

OFFICE OF GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS

The mission of the Office of Gun Violence Prevention and Community Solutions is to collaborate, collect, and foster solutions specific to gun violence prevention efforts, and advocacy for victims and community solutions within Jackson County.

Supporting COMBAT and integrating efforts

The office of gun violence prevention supports the objectives and mission of the Community Backed Anti-Crime Tax (COMBAT) program by:

1. Collaborative efforts:
 - a. Partnering with local organizations, law enforcement, educational institutions, and community groups to develop comprehensive strategies to reduce gun violence
2. Data collection and analysis:
 - a. Systematically collecting and analyzing data to understand the patterns and causes of gun violence, thereby informing effective interventions and policies
3. Promotion of Solutions:
 - a. Recommending evidence-based solutions and promoting best practices in gun violence prevention, ensuring that successful initiatives are scaled and replicated
4. Victim advocacy and support
 - a. Providing robust support systems for victims of gun violence, including counseling, legal assistance, and social services, to aid in their recovery and prevent further trauma

How this supports COMBAT

1. Integration of services
 - a. The office of gun violence prevention will integrate its efforts with COMBAT'S existing programs, ensuring a holistic approach to violence prevention that addresses both drug-related and firearm-related violence
2. Resource allocation
 - a. When pooling resources and expertise, the office will enhance COMBAT'S capacity to implement comprehensive and effective violence prevention strategies

- b. This also would include increasing federal funding opportunities
- 3. Community engagement
 - a. The office will leverage COMBAT'S established community relationships to increase outreach and engagement, ensuring that gun violence prevention efforts are community-driven and widely supported

Proposed Staffing Structure

- 1. Director of Office (first priority)
 - a. Responsible for leadership, strategy and coordination of office activities
- 2. Deputy Director
 - a. Assists the director in managing operations of office, overseeing programs and sponsorships, and ensuring alignment with COMBAT and other initiatives
- 3. Policy Analyst
 - a. Conducts research, analyzes data, and develops potential policy initiatives based on evidence of crime levels throughout Jackson County to reduce gun violence and crime
- 4. Community outreach coordinator (First priority)
 - a. Engages with local and national community organizations and stakeholders to promote prevention programs and receive feedback and/or support
- 5. Victims support director (or coordinator)
 - a. Provides direct support to victims or families affected by gun violence, including counseling and mental health services, and recommendations to social services
- 6. Admin support (First priority)
 - a. Manages communications between office coordinators and staff and offers logistical support for all initiatives

The establishment of an Office of Gun Violence Prevention will significantly enhance our community's ability to address and mitigate gun violence through targeted, collaborative, and evidence-based efforts. By integrating our work with the COMBAT program, we will create a unified and effective approach to making Jackson County a safer place for all its residents.