



# PEACE IN MOTION

Toledo's Path to Long-term Community Safety  
Comprehensive 5-Year Plan, 2025 - 2029

**Moment of silence and reflection.**

# **Agenda**

**Challenges**

**Addressing the Challenges**

**Developing New Solutions**

**Peace in Motion**

**Key Updates**

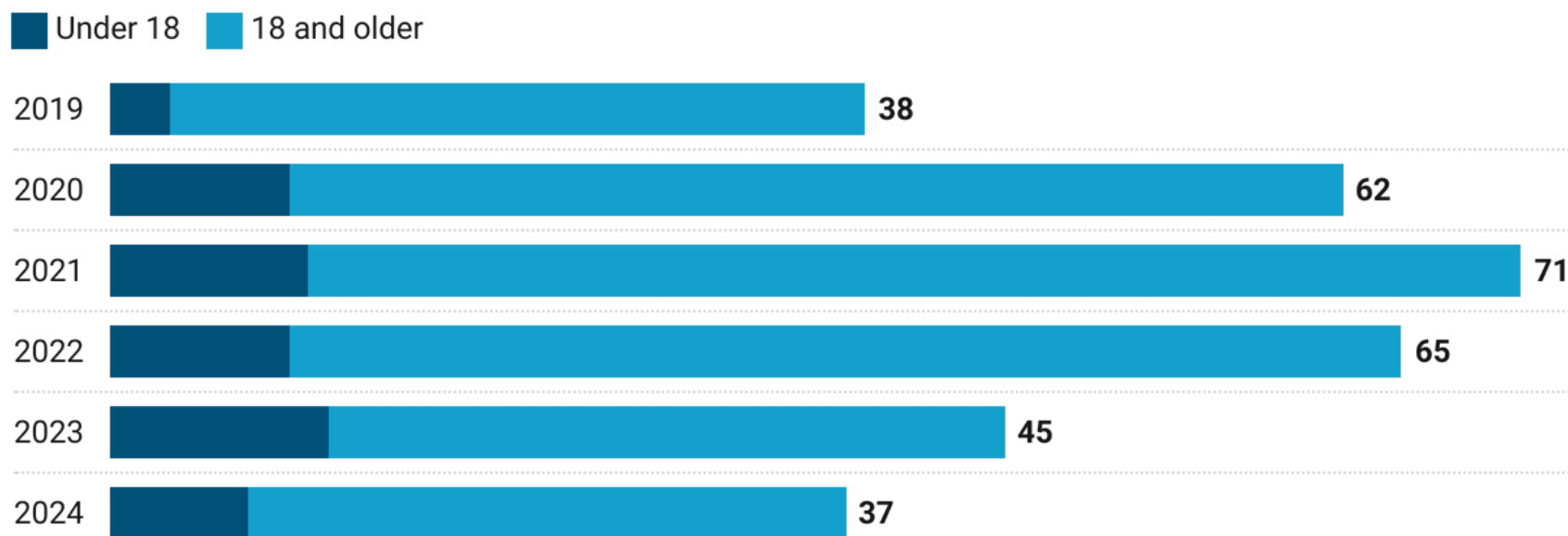
**Questions**

**Public Comment**



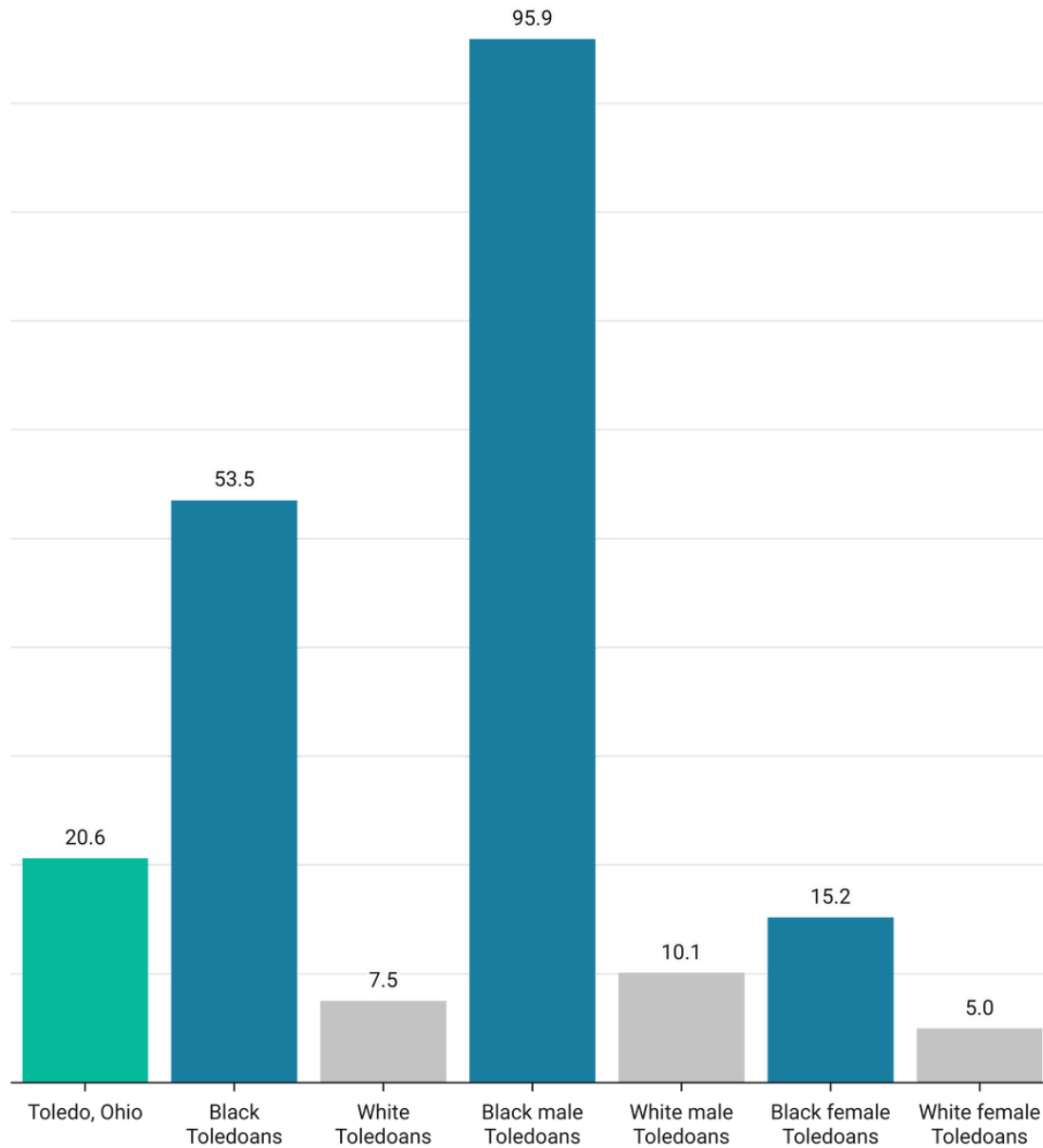
## Challenges





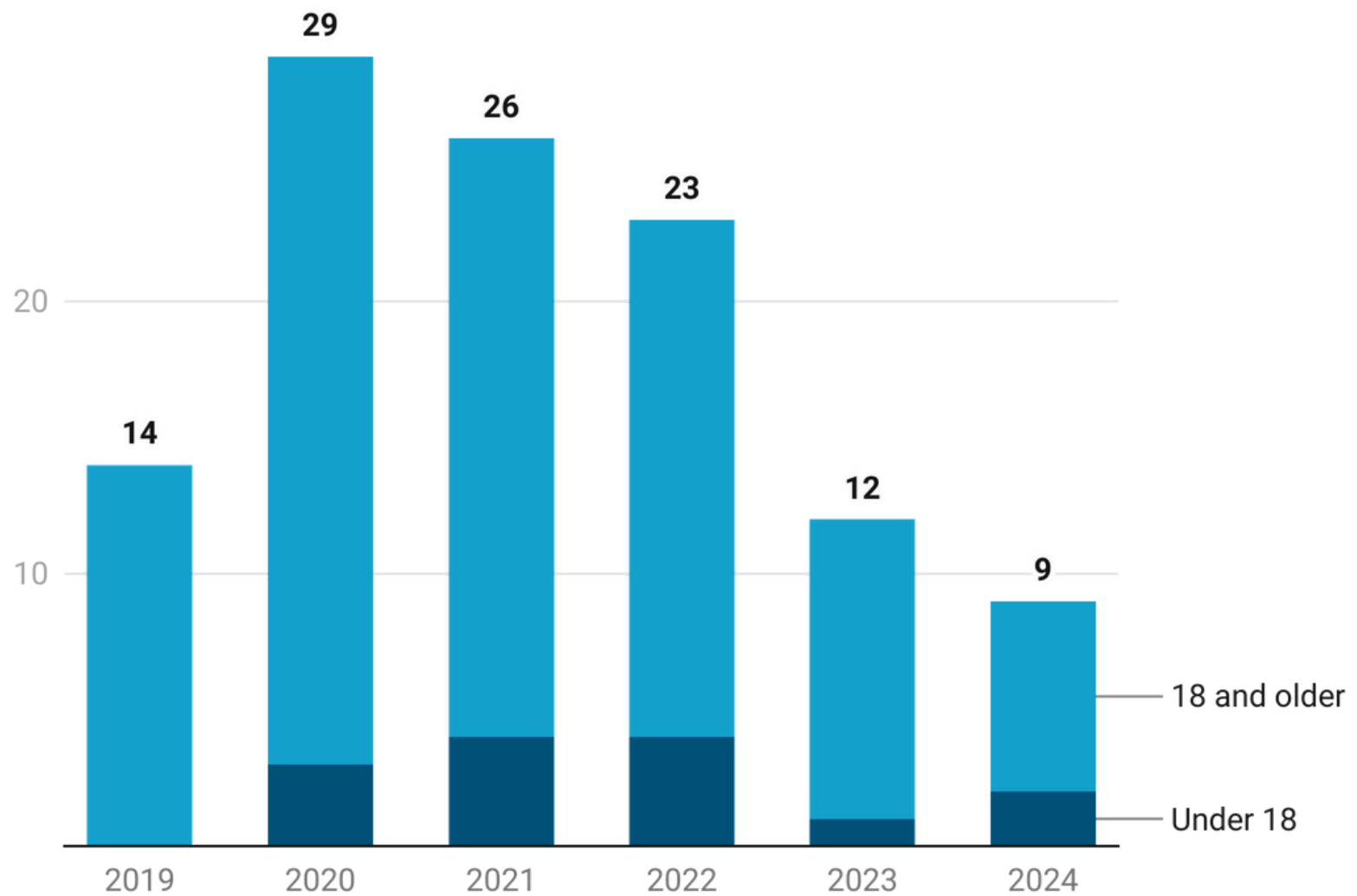
## Homicides in Toledo, 2019 - 2024

Source: Toledo Police Department Transparency Hub



## Homicide rate per 100,000 people by race and gender, 2020 - 2024

Sources: Toledo Police Department Transparency Hub, American Community Survey

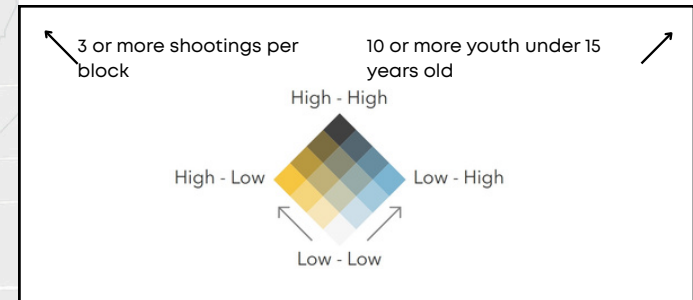
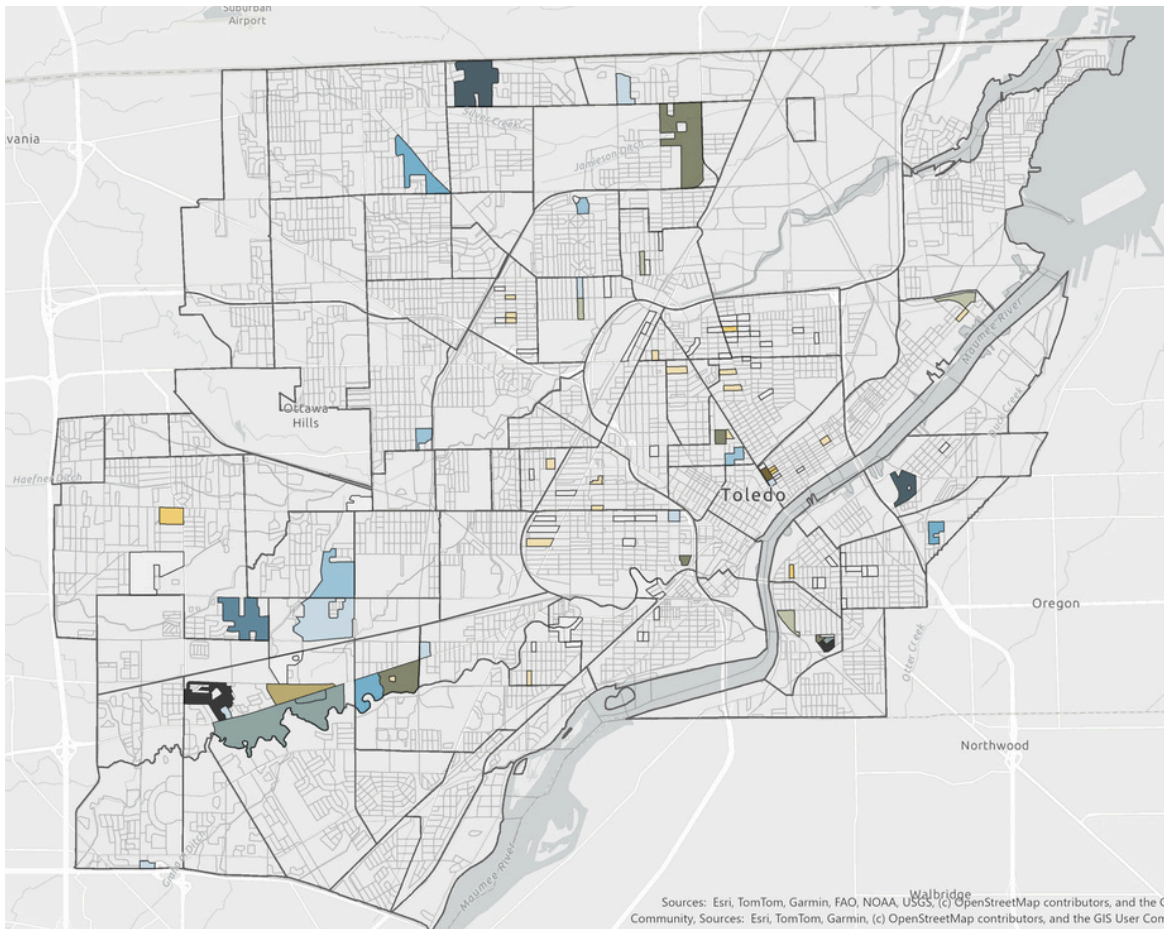


## Homicides between May and August, 2019 - 2024

Source: Toledo Police Department Transparency Hub

**“My son is one of the [young men] murdered. There was no help, no hope, and no one came to my aid. So I said I gotta do something. Started a support group. Grief comes in different forms.”**

## The Challenges



### Supporting Youth Already Impacted by Violence

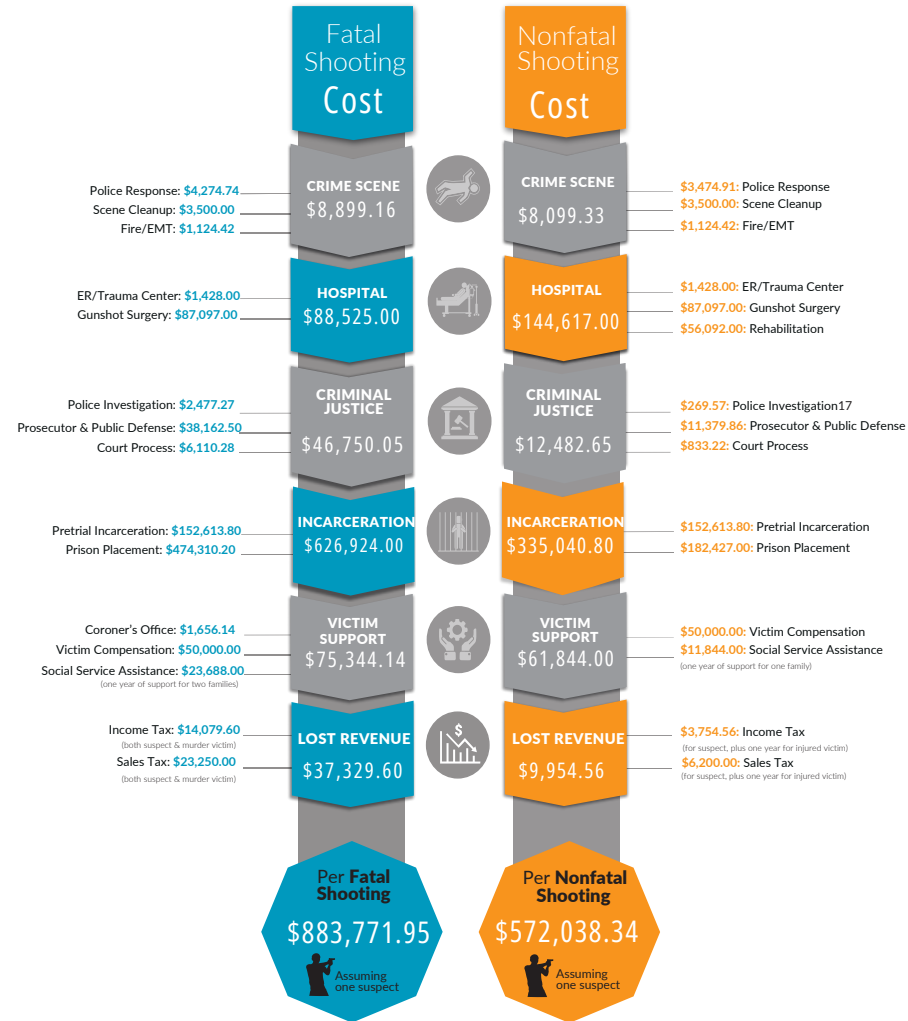
The census blocks on this map are color-coded to show two types of data: the concentration of shootings into homes, nonfatal, and fatal shootings, and the number of youth under 15 years old. This map is *only* one way to identify **direct exposure to gun violence during critical and sensitive periods for many youth**. Blocks that are shaded **yellow** indicate higher direct exposure to gun violence, and a lower proportion of youth under 15. **Light blue** indicates a lower concentration of gun violence and a higher proportion of youth under 15. **Dusky black** indicates a higher concentration of both shootings and youth under the age of 15. High-quality, **credible mentorship and other supports for youth in these areas would help reduce the impact of early exposure to gun violence**.

# Understanding the Challenges

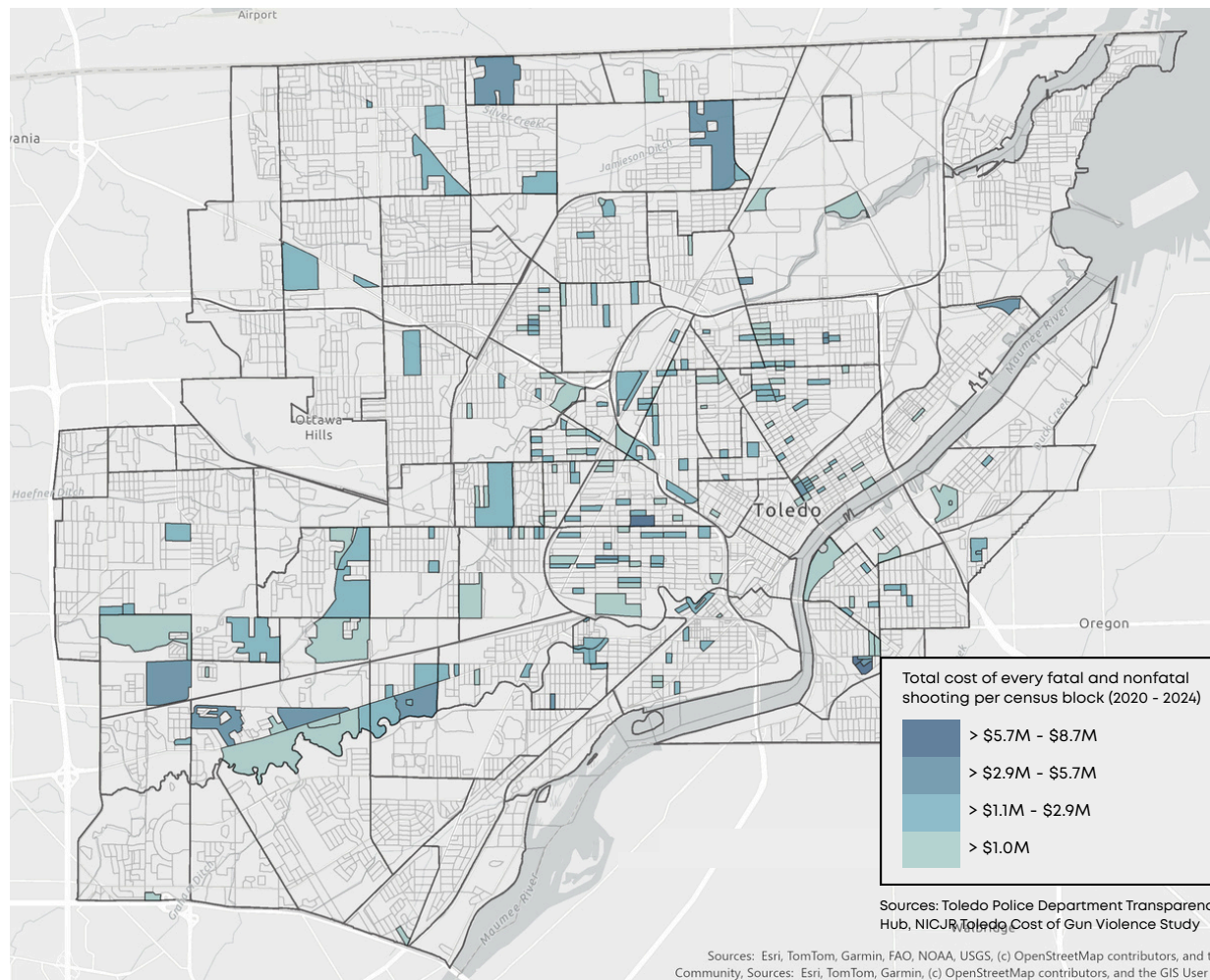
## THE COST Per Shooting

The governmental cost of gun violence to the City, County, and State

**NICJR**  
National Institute for  
Criminal Justice Reform



17. The following Toledo Police Department divisions provided financial information: the Crime Scene Investigation Unit, the Field Operations Division, and the Investigative Services Bureau. Only the Investigative Services Bureau report included specific cost details for police investigation in nonfatal shooting cases.



## City Blocks where the Combined Cost of Fatal and Nonfatal Shootings between 2020 and 2024 Exceeds \$1 Million

The census blocks on this map are color-coded to show the combined cost of fatal and nonfatal shootings between 2020 and 2024. Nonfatal shootings result in approximately \$572,038.34 per suspect, while fatal shootings result in an estimated \$883,771.95 in costs per suspect. The darker the **blue-green**, the more incidents of gun violence that have resulted in costs of more than \$1 million.

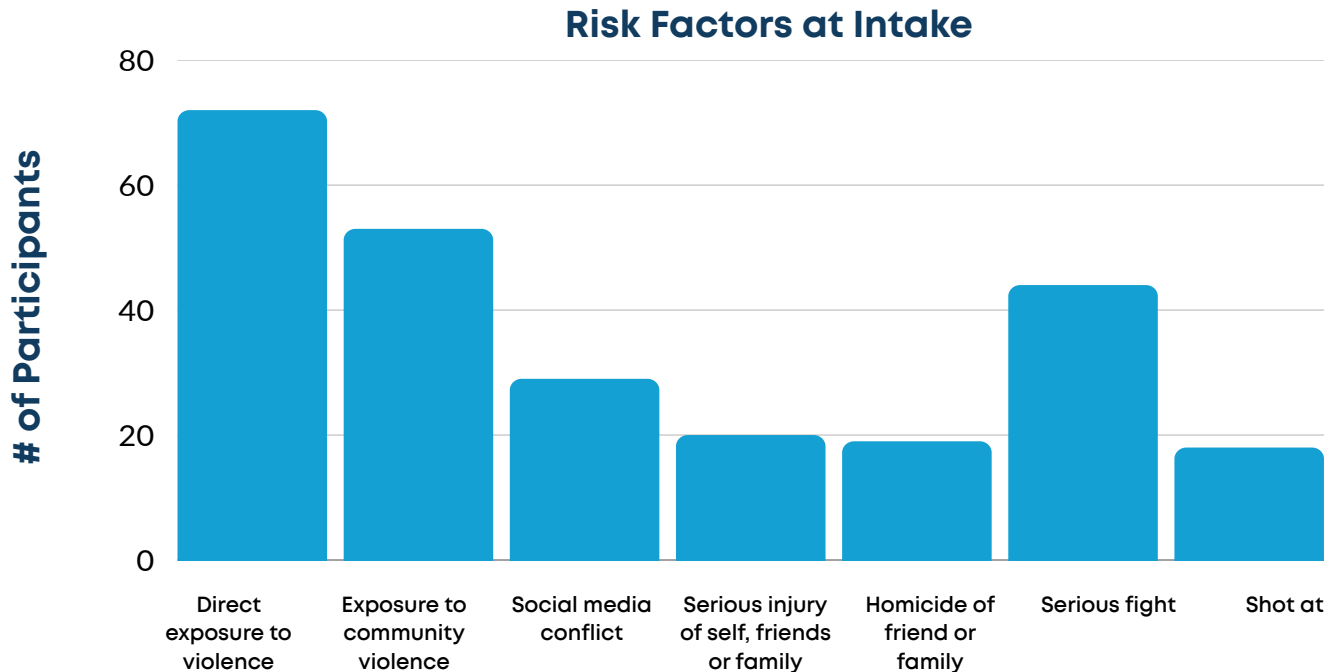
## The Challenges

**Addressing the Challenges**

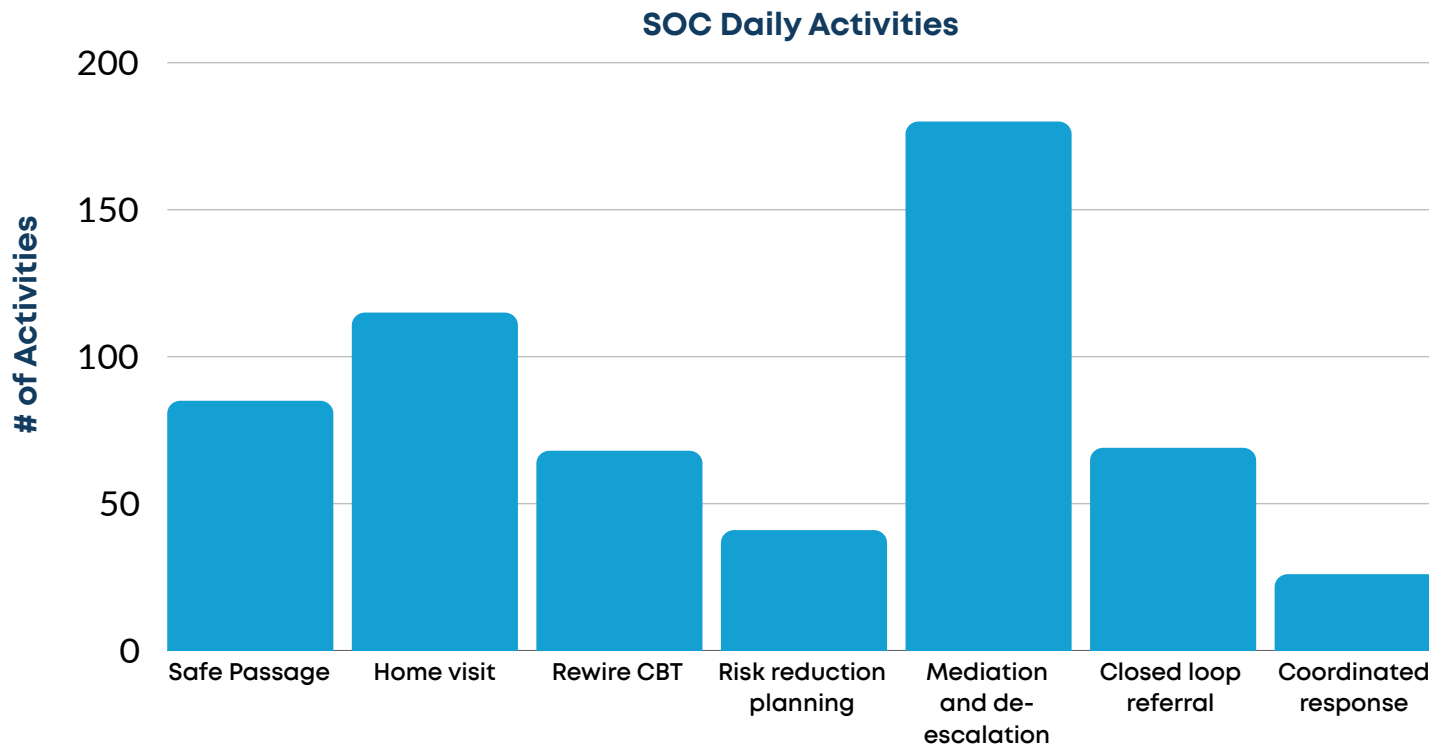


# Save Our Community

- Built on the Cure Violence model, SOC deploys credible, trained CVIP workers to detect and interrupt potential violence; reduce risks, change behaviors, and support those at highest risk of violence; and work with the community to change social norms and build positive, resilient, and safe communities
- Focus areas: Junction/Englewood and Lagrange neighborhoods and four area schools: Scott, Waite, Woodward, and Maritime Academy.
- Since relaunching under MONSE in the summer of 2023 and the addition of school-based SOC in the fall of 2023, a total of **107 participants have enrolled in SOC**.
- Some participants require long-term engagement with SOC, while others work intensely with SOC for a shorter period while navigating a specific risk factor.



- SOC seeks to replace the risk factors outlined on the previous page with protective factors that can help to reduce the risk of experiencing gun violence.
- **SOC staff are trained in a wide range of interventions and supports** and work diligently to equip their participants with the tools and skills needed to make decisions that do not lead to violence.
- **SOC staff have conducted over 100 home visits** to get to know participants, their families, and their social environment. Sometimes, intervening early in a conflict can prevent words from escalating to violence.
- As of April 2025, **SOC staff have conducted 180 mediations and de-escalations**, halting the spread of violence in our community and promoting safer alternatives to conflict.
- SOC staff have been able to make **69 referrals for additional services**.



# Examples from the Ecosystem

## Primary and Secondary Interventions

**Go Tyme Grynd** is a gym and fitness center that provides a safe space and positive outlet that promotes physical and mental wellness for Toledo's youth. Among their programs is the Lil' Dogs Go Program, a free summer wellness program that includes fun exercise, socio-political discussions, and resilience-building activities. The leader of Go Tyme Grynd has participated in several MONSE-sponsored trainings in CVIP best practices and recently taught Save Our Community's street team the principles of public speaking.

**Harbor Families and Communities Enhancing Stability (FACES)** program identifies young members of the community who have experienced Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), which can have long-term negative impacts on health and wellness. FACES works with preschools and families to provide experiences that counteract the negative impact of ACEs, thereby helping to interrupt the pre-school-to-prison pipeline and providing youth with opportunities to flourish.

**Hoodstock Foundation** is a grassroots organization promoting peace, change, economic growth, and youth empowerment. They work to bring about positive change by providing intensive case management, positive mentorship, and social-emotional learning activities. Hoodstock Foundation also organizes an annual back-to-school giveaway that has distributed thousands of backpacks to students preparing to return to school.

**Credible Messengers** is a support group for youth involved in the Juvenile Justice System, often for gun charges. The group is facilitated by Willie Knighten, an anti-gang activist wrongfully convicted of a murder in 1996. Knighten has dedicated his life as a returned citizen to supporting others as they re-enter society and to reducing gang and group violence among youth.

## Secondary and Tertiary Interventions

**Mercy Health Toledo Trauma Recovery Center** provides compassionate care to individuals seven and older who have experienced trauma, including abuse, assault, domestic violence, human trafficking, and gun violence. Certified Clinical Trauma Therapists use evidence-based therapy to promote healing and recovery. Additional services include group therapy for victims of crime, safety planning, training, and legal and court advocacy.

**Good Grief of Northwest Ohio** provides peer support groups to young people who have experienced loss. Although their services extend beyond those impacted by gun violence, they have remained an engaged partner throughout the development of Peace in Motion and are working with MONSE, schools, and other partners to ensure their services are available to young people impacted by gun violence.

**Sisters 4 Unity** is a grassroots organization founded and led by mothers who have lost children to gun violence. They provide peer support to families that experience the traumatic loss of loved ones to gun violence. Sisters 4 Unity helps to connect the families they work with to resources and supports. They also organize the annual Communities Against Violence march in Toledo.

**Developing Solutions**

**Listening sessions/town halls conducted by the Mayor's Initiative to Reduce Gun Violence.**

- Themes throughout included the need for direct engagement with youth, mental health, parental, family, and neighborhood support, and rejecting the normalization and desensitization to violence.

**Collaboration with Cities United**

- Survey, continuous TA, and key stakeholder group interviews, including youth, faith-based leaders, business owners, community-based organizations, public safety, and members of the judicial system.
- Quotes from these sessions are included throughout Peace in Motion.

**Coalition for Peaceful Toledo Neighborhoods**

- Formed by former Mayors Donna Owens, Carty Finkbeiner, Mike Bell, and Paula Hicks Hudson.
- Developed a 12-point plan for addressing violence. PIM has alignment with this 12-point plan.

**Guidance from experts and practitioners**

- Dave Ross, Dedra Brown, DeVonne Fagan, Willie Knighten, Roca Inc., and No More Red Dots.
- Experts and conveners like Cities United, the National Network of Offices of Violence Prevention, and the White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention.
- Content experts, including the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions, Boston University RISE Lab, National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform, and Bowling Green State University.

These collaborations informed analyses, literature searches, and processes that enhanced MONSE's understanding of challenges, solutions, and best practices.

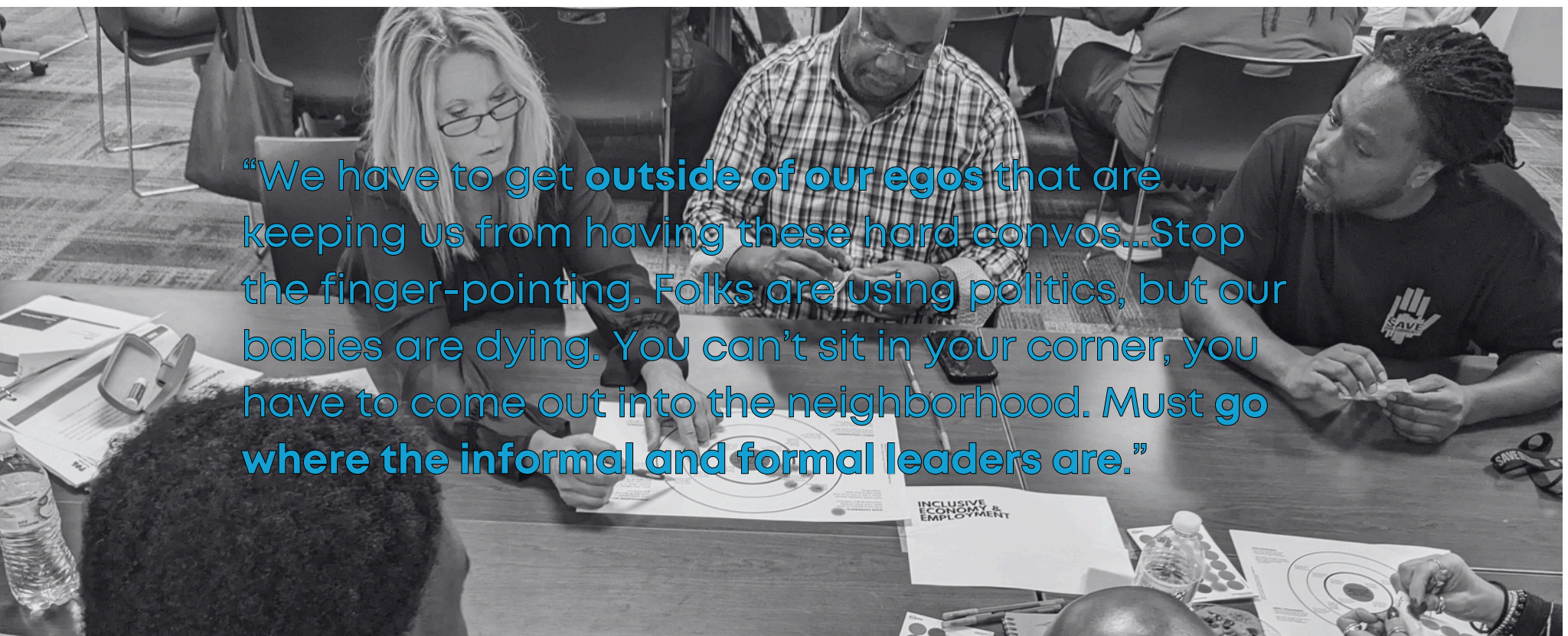


**Community-centered Engagement (CCE)** to ensure that **those most impacted by the issues are central to developing solutions.**

More than **100 people** representing more than **40 communities and organizations** contributed to the Community Action Table and the recommendations.

Followed the steps to develop a **Theory of Change**, which included identifying existing solutions, gaps due to (lack of resources, capacity, or other factors), and solutions to address these gaps.

Each work group presented their recommendations to the rest of the Community Action Table and used the feedback to **refine their recommendations** further.



“We have to get **outside of our egos** that are keeping us from having these hard convos...Stop the finger-pointing. Folks are using politics, but our babies are dying. You can’t sit in your corner, you have to come out into the neighborhood. Must go **where the informal and formal leaders are.**”

# Community Action Table Work Groups

**Built Environment:** Increase protective factors and reduce blight, disinvestment, heat, and other built factors associated with a higher risk of gun violence.

**Capacity-Building:** Build grassroots and community-based organizations' ability to conduct evidence-informed, high-quality community violence intervention and prevention work.

**Conflict on Social Media:** Increase protective factors while screening for and addressing violent conflict influenced by social media and other technology.

**Coordinated Response:** Establish coordinated system and community-based responses to gun violence.

**Inclusive Workforce Development:** Invest in the people and communities most impacted by a lack of access to economic opportunity.

**Public Housing Safety:** Increase public housing safety and reduce risk factors related to gun violence in multifamily unit housing.

**Victim and Survivor Services:** Provide trauma-and-healing-informed, person-centered support for people, communities, and networks affected by violence.

**Youth Engagement:** Provide youth at high risk of violence with positive experiences centered around programming, mentorship, and jobs to deter violence and restore hope within the community.

**Gender-Based Violence:** In recognition of concerns about violence against women, MONSE requested the city's Gender Equity manager form a working group to develop recommendations for inclusion in the plan.

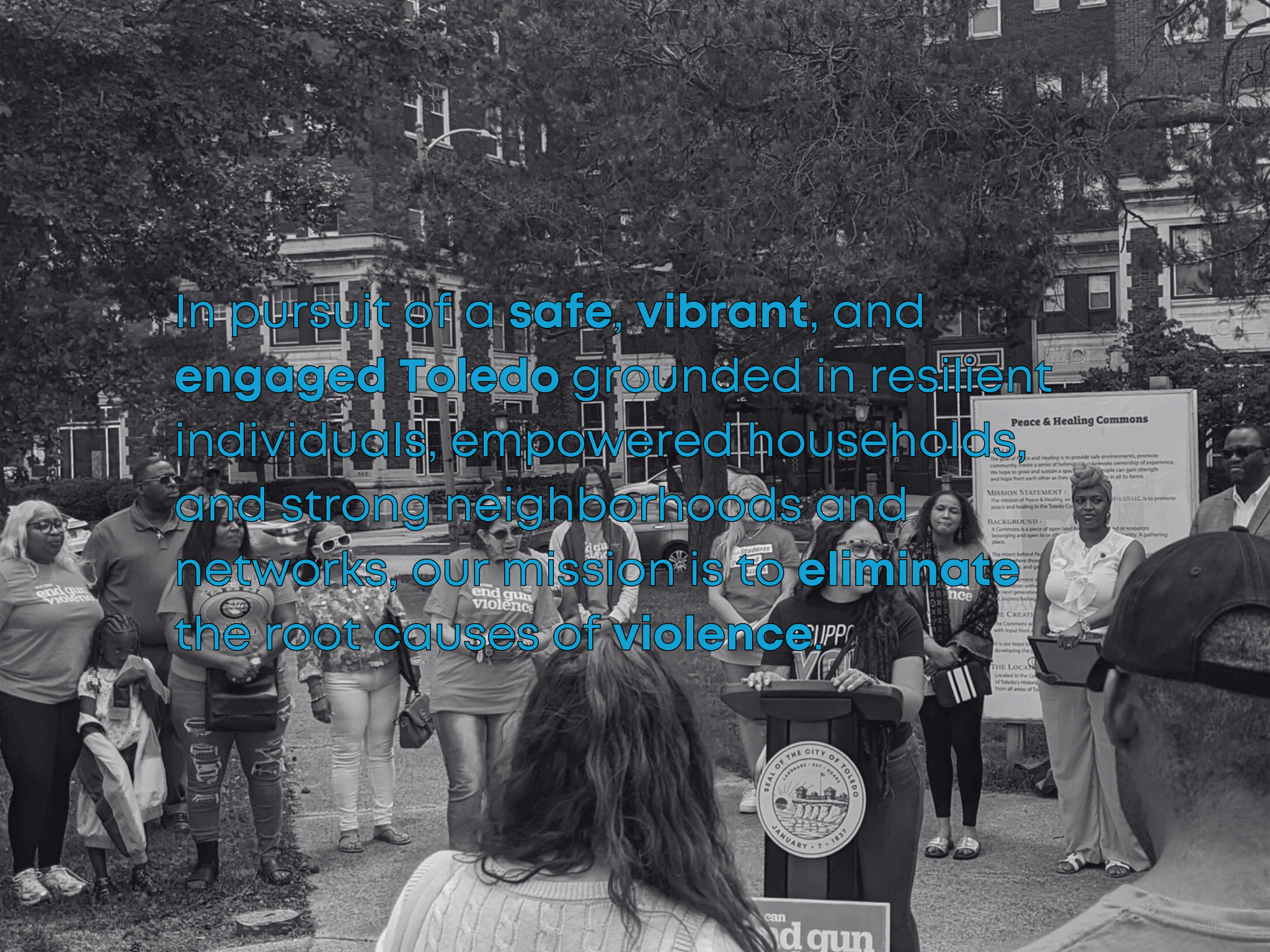




**Peace in Motion**



In pursuit of a **safe, vibrant, and engaged Toledo** grounded in resilient individuals, empowered households, and strong neighborhoods and networks, our mission is to **eliminate the root causes of violence.**





# **Comprehensive Five-Year Plan for Neighborhood Safety**

## Peace In Motion: Toledo's Path To Long-Term Community Safety

### **System Leadership**

Executive Table

### **Community Voice and Choice**

Community Action Table

### **Data-driven Decisions**

Violence Reduction Council

### **Lead CVIP Program**

Save Our Community

### **Lead Agency**

MONSE

# Goals and Objectives, 2025 - 2029

## Reduce Gun Violence by 20%

1. Reduce the number of nonfatal and fatal shootings of youth (under 18 years old) and young adults (18 to 24 years old) by 20%
2. Reduce the number of Black women killed by 40%
3. Reduce the number of fatal shootings of Black males 25 or older by 20%
4. Reduce nonfatal and fatal shootings in focus areas by 15%
5. Reduce shootings in homes in focus areas by 20%

## Change Attitudes, Beliefs, and Behaviors

### At 6 months of enrollment in SOC and other CVIP programs, participants will:

1. Improve Attitudes Towards Interpersonal Peer Violence
2. Change Beliefs About Conflict
3. Increase Resiliency and Protective Factors

### At 1 year of enrollment in SOC and other CVIP programs, participants will:

1. Reduce additional gun charges
2. Reduce violent crimes
3. Reduce serious fights
4. Reduce violent crime recidivism
5. Reduce violent injuries
6. Reduce violent injury re-hospitalization

## Neighborhood Change

1. Improve neighborhood-level Collective Efficacy
2. Reduce disinvestment and disrepair in core neighborhoods
3. Reduce gun homicides within ½ mile of schools in SOC focus areas

## Address Social Determinants of Health

1. Align with the Toledo Housing and Land Use strategies
2. Increase median household income in core neighborhoods
3. Increase homeownership in core neighborhoods
4. Increase the number of people from core neighborhoods in living wage jobs
5. Increase the number of opportunity-youth and young adults engaged in school, jobs, or job training
6. Increase net worth, credit score, and median household income among participants in SOC and all CVIP or re-entry workforce development programs

## Ecosystem Changes

1. One Hospital-Based Violence Intervention at a high-volume trauma center
2. One training and capacity-building program for CVIP professionals
  1. 75 people trained and certified as CVIP workers
  2. Ten people trained as Rewire CBT Catalysts
  3. Ten people trained as trainers in an additional evidence-based CVIP
3. One umbrella org with the capacity to provide TA to grassroots CVIPs
4. Sustained, braided funding supports CVIP in Toledo
  1. Medicaid billing for CVIP
  2. Dedicated resources for Save Our Community and other CVIP programs
5. The Community Action Table becomes community-led
6. The Violence Reduction Council leads data-driven decision-making.
  1. Violence Reduction Councils are added to the Ohio Revised Code
7. Benefits Cliff policies and programs allow more Toledoans to successfully transition into living wage jobs without sacrificing benefits
8. The Healing and Compassion Fund is robust and able to self-sustain

# Recommendations, Pillars, and Progress Indicators

**8 working groups**, more than **40 recommendations**, divided into **5 Pillars**:

1. Improving Coordination and Shared Accountability
2. Enhancing the Community Violence Intervention and Prevention Ecosystem
3. Fostering Hope and Healing
4. Accessing Opportunities
5. Building Engaged Neighborhoods and Networks

**Progress update categories:**

**Not Started** - No structured activities, including planning, have taken place

**Planning** - Developing timelines, partner meetings, and general pre-work

**In Motion** - Significant progress has been made; work is actively happening

**Setbacks** - Unforeseen issues have stymied progress

**Complete** - Work product has been completed

**Launched** - The item, program, or initiative has started and is available

**Quarterly In-depth updates:**



# Pillar 1: Improving Coordination and Shared Accountability

## 1. Needs Assessment & Landscape Analysis

**In Motion** - 3-year grant awarded; BGSU conducting assessment

## 2. Community-Level Coordinated Response\*

**In Motion** - Ongoing capacity building, relocations, and community responses

## 3. System-Level Coordinated Response\*

**In Motion** - VRC has launched

## 4. Handle With Care Protocol with Schools

**Planning** - Partnering with TPS, MHR SB, and TA from Handle with Care Ohio

## 5. Community-Public Safety Liaison

**Not started**



“[As a community, sometimes] we want one hire, one commission, one person to be the answer. That doesn’t work. We need a collective effort to reduce violence.”

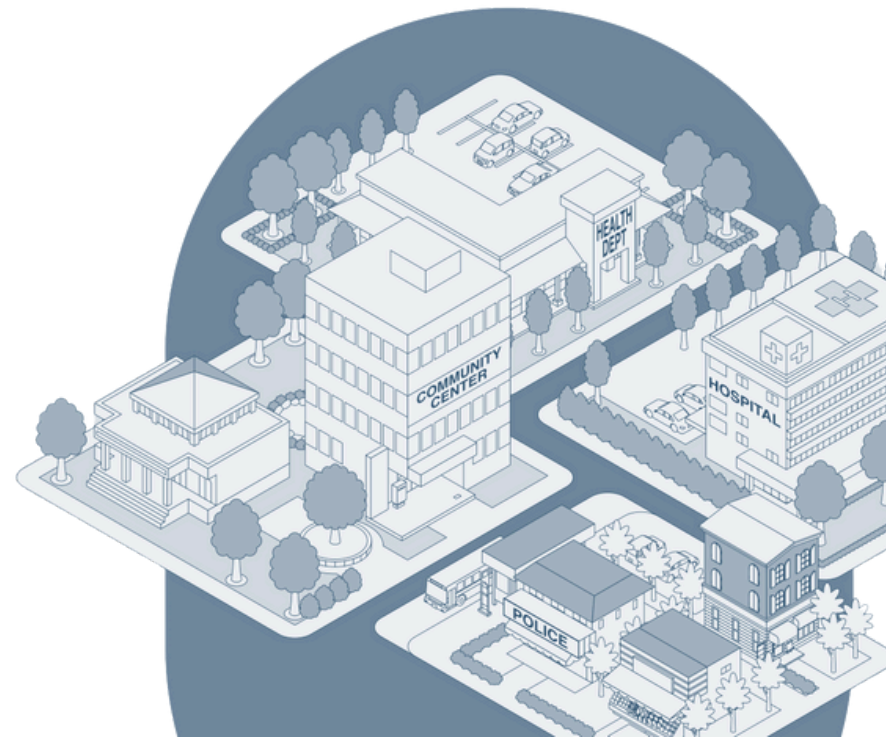


## Violence Reduction Council

- Violence Reduction Councils (VRC) take a data-driven, collaborative, and public-health problem-solving approach to violence intervention and prevention.
- Convene criminal justice, community service providers, elected officials, local government, CVIP programs, and key systems to conduct in-depth case reviews of homicides that reflect trends in community violence.
- Extensive TA from Dr. Mallory O'Brien, a \$25,000 Network of Practice Grant from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health American Health Initiative (BAHI), coordination from the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio, and the convening power of the Mayor's Office, Toledo's Violence Reduction Council **began to meet in October of 2024**.
- **Three service provider reviews** have focused on firearm deaths of Black males aged 15 to 24.
- Identified risk factors involved in the deaths and gaps in data to develop recommendations that prevent future incidents.
- Recommendations to date include (1) **group violence intervention** with high-risk networks that have driven violence and are **beginning to re-enter the community**. Working on **hiring a Street Intervention Specialist** to lead this effort.
- (2) advocating for **protections within the Ohio Revised Code** to bolster data sharing
- (3) an intentional focus on **addressing social dysfunction in the neighborhoods of perpetrators**
- (4) developing practical strategies to **reduce social media conflict**.

**Group has decided to transition to focusing on girls and women.**

## Improving Coordination and Shared Accountability





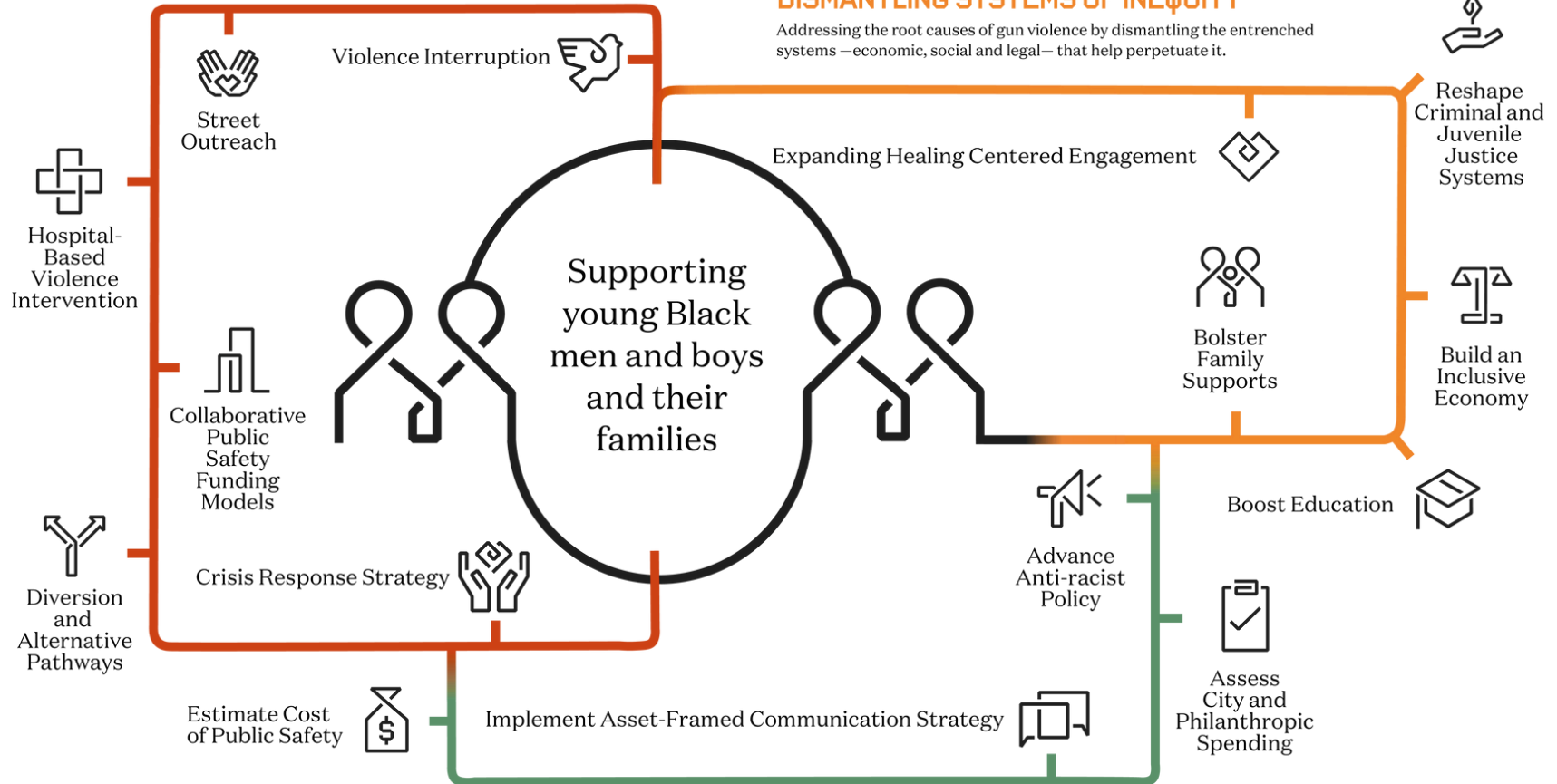
# Pillar 2: Enhancing the CVIP Ecosystem

## INTERRUPTING THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE

Violence intervention at the neighborhood level, partnering with youth, family and community leaders who are directly impacted.

## DISMANTLING SYSTEMS OF INEQUITY

Addressing the root causes of gun violence by dismantling the entrenched systems — economic, social and legal — that help perpetuate it.



## INVESTING IN INFRASTRUCTURE

Research the true cost of gun violence and direct resources to infrastructure that supports the communities affected by it.

## 1. Save Our Community Sustainability Plan

**In Motion** - Sustainable funding, SWOT analysis, and capacity building

## 2. Hospital-Based Violence Intervention

**Planning** - Ongoing discussion with possible hospital partner

## 3. CVIP Academy

**Planning** - Awarded 3 year grant; needs assessment informing Academy

## 4. Foundational Competencies for Victim & Crisis Response

**Complete** - See Appendix

## 5. 72-Hour Community Response and Continuum of Care

**Launched** - Being done by Save Our Community alongside partners; hiring 2 positions

## 6. Victim & Survivor Services Team

**Planning** - Staff positions funded and awarded 3-year grant

## 7. Social Media Intervention Team

**Planning** - Technical assistance from BU Rise Lab

## 8. Youth Fellowship / Leadership Program

**Planning** - Braided funding from LCFCFC, MONSE, and CU; YES curriculum

## 9. Regional Rapid Relocation

**Planning** - Regional network and criteria

## 10. Technical Assistance for CVIP Workers and Organizations

**Planning** - 3-year grant funds TA; 2 SOC staff trained as Rewire CBT Catalysts

## 11. Bolster an Umbrella CVIP Organization

**Planning** - RFQ for community partner included in 3-year CVIP grant

## Youth Fellowship / Leadership Program

- Adapting the condensed evidence-based Youth Empowerment Solutions curriculum
  - (19 sessions, 25 hours + 8 hour project).
- Focuses on self-esteem, youth voice and choice, leadership, civic efficacy, community engagement, and youth-identified solutions
- Individual and community change
- Stipends provided by Lucas County Family and Child First Council (mid-way and at the end of the project), facilitated by United Way
- Funding and training from Cities United for youth-identified projects and solutions
- Training in conflict resolution and mediation
- Community project ideas:
  - Safe Places/Hub mapping
  - Social Media Project
  - Service-Learning program/project
  - Beautification
  - Comms campaign
  - Others of participant/youth choice
- Bi-weekly in Summer 2025
- SOC, MONSE, and other CBOs staffing



Example of a youth-led project using YES curriculum: RAM Empowerment podcast on root causes of gun violence.

## Improving Coordination and Shared Accountability

## 12. Increase Credible Mentorship

Not Started

## 13. Host a Regional CVIP Conference

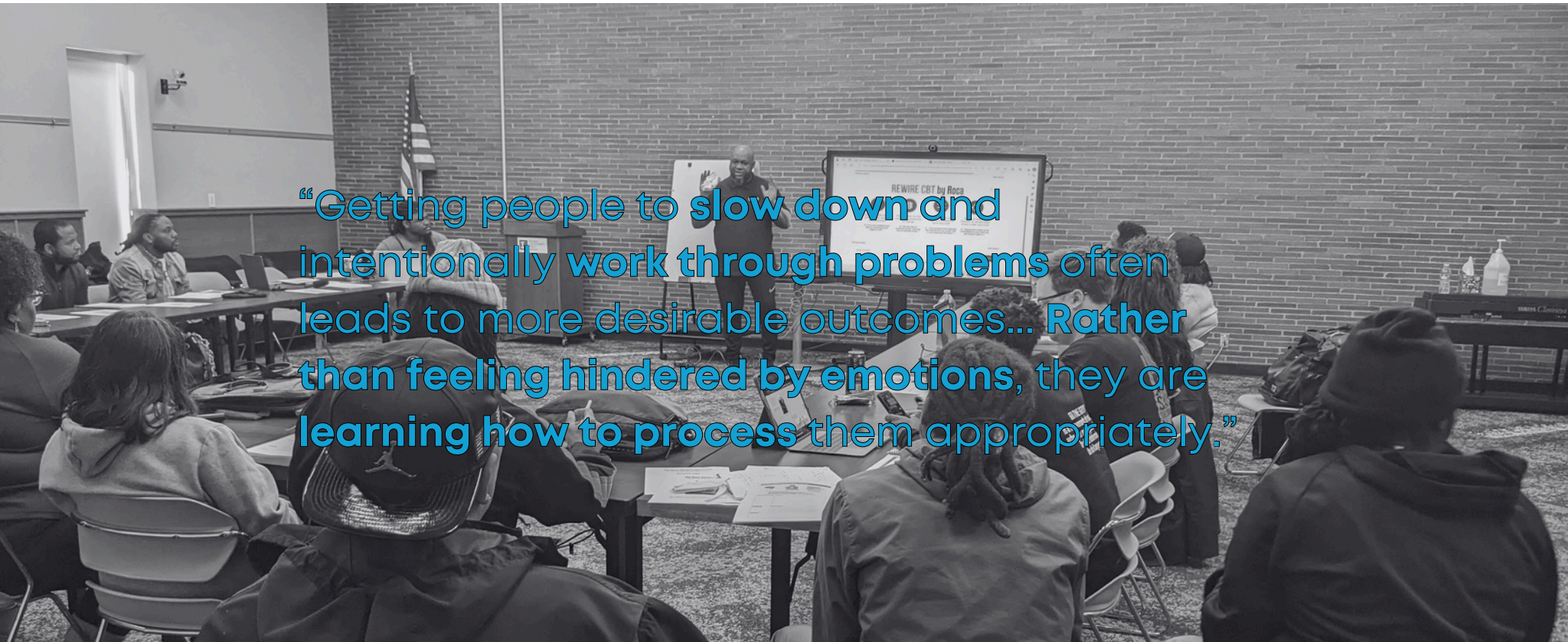
Setbacks - Applied to host NOVPN Regional Convening but not selected. 2026?

## 14. Assess the Cost of Gun Violence to Local Taxpayers

Complete

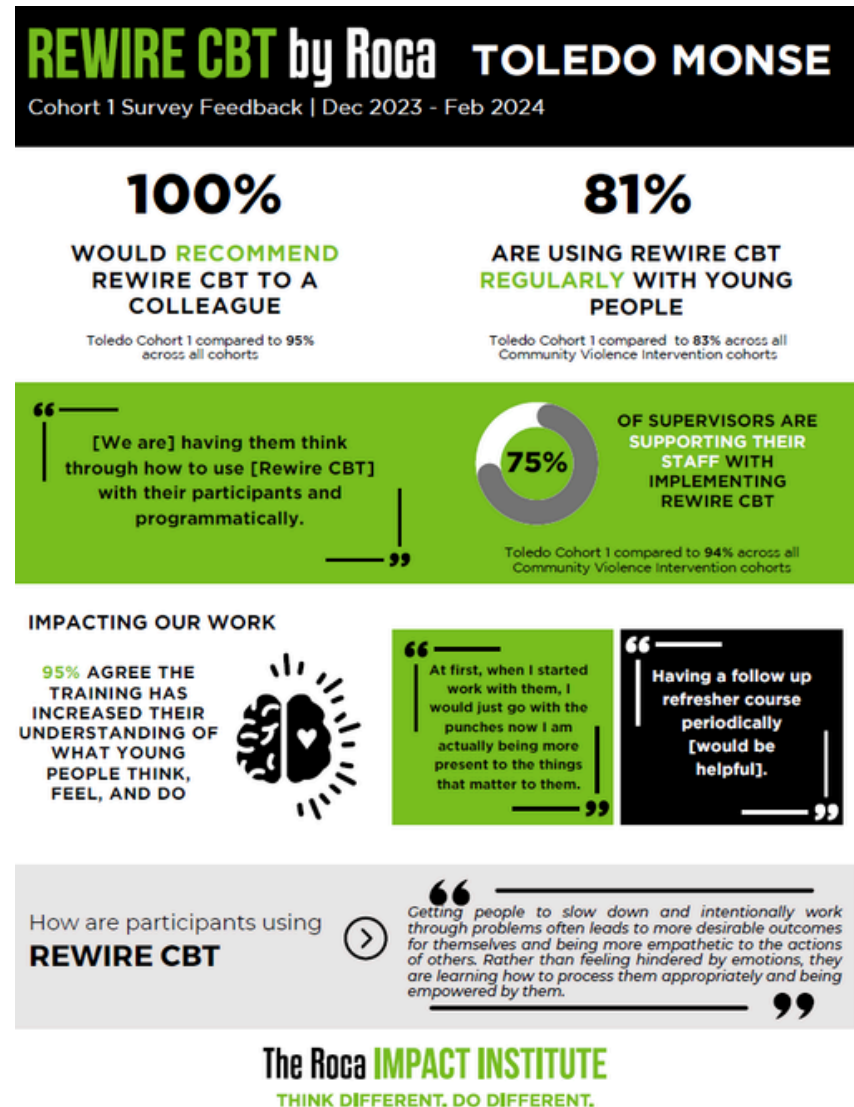
## 15. Establish or Expand Two CVIP Programs

Planning - Awarded 3-year grant that will support at least 2 organizations





- **Rewire CBT** is a **seven-skill cognitive behavioral toolkit for frontline CVIP staff** to help young people develop lifesaving skills and make healthier choices.
- **31 people trained**, including Save Our Community, Go Tyme Grynd, Program Inc, Man Day with Hassan, DDYC, Hoodstock Foundation, Arts Commission, Open Arms Transformational Living, and the Zepf Fatherhood Program.
- SOC staff have used a Rewire CBT skill in **more than half of their behavior change** communications
- Two staff, Sierra Webb and Christopher Matthews, have also been trained as **Catalysts** and can now train others who have completed Rewire CBT training.



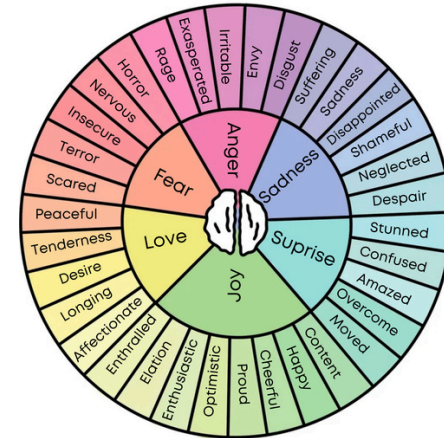


**THINK-  
FEEL-DO  
CYCLE**  
REWIRE CBT by Roca  
© 2016, Roca Inc.

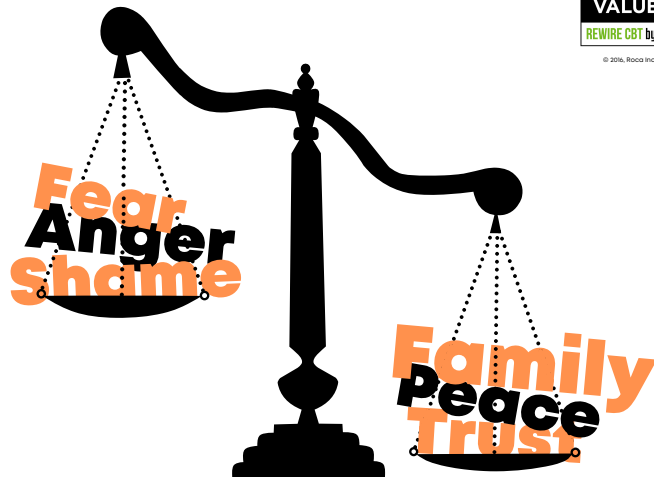
Situations affect what we say in our head, what we feel in our bodies, and what we do in response. In turn, *what we think, feel, and do all affect each other.*

1. Recognize you're feeling something
2. Understand different types of feelings
3. Know that feelings range in intensity

**LABEL  
YOUR  
FEELINGS**  
REWIRE CBT by Roca  
© 2016, Roca Inc.



When we label our feelings, we have the possibility of making a different choice.



**ACT ON  
YOUR  
VALUES**  
REWIRE CBT by Roca  
© 2016, Roca Inc.

When you act on your values instead of your emotions, you are in control of your life, feel better, and can work towards your goals.



# Pillar 3: Fostering Hope and Healing

## 1. Healing and Compassion Fund

**Launched** - [Donate, Share, or Apply](#)

## 2. Healing Hub Resource Guide and Resource Navigators

**In Motion** - V1 being formatted and providers notified **Not started**

## 3. Virtual Safe Spaces

**Not started**

## 4. Online Conflict Mediation Workshops

**Not started**

## 5. Youth Peer Support

**Planning** - Mediation and violence prevention skills included in Youth Fellowship

## 6. Medical Debt Forgiveness for Gun-related Injuries

**Setbacks** - Debt forgiveness funding fully allocated; HIPAA concerns



**“We see victims come in with young children. There's a family cycle. Little ones being exposed to violence need to get support immediately. Start by treating the entire family system.”**

# Healing & Compassion Fund

- Survivors & advocates, in partnership w/CoT, created the Healing & Compassion Fund
- Goal is to provide swift relief and support to families affected by gun violence in Toledo.
- Eligible applicants can receive up to \$2,000 worth of support for essential needs, including relocation, home repairs, funeral costs, medical bills, and more.
- Payments will go directly to service providers - whether for scene cleanup, funeral arrangements, rent assistance, etc.
- While funding is not guaranteed, please know that you are not alone. A dedicated team of survivors, advocates, and community partners is committed to standing by you, offering guidance, and ensuring you receive the support and resources you need.



[Donate](#)



[Apply](#)



# Healing & Compassion Fund

- This application must be completed by someone 18 or older, directly connected to the victim, and with consent from the victim, survivor, or guardian.
- Proof of your identity, that the incident occurred, and that you have a direct relationship with the victim is required
- The incident must have occurred in Toledo, after September 30th, 2024. At this time, the fund cannot support requests for incidents before this date.
- Applications will be reviewed by a nine-person committee that includes two (2) gun violence survivors, two (2) victim services providers, two (2) community-based organizations, one (1) member of the faith-based community, one (1) City of Toledo MONSE staff member, and one (1) member of United Way of Greater Toledo. Your identifying information will be removed so reviewers cannot access your name or address.

# Pillar 4: Accessing Opportunities

## 1. Career Pathways & Career Coaching

**Planning** - Youth Education and Workforce Commissioner Hired

## 2. SOC Employment

**In Motion** - Expanding to serve 20 youth in Spring and Summer 2025

## 3. Resume the Youth Build Program

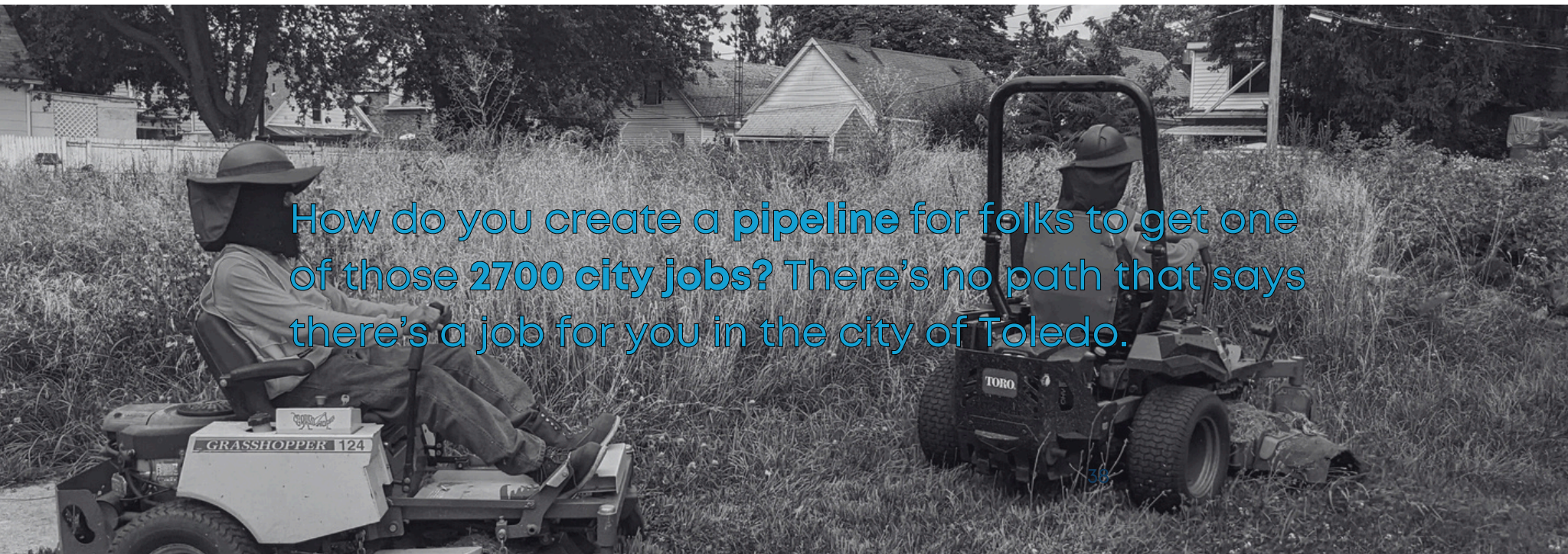
**Planning** - TA from Toledo YouthBuild's former Director and Dayton YouthBuild

## 4. In-Person Employment Tours and Job Placements

**Not started**

## 5. Mobile Outreach for Workforce and Career Development

**Not started**

A black and white photograph showing two individuals wearing hard hats and safety gear, operating riding lawn mowers in a field of tall grass. The mowers are labeled 'GRASSHOPPER 124' and 'TORO'. In the background, there are residential houses and trees.

How do you create a **pipeline** for folks to get one of those **2700 city jobs**? There's no path that says there's a job for you in the city of Toledo.



# Pillar 5: Building Engaged Neighborhoods and Networks

## 1. Safe Passage to Schools

**In Motion** - Participatory mapping completed at 4 schools; TA from LISC and Alliance for Concerned Men beginning in 2Q 2025

## 2. Embed Mediation and Restorative Practices in the Community

**Planning** - See CVIP Academy in Pillar 2, Recommendation 3

## 3. Identify and Bolster Community Safe Havens/Hubs

**In Motion** - VI complete with SOC and BU; [Online version live](#); Zepf will acquire Safe Space certification and train safe havens

## 4. Support Youth-Led Community Projects

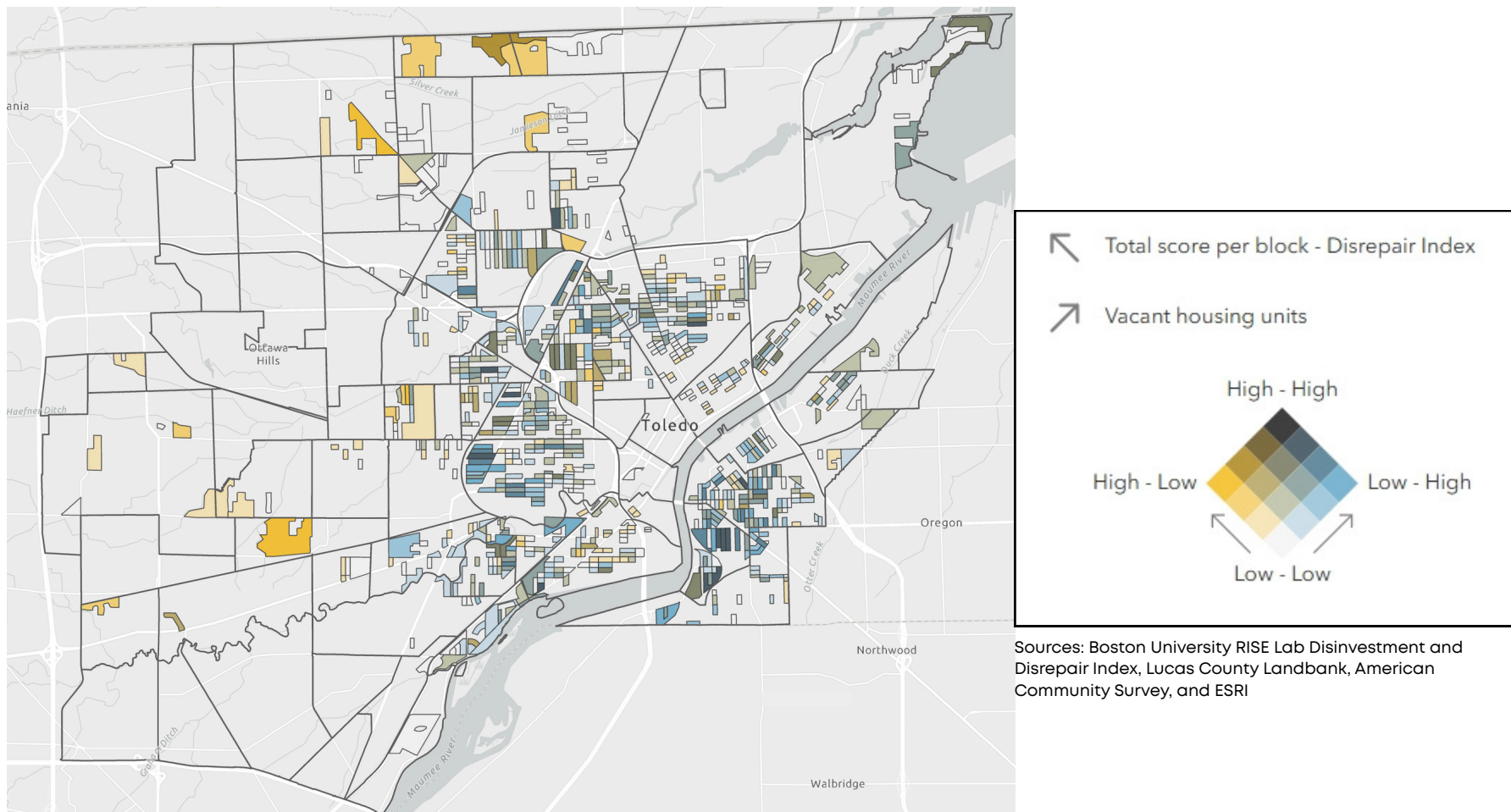
**In Motion** - Paint it Forward, RAM Empowerment Project, and more

## 5. Neighborhood Guide for Assessing and Addressing Safety

**Not started**







## Identifying Relationships between Vacant Housing Units and the Disinvestment and Disrepair Index Score

The census blocks on this map are color-coded to show two types of data: the number of vacant housing units on each block and the Disinvestment and Disrepair Index score developed by Boston University's RISE Lab. Blocks **shaded yellow** indicate higher Index scores and a lower proportion of vacant housing units. **Dusky Blue** indicates more vacant housing and a lower Index score. **Dusky black-brown** indicates a higher Index score and vacant housing. Considering vacant housing units, disrepair, and risk of gun violence at the block level is a way to focus resources to address economic, safety, and housing challenges.

## **Community-Wide Social Media Strategy**

### **6. Social Media Action Research Team**

**Planning** - See Pillar 2, Recommendation 7

### **7. Community Engagement Campaign**

**Planning** - local media, MONSE, and Roca Inc

### **8. Anonymous Reporting System**

**Not started**

### **9. School-Based Digital Citizenship and Conflict Resolution**

**Not started**

## Youth Leadership in Motion: RAM Empowerment Project

Youth leaders at Rogers High School have been lending their efforts to the work to end gun violence in our community. In 2023, several community partners collaborated to secure grant funding to support a youth leadership initiative called the RAM Empowerment Project. The young leaders then worked through the University of Michigan's Youth Empowerment Solutions curriculum, which teaches youth about **community organizing and bringing about positive change**. The students decided they wanted to focus on reducing gun violence.

Since completing the curriculum, the students have taken action across several fronts. After hearing about the Healing and Compassion Fund included in Peace in Motion, the students worked with the school's Visual Communication and Design class and **designed a t-shirt to sell to raise money for the fund**. They also created banners featuring QR codes to this plan to **promote awareness about gun violence prevention efforts** in the city.

## Building Engaged Neighborhoods and Networks


The students also launched the No More Silence Podcast, which **brings youth and community experts together to discuss root causes of gun violence** and gun violence prevention efforts. Students learn to record, edit, and produce podcast episodes alongside industry experts. Multiple MONSE staff have joined as guests on the podcast to discuss different aspects of gun violence prevention and are grateful to the students for using their voices to promote positive change.

**The Fearless Writers program** at Rogers HS has also worked to address gun violence. By utilizing the Amherst Writers Method, Fearless Writers provides a creative outlet for self-expression for students impacted by gun violence. **Multiple young scholars shared their writing** at BGSU's Black Issues Conference in the spring of 2025.



**Listen to No More Silence**





This plan is called **Peace in Motion** because the **work of preventing and addressing violence hasn't stopped**. We're **In Motion** because there is meaningful progress.

# Key Updates

## Fostering Hope & Healing

Launched the **Healing and Compassion Fund** in partnership with the United Way of Greater Toledo and the Victim and Survivor Services work group to provide up to \$2,000 of support to help address immediate needs.

Developed the **Healing Hub Resource Guide**, a comprehensive list of partners, programs, and organizations that support violence intervention, prevention, and survivor support.

## Save Our Community

SOC began bi-weekly **case conferencing with community service providers** to review all incidents of gun violence, caseload specific updates, and to develop and **implement plans to address issues** identified.

SOC and several community partners deploy **coordinated responses** to **prevent incidents** and to **reduce the risk of gun violence spreading**. The team has done **mediation** and non-aggression pacts, **temporary relocations**, crime scene cleanups, staffed memorials, funeral support, and myriad other activities that prevent or reduce the spread of violence and help **foster healing**.

Established a **referral pathway** with the Lucas County Juvenile Justice Center to ensure youth and families are supported throughout system involvement.

## Improving Coordination and Shared Accountability

Convened a **Violence Reduction Council** comprised of public safety, criminal justice, mental health, CVIP programs, public housing, and community service providers to analyze specific instances of gun violence to identify trends and develop short- and long-term solutions. One early recommendation, to connect with **high-risk, gang-involved young adults returning from incarceration**, is being addressed with a new **Street Intervention Specialist position** in MONSE.

Expanded the Community Action Table to include a **Gender-Based Violence workgroup**, whose recommendations will be incorporated into subsequent updates of this plan. The workgroup is **hosting a conference in 4Q 2025**. Work group participants have also facilitated victim-centered, community-based, **coordinated responses to gender-based violence**.

### Braided Funding

Secured **\$3,000,000 in grants that** will provide three years of funding to promote capacity building and training for the CVIP ecosystem and to enhance support for students and families directly impacted by gun violence.

Transitioned Save Our Community to the City General Fund to ensure the important work of violence intervention is not solely reliant on external funding.

Partnered with the Mental Health Recovery Services Board (MHRSB) to fund **\$250,000** in community wellness mini grants to **25 community-based organizations** to address violence, substance use, and mental health. Activities included **Restorative Justice** training, grief support, wellness activities, financial wellbeing coaching, **neighborhood beautification**, and other holistic activities meant to **increase protective factors for communities and people most impacted by violence**.

Procured **\$49,975** in support from Lucas County Family and Child First Council and Cities United to support youth leadership.

### Access to Opportunity

Leveraging Community Development Block Grant funding to expand the **SOC Job Training Program to 20 youth and young adults**, which provides living wage employment for youth working to address blight within their communities.

### Capacity Building

Trained 10 additional community partners and SOC staff in Rewire CBT, bringing the total to **31 Toledoans trained in Rewire CBT** to date. Rewire CBT is an evidence-based intervention developed by Roca Inc. that promotes healthier decision-making with those at highest risk of violence. Two SOC staff received Rewire Catalyst training to support ongoing training needs. SOC staff **use a Rewire CBT skill in more than half** of their behavior change activities.



Five MONSE staff and several community partners were trained in the National Organization for Victim Advocacy's (NOVA) **Community Crisis Response model**. This evidence-based, proven approach provides crisis responders and local leaders with the skills needed to **navigate community crises** and **build community resilience**.

Attended high impact professional development opportunities, including the Cities United Annual Convening; Bridging the Intersections: Integrating Diversion, Prevention and Violence Interruption (Annie E. Casey Foundation); Rumble Young Man, Rumble (Cities United and the Campaign for Black Male Achievement); Promoting Narrative Change Workshop (The HAVI); and the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg American Health Summit.

Completed initial Safe Passage analysis in partnership with Boston University Rise Lab using student-generated participatory mapping data. The analysis uncovered **youth-identified safe spaces, risky places**, and ways that **students protect themselves to and from school**. Students tended to identify social and emotional factors, such as ongoing conflict, fear of dangerous animals, and being traumatized by walking past where a friend or classmate was injured or killed, as significant risk factors.

Receiving technical assistance and support from Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) and the Alliance of Concerned Men to **develop Safe Passage programs at additional Toledo schools**.

Received the **Partner City Founder's Award** from Cities United.



Questions?