

SAN FRANCISCO

Violence Prevention & Youth Development Ecosystem



MARCH 2023

INTRODUCTION



The City and County of San Francisco (SF) has established a robust set of programs, services, and initiatives aimed at violence prevention, youth development, and crime reduction. In partnership with the Department of Children, Youth and Their Families (DCYF), the National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform (NICJR) has developed the following landscape scan to provide a brief overview of key violence prevention and youth development initiatives in San Francisco.

In 2020, after receiving a California Violence Intervention and Prevention (CalVIP) grant from the California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC), the City and County commissioned a detailed [Problem Analysis](#) of gun violence in San Francisco. This study examined every homicide and non-fatal injury shooting in the City between January 2017 and June 2020, resulting in several revealing findings that challenge how the traditional system of services in SF works to reduce gun violence in the near term. The Problem Analysis found that, “Suspects and victims of homicides and shootings in San Francisco are older adults with extensive justice system histories, and violence very disproportionately impacts men of color.”

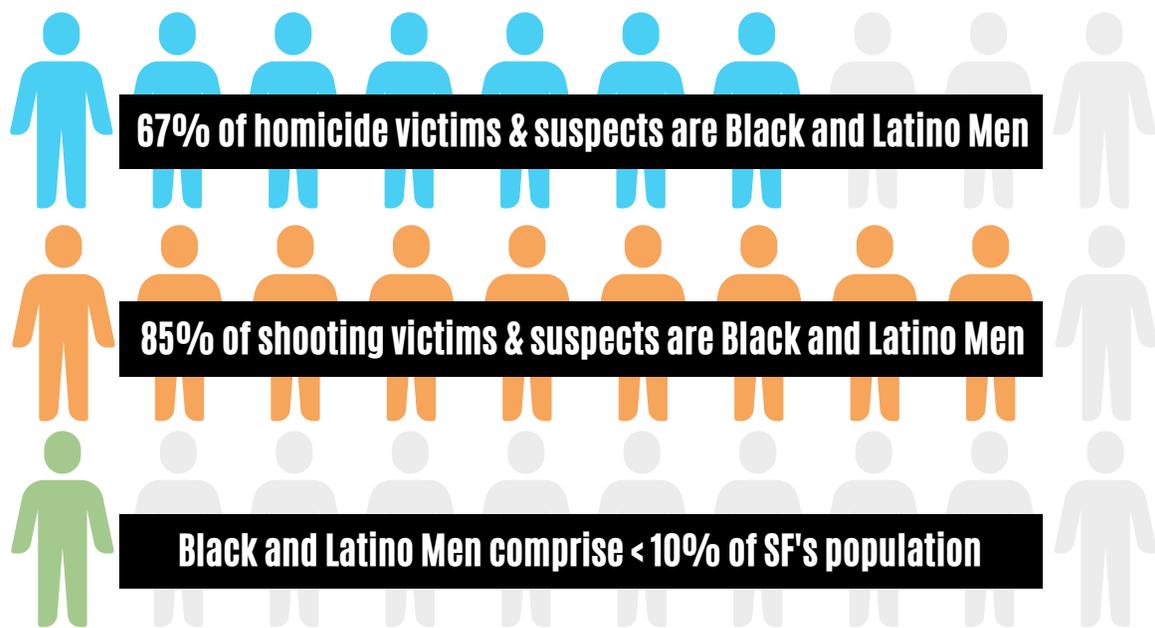
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INTRODUCTION

- The average age of victims and suspects of homicides in San Francisco is 37 years old; 70% have previously been arrested, and those individuals averaged 15 prior arrests at the time of the homicide.
- Victims and suspects of shootings in San Francisco are, on average, 28 years old and have previously been arrested 13 times.
- 67% of homicide victims and suspects and 85% of shooting victims and suspects are Black and Latino men, while they comprise less than 10% of the city's population.



At the same time, NICJR found that very few organizations funded by the SF government provide intensive services to adults with significant criminal justice system involvement who are at high risk of involvement in gun violence. In addition, the array of programs being funded by the SF government are not well coordinated to have specific focus and maximum impact.

By providing a brief overview of those existing programs, services, and initiatives, the following landscape scan may serve as a tool for planning increased coordination and further targeting resources to those at highest risk.

CITY & COUNTY LED INITIATIVES

SF Violence Reduction Initiative (VRI): Created in 2020 with funding from CalVIP, VRI is a collaborative violence reduction initiative focused on District 10 that involves the Street Violence Intervention Program (SVIP); the SF Police Department (SFPD); and the SF Probation Departments (Juvenile and Adult). The California Partnership for Safe Communities (CPSC) and NICJR provide technical assistance to the initiative.

As a part of this initiative, SFPD created a new Community Violence Reduction Team (CVRT) that focuses on intelligence collection, analysis, and proactive focused investigations, utilizing a data-driven process to identify a small number of residents in District 10 who are at very high risk (VHR) of being involved in gun violence. Individuals identified as being VHR, based on the Problem Analysis and a weekly review of recent shootings, are either prioritized for enforcement (if they have committed acts of gun violence) or referred to intensive services that include outreach-intensive life coaching.

Street Violence Response Team (SVRT): SVRT is a service coordination process organized to address the violence prevention and enforcement efforts of San Francisco. Each week, the SVRT meets to review recent violent incidents, shootings, or homicides and coordinate crisis response as well as a comprehensive, long-term support strategy for all involved parties. The SVRT is comprised of representatives from the Mayor's Office, the Board of Supervisors, Law Enforcement (SFPD, Adult and Juvenile Probation, District Attorney's Office), other City Agencies (the Department of Public Health, SF Unified School District, Housing Authority, Department of Police Accountability, SF Municipal Transportation Agency), the Wraparound Project, and other community members. The SVRT is led by SFPD.

City Departments & Offices

- Mayor's Office
- Board of Supervisors
- Housing Authority
- Department of Public Health (DPH)
- San Francisco Unified School District
- Department of Police Accountability
- Municipal Transportation Agency



Law Enforcement

- San Francisco Police Department
- Juvenile and Adult Probation
- District Attorney's Office

Community Based Organizations

- Wraparound Project
- Street Violence Intervention Program
- Faith Based Organizations

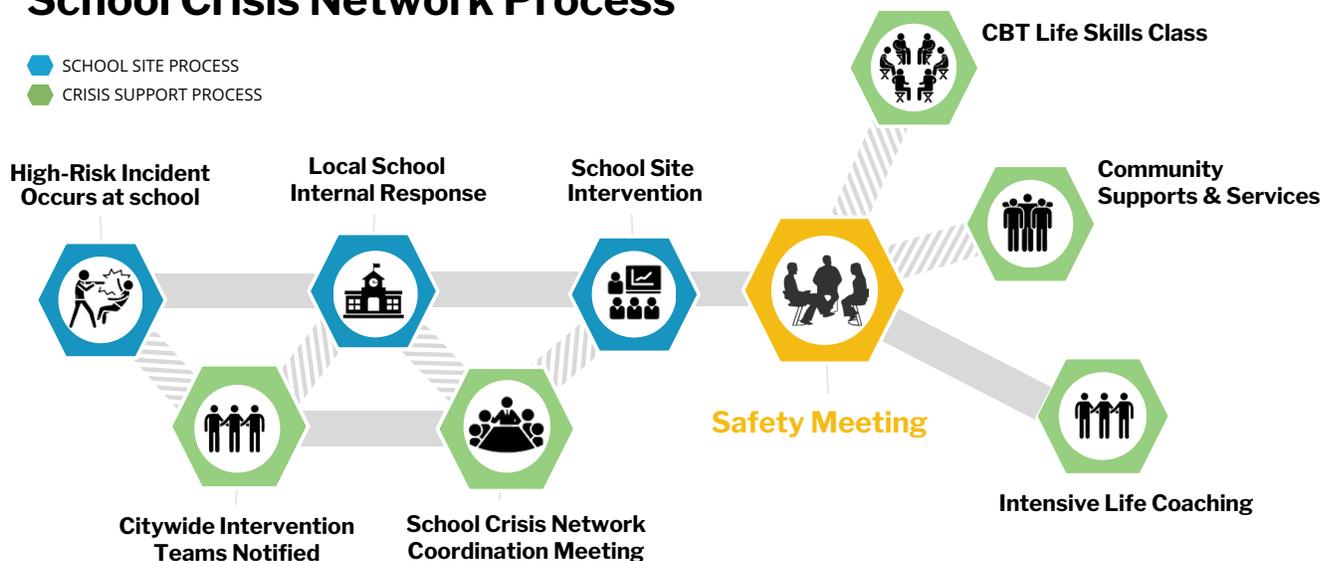
CITY & COUNTY LED INITIATIVES

The Wraparound Project: The Wraparound Project is a public health-centered injury prevention program for victims of interpersonal and youth violence that works to reduce violence and recidivism amongst San Francisco's most at-risk individuals. Based out of Zuckerberg SF General Hospital, this hospital-based violence intervention program (HVIP) deploys culturally competent case managers to work with victims recovering from violent injuries who are deemed high risk for reinjury or incarceration. The program serves as a vital point of entry and intervention, providing mentorship and linking clients to essential risk-reduction resources. SF Wraparound partners with community-based organizations to provide an array of services such as trauma-informed care, mental health services, court advocacy, art workshops, employment. The Wraparound Project partners with DCYF.

School-based Critical Incident Initiative: The new School-based Critical Incident Initiative has been developed by DCYF, SFUSD, and NICJR to coordinate responses to violent and critical incidents in schools. Each week, key stakeholders, including SFUSD, DCYF, the Juvenile Probation Department, and community-based service providers, host a meeting facilitated by NICJR where all critical incidents that have occurred at participating high schools are discussed in detail and response plans are developed. Students involved in incidents and others identified as at risk of being involved in retaliation are referred to SVIP, the Samoan Community Development Center (SCDC), and Young Community Developers (YCD) for intervention and services. The City and County recently received a federal grant from the Department of Justice to expand the program.

Total Investment: \$250,000

School Crisis Network Process



CITY & COUNTY LED INITIATIVES

District 10 Public Safety Plan: In alignment with the City’s Vision Zero for Homicides and Violent Crimes Resolution, the [District 10 Public Safety Plan](#) outlines a comprehensive strategy for violence reduction that is grounded in a shared vision of safety and community transformation.

The plan is rooted in the notion that violence reduction must go beyond traditional intervention efforts to include the promotion and creation of social/economic protective factors that give rise to neighborhood safety such as expanding access to affordable housing, living-wage jobs, clean and safe streets, and quality public transit.

Echoing the importance of a city-wide commitment to violence reduction, the Plan outlines various public safety strategies to be implemented by an array of city agencies and public service stakeholders such as HOPE SF, SF SAFE, and SVIP. Strategies include transit and school-based interventions, coordinated violence prevention and response efforts at public housing sites, and the expansion of available culturally responsive service providers to meet the needs of D10’s diverse population. The plan also proposes the creation of a new Violence Prevention Convener, a Community Concierge Team made up of credible messengers representing District 10 sub-neighborhoods, and a Community Accountability Team that will oversee the implementation and coordination of the plan in its entirety.

Total Investment: \$250,000

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CITY & COUNTY LED INITIATIVES

Dream Keepers Fellowship: The San Francisco Human Rights Commission, in partnership with DCYF and NICJR, will launch the Dream Keepers Fellowship, a transformative program for youth and young adults who have been involved in violent crime. The SF Dream Keepers Fellowship will provide intensive intervention, mentoring, and life coaching to very high-risk youth and young adults ages 16-21 in San Francisco. Enrolled youth and young adults will experience an 18-month process of intensive engagement, mentoring, and connection to needed services for themselves and their families. Fellows will receive modest financial stipends as incentive to engage and maintain participation in the program. Community-based service providers will be trained by NICJR and Advance Peace utilizing the Peacemaker Fellowship model.

Total Investment: \$250,000



DCYF COLLABORATIVES

Collaboratives are a DCYF strategy designed to address crises within disenfranchised racial/ethnic communities. DCYF requires each collaborative to operate according to four pillars: be community driven, provide coordinated service, improve quality of service, and increase staff and agency capacity. The following is an overview of collaboratives funded by DCYF.

Roadmap to Peace: Roadmap to Peace is committed to improving the social, economic health, and safety outcomes of the most vulnerable Latino/a youth ages 13-24 who are out of school, system touched, and vulnerable to street and gun violence by ensuring they are on a road to wholeness. Grounded in a collective impact approach, Roadmap to Peace brings together diverse stakeholders to innovate community solutions, change policy, and build a comprehensive social support network for youth.

Total Investment: \$2.3 Million

Pasifika Urban Roots: Pasifika Urban Roots provides an array of services for children, youth, and their families that includes but is not limited to financial literacy, structured recreation sports, violence prevention case management, workshops on podcasting, and special events for youth and their families.

Total Investment: \$1.2 Million

Black to the Future Collaborative: The Black to the Future Collaborative is committed to achieving better outcomes for high-need, multiple-system-involved African American youth and families through a community-driven approach. The initiative weaves together evidence-based practices through a culturally competent collaborative across the following core service areas: Education, Family Support, Health and Wellness, Workforce, and Violence Prevention.

Total Investment: \$2.1 Million



DCYF COLLABORATIVES

Coalition for Community Safety and Justice: The Coalition for Community Safety and Justice was established by the Community Youth Center, Chinese for Affirmative Action, Chinese Progressive Association, and Chinatown Community Development Center to respond to violence affecting the Chinese community, to learn from other community-centered initiatives, and to develop culturally competent and trauma-informed responses to interracial violence and anti-Asian racism. The Coalition for Community Safety and Justice utilizes a comprehensive, three-pronged approach to address these aims:

1. Implement a crisis intervention and holistic wrap-around case management system for Asian immigrant victims/survivors and their families;
2. Increase the capacity of Asian residents across the city to lead a multicultural community safety planning and oversight process to ensure that healing and individual/communal accountability is community driven;
3. Engage in cross-racial community building and restorative justice work that focuses on building community relationships and trust between Chinese and Black communities, with the goal of framing alternative solutions to address the long-standing tensions between these communities resulting from a series of violent incidents.

Total Investment: \$2.4 Million



DCYF INVESTMENTS

The Justice Services Service Area includes a continuum of services for justice system-involved youth and disconnected TAY. The aim of the service area is to prevent further youth engagement in the justice system and reduce rates of youth recidivism through connection to adult allies, culturally relevant programming, ongoing case management, access to positive skill building activities and whole family engagement. Services are provided in partnership with the juvenile and adult justice systems and take place in system facilities as well as community-based settings.

The Justice Services Service Area includes the following initiative and strategies: Community Assessment & Referral Center (CARC), Cultural Programming, Detention Based Services, Girls' and Young Women's Programming, Multi-Service and Young Adult Court Case Management. Justice Services also includes the Intensive Supervision & Clinical Support Strategy funded in partnership with the Department of Public Health.

Total Investment: \$9.6 Million

The Connective Services Strategy, Mentorship Service Area, is designed to provide at-risk youth and disconnected TAY with opportunities to connect to caring adult role models who can help them achieve their goals and build their self-esteem. Connective Services programs promote positive social and emotional learning and use a range of programming models that includes mentoring, activities that help develop caring relationships between youth and staff, individual and group support, connection to needed services and resources, restorative justice practices, positive youth development activities and culturally focused programming.

Total investment: \$4 Million



COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Hundreds of community-based programs and organizations are funded by the City and County of SF to provide violence prevention and youth services. Each organization is an integral part of San Francisco's violence prevention and youth development landscape. This section highlights a few of these programs.



Street Violence Intervention Program: The San Francisco Street Violence Intervention Program (SVIP) is a community-based street outreach and crisis response program intended to significantly reduce and intervene in youth-related street violence. SVIP is a critical part of San Francisco's Street Violence Response Team (SVRT), with Street Outreach workers and intensive Life Coaches serving as the community-facing arm of the City's Violence Reduction Initiative. SVIP utilizes a four-pronged approach to achieve its goal of reducing violence and making communities safer: street outreach, crisis response, intensive life coaching, and community mobilization and education.¹ Originally established as a city government program, SVIP has grown into a CalVIP-funded initiative of Healthright 360.

Relationship building is foundational to SVIP's work. Street Outreach Workers focus on building relationships with the communities they serve via street canvassing, event security and safety, conflict mediation, and coordination of community events, and Life Coaches are expected to provide peer mentoring for young adults at the highest risk of being involved in gun violence.² After establishing positive and trusting relationships with their clients, Life Coaches use their influence to help clients make better decisions, including desisting from violence and engaging with the array of services available to them through the SF Violence Prevention Ecosystem.³

Total Investment: \$6.5 Million

¹ <https://violenceprevention.sfgov.org/outreach.html>

² <https://www.healthright360.org/job/street-outreach-worker-svip-western-addition>

³ <https://us63.dayforcehcm.com/CandidatePortal/en-US/hr360>

COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Several other community-based organizations have adopted this “credible messenger” model to bolster violence prevention efforts in historically underserved communities that exhibit higher levels of need.

United Playaz (UP), a South of Market (SOMA)-based nonprofit, provides a wide range of services to youth living in the SOMA neighborhood and beyond. In addition to after school programs offered at the organization’s Clubhouse, UP provides support to citywide Crisis Response Teams via street outreach, case management, and in-school violence reduction engagement.⁴

The Mission-based nonprofit **Homies Organizing the Mission to Empower Youth (HOMEY)**, provides street-level intervention and prevention outreach in San Francisco’s Mission, Excelsior, and SOMA/Tenderloin neighborhoods through its CALLES (Streets) program. CALLES staff connect with community members during late-night street outreach and weekly canvassing of schools and neighborhood hotspots to defuse potentially violent situations and refer youth to various support services. CALLES also provides rapid crisis response support as community monitors and peace promoters at community outings, peace marches, and vigils.⁵



⁴ <https://unitedplayaz.org/our-work/>

⁵ <https://www.homey-sf.org/calles-streets.html>

COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Young Community Developers (YCD) is a community-based organization that offers services focused on meeting the holistic needs of San Francisco's most marginalized and underserved communities. YCD provides an ecosystem of services that includes educational programming, training, and career development opportunities, as well as various programs serving justice-involved youth and young adults such as their Re-Entry Integrative Services for Employment (RISE) program.⁶

YMCA Urban Services' Tailor-Made Diversion Program at the James Denman Beacon Center offers high-risk youth in the juvenile justice system comprehensive case management services with one-on-one and peer group support; life skills and healthy decision making training; and referrals to mental health services, substance abuse treatment, educational programming, employment opportunities, and other supportive services.⁷

Sunset Youth Services, located in the Outer Sunset District, employs a unique healing-centered approach that recognizes youth as active agents in the creation of their own well-being. In a unique partnership with the Juvenile Halls, Sunset Youth Services brings its mobile recording studios into juvenile incarceration facilities to provide digital arts training and spaces for healing.⁸



Samoan Community Development Center (SCDC): SCDC works to connect the Bay Area's Samoan and Pacific Islander community to key supports and services. The organization's Transforming Our Attitudes (T.O.A.) program provides transitional-age youth with 10 weeks of case management that emphasizes professional and academic development.⁹

⁶ <https://www.ycdjobs.org/our-services>

⁷ <https://www.ymcasf.org/programs/urban-services-james-denman-beacon>

⁸ <https://www.sunsetyouthservices.org/programs>

⁹ <https://www.scdcsf.org/>

COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Huckleberry Youth Programs has been serving low-income youth and their families for more than 50 years. Huckleberry Youth offers a continuum of services rooted in the fundamental right of all young people to safety, health, education and justice. Their justice services include the Community Assessment and Resource Center (CARC), a single point of entry for crisis intervention, assessment, service integration, and referral of arrested youth, and the Huckleberry Advocacy & Response Team (HA&RT) Program that provides individualized therapy and weekly group sessions to justice-involved girls and young women in Juvenile Hall.¹⁰

The Young Women's Freedom Center (YWFC) is a leadership and advocacy organization that focuses on building the personal and collective power of young women and trans youth of all genders who have been directly impacted by cycles of violence, poverty, and incarceration. YWFC's Girls' and Young Women's Detention Advocacy Project and Stepping into Sisterhood Program are two transformational initiatives that have received funding from DCYF.¹¹



Mission Neighborhood Centers serves more than 45,000 low-income seniors, youth, and families with young children at 13 sites throughout San Francisco's Mission, Excelsior, Mission Bay, and Bayview Districts. Mission Neighborhood Centers offers a variety of community-based and culturally rich services, including through their Young Queens on the Rise Program and their Home Detention Program, which serves as a community-based alternative to carceral detention.¹²

Young Adult Court (YAC) is an innovative court diversion program made possible through the collaborative efforts of the **Felton Institute**; the San Francisco Superior Court; and the Department of Children, Youth and Their Families. YAC is an alternative to traditional criminal proceedings for eligible young adults (ages 18-25) who are facing felony and misdemeanor charges.¹³

¹⁰ <https://www.huckleberryyouth.org/>

¹¹ <https://youngwomenfree.org/location/san-francisco/>

¹² <https://mncsf.org/youth-services-precita-mission/#MissionGirls>

¹³ <https://felton.org/social-services/justice-services/young-adult-court-yac/>

SF RESOURCE GUIDE

Although there are numerous programs and services available in SF, below is an example of the type of resource guide that all case managers, life coaches, etc. should have access to in order to connect their clients to services that can meet their greatest needs.

Employment	Housing	Education	Health	Justice Services
<p><u>Young Community Developers (YCD)</u> Job Portal</p> <p>Website</p>	<p><u>Larkin Street Youth Services</u> Emergency Shelter and Drop-In Centers</p> <p>Website</p> <p><u>24h Helpline</u> 1 (800) 447-8223</p>	<p><u>Five Keys Schools and Programs</u> Alternative Education</p> <p>Website</p> <p><u>Contact</u> (415) 735-5051</p>	<p><u>Huckleberry Youth Services</u> Youth Clinic</p> <p>Website</p> <p><u>24h Hotline</u> (415) 621-2929</p>	<p><u>Young Women's Freedom Center</u> Leadership Fellowships & Advocacy</p> <p>Website</p> <p><u>Contact</u> sfreferrals@youngwomenfree.org</p>
<p><u>Arriba Juntos, Five Keys, MNC & YCD</u> Interrupt, Predict, & Organize (IPO)</p> <p>Website Website</p> <p><u>Contact</u> qcollins@ycjobs.org</p>	<p><u>Huckleberry Youth Services</u> Crisis Shelter, Huckleberry House</p> <p>Website</p> <p><u>24h Hotline</u> (415) 621-2929</p>	<p><u>Larkin Street Youth Services</u> Street Academy</p> <p>Website</p> <p><u>Contact</u> (415) 673-0911</p>	<p><u>Westside Community Services</u> Child & Adolescent Services</p> <p>Website</p> <p><u>Contact</u> ajani@westside-health.org</p>	<p><u>HOMEY</u> CALLES Street Outreach</p> <p>Website</p> <p><u>Contact:</u> (415) 861-1600 maria@homey-sf.org</p>
<p><u>Mission Neighborhood Centers</u> Workforce Development</p> <p>Website</p>	<p><u>Hamilton Families</u> Housing Services, Emergency Shelter, Rapid Re-housing</p> <p>Website</p>	<p><u>Mission Neighborhood Centers</u> Youth Empowerment Programs</p> <p>Website</p>	<p><u>Instituto Familiar de la Raza</u> La Clínica</p> <p>Website</p> <p><u>Appointment Line</u> (415) 229-0500</p>	<p><u>United Playaz</u> Community & Crisis Response Services</p> <p>Website</p> <p><u>Contact</u> info@unitedplayaz.org (888) 975-2929</p>





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