Violence is a Public Health Issue

Heartland Conference 2017

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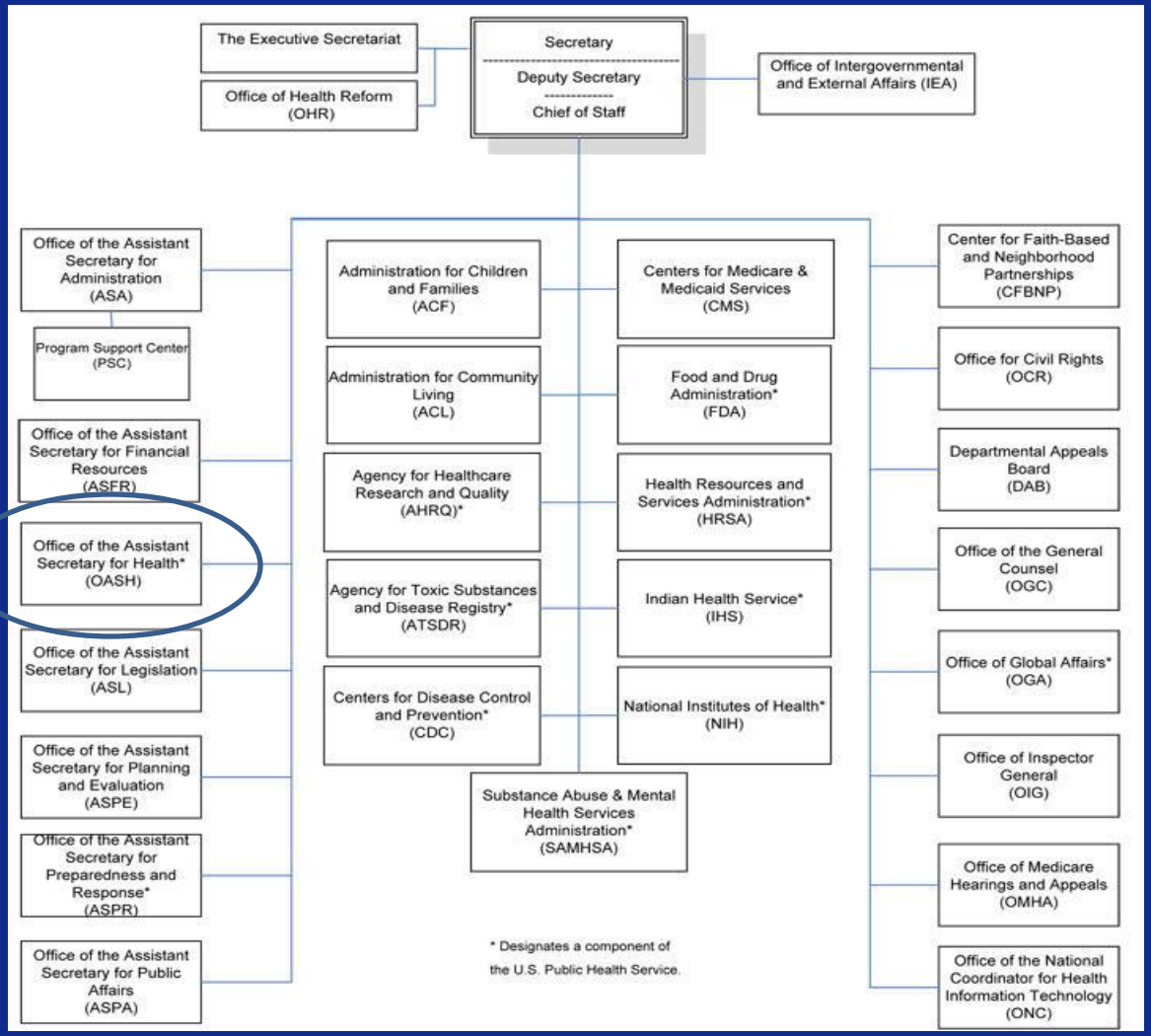
Office of the
Assistant Secretary for Health

Objectives

- Describe the impact of violence
- Describe how violence is a public health concern
- Explain the Centers for Disease Control public health approach to addressing violence
- List strategies that may aid communities in addressing violence from a public health perspective

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HEALTH

HHS Organizational Structure



Department of Health & Human Services
Map of the 10 Regions

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health

- The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health oversees 12 core public health offices — including the Office of the Surgeon General and the US Public Health Service Corps — as well as 10 regional health offices across the nation and 10 Presidential and Secretarial advisory committees.

OASH Public Health Offices

- National Vaccine Program Office (NVPO): Ensures collaboration among the many federal agencies involved in vaccine and immunization activities.
- Office of Adolescent Health (OAH): Coordinates adolescent health promotion and disease prevention initiatives across HHS.
- Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP): Provides leadership, coordination and policy development for public health and prevention activities. Leads the Healthy People initiative for HHS.
- Office of the Surgeon General (OSG): Provides Americans the best scientific information available on how to improve their health and reduce their risk of illness and injury. The Office also manages the operations of the Commissioned Corps of the US Public Health Service.

OASH Public Health Offices

- **Office of Research Integrity (ORI): Promotes integrity in research programs of the Public Health Service, both intramural and extramural, and responds to allegations of research misconduct.**
- **Office on Women's Health (OWH): Improves the health of American women by advancing a comprehensive women's health agenda throughout HHS.**
- **Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues (PCSBI): Advises on ethical issues related to advances in biomedical science and technology.**
- **President's Council on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition (PCFSN): Advises on issues related to fitness, sports and nutrition in America.**

OASH Public Health Offices

- **Office of HIV/AIDS and Infectious Disease Policy (OHAIDP): The Office of HIV/AIDS and Infectious Disease Policy is responsible for coordinating, integrating, and directing the Department's policies, programs, and activities related to HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis, other infectious diseases of public health significance, and blood safety and availability.**

- **Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP): Supports, strengthens and provides leadership to the nation's system for protecting volunteers in research conducted or supported by HHS.**

- **Office of Minority Health (OMH): Addresses health status and quality of life for minority populations in the United States.**

- **Office of Population Affairs (OPA): Advises on issues related to family planning and population affairs.**

MEET OUR TEAM

REGION 7

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HEALTH

KANSAS CITY, MO

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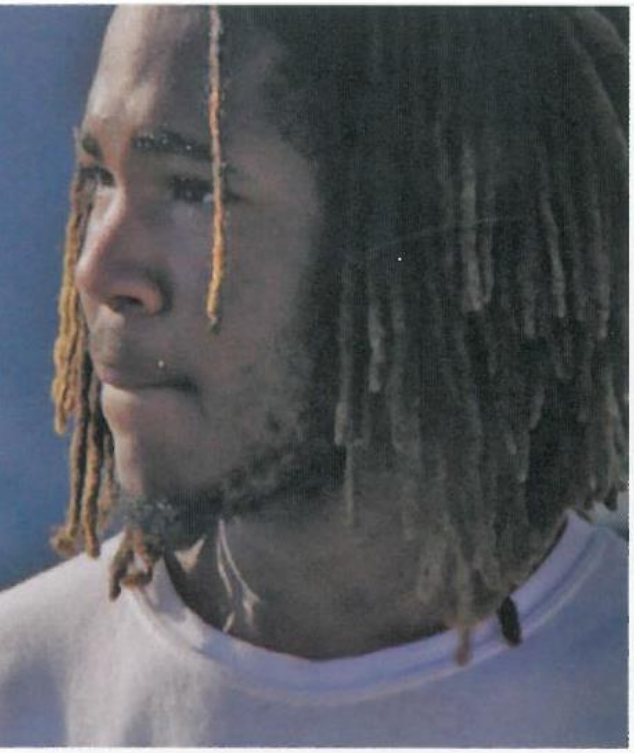
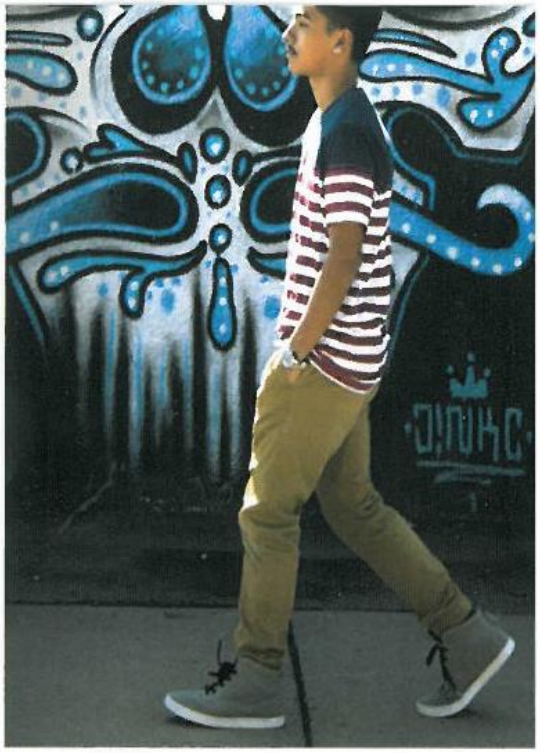
BACKGROUND





KCMOHealthCommission

@ViolenceFree_KC

VFKC@kcmo.org

VISIT **KCMO.GOV/HEALTH/1is2MANY** TO LEARN HOW YOU CAN HELP END VIOLENCE IN KANSAS CITY

#1is2MANY

VIOLENCE-FREE KC

IMPACT OF VIOLENCE

Definition of Violence

vi·o·lence

/ˈvī(ə)ləns/

noun

behavior involving physical force intended to hurt, damage, or kill someone or something.

synonyms: brutality, brute force, ferocity, savagery, cruelty, sadism, barbarity, brutishness More

- strength of emotion or an unpleasant or destructive natural force.
  "the violence of her own feelings"
  synonyms: intensity, severity, strength, force, vehemence, power, potency, fervency, ferocity, fury, fire
  "the violence of his passion"
- LAW
  the unlawful exercise of physical force or intimidation by the exhibition of such force.

Source: http://www.dictionary.com/

Definition of Violence

Violence is the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, which either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment, or deprivation.

Examples of Violence

- Violence is heterogeneous
  - Gender
  - Age
  - Individual and family
  - Community
  - Cultural, ethnic, or religious group
  - Country or region

Source: https://www.cugh.org/sites/default/files/62_Causes_Of_Violence_and_Violence__Effects_on_Community_and_Individual_Health_FINAL_0.pdf

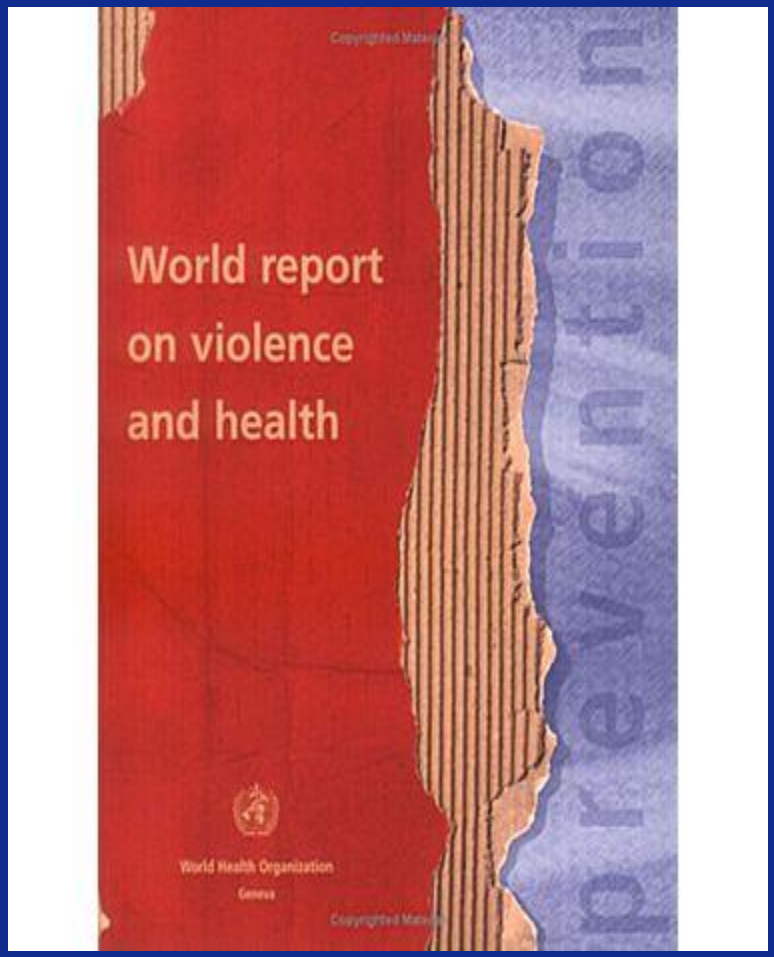
Example: Domestic Violence

- 3.3 million children are exposed
- Children have higher levels of:
  - anger, hostility, disobedience, and withdrawal
- Health issues: anxiety, sleep disorders, mental health and behavior health issues.
- Potential effect on school performance.

- Adults health issues:
  - heart disease, chronic pain, stress disorders, and arthritis
  - depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and dissociation.
- ↑ healthcare costs
- Total annual cost in the U.S. exceeds $12 billion

Source: https://tnpsocal.org/the-impact-of-domestic-violence-on-our-community/

PUBLIC HEALTH IMPLICATIONS TO VIOLENCE



…declares that violence is a leading worldwide public health problem

Image: World Health Organization

Ultimate Public Health Challenge

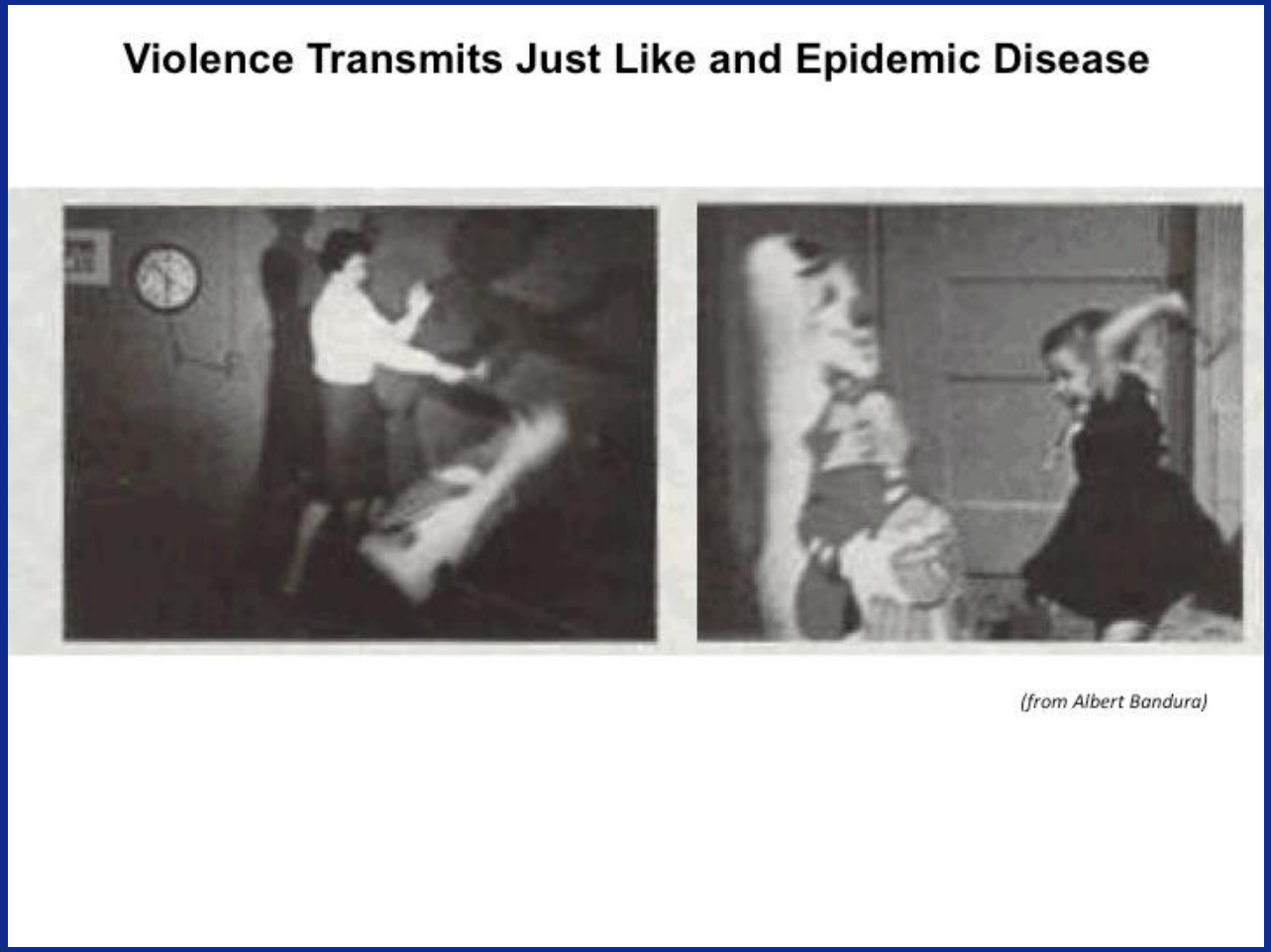
PARADIGM SHIFT in the field of violence prevention, from the assumption that violence is inevitable to the recognition that violence is PREVENTABLE.

Communicable Disease Correlation

- Main characteristics of infectious diseases in populations
  - *Transmission*-the passage of an infection (or other condition) from one organism to another
  - *Spread*-characteristically nonlinear; may occur as waves, frequently appearing as waves on top of waves; may be dramatic and rapid, or slow, depending on many factors
  - *Clustering*-space, or spatial grouping, is simple in concept and is characteristic of epidemic diseases

Source: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK207245/

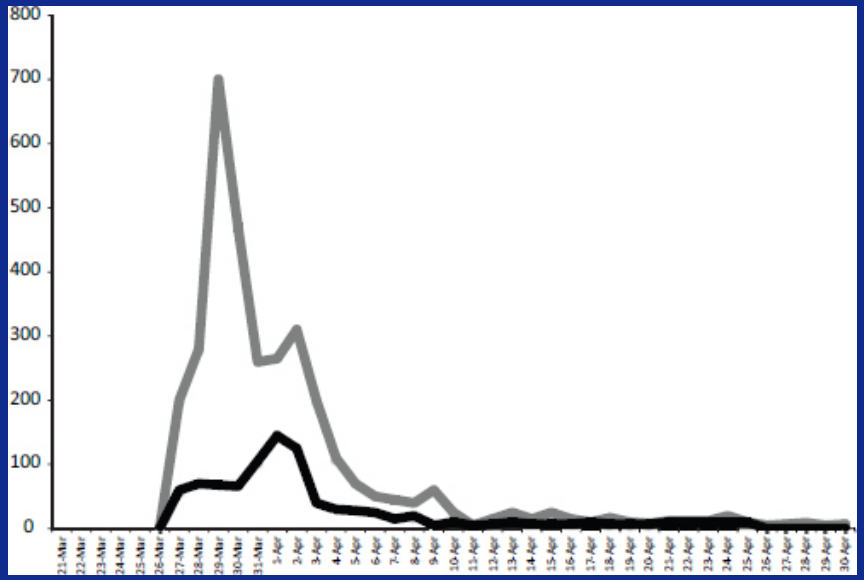
Transmission Example



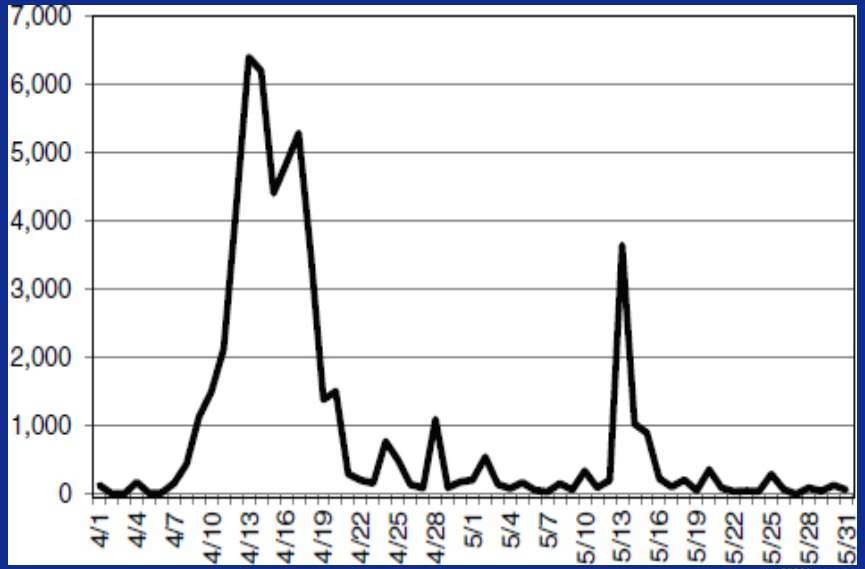
Source: http://cureviolence.org/understand-violence/violence-as-a-health-issue/

Spread Example

Cholera in Somalia



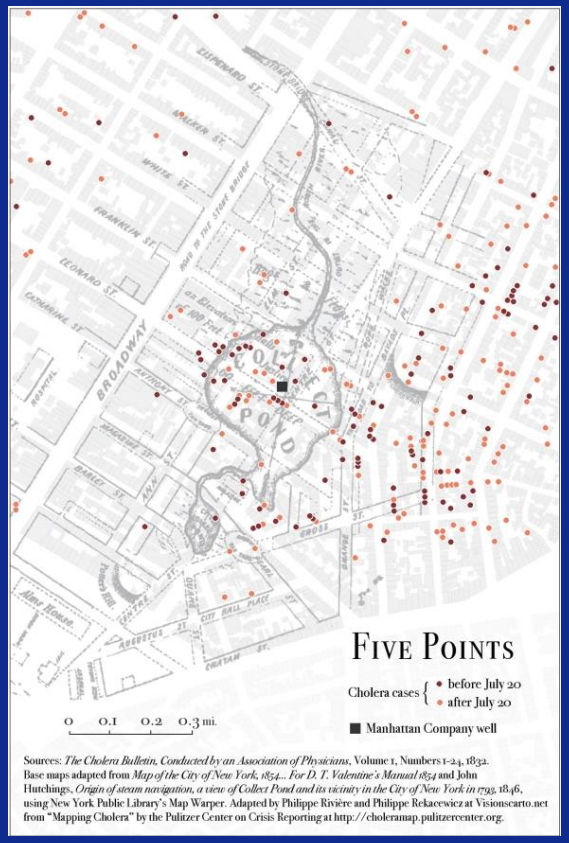
Killings in Rwanda



Source: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK207245/

Clustering Example

Cholera Outbreak in NYC



Gun violence in Kansas City

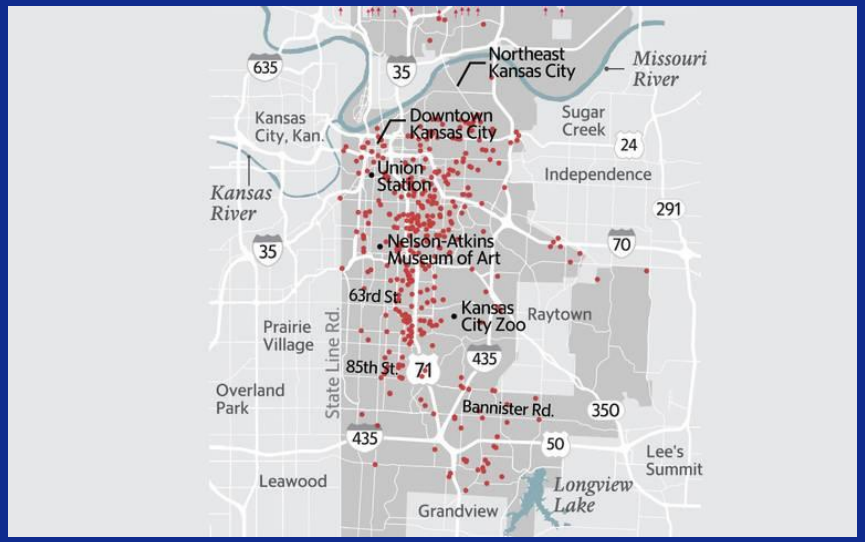


Photo credit: http://www.kansascity.com/news/local/crime/article152943394.html; https://nyamcenterforhistory.org/tag/cholera/

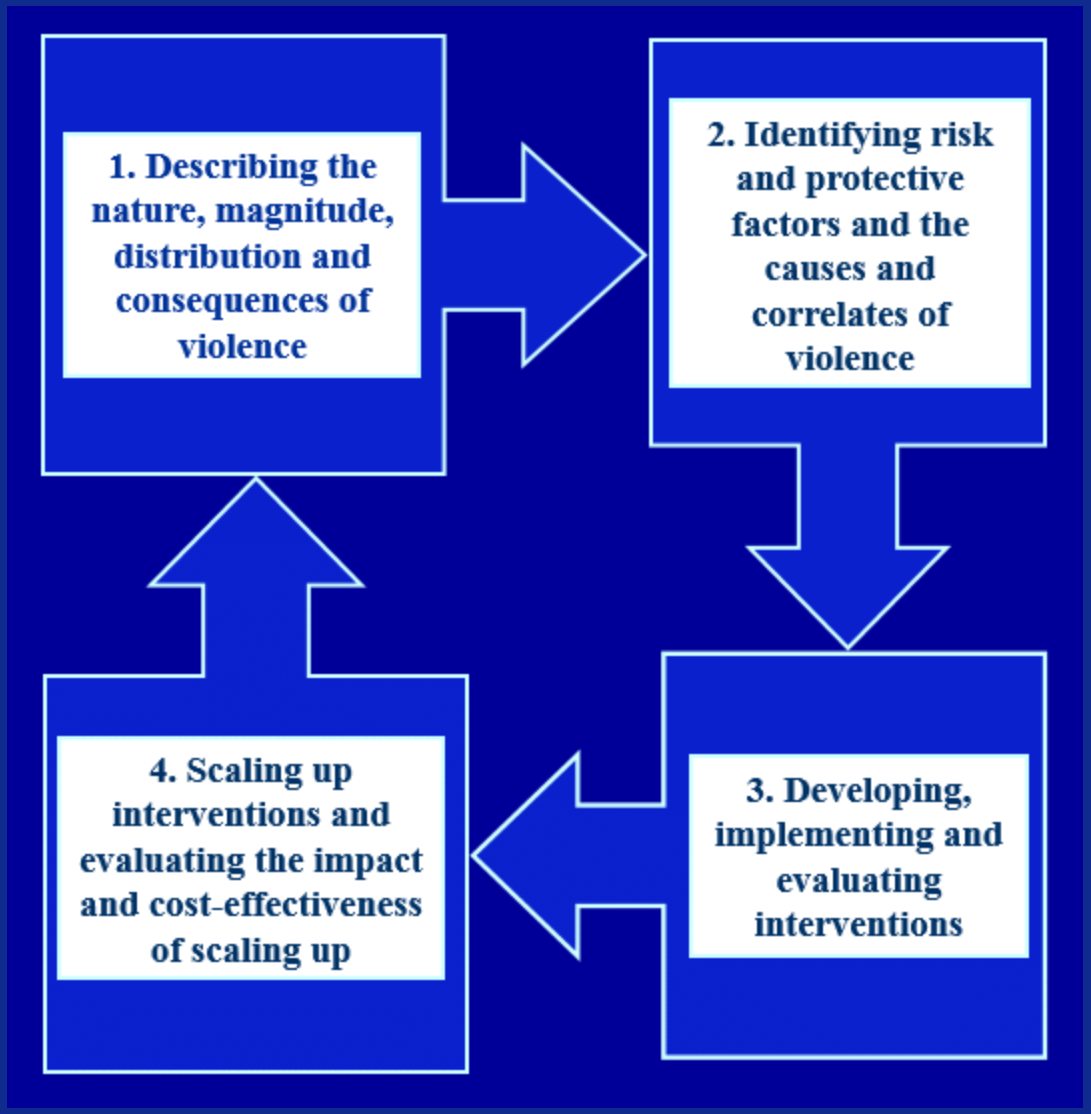
PUBLIC HEALTH APPROACH

Public Health/Health Systems Model

- Data collection and analysis
- Determining root causes
- Determining affects and consequences
- Prevention strategies, mitigation and programs
- Health Systems Approach: planning and resource allocation, training, context-appropriate response and contingency plans, evaluation
- Healthcare provider role in prevention and treatment

Source: https://www.cugh.org/sites/default/files/62_Causes_Of_Violence_and_Violence__Effects_on_Community_and_Individual_Health_FINAL_0.pdf

CDC PHA to Violence Prevention



STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS VIOLENCE

Define the Problem

- Gun violence/trauma
- Mental health
- IPV
- Child abuse
- Social determinants

Risk Factors

- Racial and ethnic
- Zip codes
- Scarcity of resources
- Adverse Childhood Experiences Survey
- Education-lack of information and resources
- Poverty
- Economic factors
- Distrust
- Substance abuse
- Access to health care
- Home environment/family structure

Risk Factor Example

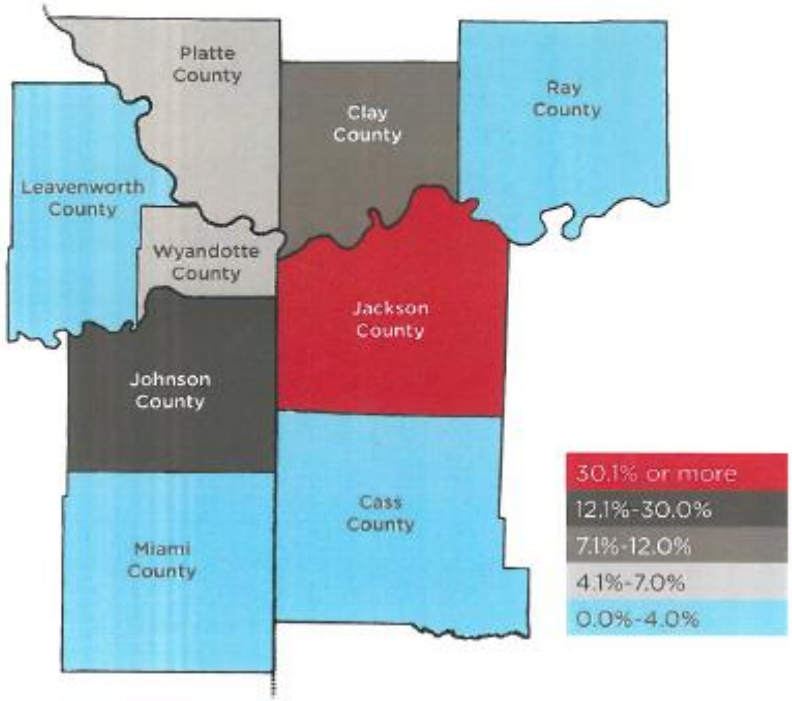
RESILIENT KC

BUILDING HEALTHIER LIVES AFTER ADVERSITY

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

Research shows a strong relationship between adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and high-risk behaviors, diseases, disabilities, and workforce issues (Felitti et al., 1998). Studies demonstrated that stressful or traumatic childhood experiences such as abuse, neglect, witnessing domestic violence, or growing up with alcohol/substance abuse, mental illness, parental discord, or crime in the home are a common pathway to social, emotional, and cognitive impairments that lead to increased risk of unhealthy behaviors, violence or re-victimization, disease, disability, and premature mortality. (Hall et. al; 2012).

In the nine-county, bi-state Kansas City region, adverse childhood experiences are common. The Resilient KC ACEs findings show that many Kansas City regional individuals experienced stressors related to the community where they grew up.



RESPONDENTS

A total of **3,499** are represented in the data report of the RKC ACE study.

Source: Kansas City Chamber of Commerce

Protective Factors

- Number and awareness of resources
- Social Capital
- Family structure and support
- Cultural norms
- Economic stability
- Competitive wages
- Trust/police/relationship
- Training
- Cultural competence
- Activism
- Mentor programs
- Trust
- Individual/family skills
- Family norms
- Family/parenting skills
- Faith community
- Skilled labor
- Police outreach
- Positive engagement
- Community support
- Faith based support/involvement

Best Practices

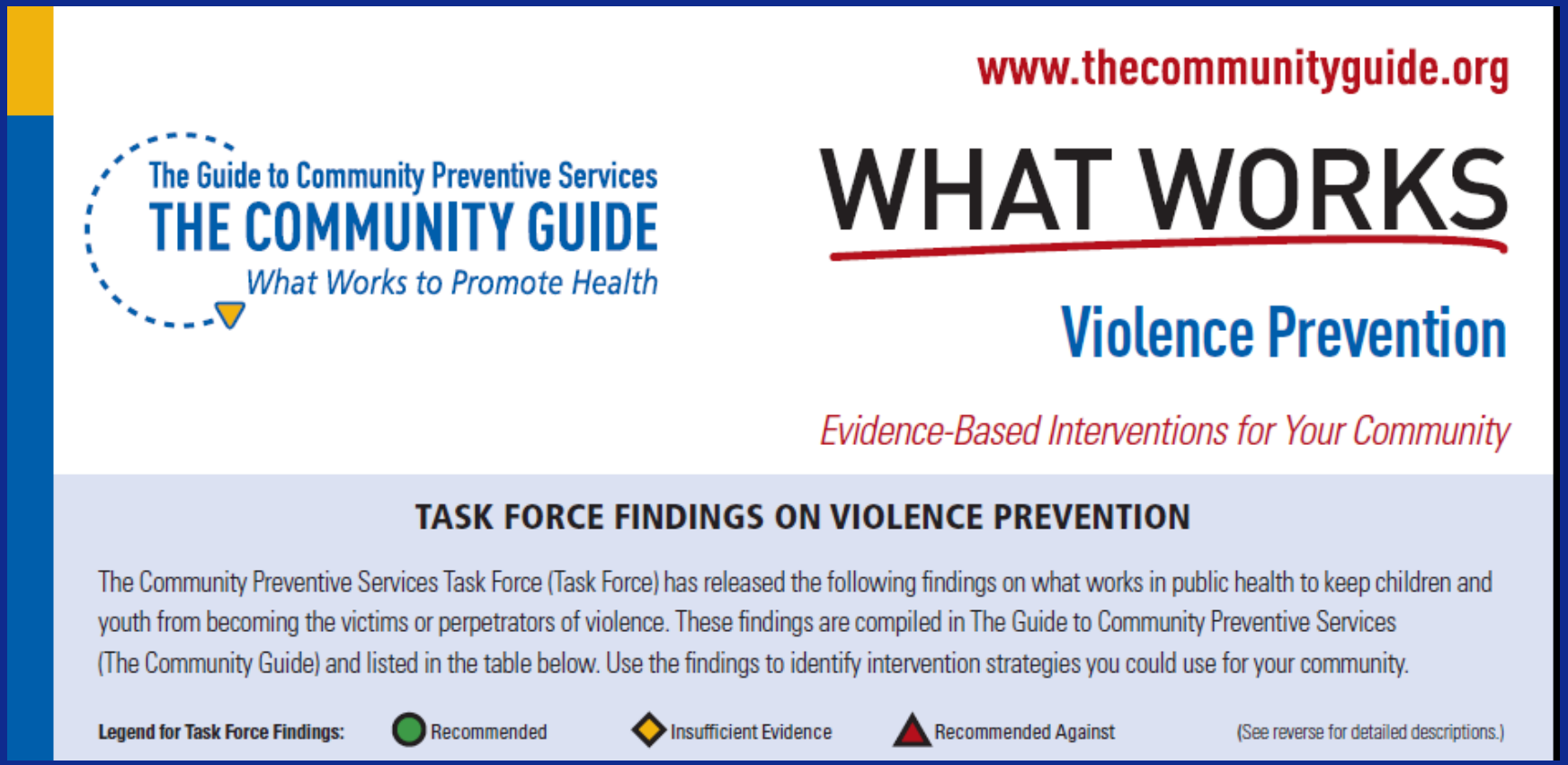
- Crime prevention through environmental design
- Community based youth organizations
- School based prevention programs
- Initial encounters (What happened?-root cause)
- Trauma – informed (workers and Participants)
- Built and lived environment
- Funding/policies to address violence prevention
- Community Health Workers
- Holistic community development
- Cure Violence/Aim4Peace
- Use community capital
- Crisis intervention teams
- Education
- Pain to Power

Widespread Adoption

- Provide platform to those affected
- Accessibility and promotion
- Convene stake holders
- Policy action: legislative, local and federal
- Media (campaigns, ads, portrayal)
- QI for expansion of resources
- Plain language
- Leverage resources
- Communicate results
- Evaluation tools
- Private sector involvement
- Building digital capacity
- Personalized unique to target community

Widespread Adoption Example

CPSTF



Source: https://www.thecommunityguide.org/topic/violence

INTERVENTION	TASK FORCE FINDING
Early Childhood Home Visitation	
To prevent child maltreatment	●
To prevent intimate partner violence	◆
To prevent violence by parents (other than child maltreatment or intimate partner violence)	◆
To prevent violence by children	◆
Firearms Laws	
Bans on specified firearms or ammunition	◆
Restrictions on firearm acquisition	◆
Waiting periods for firearm acquisition	◆
Firearm registration and licensing of firearm owners	◆
"Shall issue" concealed weapons carry laws	◆
Child access prevention (CAP) laws	◆
Zero tolerance of firearms in schools	◆
Combinations of firearms laws	◆
Reducing Psychological Harm From Traumatic Events	
Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (CBT)	
Individual CBT	●
Group CBT	●

INTERVENTION	TASK FORCE FINDING
Other therapies	
Play therapy	◆
Art therapy	◆
Psychodynamic therapy	◆
Pharmacological therapy	◆
Psychological debriefing	◆
School-Based Violence Prevention Programs	
School-based violence reduction programs for all students	●
Therapeutic Foster Care	
For chronically delinquent juveniles	●
For children with severe emotional disturbance	◆
Youth Transfer to Adult Criminal System	
Policies facilitating the transfer of juveniles to adult justice systems	▲

Next Steps

- ✓ Social media campaign to continue the conversations using Twitter with #Region7VPS
- ✓ Summarize the notes from the roundtable discussion covering the 4 steps and present our findings to the VFKCC
- ❑ Webinar series to address violence as a public health issue-Topics to be determined
- ✓ Disseminate public health funding opportunities, resources and regional events to violence prevention partners

Conclusion

- All aspects of violence are inadequately understood and would benefit from the rigor and thoroughness of a public health approach
- Addressing violence as a public health concern will result in greater research, understanding and improved interventions
- Everyone has a role in violence prevention

Source: https://www.cugh.org/sites/default/files/62_Causes_Of_Violence_and_Violence__Effects_on_Community_and_Individual_Health_FINAL20.pdf

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