

# 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

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

Why Do Youth  
Resort to  
Gun Violence

# Gainesville Youth Gun Violence Discussion

## How has it increased?

1.

People in Gainesville Posting Gun Violence on Social Media

2.

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



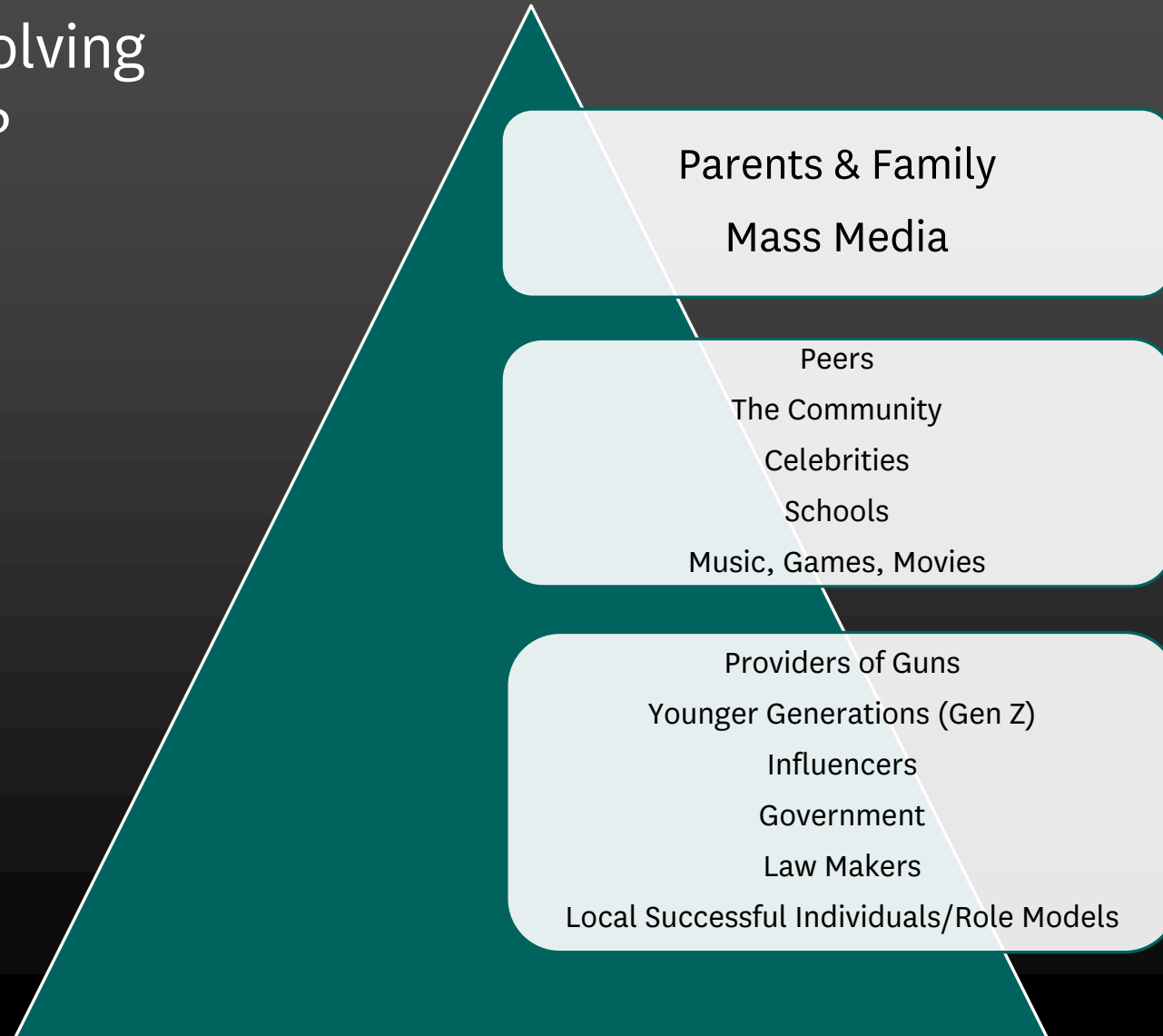
What

Arts



# Who

is responsible for solving youth gun violence?



# 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

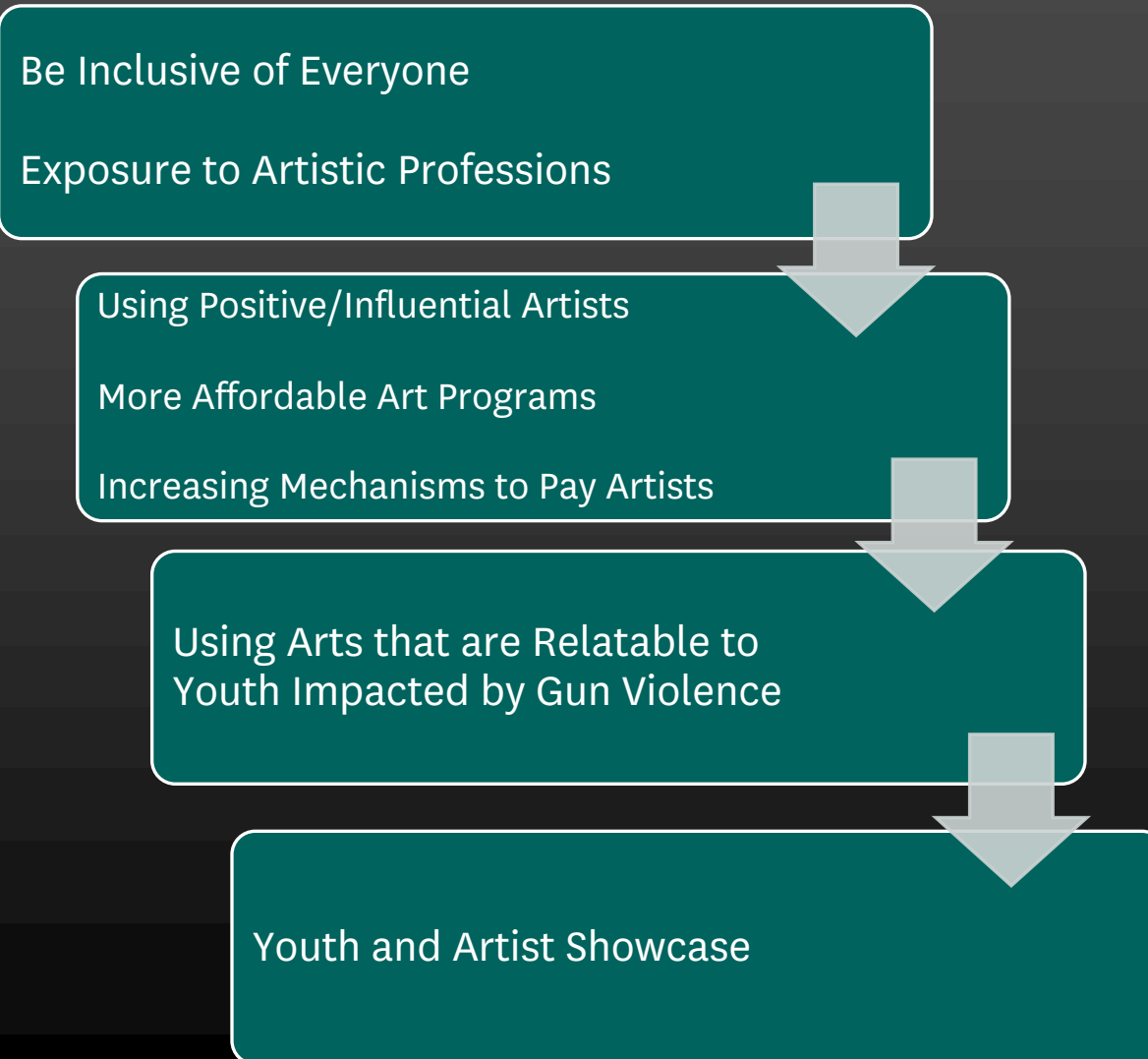
# What are the methods to solving gun violence?

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- Increased Social Supports
  - Parent and Teen Co- Learning Programs

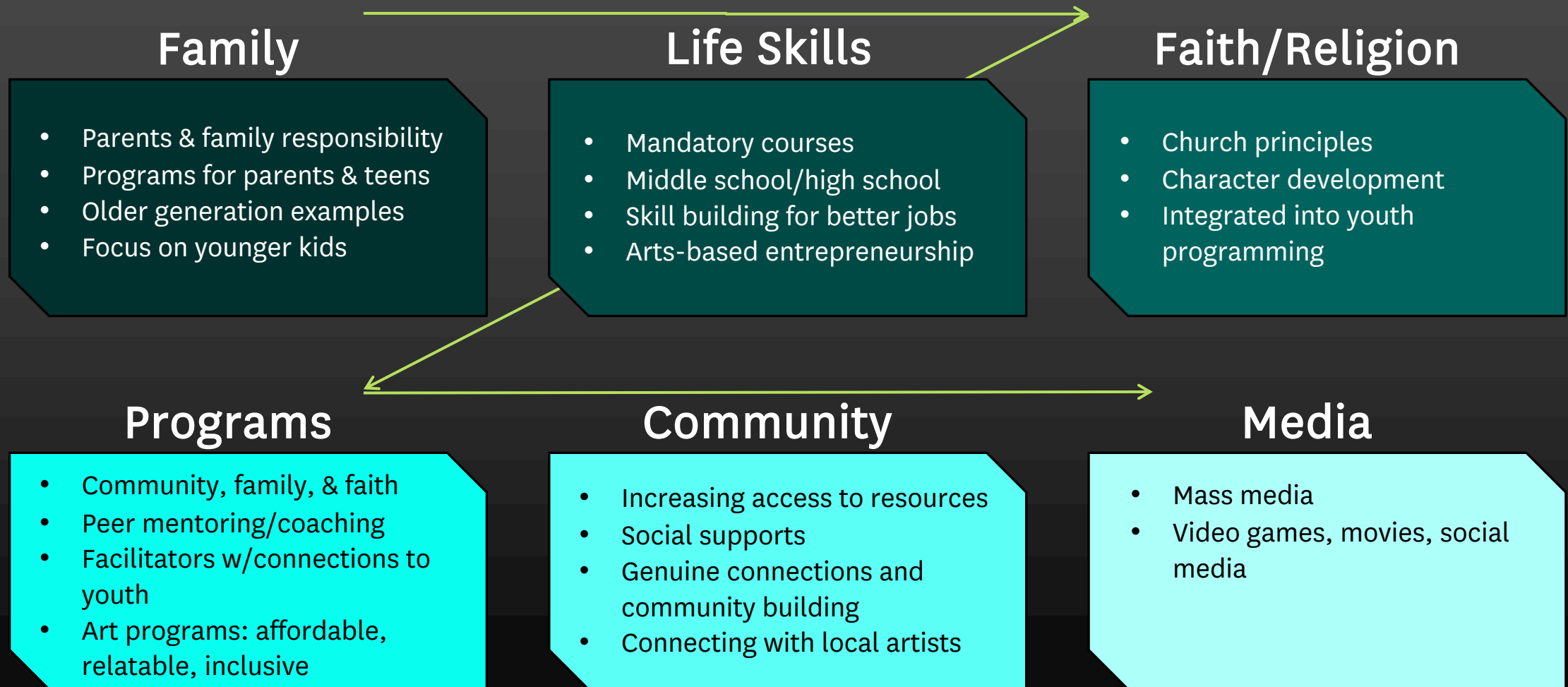
- Life Skills Courses (Middle and High School)
- Having Genuine Connections and Building Communities
- Church and Faith Involvement
- Peer Mentoring and Coaching
- Creating an Arts Economy for Youth

- 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?



# Key Prevention and Intervention Categories to Address Youth Gun Violence



# 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



Questions?





Thank You