

# **San Antonio/Bexar County Violence Prevention Strategic Plan**



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

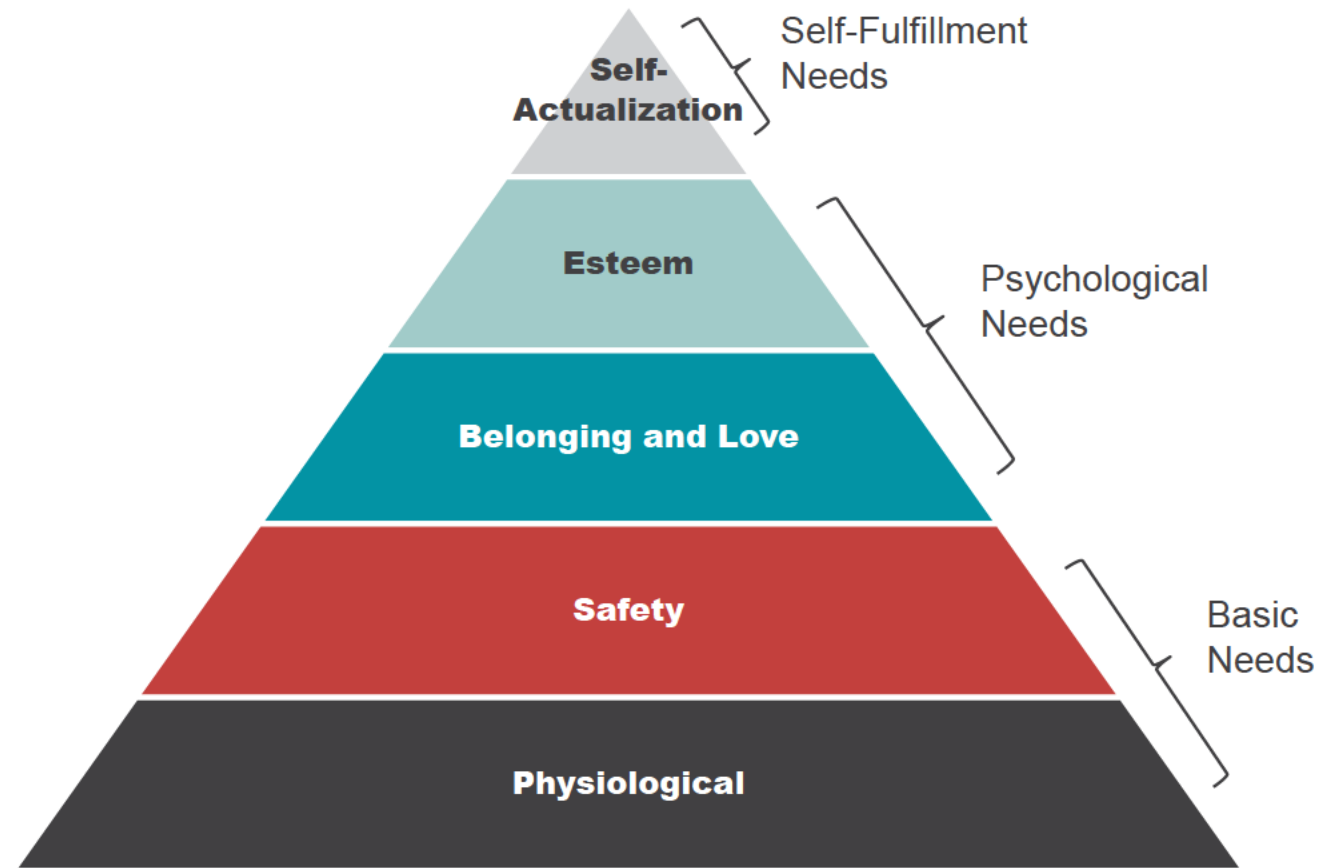
**City Council, B Session**  
**January 24, 2024**

# 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** 

The "SA Forward" logo, with "SA" in a large, bold, red serif font and "Forward" in a smaller, bold, red serif font. To the right of the text is a graphic consisting of three overlapping, stylized chevron shapes in red, teal, and orange.

- 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.

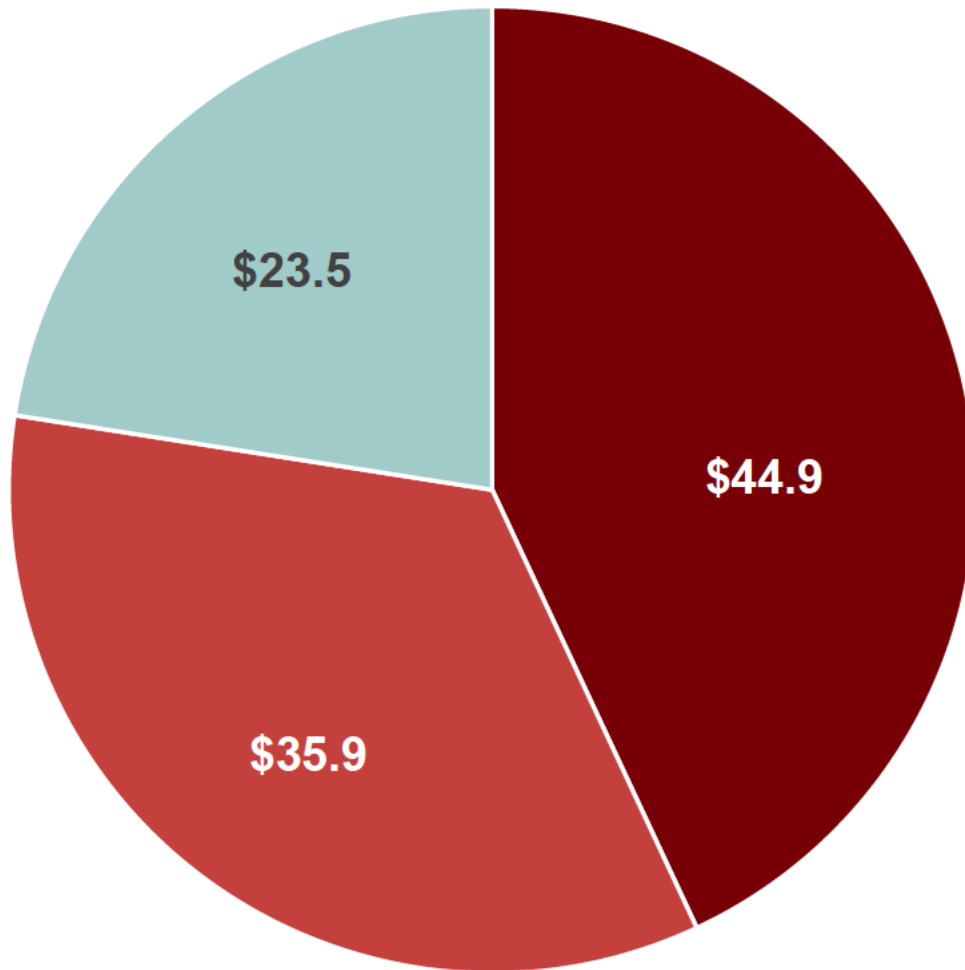




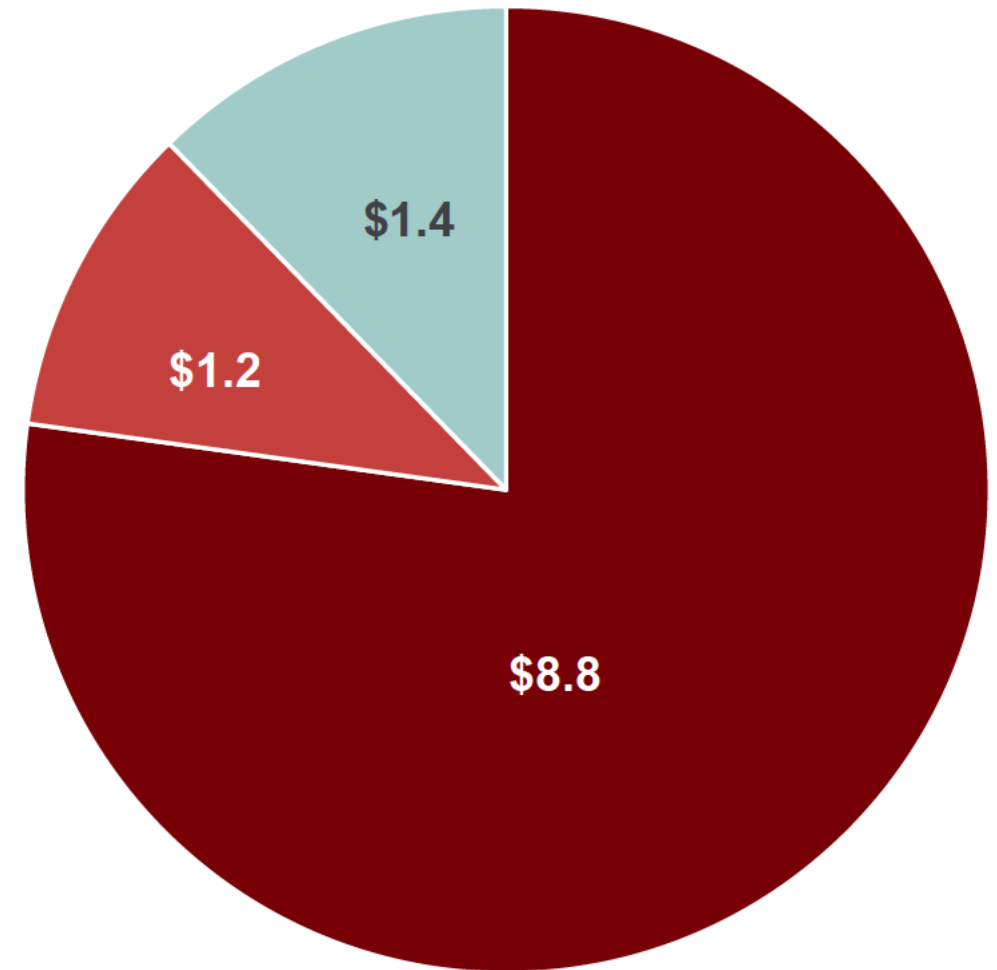
# Investment in Violence Prevention



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

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## 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.**

Apr.

May

Jun.

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Aug.

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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

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Mar.

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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



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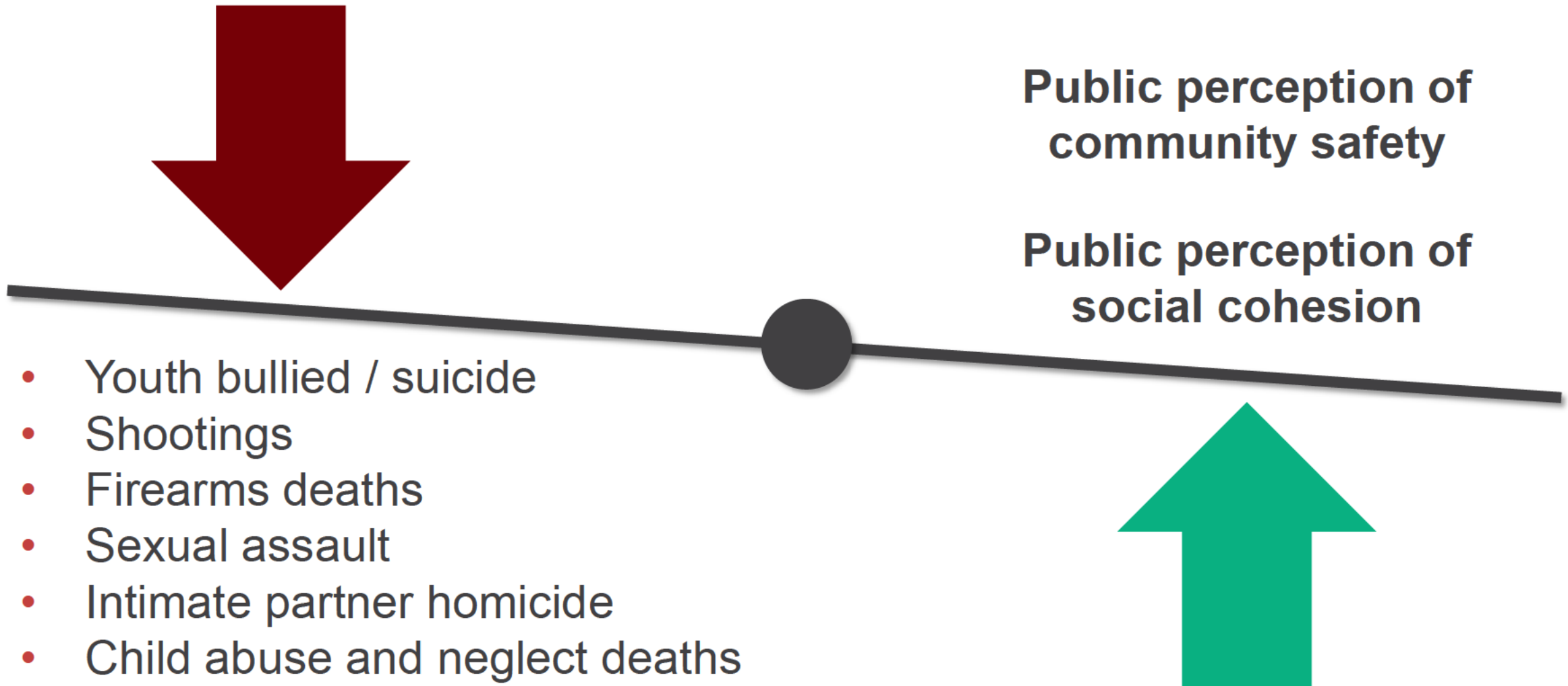
- Request community feedback
  - Distributed through planning group participants and community organizations
  - Presented to key organizations representing sectors and people with lived experience
- Used feedback to adjust and fine tune strategic plan
- Presented to Public Safety Committee
- Initiate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





# 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

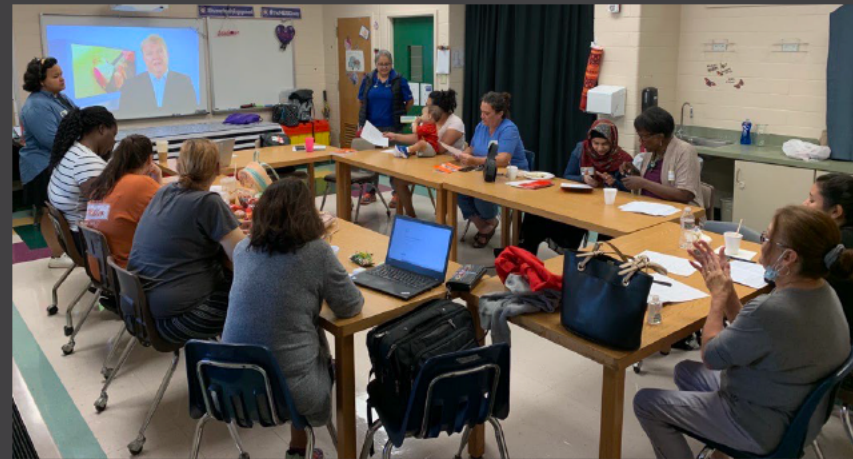
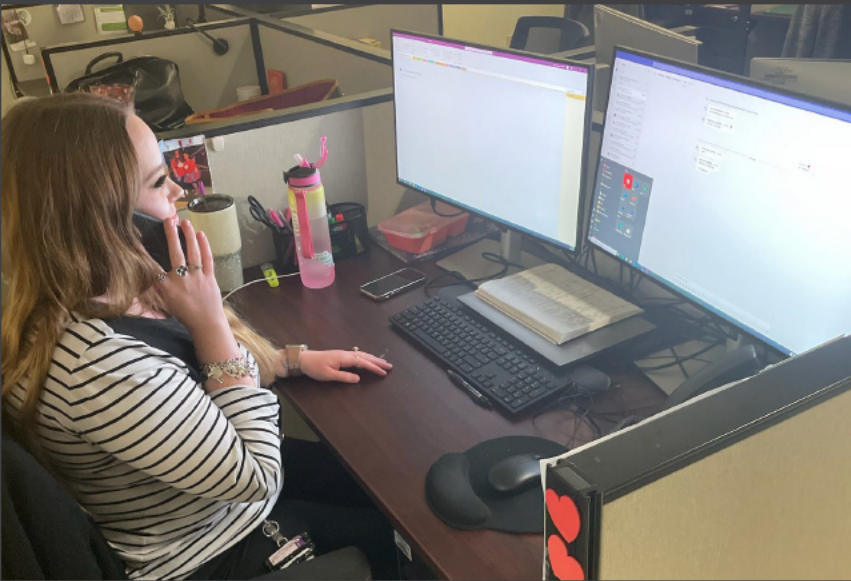
## Implementation

- 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!**