

INTRODUCTION

- In the year 2018, Wisconsin experienced the loss of 624 lives due to firearms (both homicides and suicides) per the CDC’s most recent data regarding firearm mortalities with a total of around 39615 around the U.S.
- In the year 2016 there were only 274 “justifiable” homicides with the same year reporting 10,341 criminal gun homicides.
- There is a need for culturally-relevant violence primary prevention models that address unique risk factors for Latino men.
- Men who witnessed violence in the home as children are at increased risk of perpetuating violence as adults because of the cycle of generational violence.

METHODS

- Implementation of 3 workshops with the goal of facilitating them 9 times total with a target of 50 participants (*Role Model Fathering, Forming Ties in the Community and Creating Allies Against Violence, and Reframing Negative Emotions and Anger Management*).
- Disseminating information on gun safety in a language and at a literacy level that would be accessible to the community and which had the capacity to be displayed at various health center’s in the city.
- Interviewing different victim response health systems about their strategies in supporting victims of gun violence and gaps
 - Focus on qualitative as to quantitative data observing themes

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES YOU SEE IN ENGAGING DIVERSE AUDIENCES IN VIOLENCE PREVENTION WORK?

- Some neighborhood communities do not see gun violence as big of an issue as others. Each area has unique needs.
 - 53206 zip code in the North Side associated with being the most dangerous area in the city, most incarcerated, mostly African American
 - The Southside the Mitchell Park area which is predominantly Hispanic and Spanish speaking

WHAT GAPS IN SERVICE PROVISION HAVE YOU IDENTIFIED, OR DO YOU THINK THERE IS AN INCREASED NEED TO FOCUS ON?

- Policy advocacy, our legislators need to hear our concerns regarding increased gun regulation and funding for gun research initiatives
- We need more diversity in the types of community organizers engaged and willing to be activated in this type of work (i.e. Spanish speaking, raised in the same neighborhoods, etc.)

WHAT TYPES OF UNIQUE SERVICES DOES YOUR ORGANIZATION PROVIDE?

- The *Blueprint for Peace* established in 2017 which evolved into *414Life* really provides a path toward strengthening community response to different violence prevention and response initiatives.
 - One of the first test of this was the recent Molson Coors shooting in February of this year
 - Utilizing our violence interrupters to deescalate the fears in the neighborhood. We went door to door knocking on houses checking on people, answering questions they had, and providing resources for follow-up
 - Touched base with families who’s loved ones were impacted, providing counseling, accompanying them to Froedtert Hospital, validated their emotions



CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommend utilizing a social ecological approach in continuing to move forward to address gun violence prevention
- Conducting interviews with violence responders allowed for increased reflection and considerations in assessing the multi-level community coordinated response to gun violence
- Was not viable to conduct the Proyecto ALMA workshops secondary to the social distancing requirements presently mandated

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• **250** informational flyers were disseminated.