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MAY 29, 2025

City Mobilizes to Combat Gun Violence During Gun Violence Awareness Month

With Chicago on track for one of the sharpest declines in gun violence in recent history, more than 220 community organizations across the city are marking Gun Violence Awareness Month (GVAM) this June with events celebrating safety, peace and restorative justice.

Rubye Lane, the Director of Outreach and Communications of Strides for Peace, said, “This June, we felt the urgent need to shine a light on the growing peace movement happening in our city. The collective of gun violence survivors, advocates, faith and community leaders have come together to say we will not allow guns and violence to disrupt our lives.”

Along with Strides for Peace, organizations involved in anti-violence events to highlight GVAM include, Metropolitan Peace Initiatives, Communities Partnering 4 Peace, the Institute for Nonviolence Chicago, Breakthrough, Chicago CRED, BUILD, New Life Centers, the Partnership for Safe and Peaceful Communities, Hadiya's Promise, Together Chicago, My Brother's Keeper, One Aim, and many others. GVAM events have been collected and posted on a [website](#) managed by the Illinois Peace Project. Look for the “Peace Week” symbol at the top of the landing page.

Metropolitan Peace Initiatives Executive Director Vaughn Bryant said, “Chicago is more determined than ever to maintain the positive trend of declining gun violence. A unique partnership of business, philanthropy, government and community is making it all possible.”

Gun violence in Chicago has declined in six of the last eight years and is down 35 percent so far in 2025, [according to the City of Chicago's violence reduction dashboard](#). Today, the city's public safety strategy includes some two dozen Community Violence Intervention (CVI) organizations that offer individuals at highest risk of shooting or being shot a variety of services, from trauma treatment to education and job-training to help them live safely and legally. A growing body of [research](#) suggests that CVI is having a positive impact.

For More Information:

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