

## COMBATING GUN VIOLENCE: DO NOT STAND IDLY BY CAMPAIGN

The United States has by far the highest levels of gun-related deaths and crime of any developed nation; more than 90 Americans lose their lives each day to bullet wounds. **Do Not Stand Idly By (DNSIB)**, the **Metro IAF/Industrial Areas Foundation's** gun safety campaign, is challenging the companies that make and sell guns to take action to reduce this carnage. Gun companies can change the way guns are made by incorporating “smart” technology to make guns harder to steal or accidentally fire. They can change the way guns are sold by setting standards of conduct for their sales outlets—including the 1% of gun dealers who sell nearly 60% of the guns used in crimes—in order to stem the flow of illegal guns.

These life-saving actions can be taken without Congressional involvement and without diminishing the rights of gun owners. The gun industry will respond—if they feel enough financial pressure. **DNSIB** is making great strides in its work to build and align two kinds of financial power to move the gun industry: the power of public-sector gun purchasers, and the leverage of major investors.

## 2019 HIGHLIGHTS



### DO NOT STAND IDLY BY GUN SAFETY CONSORTIUM

**DNSIB** recruited a team of mayors and other officials to launch the Gun Safety Consortium. The consortium is a vehicle for cities, counties and states to use their combined purchasing power to advance the cause of gun safety in the United States. Consortium co-founders include: Mayor John Cranley of Cincinnati, OH; Mayor Bill Peduto of Pittsburgh, PA; Mayor Joe Ganim of Bridgeport, CT; County Executive Steuart Pittman of Anne Arundel County, MD; Kane County, IL Sheriff Ron Hain; and Park Ridge, IL Police Chief Frank Kaminski.

Government buys 40% of the guns in the United States, but has not made full use of this market leverage to push the gun industry to improve its products and practices. As a first step, the members of the new consortium will collectively purchase smart gun technology, such as user-friendly, high-tech gun locks that unlock only with a fingerprint, and then have their police officers test these products and give the manufacturers feedback to improve them. Law enforcement evaluation of these new and emerging products would help police departments equip their officers with safer technology, for use on-duty and off. And it would lay the groundwork for widespread civilian use of products that can reduce gun-related suicides, accidental shootings, and the violence that results from as many as 400,000 stolen guns each year. Additionally, cities can use the collective power of the consortium to engage the gun industry to improve the standards and practices within the industry’s distribution systems. Better distribution standards would mean fewer guns flowing into the unregulated secondary market, which floods our streets with guns.



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Affiliated with the Industrial Areas Foundation

## 2019 HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

### Leaders across Metro IAF join Do Not Stand Idly By Gun Safety Consortium

New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy and Attorney General Gurbir Grewal have signed on to **Metro IAF's Do Not Stand Idly By** campaign. In addition, AG Grewal announced further steps becoming the first state to release crime gun data by manufacturer - an important step toward holding manufacturers accountable. Sheriff Hain from Kane County, IL joined the Gun Safety Consortium in October 2019 becoming the first member from Illinois.



### Firearm Safety Expo Organized Key Stakeholders Around Gun Safety

Working towards forming a national Gun Safety Consortium, **Metro IAF's Do Not Stand Idly By** campaign organized a Firearm Safety Expo in Milwaukee, WI, which brought together, for the first time in our nation's history, the most important stakeholders in the gun safety conversation: elected officials, medical professionals, law enforcement, major investors, advocates and gun safety product developers.

Each year in the United States, nearly 1,300 children die and almost 6,000 more are injured from gunshot wounds.

Thousands more people kill themselves using someone else's gun. Moreover, nearly a quarter of a million guns are reported stolen from homes, stores and vehicles annually in America. These guns become the supply of weapons used for everyday crimes in the streets. At the expo, eight product developers from across the country and Switzerland, showcased emerging technology that will help reduce theft and unauthorized or accidental use of guns.

The expo provided all attendees with a better understanding of how a market-based approach could work to reduce gun violence.



### Commitment by Chicago Mayor to Work on Gun Safety



**United Power for Action and Justice (UPAJ)** won a commitment from Mayor Lightfoot of Chicago to work on gun safety strategies together which include creating safer guns, gun locks and gun dealer reforms. Affordable housing is also part of **UPAJ's** strategy to end gun violence, a proven approach that was pioneered by **Metro IAF's Nehemiah Housing** campaign. **UPAJ** won a commitment from Mayor Lightfoot to work with **UPAJ** toward building 2,000 affordable Nehemiah homeownership units in Chicago.



To learn more about Metro IAF's Do Not Stand Idly By campaign and get involved:  
[donotstandidlyby.org](http://donotstandidlyby.org)

## WHO WE ARE

**Metro Industrial Areas Foundation** (Metro IAF) is affiliated with the Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF), the first and largest network of multi-faith, broad-based citizen organizations, which has eight decades of experience winning tough battles on housing, health care, education, living wages, immigration rights, and other issues in the US and abroad. Metro IAF's 24 affiliates are in the East, Midwest, and Southeast United States (CT, DC, IL, MA, MD, NC, NJ, NY, OH, VA, WI).