

San Antonio/Bexar County Violence Prevention Strategic Plan



Presented by: Claude A. Jacob, DrPH, MPH, Health Director
San Antonio Metropolitan Health District

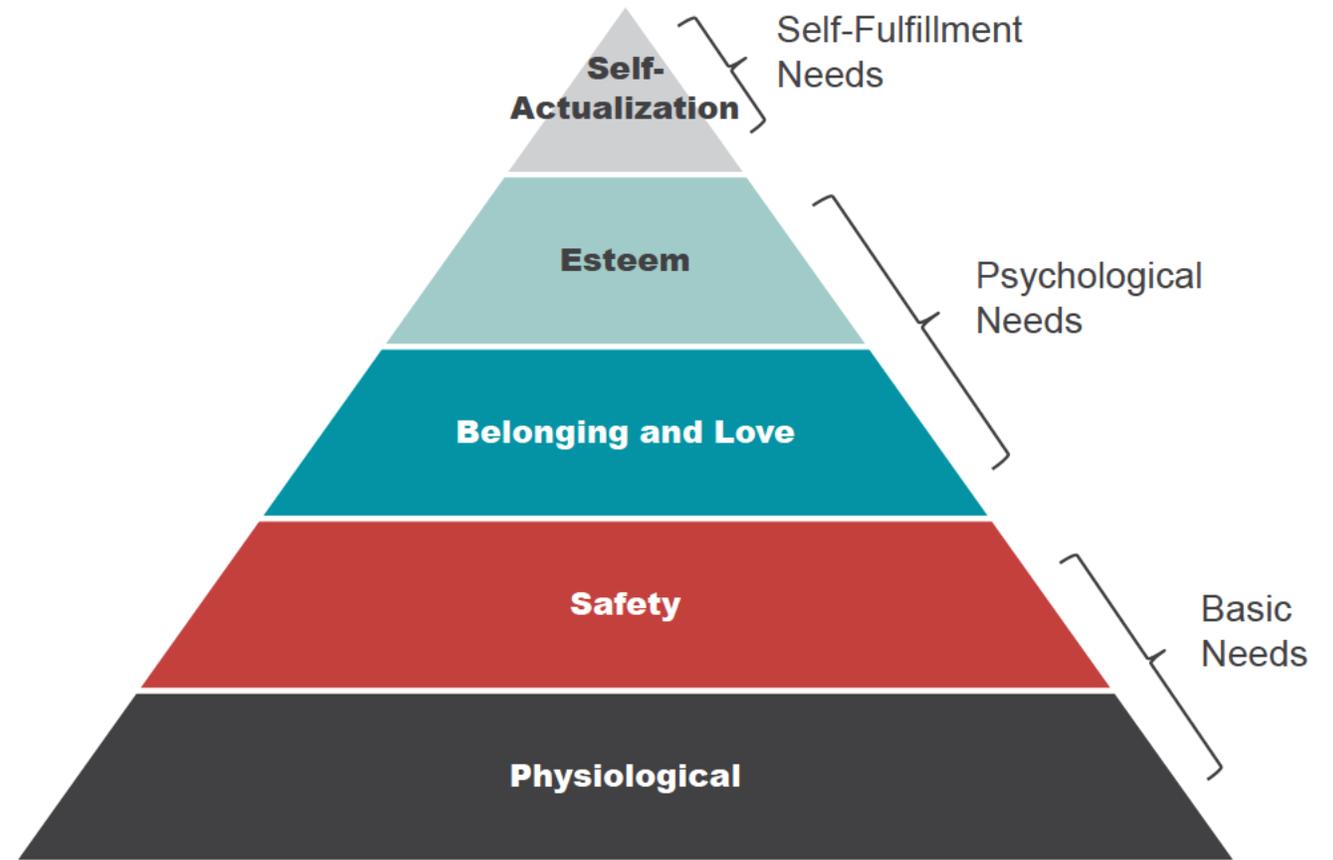
**City Council, B Session
January 24, 2024**

Violence is a Public Health Issue



A person's need for safety exceeds their need to manage other aspects of health and wellness.

If we prevent violence and improve safety, we reduce injury/death and people can focus on other dimensions of health.



Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs



SA Forward 

- Access to Care
- Data & Technology Infrastructure
- Food Insecurity & Nutrition
- Health Equity & Social Justice
- Mental Health & Community Resilience
- Violence Prevention

SA Forward: Five-Year Outcomes



By September 30, 2026:

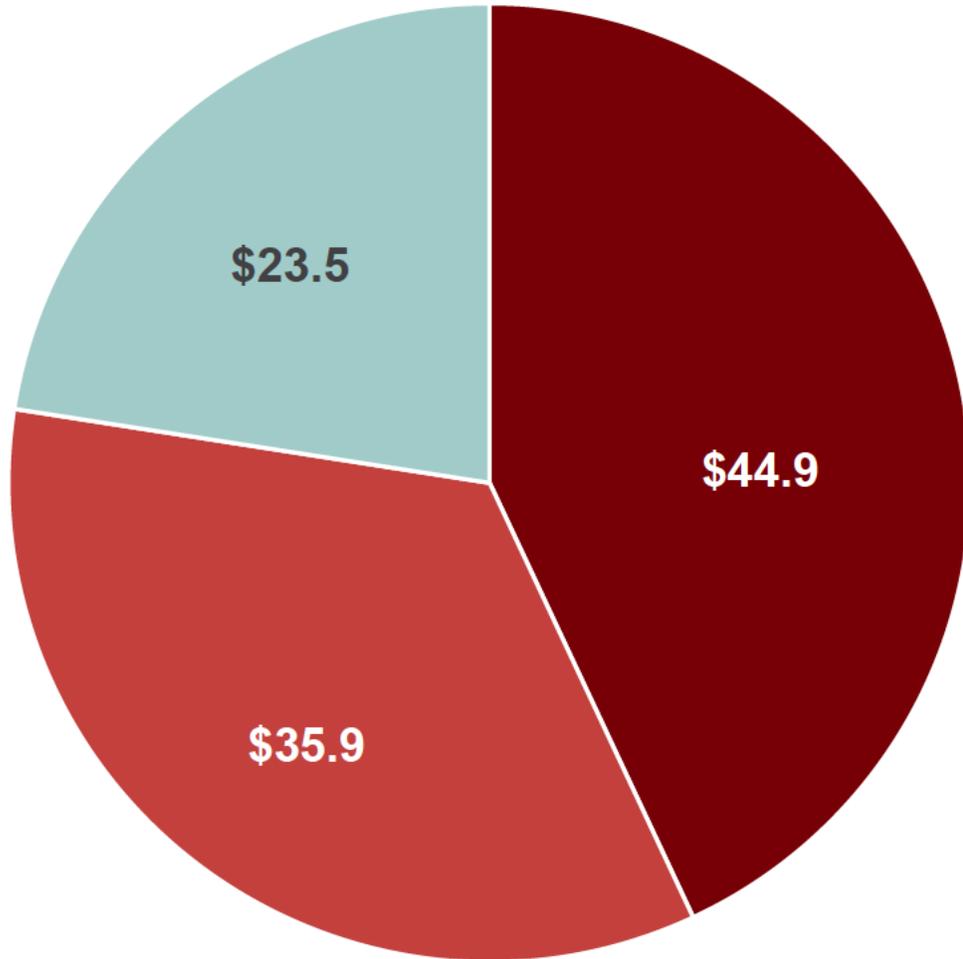
- Implement a 24/7 Community Advocate Response Program using evidence-based tools to identify people at the highest risk of experiencing domestic violence.
- Embed training on the Adverse Childhood Experiences/Adverse Community Environments and trauma-informed practices in systems serving parents involved in the justice system.
- Implement restorative justice programs in minimum of 5 schools.



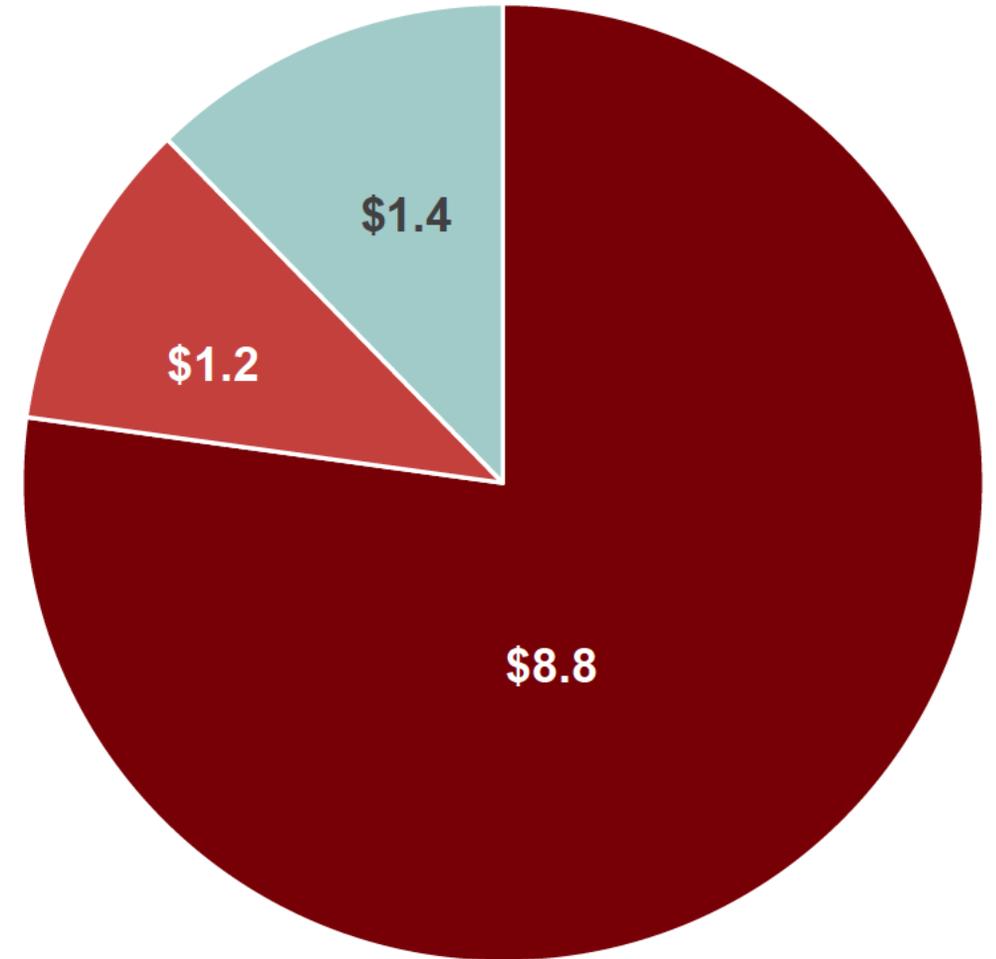
Investment in Violence Prevention



Metro Health (FY 2024)



Violence Prevention (FY 2024)



- General Fund
- Grants
- ARPA

Need for Cohesive Regional Strategy



LOVE IS...



**METROPOLITAN
HEALTH DISTRICT**



- 2019 City of San Antonio Comprehensive Domestic Violence Plan
- Violence Prevention Section in Metro Health
- Violence and crime prevention and reduction across City departments
- Strategies throughout community

Coordinating Team



National Leadership Academy for the Public's Health

- Erica Haller-Stevenson, Metro Health
- Dep. Chief Chris Benavides, SAPD
- Dr. Kellie Lynch, UTSA
- Tracy Tate, St. John Baptist Church



**METROPOLITAN
HEALTH DISTRICT**



UTSA[®]



Violence Prevention Strategic Plan



- Develop a strategic direction for San Antonio and Bexar County
- Implement five-year roadmap to address priorities related to violence and its causes (CY 2024-2028)
 - Public health approach
 - Address social determinants of health
 - Combine upstream and downstream interventions
- Shared priorities and evidence-based strategies allows multiple agencies and sectors of the community to work together for greater impact
- **Foster** partnerships to collaborate on efforts
- Attract funding for programs and services



Strategic Plan

Process and Overview

Community Input Process



2023

Jan.

Feb.

Mar.

Apr.

May

Jun.

Jul.

Aug.

Sep.

Oct.

Nov.

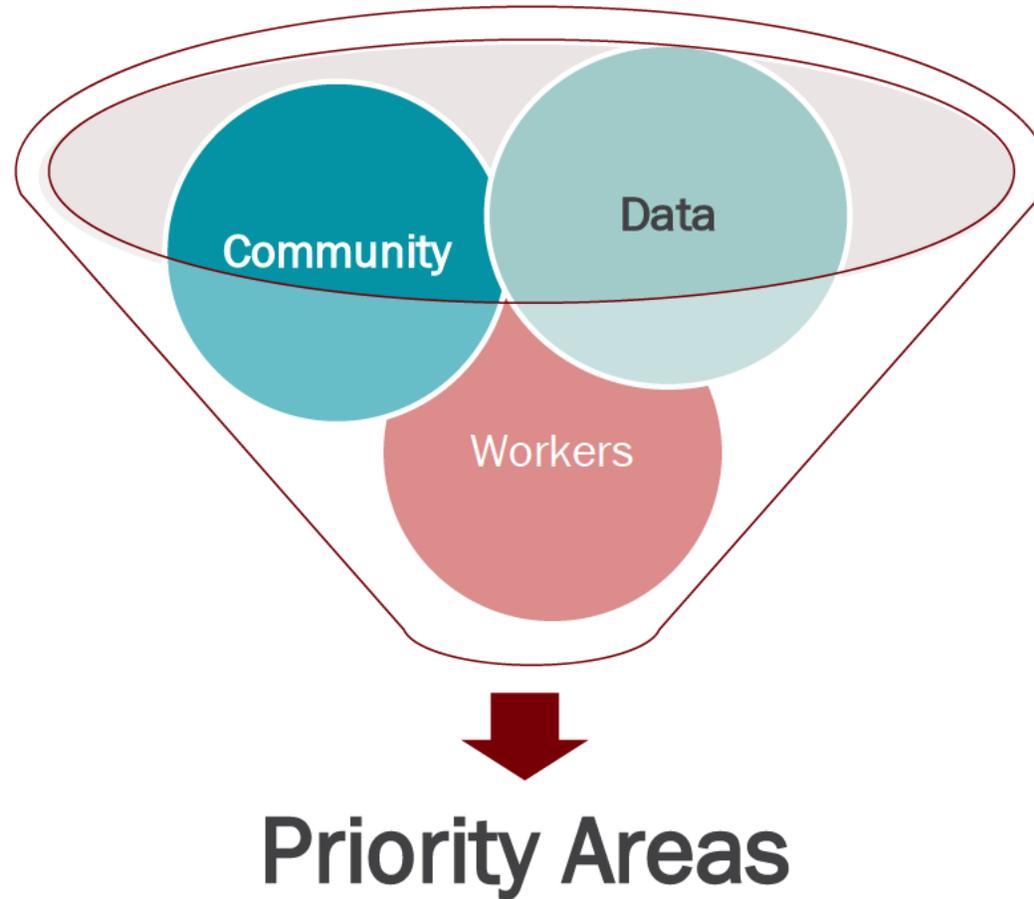
Community Members

- Engagement by community-based partner organizations
- Town halls and conversations organized by partners in faith community

Technical Experts and Workers in the Field

- Community-based organizations
- City of San Antonio
- Bexar County
- University Health System

Selecting Priorities



2023

Jan.

Feb.

Mar.

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Aug.

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Oct.

Nov.

Priorities Chosen



Violence Among Youth

Youth-on-youth violence, bullying, and cyberbullying

Prevent violence among youth

Create safe spaces and supportive networks for youth

Gun Violence

Prevent gun violence involving adults and youth

Services and supports for victims/survivors

Reduce repeated commission of violence

Sexual Violence

Prevent sexual violence against youth and adults

Services and supports for victims/survivors

Reduce repeated commission of violence

Domestic Violence

Prevent intimate partner violence and abuse of youth

Services and supports for victims/survivors

Reduce repeated commission of violence

Planning Process



2023

Jan.

Feb.

Mar.

Apr.

May

Jun.

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Oct.

Nov.



- Workgroup for each priority area
- 55 multisector participants
 - People with lived experience
 - Advocates
 - Faith leaders
 - Community organizations
 - Local government
 - Health care
 - Researchers

Feedback and Launch



2023

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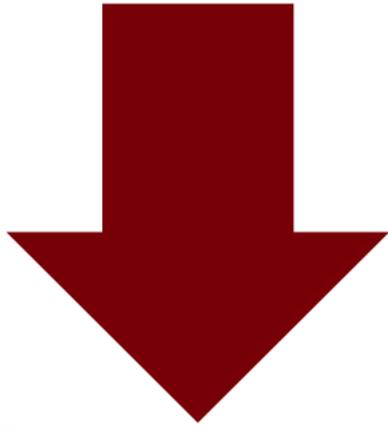
- Request community feedback
 - Distributed through planning group participants and community organizations
 - Presented to key organizations representing sectors and people with lived experience
- Used feedback to adjust and fine tune strategic plan
- Presented to Public Safety Committee
- Initiate implementation in January (2024-2028)

Strategic Categories



Category:	Youth Violence	Gun Violence	Sexual Violence	Domestic Violence
Community Infrastructure, Assessment, and Data Sharing	✓	✓	✓	✓
Direct Services, Resources, and Communication	✓	✓	✓	✓
Organizational, System, and Policy Change	✓	✓	✓	✓

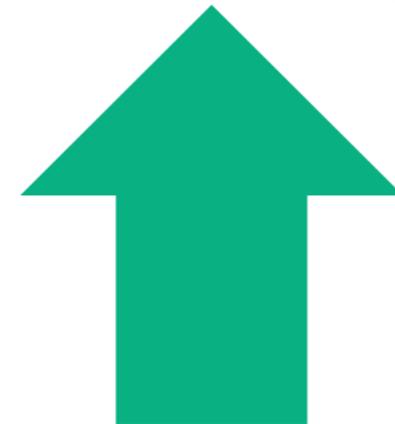
Long-Term Indicators



Public perception of
community safety

Public perception of
social cohesion

- Youth bullied / suicide
- Shootings
- Firearms deaths
- Sexual assault
- Intimate partner homicide
- Child abuse and neglect deaths



Coordinate Across City Departments



Violence Prevention Strategic Plan

(Metro Health)

Strategies/Tactics

Communications on gun storage and violence-free conflict resolution

Enhance youth engagement programs

Build awareness of forms of abuse and community resources



Violent Crime Reduction Plan

(SAPD)

Problem-Oriented, Place-Based Policing

Neighborhood shootings

Youth involved in crime

Domestic violence

Transforming the Community



Strategic Plan Purpose

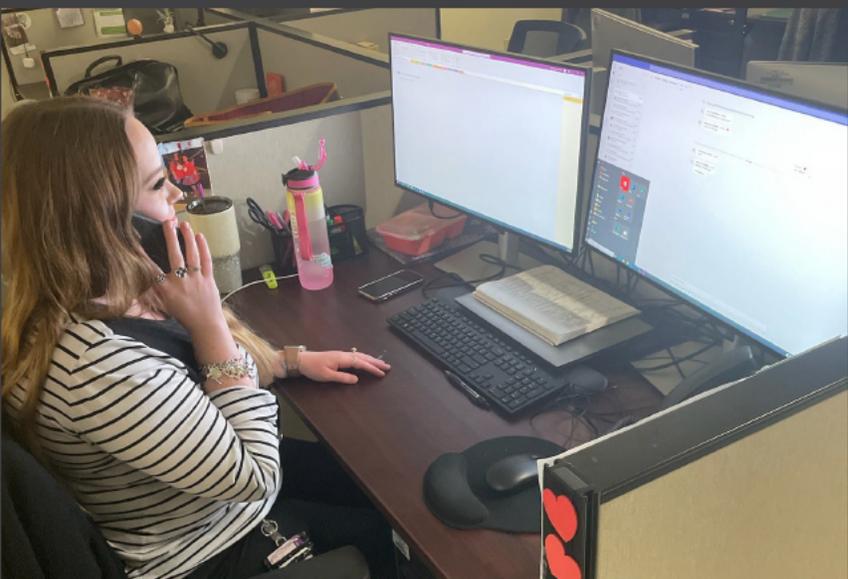
- Wholistic approach
- Cross-community collaboration
- Multi-sector, multidisciplinary
- Shared priorities and roadmap
- Evidence-based
- Upstream and downstream impacts
- Harness existing resources
- Align future actions

Implementation

- Internal plans for Metro Health and SAPD
- New plan for Collaborative Commission on Domestic Violence
- Technical assistance for partners

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Metro Health coordinate monitoring
- Formal evaluation at intervals during implementation





METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT

Thank You!