

National OVP Network

February 2025 Newsletter

Welcome New Members



Join us in welcoming the Columbia, SC, Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement to the Network!

Event Calendar

Find all important Network events here! **NOTE: Events are invitation only. [Let us know if you haven't received an invitation.](#)**

3/20/25: State-Level Virtual Briefing
4/10/25-4/11/25: Southeastern Regional Convening, Birmingham, AL
5/22/25: Q2 Virtual Convening
6/26/25-6/27/25: Eastern/Mid-Atlantic Regional Convening, Philadelphia, PA
8/21/25: Q3 Virtual Convening
9/9/25-9/11/25: Annual Convening, St. Louis, MO
10/16/25-10/17/25: Midwestern Regional Convening, Cleveland, OH
11/13/25-11/14/25: State Convening
11/20/25: Q4 Virtual Convening

In the News



[Reducing Gun Violence in New York Communities](#)

[Firearm Violence Prevention Bill Passes House After Previous Failures](#)

[The Legacy of the White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention](#)



[Community Voices Can Help Local Governments Prevent Violence](#)

[Baltimore City sees continued reduction in homicides, non-fatal shootings so far in 2025](#)

[A statewide Office of Violence Prevention will help local offices like Green Bay's. Here's how](#)

OVP Spotlight



NOVPN sends a big hat tip to the [Lake County Gun Violence Prevention Initiative \(GVPI\)](#). GVPI is leading the charge in reducing and preventing gun violence across Lake County, IL, through a comprehensive, trauma-informed approach that tackles the root causes of violence. By fostering strong, collaborative efforts among community partners, GVPI implements evidence-based strategies that emphasize community engagement, prevention, and long-term solutions.

GVPI integrates trauma-informed care with proven violence reduction strategies, ensuring that those most affected receive the necessary support to break cycles of violence. In 2024, GVPI's efforts contributed to a 20% drop in homicides across Lake County, decreasing from 20 in 2023 to 16 in 2024 ([Gun Violence Archive](#)). This significant reduction underscores the effectiveness of GVPI's strategic, data-driven interventions and their commitment to building safer, more resilient communities.



Join us in applauding the [Jacobi Medical Center's Stand Up to Violence \(SUV\)](#) hospital-based violence intervention program! SUV, based in the Bronx, is a frontline force in reducing violent trauma and preventing community violence. Through a dedicated team of physicians, social workers, supervisors, hospital responders, and community outreach workers, SUV provides immediate intervention and long-term support to victims of violence, breaking cycles of retaliation and harm. Their comprehensive, trauma-informed approach improves patient outcomes and strengthens community resilience. Recognizing their impact, the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services is awarding SUV a critical grant to expand their reach and deepen their support for those most affected by violence.

Proud of one of your OVP's on-the-ground partnerships? [Tell us about it!](#)



In 2024, 66% (n = 54) of our local member jurisdictions experienced a decline in homicides, while 100% of our state members reported statewide reductions ([Gun Violence Archive](#)). These declines were seen nationwide, with many areas achieving record-breaking reductions in homicides. This progress is a testament to the impact of strategic, data-driven violence prevention efforts.

As we continue this momentum, the NOVPN remains committed to supporting our member jurisdictions in driving sustained reductions in violence.



TTA Tip of the Month

Establishing a shared language is essential for aligning your office, community, and stakeholders. Clear, consistent terminology fosters better communication and strengthens collaboration. Start by identifying key terms relevant to your work, defining their meaning through collective input, and building consensus around standardized definitions. This will create a strong foundation for clarity, cohesion, and effective action across your jurisdiction.

Grant Opportunities

Check out these funding opportunities:

- [DOJ's Community-Based Justice Assistance Solicitation NOFO](#) (Due: 3/18 grants.gov and 3/25 JustGrants; **Fact:** Tribal only, with nine funding areas including public safety, community policing, youth justice, and more)
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation:
 - [Local Data for Equitable Communities](#) (Due 3/18; focus: collect, analyze, and use data to address inequities in the physical, economic, and social conditions of a place)
 - [Systems for Action](#) (Due: 6/4; focus: systems alignment interventions that have the potential to dismantle or disrupt the health effects of systemic racism)
- Search [Candide's Philanthropy News Digest](#) for national and local private grant opportunities

Job Board

Here are some violence reduction-related positions that are open within the Network:

- [Associate Director for Community Activation - New York, NY](#)
- [Director of Neighborhood Safety - Minneapolis, MN](#)
- [Community Violence Prevention Manager - Milwaukee, WI](#)
- [Deputy Commissioner Youth Services - Chicago, IL](#)
- [State Advocacy Director - Remote, Community Justice](#)

Got an opening? [Share it with us!](#)

Thank you to our Funders and Partners!

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