critical Incident Managers**
- **Client Services Manager**
- **Hospital Interventionist**
- **Restoration Services Coordinator**
  - **Violence Interrupters**
  - **Outreach Worker**
  - **Case Manager**
  - **Sibling Support Specialist**
  - **Family Support Specialist**
Program Roles

### Intervention

- **Violence interruption and immediate connection to services for youth and families directly impacted.**
- **Critical Incident Managers & Leads:** Respond to violent incidents. Provide community safety monitoring, hotspot remediation and strategic community engagement.
- **Violence Interrupters:** Provide on-scene violence interruption at scenes of shootings/violence, hospitals and in known community hotspots.
- **Hospital Based Interventionists:** Help connect families to services, prevent retaliatory violence, and ensure follow up care.
- **Client Services Managers:** Support services referral and case coordination. Connect youth at highest risk for gun involvement with relevant services and supports, including intensive wrap-around case management and harm/risk reduction services and supports.

### Prevention

- **Safety planning, risk assessment and service referrals for young people and their siblings to prevent future violent incidents. Group mentoring and connection to caring adults.**
- **Outreach Workers:** Build rapid rapport and trust and bridge young people to services and care to reduce crisis/risk and connect to positive opportunities.
- **Younger Sibling Support Specialist:** Provide support for families directly impacted by gun violence (younger sibling ages 12-16).
- **Peacekeepers Programming:** Provide support services and group programs for directly impacted youth, younger siblings and peers who witness/are impacted by incidents of gun violence, specifically conflict resolution.

### Restoration

- **Intensive engagement and connection to a web of support and opportunity. Healing activities, events and service connections to ensure connection to care.**
- **Case Managers:** Partners with youth and outreach worker to assess risks, create and maintain safety and individual service plans.
- **Restoration Services Coordinator:** Provide connection to Client Services Manager for support/referral for younger siblings and families.
- **Family Support Specialists:** Support youth transition home from hospital, follow up care appointments and victim assistance resources. Support family with safety and care planning, and with any vigils, funerals and memorials.
- **Culturally Responsive Mental Health Provider Network:** Support in accessing mental health services, grief counseling and restorative activities. Work with families to support vigils, funerals and memorials.
Shared Protocols

Shared protocols for all King County critical incident responders is key to successful deployment. These protocols are being developed for review and approval.
Evaluation Plan & Metrics

The evaluation approach for the Regional Peacekeepers Collective centers around understanding the public health implications of the populations we are serving. Over time, the evaluation will measure improvements in resilience among youth, goal achievement, as well as a decrease in gun possession.

Each RPKC service providing partner will report quarterly on a series of metrics, including:

- Shots fired, critical incidents, and injuries/fatalities
- Youth referred to appropriate services
- Youth enrolled with a care team
- Staff who completed capacity building trainings
- Households supported for wrap-around services

We will report out our progress in reducing gun violence via an annual report. An ongoing focus on data and evaluation will not only allow for an analysis of who is being served, but also provide an opportunity for real-time course corrections.
Current Providers and Network

- Community Passageways
- Harborview Medical Center, UW Medicine
- Rainier Beach Action Coalition
- Choose 180
- YMCA
- Freedom Project
- Renegades for Life Youth Outreach