Creating lasting change requires effective solutions and well-resourced leaders and organizations advocating at all levels of government.

Throughout our country’s history, successful movements of social change have advocated for progress nationally, while also securing policy victories in states and communities across the country. The same is true of the gun violence prevention (GVP) movement – while Congress has dragged its heels, state and local GVP organizations have secured some of the most important victories, saving lives in communities across the country.

What We Do

- Smart Investments
- Strong Partnerships
- Innovative Policy
- Strategic Advocacy
- Funding
- Coaching and Skills Development
- Expertise, Resources and Tools
- Coalitions and Partnership

The Safer States Initiative is equipping gun violence prevention leaders in states and communities across the country with the financial resources, policy expertise and capacity they need to continue to create change. Even after great successes with few resources, many state and community GVP leaders and organizations are undervalued and underappreciated. By investing in state and community leaders who already possess the local expertise and relationships needed, we will build partnerships, elevate the people most directly impacted by gun violence within the GVP movement, and create safer states and communities through life-saving policies and laws.

“The Safer States Initiative enabled us to define and lead a coalition fighting for life-saving legislation and meaningful implementation of existing policies by providing us with strategic program support. They shared crucial, highly informed guidance on a variety of issues, including policy and diversity and equity in data collection and programming. The investment and expertise from the Safer States Initiative has helped us expand our impact as a leader in this issue in Delaware, and nationally.”

– TRACI MURPHY, DELAWARE COALITION AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE
Why the Safer States Initiative

We know that our public health model works, and that effective state and local leaders and organizations exist. As an initiative of the nation’s oldest gun violence prevention organization, we have decades of relationships and knowledge to leverage in support of state and local leaders and organizations.

We also know that building safer states and communities requires diverse voices and partners. The gun violence prevention movement is stronger and can only achieve effective, meaningful change when there is a diversity of perspective and policy ideas at the decision-making table. As we expand capacity and capabilities of state and community partners through the Safer States Initiative, we will also assist them in developing strategies to recruit and advance Black and Brown staff and board members and create equitable policies, programs and partnerships.

Invest in a Gun Violence Free Future

Join us in creating safer states and communities through effective, equitable gun violence prevention solutions. Your investment will enable us to build a long-term sustainable initiative that equips gun violence prevention leaders in states and communities across the country with the resources, tools and capacity they need to continue to create change.

To launch the Safer States Initiative, we are seeking to raise $1 million. When we achieve this goal, an anonymous donor has pledged to invest an additional $1 million in matching funds.

Your gift will unlock this vital funding to ignite a grassroots movement and create a safe, just and inclusive future.