

Reducing Gun Violence, Advancing Justice

THE CHALLENGE

The US has rates of both gun violence and incarceration that are unheard of in any other rich country in the world, and which disproportionately affect communities of color.

For too long, the public sector has failed to address these overlapping and systemic crises, in part because policymakers view them as a trade-off. But to truly increase public safety, we must find solutions that reduce gun violence and advance justice at the same time.

WHO WE ARE

The Crime Lab designs, tests, and scales data-driven innovations to improve the public sector's response to the dual challenges of America's gun violence crisis and a criminal justice system that is not truly just. Our goal is to have an outsized impact on our streets, in our courts, and across our justice system to support neighborhoods that are disproportionately suffering from these crises. That's why the Crime Lab measures success in terms of real-world results.

HOW WE DO OUR WORK

The Crime Lab relies on philanthropic partners and individual donors to fund our research. We conduct our research for government and nonprofit entities at no cost to our partners.

WHAT WE DO



Gun Violence

In cities across America, gun violence is devastating communities of color and compounding the harms of intergenerational trauma – but evidence shows us it's possible to break this cycle.



Community Violence Intervention

Community violence intervention (CVI) through social programs and street outreach, help mediate and de-escalate high-stakes situations before they lead to violence.



Youth Violence

Gun violence is the leading cause of death for young people in America. Youth violence interventions can help keep kids safe.



Policing

If we want to address America's gun violence epidemic and save lives today, fair and effective policing is essential. But for too many communities, we are failing to deliver that kind of policing.



Criminal Justice Reform

We're advancing long overdue reforms to reduce the harms of America's broken criminal justice system.



Leveraging these insights, the Community Safety Leadership Academies will bring together the best minds from policing, violence intervention and research to strengthen the way we invest in community safety in cities across the nation.”

Ken Griffin, Citadel Founder and CEO

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Community Safety Leadership Academies (CSLA)

Understanding the game-changing impact of improving public sector management practices on public safety, the Crime Lab launched the Community Safety Leadership Academies (CSLA), consisting of the Policing Leadership Academy (PLA) and Community Violence Intervention Leadership Academy (CVILA). The PLA and CVILA are first-of-their kind education programs designed to equip the next generation of policing and CVI leaders across the country. Together, the Academies are the most ambitious and robustly evaluated public safety leadership and management training programs ever offered in the United States.

Policing Leadership Academy

The PLA provides police commanders and officers a six-month hands-on training in data-driven management, violence reduction, and community trust. Students will apply knowledge from the behavioral, organizational, and sociological sciences to become stronger leaders and advance effective evidence-based practices within their organizations.

CVI Leadership Academy

The CVILA equips current and future CVI leaders with the skills and training to effectively lead organizations



charged with ensuring community safety. During a rigorous six-month program, participants receive training on staff management and retention, data use, program administration, and innovation.

READI Chicago

Heartland Alliance’s [READI Chicago](#) is a gun violence intervention that identifies men in five of Chicago’s highest-violence neighborhoods who are at high risk of gun violence involvement. READI offers these men two primary sources of support: an 18-month subsidized, supported job and cognitive-behavioral programming. The Crime Lab is conducting a randomized controlled trial to determine READI’s impacts on participants’ involvement in serious violence. This is the largest and most rigorous evaluation of a community-based violence intervention program in the United States. Our study shows that READI can find and engage men at extremely high risk of gun violence. READI’s combination of services, while not lowering all forms of violence, appears to reduce involvement in shootings and homicides, the most severe and socially costly forms of violence.



The inaugural cohort of the CVILA



CONTACT US

Roseanna Ander
 Founding Executive Director
rande@uchicago.edu

Scan to visit our website crimelab.uchicago.edu