



Gun Violence Campaign

The Problem:

Community violence continues to rise in Richmond, VA.

- **In 2021, 91 lives were lost due to senseless violence in the city of Richmond.** This is the highest number of murders in this century.
- **160** people have been shot and killed in Richmond since February 2020 when RISC first challenged Mayor Stoney to implement an evidence based solution (RPD).

The Solution:

- Decades of research have shown that approximately 0.5% of a city's population is responsible for 60-70% of the city's violent crime.
- **Group Violence Intervention (GVI)** is an evidence-based strategy that takes this into account, and has "repeatedly demonstrated that violence can be dramatically reduced when community members join together with law enforcement and social service providers to focus a three-pronged anti-violence message on highly active groups" (National Network for Safe Communities).
- Results from other cities that used GVI (NNSC, Giffords):
 - Oakland, CA: **46%** reduction in homicides
 - New Haven, CT: **78%** reduction in gun homicides
 - Stockton, CA: **42%** reduction in gun homicides

What We Want:

We want Mayor Stoney to partner with the NNSC or another national expert to conduct a Problem Analysis here in Richmond.

- This would "identify the key people and places driving violence locally and establish a shared, fact-based understanding to guide the work of city leaders inside and outside of government" (Council on Criminal Justice).
- **Violence interventions efforts that do not use the guidance of experts are likely to fail.** (Giffords Law Center, CCJ).
- The contract for a Problem Analysis with the National Network for Safe Communities (NNSC) costs \$25,000; a two-year contract with the NNSC to implement GVI costs \$250,000.

Rather than spending any more time re-inventing the wheel, let's get to work on a proven program before any more lives are lost.