

# Trauma Healing Response Network

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

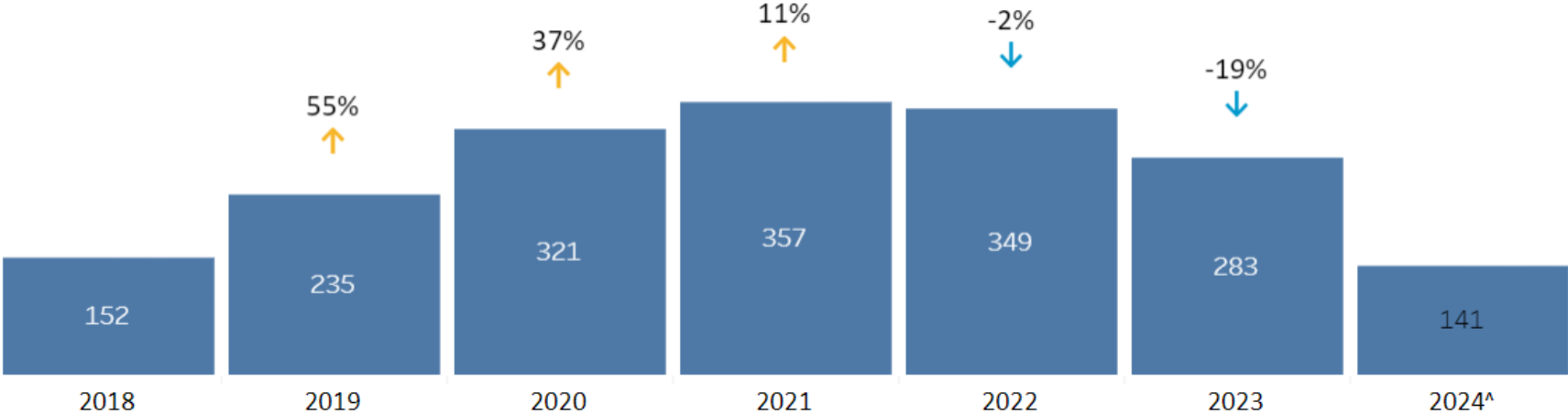
July 2024



# In May 2021, Richmond City Council & Mayor Stoney declared gun violence a public health crisis.

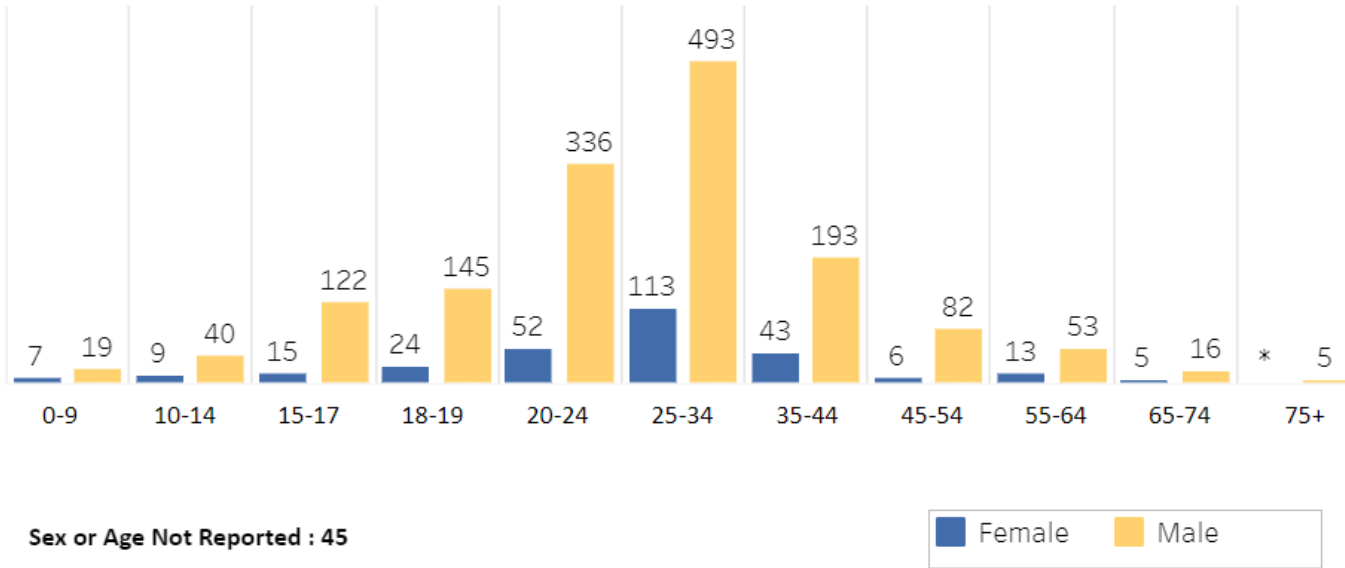
## Firearm Injuries in Virginia: Emergency Department (ED) Visits

Firearm Injuries by Year (Counts), ED Visits by Residents of Richmond Health District  
2018 - 2024<sup>^</sup> (Selected Year in **ORANGE**)

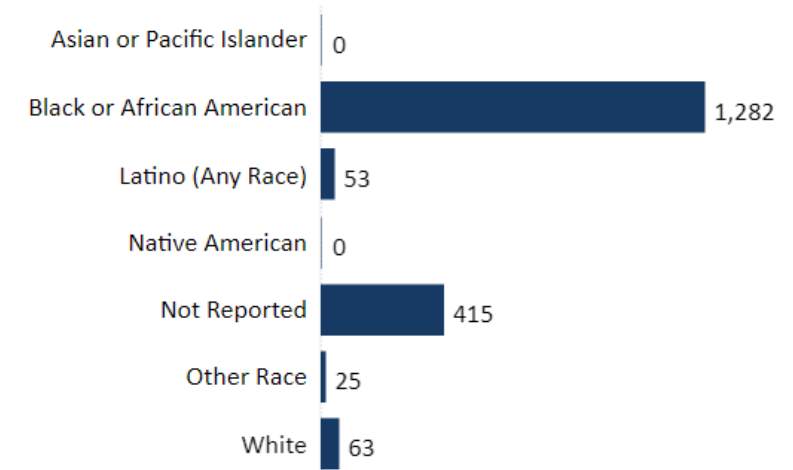


# Richmond Firearm Injuries Demographic Disparities

Firearm Injuries by Age and Sex (Counts), ED Visits by Residents of Richmond Health District, 2018 - 2024<sup>^</sup>



Firearm Injuries by Race/Ethnicity (Counts), ED Visits by Residents of Richmond Health District, 2018 - 2024<sup>^</sup>



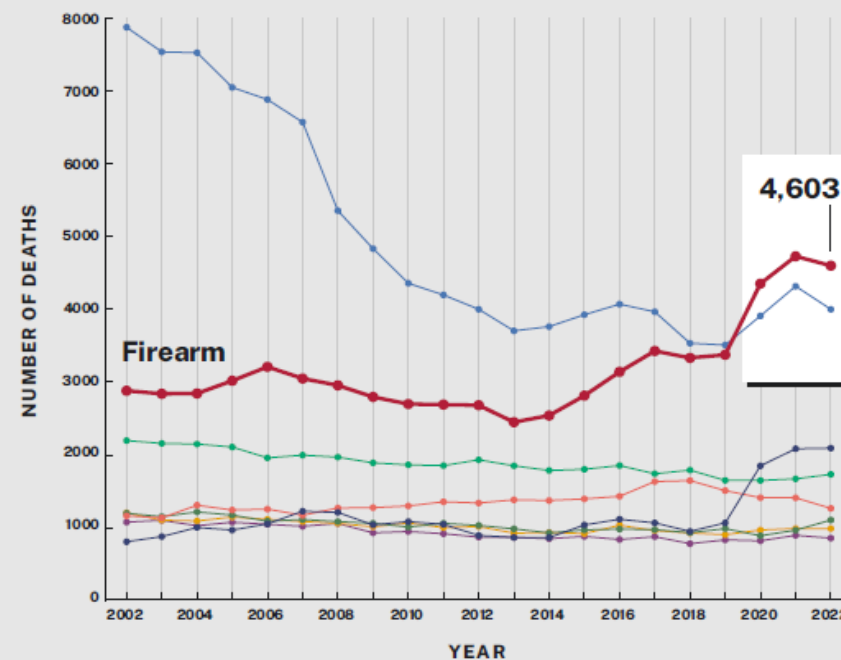
Source: VDH ESSENCE data  
<sup>^</sup>ED visits through May 2024

"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

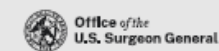
## Firearms are the leading cause of death for children and adolescents

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

- Firearm
- Motor Vehicle
- Poisoning (Drug and Non-drug)
- Cancer
- Suffocation
- Congenital Anomalies
- Drowning
- Cardiovascular Disease



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.



# What is the Trauma Healing Response Network?

- Created in 2021 through 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.
- Convenes 38 community partners working in housing, food access, mental health support, and violence prevention.
- 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:

- Crisis intervention and wrap around services
- Intensive case management
- Credible messengers



# Providing meaningful support...

"...Just have to thank you for helping me through this situation..you and your team was a blessing for my family and I. I wouldn't got none of this done with you all. I am really thankful you just don't understand mannnn. God is good!!!! And just to keep checking on me and taking the time to see my son and you have other situations or things you're going through..I can't even express how appreciative I am. You're beautiful inside and out and I can't thank you enough..."



# Comprehensive response and support

- 697 wellness checks
- 110 long-term mental health support connections
- More than \$30,000 in emergency funds disbursed directly to support impacted families
- 12 families provided with emergency housing and relocation support
- 26 cases at high risk for retaliation-related events engaged for intervention.



“

**“We just learn how to cope. Healing is an ongoing process—it’s just a lifelong process.”**

”

— A firearm violence survivor

# Community healing



Previous events include Healthy Habits in the Garden, Lyrics and Beats, Armstrong Senior Class monthly support, the Young Kings and Queens program at MLK Middle, and trauma workshops.

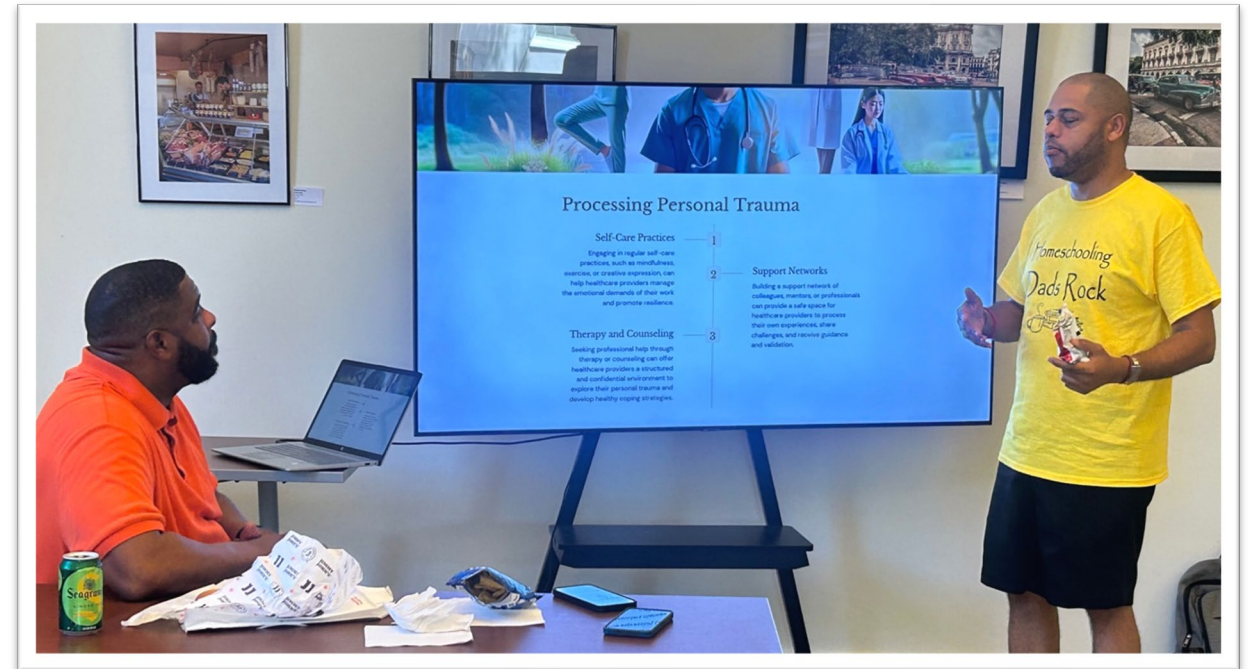


## 145 events

Community education, outreach,  
and listening events hosted  
since Dec 2023

# Partner training and support

- Partners have experience with GVPI programming and close relationships within their communities.
- THRN financial support lifts up the work of grassroots organizations.
- Professional development and training allows partners to expand their impact on violence prevention.



Trauma Informed Care training, Healing the Healers

# THRN in action

- Hosted peace-building meeting at Gilpin Community Garden between residents in long-standing community conflict.
- Working to incorporate programming at RCJC to break cycles of violence.
- Provided support groups/mentoring at MLK Middle School & connected families with mental health support after Mosby Ct shooting.
- Provided on-site grief support to those impacted after the Altria shooting.

**TRAUMA TO TRIUMPH COMMUNITY  
EMPOWERMENT SERVICE, LLC**

**PRESENTS**

**“Overcoming Trauma while Parenting Series”**

**EVERY THURSDAY IN MAY | 5:30-7:30 PM**

Join us for a 5 week series as we embark on a healing journey to overcome trauma and become the healthiest versions of ourselves. As parents and caregivers we often neglect our own mental health and unhealed traumas.

**In Partnership with Peter Paul Development Center**



**Dinner and Prizes Included**



Registration link: <https://forms.gle/sGnDJcS37yFd5mRM9>

**Location: Peter Paul Development Center | 1708 N 22nd Street**

# Where to next?

- Deep gratitude for additional City funding in 2024-25.
- Completion of community-based, trauma-informed, relationship-building curriculum.
- Increased partnerships with mental health resources.
- Continued alignment with RPS and the student body.

# Thank you!

# Questions?



RICHMOND & HENRICO HEALTH DISTRICTS