



Michigan Youth Violence Prevention Center

Project Location

The MI-YVPC 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:

Laney Rupp, Center Manager
MI-YVPC

1415 Washington Heights
Ann Arbor, MI 48109

Email: michiganyvpc@umich.edu
yvpc.sph.umich.edu



2021-2026

Building Evidence for Gun Violence Prevention

From 2021-2026, the Michigan Youth Violence Prevention Center (MI-YVPC) 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 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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