



## Increase Investment in the California Violence Intervention & Prevention (CalVIP) Grant Program

- ❑ **Bottom Line:** California's local communities are currently suffering from the tragic effects of gun violence. There are a number of local violence reduction intervention and prevention programs that have helped reduce gun violence in California's hardest hit communities. CalVIP is an essential source of funding for these programs and it enables them to sustain life-saving work. In his budget, the Governor should appropriate \$39 million per year in CalVIP program. The legislature should pass AB 1603 which codifies CalVIP and ensures resources are supporting the people and communities with the highest need.
- ❑ **While California is a national leader in gun violence prevention, CalVIP remains underfunded, especially compared to similar programs in other states.**
  - Last year, over 120 cities and community-based organizations submitted grant applications to CalVIP, but with only \$9m available, only 16 applicants were able to be funded (excluding the City of Los Angeles).
  - California spends roughly \$0.23 per capita annually on CalVIP, while Massachusetts and New York have been spending about \$2<sup>1</sup> and \$1<sup>2</sup> per capita, respectively, on their highly successful analogous grant programs.
  - The substantial investment in local violence reduction strategies has contributed to a reduction in gun homicides in Massachusetts and New York. Currently, the gun homicide rate in Massachusetts and New York are 3 and 2 times lower than California, respectively.<sup>3</sup>
- ❑ **Failing to address gun violence has both fiscal and moral consequences.**
  - Gun violence brings high health care, law enforcement and criminal justice costs to California taxpayers.
  - The financial burden on the state does not even begin to capture the toll of the lives lost, nor does it account for the effect on local communities, which are often torn apart as a result of gun violence.
  - These tragic incidents of gun violence disproportionately affect Black Californians, who are 10 times more likely to die by gun homicide than their white neighbors<sup>4</sup> and Hispanics, who are 2 times more likely to die by gun homicide.<sup>5</sup>
- ❑ **California has already leveraged state dollars to fund several effective violence reduction initiatives, serving as models for what robust CalVIP funding can achieve.**
  - After the adoptions of Operation Peacemaker and other violence prevention strategies in Richmond starting in 2010, homicide fell 56% in the five years following the intervention, from an average of 41 homicides in the five years before the intervention to an average of 18 homicides in the five years after.<sup>6</sup> An evaluation found that Operation Peacemaker produced a positive economic impact of

<sup>1</sup> Massachusetts's Safe and Successful Youth Initiative, Shannan Community Safety Initiative grants, and Department of Public Health youth violence prevention program grants provided at least \$13.9 million in grant funding in FY 2017.

<sup>2</sup> New York's Gun Involved Violence Elimination and SNUG programs awarded \$18.535 million in grant funding in FY 2016.

<sup>3</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. WISQARS, Underlying Cause of Death. Data reflect a 5-year average (2013-2017) of gun deaths. Analysis includes and homicide including legal intervention.

<sup>4</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. WISQARS, Underlying Cause of Death. Data reflect a 5-year average (2013-2017) of gun deaths in California by race. Analysis includes: all ages, non-Hispanic only, and homicide including legal intervention.

<sup>5</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. WISQARS, Underlying Cause of Death. Data reflect a 5-year average (2013-2017) of gun deaths in California by race. Analysis includes: all ages, Hispanic, and homicide including legal intervention.

<sup>6</sup> Kaplan, J. Richmond CA Murder, Rate per 100,000. *Crime Data Tool*.

<http://crimedatool.com/crime.html#state=California&agency=Richmond%20Police%20Department&category=Murder&rate=true>  
Comparison of average murder rate from 2004-2009 and from 2010-2014.



\$500 million over five years.<sup>7</sup> From 2015-17, the state provided \$1.5 million to Richmond to support these violence reduction programs.

- By 2014, the city saw the fewest number of people shot and killed in Richmond in 40 years.<sup>8</sup>

- From 2015-17, the state provided \$1.5 million to Oakland to fund Oakland Ceasefire, which is focused on reducing gun violence through the Group Violence Intervention model. Since launching Ceasefire in 2012, Oakland has seen a remarkable 43% drop in homicides and a 49% reduction in non-fatal injury shootings.<sup>9</sup>
- From 2015-17, state provided \$3 million to Los Angeles to help fund the Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD) program. Los Angeles has seen a 38% reduction in homicides and 46% reduction in aggravated assaults since launching GRYD in 2007.<sup>10</sup> A 2015 report by the Urban Institute found that recipients of GRYD violence prevention services reported significant reductions in violent behaviors.<sup>11</sup> And a March 2017 assessment by researchers at Cal State University, Los Angeles found that GRYD incident response teams—just one of many GRYD programs—had prevented an estimated 185 gang retaliations citywide from 2014-15, resulting in estimated savings of \$110.2 million over two years.<sup>12</sup>
- As more cities look to launch comprehensive violence prevention initiatives, CalVIP needs additional, stable funding to propel, sustain and evaluate these efforts. An increase to \$39 million will allow California to support more communities and provide higher grant amounts.

❑ **AB 1603 codifies the CalVIP program and ensures that CalVIP resources are effectively focusing on the communities and people with the highest need.**

- AB 1603 outlines a selection process for awardees that requires the Board of State and Community Corrections to give preference to the communities with high rates of serious violence while prioritizing applicants intending to use the funds for evidence-based strategies that reduce violence and incarceration. The bill also enables the Board of State and Community Corrections to utilize a portion of the funding to provide statewide leadership, coordination, and technical assistance to promote effective state and local efforts.

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<sup>7</sup> Huguet R, Li J, Servat C, Stofer K. Cost-Benefit Analysis: Operation Peacemaker. University of Southern California, Sol Price School of Public Policy. 2016.

<sup>8</sup> Wayne Drash and Tawanda Scott Sambou, "Paying kids not to kill," CNN, May 20, 2016, <http://www.cnn.com/2016/05/19/health/cash-for-criminals-richmond-california>.

<sup>9</sup> See Oakland City End of Year Crime Reports for 2012 and 2017 at <http://www2.oaklandnet.com/oakca1/groups/police/documents/webcontent/oak050910.pdf> and <http://www2.oaklandnet.com/oakca1/groups/police/documents/webcontent/oak068519.pdf>. See also, David Muhammad, "Success! Oakland Ceasefire program reduces gun violence," Mercury News: Opinion, Jan. 9, 2018, at <https://www.mercurynews.com/2018/01/09/opinion-success-oakland-ceasefire-program-reduces-gun-violence/>.

<sup>10</sup> Compiled using Offense Table 8 of 2004-2015 Uniform Crime Reports data. "Crime in the U.S.," Federal Bureau of Investigation, <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s>.

<sup>11</sup> Meaghan Cahill, et al, "Evaluation of the Los Angeles Gang Reduction and Youth Development Program: Year 4 Evaluation Report," Urban Institute, 35-37 (Sept. 2015), at <http://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/77956/2000622-Evaluation-of-the-Los-Angeles-Gang-Reduction-and-Youth-Development-Program-Year-4-Evaluation-Report.pdf>.

<sup>12</sup> P. Jeffrey Brantingham, et al, "GRYD Intervention Incident Response & Gang Crime," GRYD Research and Evaluation Team, 23 (Mar. 30, 2017), at [https://www.lagryd.org/sites/default/files/reports/GRYD%20IR%20and%20Gang%20Crime%20Report\\_2017\\_FINALv2\\_0.pdf](https://www.lagryd.org/sites/default/files/reports/GRYD%20IR%20and%20Gang%20Crime%20Report_2017_FINALv2_0.pdf)