



Michigan Youth Violence Prevention Center

Project Location

Our research center focuses on addressing root causes of youth violence and building the evidence-base for youth firearm violence prevention in three U.S. cities: Muskegon, MI, Grand Rapids, MI, and Washington, DC.

While these locations differ in context, they share a history of racial segregation, disinvestment, and economic inequality and are experiencing escalating youth firearm violence and homicide.

Key Partners

Washington, DC

- T.R.I.G.G.E.R Project

Muskegon, MI

- Mercy Health and DeVos emergency departments,
- Mercy Health primary care network,
- Fruitport Family Medicine Clinic,
- Hackley Community Care, Muskegon Pediatrics,
- HealthWest,
- Gaining Unity through Non-Violent Solutions (G.U.N.S)

Grand Rapids, MI

- Spectrum Health Helen Devos Children's Hospital

For more information:

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Building Evidence for Gun Violence Prevention

From 2021-2026, the Michigan Youth Violence Prevention Center will implement two research strategies to advance youth firearm injury prevention in three communities at heightened risk for gun violence, Muskegon, MI, Grand Rapids, MI & Washington D.C. The Michigan Youth Violence Prevention Center (MI-YVPC) is a partnership between the University of Michigan School of Public Health, Michigan Medicine, and community-based organizations.

Research Strategies

Multi-Site Implementation Trial of SafERteens

- Implement SafERteens, an evidence-based practice for youth violence prevention, in health care settings in Muskegon and Grand Rapids, MI.
- Test healthcare provider engagement strategies to encourage sustained implementation of SafERteens.
- Examine SafERteens' effects on youth firearm violence at the community level.

Addressing Root Causes for Gun Violence Prevention (ARC-GVP)

- Document and evaluate community-level prevention programs to build the evidence-base for youth gun violence prevention.
- Bring youth from Muskegon, MI and Washington DC together in learning exchanges to plan collaborative prevention campaigns.

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