



# COMMUNITY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION UNIT

Firearm-related injuries are the number one leading cause of death for children in the United States<sup>1</sup>. South Carolina is ranked 5th in the nation from 2016-2020 for the highest rate of firearm-involved homicides<sup>2</sup>.

**South Carolina is ranked 4th in the nation in rate of firearms stolen from private citizens. Between 2017 and 2021, an average of 7,825 firearms were stolen from private citizens in SC each year<sup>3</sup>. Firearm theft is a significant contributor to gun violence.**

## WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP REDUCE FIREARM RELATED INJURIES?<sup>4</sup>

### SAFE STORAGE



More than 1 million firearms were reported stolen in the U.S. between 2017 and 2021 according to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

**Keep firearms locked and unloaded with ammunition locked separately. Firearms should not be kept anywhere unlocked and loaded in the home; this includes cars and glove boxes.**

### ASK QUESTIONS

More than a 1/3 of all unintentional shootings in children take place in the homes of their friends, neighbors, or relatives.

**Ask about unlocked guns at any home your child is going to and talk to your children about gun safety.**



### REPORT ACTIVITY



Most shooters reveal their plan of violence to someone close to them (i.e. friends, neighbors, family members) or on social media.

**For an emergency call 911. To report suspicious activity in South Carolina, call 866-472-8477.**

## UNIT RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Awards funds through mini grants** to community-based partners who serve communities disproportionately affected by violence.
- **Review funded programs** to see if they are effective and making a positive difference.

GUN LOCKS ARE AVAILABLE AT NO COST.



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<sup>1</sup> New England Journal of Medicine: <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/101056/nejmc2201761>

<sup>2</sup> CDC: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/sosmap/homicide\\_mortality/homicide.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/sosmap/homicide_mortality/homicide.htm)

<sup>3</sup> ATF National Firearms Commerce and Trafficking Assessment: Crime Guns Volume 2

<sup>4</sup> Statistics from American Academy of Pediatrics: <https://www.aap.org/en/advocacy/gun-violence-prevention>