



Center for Firearm Violence Prevention and Intervention

Preliminary State Plan for a Public Health Approach to Reducing Firearm Violence: Executive Summary

Maryland is one of 12 states to create a state office of gun violence prevention. Maryland's Center for Firearm Violence Prevention and Intervention (the Center) was established within the Maryland Department of Health in October 2024, through legislation passed by the Maryland General Assembly. The [Preliminary State Plan for a Public Health Approach to Reducing Firearm Violence](#) summarizes the background of the Center, the public health approach to gun violence, statewide data and statistics, and initial goals and objectives.

Framework

The Center frames its work through three pillars:

1) **Prevention and Assessment**, 2) **Intervention and Response**, and 3) **Community Resilience and Healing**. Within these three areas, the Center developed five preliminary goals to guide the creation of a long-term strategic plan. The preliminary goals and objectives of the

Preliminary Plan are intended to serve as a road map to develop a long-term strategic plan over the next two years through collaboration with community members and organizations, representatives from state agencies, public health researchers, gun safety experts, and other key implementers of firearm laws across the state.



PREVENTION &
ASSESSMENT



INTERVENTION
& RESPONSE



RESILIENCE
& HEALING

Strategic Goals

- **Goal 1:** Conduct needs assessment and landscape analysis to build a long-term strategic plan and policy recommendations for State leaders.
- **Goal 2:** Enhance firearm-related data and analysis to inform and improve public health policies and programs.
- **Goal 3:** Improve coordination and trust between agencies and jurisdictions.
- **Goal 4:** Strengthen investment in evidence-informed gun violence prevention efforts.
- **Goal 5:** Advance education for effective gun violence prevention reduction strategies.

Read the Preliminary State Plan for a Public Health Approach to Reducing Firearm Violence: health.maryland.gov/violence-prevention/Documents/2506_MDH_Preliminary-Plan-to-Reduce-Firearm-Violence.pdf

► Issue Date: 06/27/2025