

Trauma Healing Response Network

Engaging impacted families in the immediate aftermath of a firearm injury or death

June 2025



What is the Trauma Healing Response Network (THRN)?

- **Created in 2021** through a partnership with Richmond City Council, the Richmond and Henrico Health Districts, and the Richmond Behavioral Health Foundation.
- Engages impacted families in the aftermath of a firearm injury or death through an **evidence-based, trauma-informed lens**, but most importantly, a healing-centered way.
- **Convenes 53 community partners** providing resources in housing, food access, mental health support, and education to mitigate violence across all community spaces.
- Provides **direct connection** to community partners, short-term case management, and long-term resource referrals.

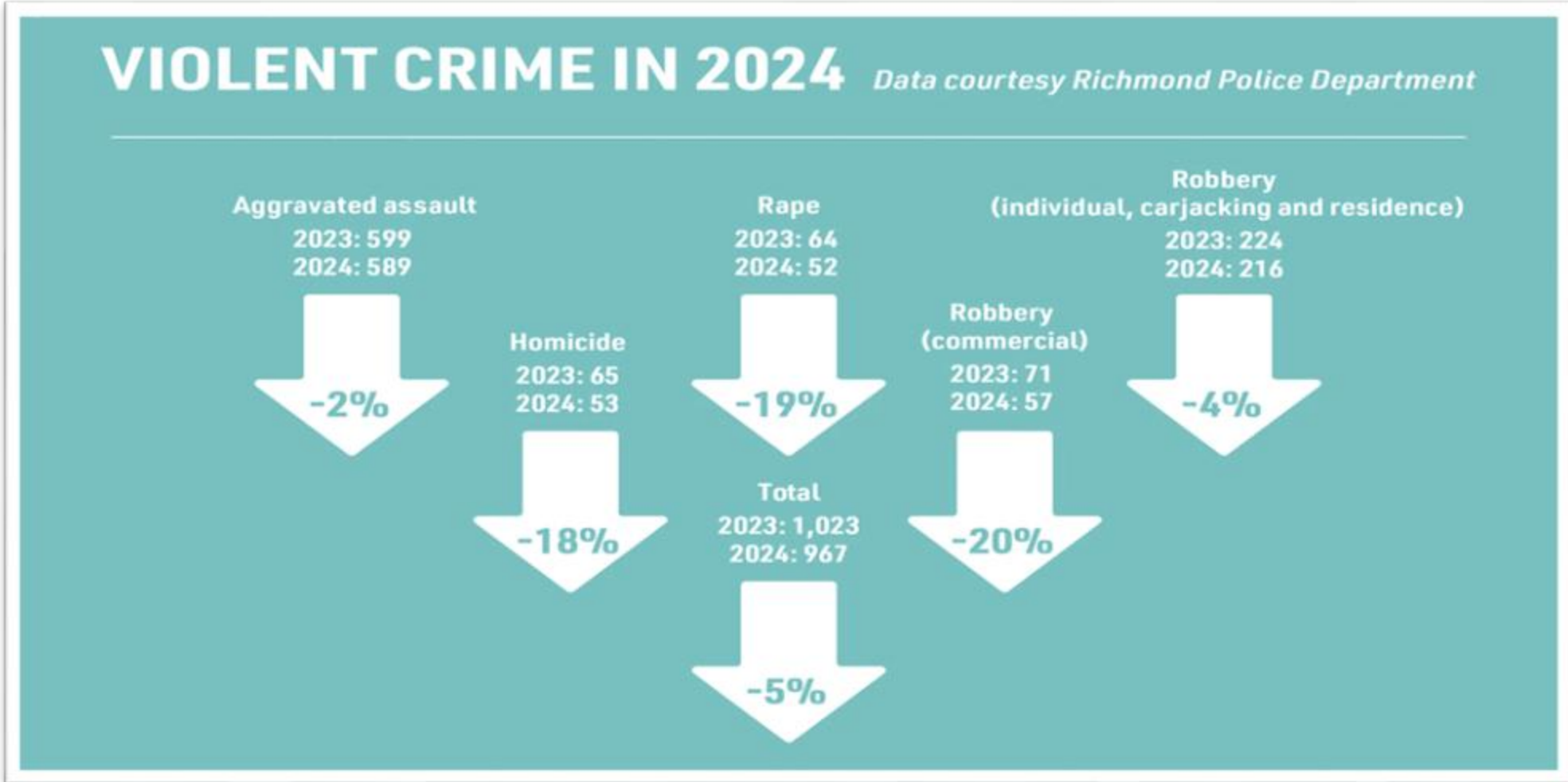
THRN and GVPI in Richmond

THRN supports three pillars of Richmond's Gun Violence Prevention and Intervention Framework:

1. Crisis intervention and wrap around services
2. Intensive case management
3. Credible messengers



Violent Crime continues to Decline in Richmond

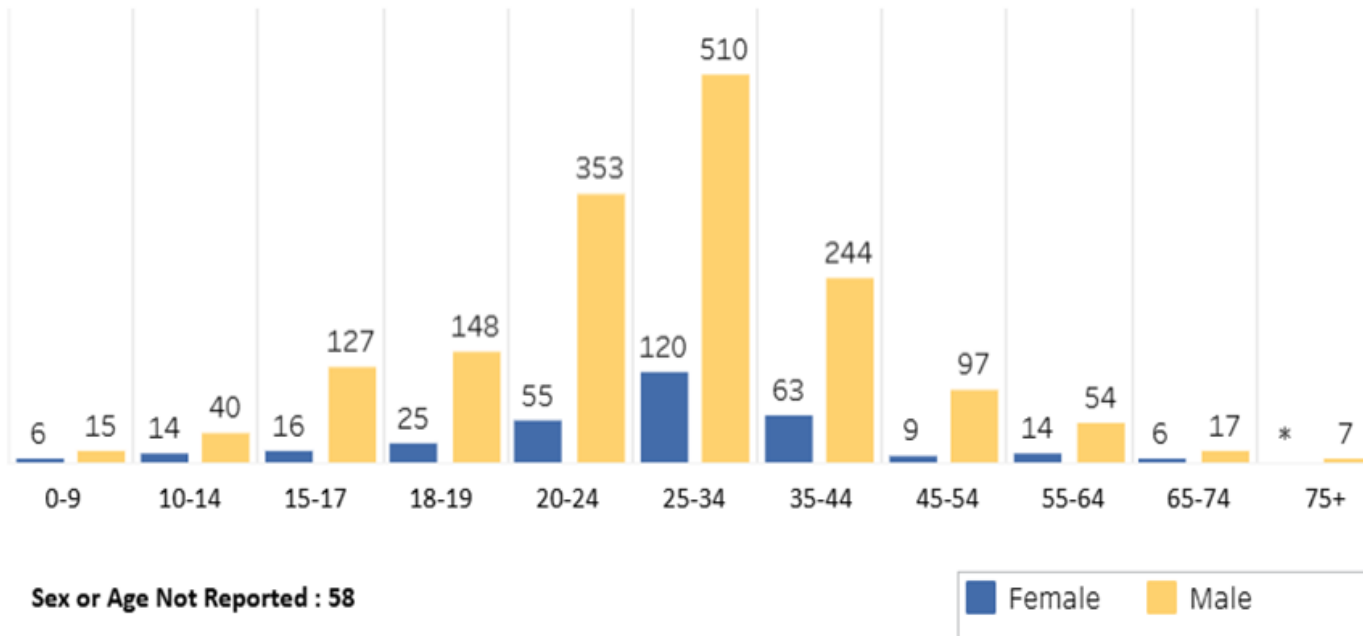


How did THRN help impact those outcomes in FY 2025? With your help...

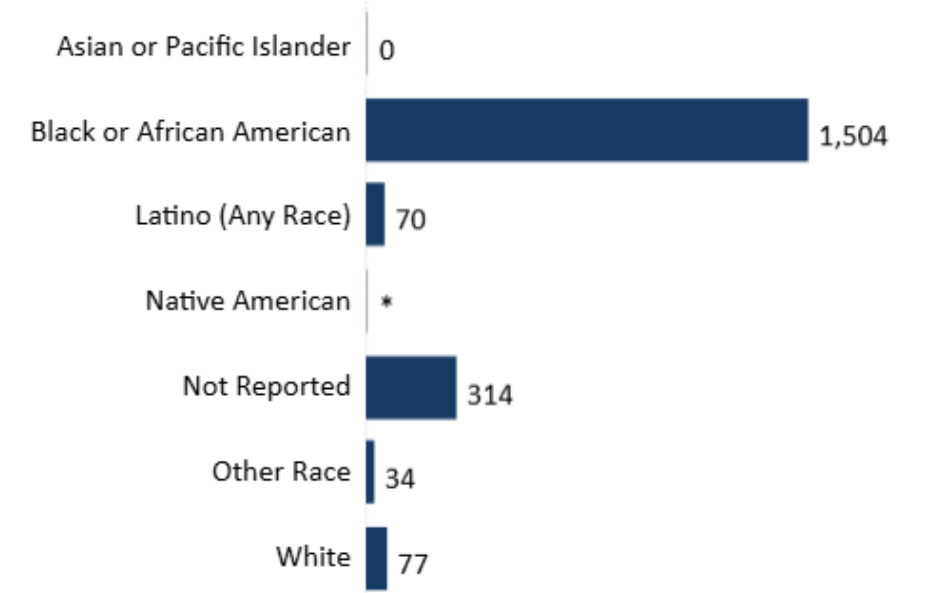
- + **3,490 Community Wellness Checks**
- Reached + **8,741 residents** through mentoring, outreach, support groups, and events
- Disbursed + **\$36K** in emergency funds to support families and communities impacted by firearm violence
- Provided **emergency housing to 16 families** including **4 permanent relocations**
- Engaged **37 high-risk cases** to prevent retaliation-related violence
- Implemented a community-based, trauma-informed, relationship-building curriculum
- Strengthened partnerships with mental health providers
- Deepened collaboration with RPS and students, including new efforts with **MLK, Huguenot, Thomas Jefferson and Armstrong High Schools**

Richmond Firearm Injuries Demographic Disparities

Firearm Injuries by Age and Sex (Counts), ED Visits by Residents of Richmond Health District, 2019 - 2025[^]



Firearm Injuries by Race/Ethnicity (Counts), ED Visits by Residents of Richmond Health District, 2019 - 2025[^]



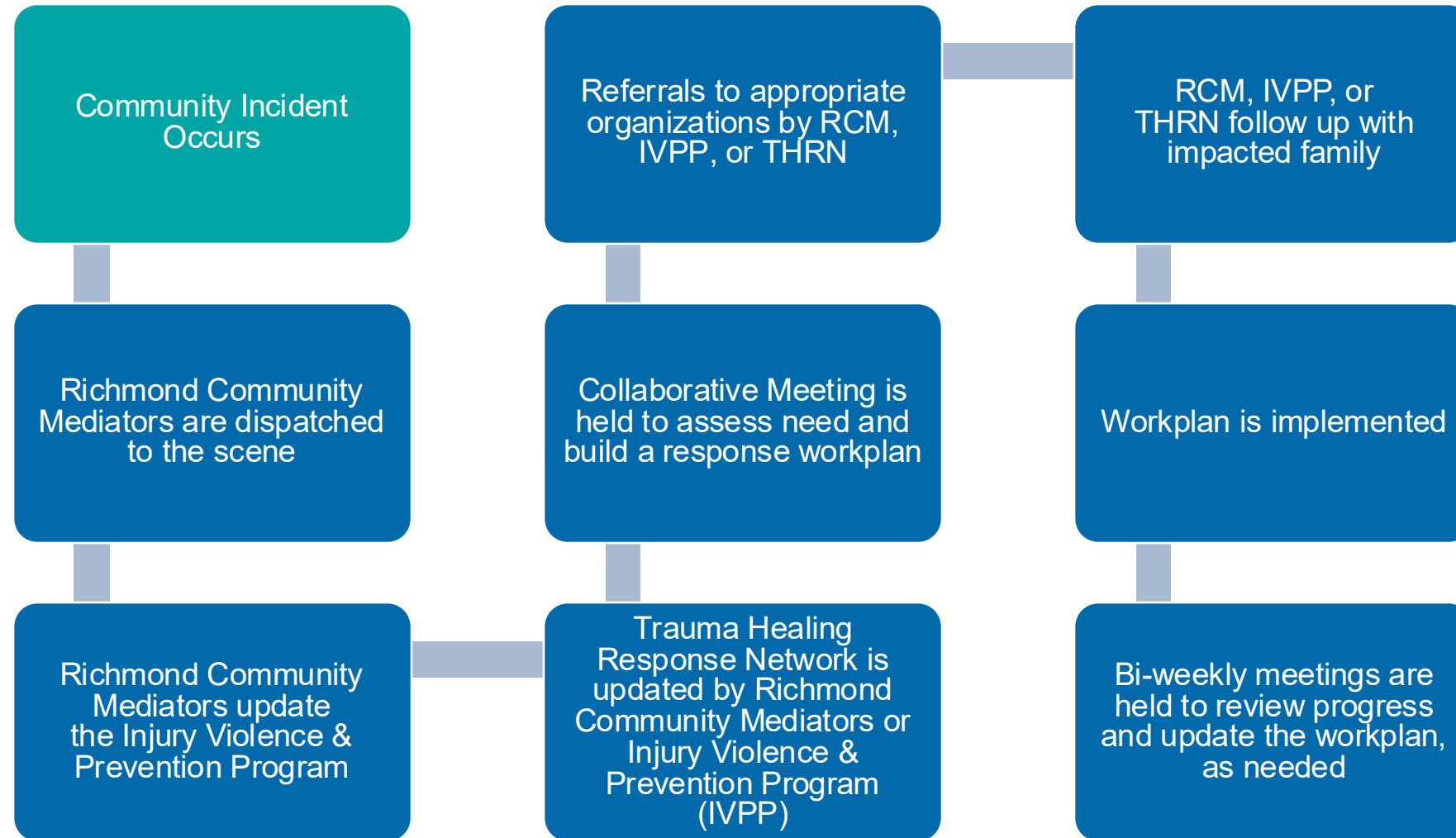
Source: VDH ESSENCE data
[^]ED visits through April 2025

Providing meaningful support through partnerships...



**RVA CRISIS INCIDENT
RESPONSE PROTOCOL**

Incident Response Flow Process

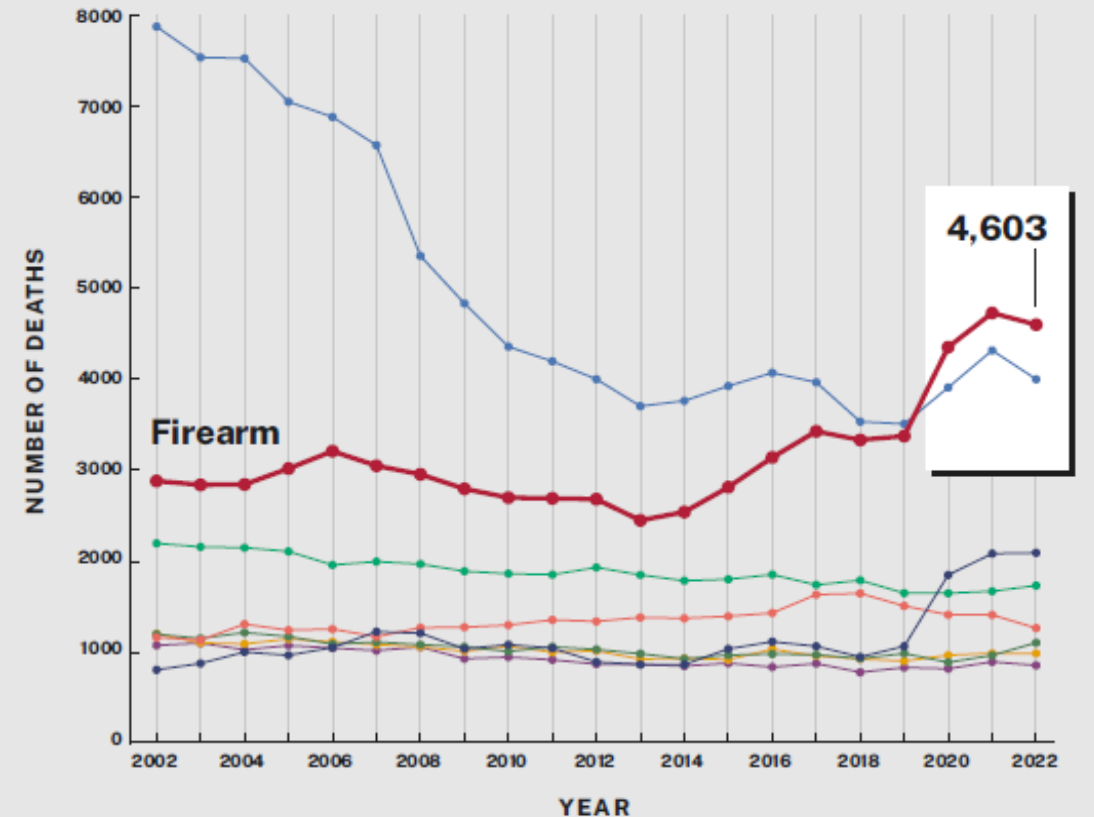


"High levels of exposure to firearm violence for both children and adults give rise to **a cycle of trauma and fear within our communities**, contributing to the nation's mental health crisis."

- U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy,
June 2024 Declaration of Public Health Crisis

Firearms are the leading cause of death for children and adolescents

1-19 years of age in the United States, 2002-2022



Source: Adapted from Goldstick, J. E., Cunningham, R. M., & Carter, P. M. (2022). Current causes of death in children and adolescents in the United States. *The New England Journal of Medicine*, 386(20), 1955-1956. Underlying cause of death data from CDC WONDER.

Focus on Mental Health

- Richmond Area Black Social Workers leading mental health support efforts
- Expanded mental health offerings now include Resilience/Healing Circles
- Strengthened partnerships with YWCA, RBHA, Victims Assistance and others
- New Relationship Wellbeing Course launches 6/14

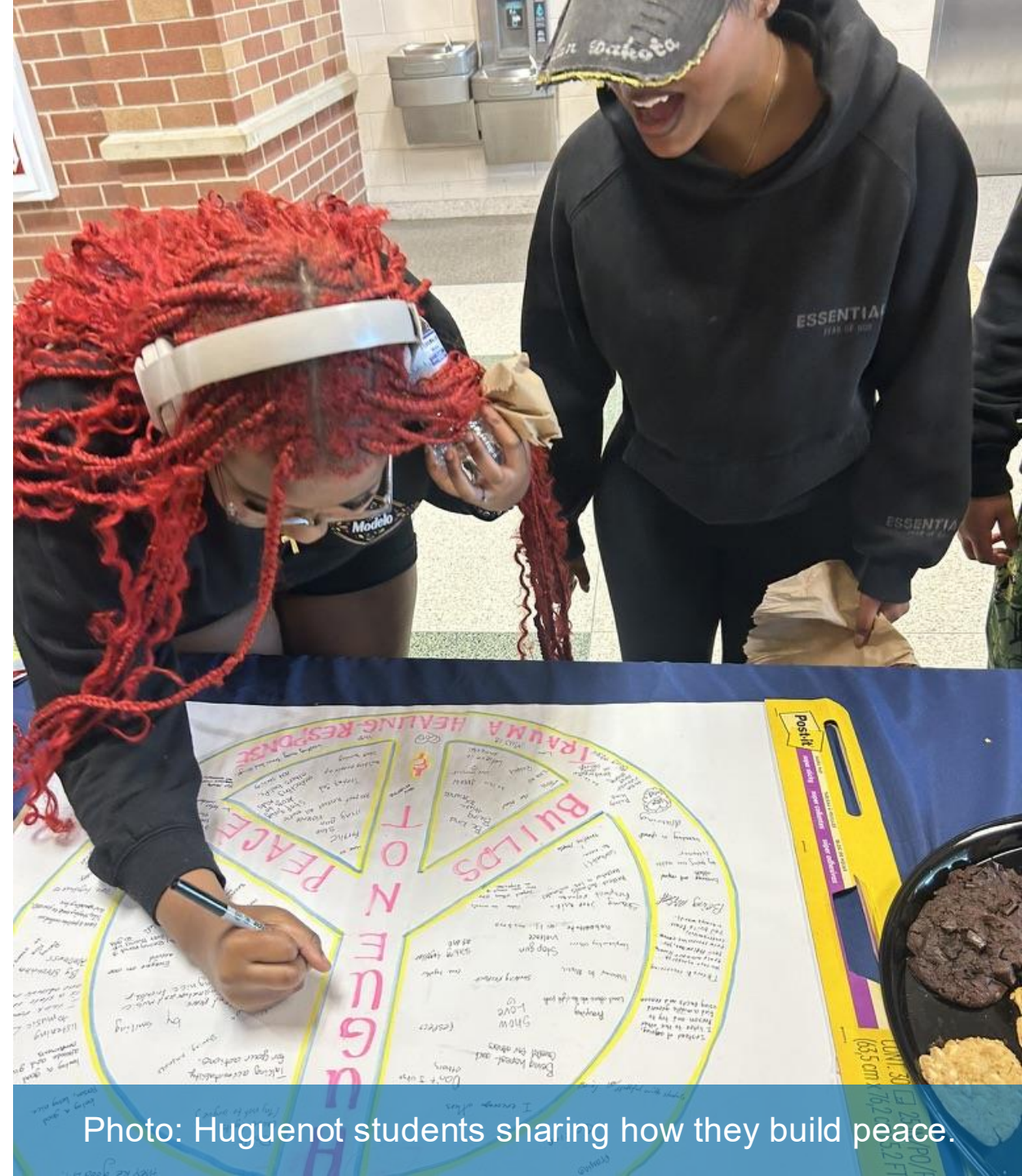


Photo: Huguenot students sharing how they build peace.

Safe Zones Introduced in 2025

Locations:

- Hickory Hill Community Center – 8th District
- Neighborhood Resource Center – 7th District
- Charged Up Retail Store – 7th District
- Just C Community Hub – serving 6th/7th districts

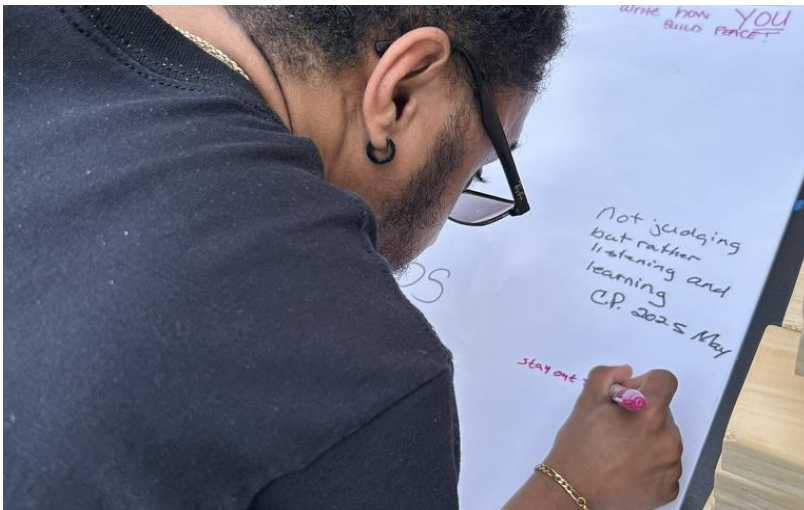


Build Community

Repair Harm

Make Resource
Accessible

THRN in action






RISE
TOGETHER

COMMUNITY
RESILIENCE

Join us every Tuesday
11:30am - 1:30pm

707 Mosby Street
RVA 23223

Presented By:



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

Panel Discussion • Documentary Screening
Advocacy • Community Engagement

“Heal, Grow, Thrive”

What Makes The THRN Unique?

LEVERAGE

- Coalition of more than 50 partners.
- Healing-centered, integrated approach
- Strength of relationships ensures people receive timely, culturally responsive care and access to resources.

RELATIONSHIP-DRIVEN

- Collaborative process with community members, partners, and city agencies
- Shared protocol ensure transparency, timely coordination, and accountability.

SUPPORT WITHOUT OBSTACLES

- We make healing resources easy to access.
- By addressing barriers like transportation, stigma, or lack of information, we meet people where they are.

WE BUILD PEACE

- Safe Zones were launched in the 6th, 7th, and 8th districts to strengthen local access to support.
- Zones are proactive –not reactive – spaces.

THRN Funding Impacts

FY26 Proposed: \$300,000

- 30+ partners minimally supported
- No funding for public events or outreach
- Less than Year 1 funding

FY24: \$500,000+

- Expanded reach through new partnerships
- Launched community-focused relationship-building curriculum
- Supported partner programs to focus on high-need areas

FY25: \$700,000+

- Grew network to 53 organizations
- Increased engagement with Spanish-speaking communities
- Increased engagement with parents and mental health providers
- Piloted mobile app for care coordination/data tracking
- Opened Safe zones in the 6th, 7th and 8th districts
- Formalized coordinated response protocol with DJS, VCU, RPD

Why maintain or increase THRN investment?

- THRN unites trusted community partners to deliver **sustainable, coordinated impact**
- Since THRN inception, **homicides in Richmond decreased 41%** (from 91 to 53) in 2024
- The model is **proactive, healing-centered, and results-driven**
- Investing in THRN is investing in the **safety and well-being** of Richmond residents



IG: @thrn_rva

Thank you!

Questions?

Lorraine.Wright@VDH.Virginia.Gov

