Youth Steering Committee Discussion Summary

February 2023 - January 2024

Youth Steering Committee Members

- Monica Gray
- Ebony Sheppard
 - Kione Forrest
 - Marland Perry
 - Jayla Harper
- Christopher Suarez

Our Committee Goals

- To include youth voices throughout One Nation One Project GNV
- We give input on youth gun violence prevention and intervention, arts and well-being
- We give input on different aspects of One Nation One Project (ex., grants, logo design, marketing, events)
- We assist with events

Today's Presentation

- We Will Review our Discussions on Youth Gun Violence
 - Focused on 3 Main Topics
 - National Youth Gun Violence
 - Gainesville Youth Gun Violence
 - Solutions to Youth Gun Violence & How the Arts Can Help
- Key Takeaways from Our Discussions

Next Steps for the Youth Steering Committee

National Youth Gun Violence Discussion

Most Common Types of

Youth Gun Violence

Why Do Youth
Resort to
Gun Violence

Accidental Shootings

Gang Shootings
Suicides
Music Influenced

Mass Shootings

Prove a Point

Treatment from Parents/Family

Social Media Influences

Mental Health Issues

Media Exposure -Video Games & Music

Easy Access to Guns

Learned From Older Generations
Parents not Teaching Them
Peer Pressure/Need to Fit In
Sending a Message to a Target Group

Gainesville Youth Gun Violence Discussion How has it increased?



People in Gainesville Posting Gun Violence on Social Media

Increased gun violence, Especially in East Gainesville

3.

Youth are Resorting to Gun Violence More Often More Corner Stores Selling Alcohol to Youth

Why Are Gainesville Youth Engaging in Gun Violence?

First

- Family and Parental Abuse and Trauma
- Social Media Influences

Second

- They Want To Prove a Point
- Pride
- Mental Health Issues

Third

- Displays of "Masculinity"
- Males are More Likely to Use Guns to Fight
- Put Fear in Others
- Have a "Negative Spirit" Around Them

Influences X Experiences X Attitudes

Youth Gun Violence Solutions

How

Who



What

Who

is responsible for solving youth gun violence?

Parents & Family
Mass Media

Peers

The Community

Celebrities

Schools

Music, Games, Movies

Providers of Guns

Younger Generations (Gen Z)

Influencers

Government

Law Makers

Local Successful Individuals/Role Models

How

can youth gun violence be solved?

- Getting Youth Involved in Programs
 - Enrichment
 - Academic
 - Based on Strengths

- Caring and Representative Program Facilitators
- Integrating Faith into Youth Programs
- Increased Funding for Community Based Programs
- Increased Life Skills
- Increased Parental Resources, Increased Parental Accountability

- School Based Programs
- Exposure to Life Changing Experiences
- Teaching Emotional Intelligence, Self-Awareness, and Communication skills
- Youth Holding Each Other Accountable
- Social Media
 Interventions/Campaigns

What are the methods to solving gun violence?

- Increased Social Supports
- Parent and Teen Co- Learning Programs
- Life Skills Courses (Middle and High School)
- Having Genuine Connections and Building Communities
- · Church and Faith Involvement
- Peer Mentoring and Coaching
- Creating an Arts Economy for Youth
- · Older Generations Setting a Positive Example
- · Access to Resources
- Peer Role Models
- Youth Skills Training to Get Higher Paying Jobs as Adults
- Prevention Programs and Services
- Character Development using Faith-Based Values
- More Flexible Graduation Options That Include the Arts

The Arts: How can they help?

Be Inclusive of Everyone

Exposure to Artistic Professions

Using Positive/Influential Artists

More Affordable Art Programs

Increasing Mechanisms to Pay Artists

Using Arts that are Relatable to Youth Impacted by Gun Violence

Youth and Artist Showcase

Key Prevention and Intervention Categories to Address Youth Gun Violence

Family

- Parents & family responsibility
- Programs for parents & teens
- Older generation examples
- Focus on younger kids

Life Skills

- Mandatory courses
- Middle school/high school
- Skill building for better jobs
- Arts-based entrepreneurship

Faith/Religion

- Church principles
- Character development
- Integrated into youth programming

Programs

- Community, family, & faith
- Peer mentoring/coaching
- Facilitators w/connections to youth
- Art programs: affordable, relatable, inclusive

Community

- Increasing access to resources
- Social supports
- Genuine connections and community building
- Connecting with local artists

Media

- Mass media
- Video games, movies, social media

Next Steps of the Youth Steering Committee

- Continued sharing of this summary to the community
- Monthly meetings to address gun violence and strengthen professional and personal development
- Connection to IMPACT-GNV, the City of Gainesville's broader gun violence initiative.
 - Create a youth liaison between the Youth Steering Committee and The Alliance





Thank You