



**YOUTH  
VIOLENCE PREVENTION  
PROGRAM**

**Shared Vocabulary**

The following document was created to inform the network of commonly used terms.

Term / Phrase	Working Definition
<b>Adverse Childhood Experience</b>	<p>Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are potentially traumatic events that occur in childhood. ACEs can include violence, abuse, and growing up in a family with mental health or substance use problems. Toxic stress from ACEs can change brain development and affect how the body responds to stress. ACEs are linked to chronic health problems, mental illness, and substance misuse in adulthood. However, ACEs can be prevented.</p> <p><a href="#">Click here to learn more.</a></p>
<b>“Collective Impact”</b>	<p>An approach to community change where organizations work together in a structured way to achieve social change. The approach includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Creating a common agenda</li> <li>- Establishing Shared Measurements</li> <li>- Fostering mutually reinforcing activities</li> <li>- Encouraging continuous communication</li> <li>- Strong backbone organization (a.k.a. neutral infrastructure separate from partner organizations) dedicated to organizing the work</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Click here to learn more.</a></p>
<b>Community-Based Organizations</b>	<p>The term “community-based organization” means a public or private nonprofit organization of demonstrated effectiveness that— (A) is representative of a community or significant segments of a community; and (B) provides educational or related services to individuals in the community.</p>
<b>Indicated</b>	<p>Focus on those individuals already engaged in high-risk behaviors and aim to prevent or reduce continued engagement.</p>

<b>Intervention</b>	Intervention is defined as reducing the risk of violence among youths who display one or more risk factors for violence (high-risk youths) or preventing further violence or the escalation of violence among youths who are already involved in violent behavior.
<b>MDT</b>	A group of stakeholders from a variety of fields that come together to develop individualized case plans and discuss access to immediate services/resources to address risk-factors OS impacting youth and families.
<b>Primary Prevention</b>	Take a targeted response and focus on the entire population of high-crime, high risk communities to reduce community risk factors and provide protective risk factors.
<b>Secondary Prevention</b>	Activities and services targeting high-risk youth and connection to resources to address identified risk factors to include those involved in gang and gun violence
<b>Trauma</b>	Individual trauma results from an event, services of events, or set of circumstances that is experienced by an individual as physically or emotionally harmful or life threatening and that has lasting adverse effects on the individual's functioning and mental, physical, social, emotional, or spiritual well-being.  <a href="#">Click here to learn more</a>
<b>Trauma Informed</b>	A program, organization, or system that is trauma-informed realizes the widespread impact of trauma and understands potential paths for recovery; recognizes the signs and symptoms of trauma in clients, families, staff, and others involved with the system; and responds by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures, and practices, and seeks to actively resist re-traumatization.  <a href="#">Click here to learn more</a>
<b>Positive Youth Development (PYD)</b>	PYD is an intentional, prosocial approach that engages youth within their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups, and families in a manner that is productive and constructive; recognizes, utilizes, and enhances young people's strengths; and promotes positive outcomes for young people by providing opportunities, fostering positive relationships, and furnishing the support needed to build on their leadership strengths.

<p><b>Re-Entry</b></p>	<p>Reentry efforts are designed to help returning citizens successfully "reenter" society following their incarceration, thereby reducing recidivism, improving public safety, and saving money.</p> <p>A primary focus of our reentry efforts is to remove or reduce barriers to successful reentry, so that motivated individuals - who have served their time and paid their debt to society - are able to compete for a job, attain stable housing, support their children and their families, and contribute to their communities.</p>
<p><b>Risk Factor</b></p>	<p>Characteristics linked with the outcome of concern (ex: substance use, youth violence, etc.) but are not the direct causes of it. Risk Factors put an individual or community at <u>greater</u> risk for the outcome of concern. Risk factors that are established for multiple outcomes are referred to as "shared" risk factors.</p>
<p><b>Protective Factor</b></p>	<p>Characteristics linked with the outcome of concern (ex: substance use, youth violence, etc.) but are not the direct causes of it. Risk Factors put an individual or community at less risk for the outcome of concern.</p> <p><a href="#">Click here to learn more</a></p>
<p><b>Strengths-Based</b></p>	<p>The strength-based approach has its foundation in social work and builds upon the client's strengths, specifically seeing the client as resourceful and resilient when they are in adverse conditions (StrengthsBased Models in Social Work; McCashen, Wayne [2005]).</p> <p>The strength-based approach not only examines the individual but also the individual's environment. In addition, this approach identifies any constraints that might be limiting an individual's growth. These constraints are present when the individual has to deal with social, personal, and/or cultural issues in organizations that cannot be balanced fairly (Georgena).</p> <p><a href="#">Click here to learn more</a></p>
<p><b>Suppression</b></p>	<p>Suppression of crime includes actions taken after the crime has occurred with the goal of reducing or disincentivizing future crime.</p> <p>and</p> <p>Formal and informal social control procedures, including close supervision or monitoring of gang (or high-risk) youth by agencies of the criminal justice system and by community-</p>

	based agencies, schools, and grassroots groups ( <a href="#">OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Model</a> )
<b>System-Based Organizations</b>	System-Based organizations are governmental agencies or large institutions such as school districts, judicial partners, health providers and others that work to provide a key service/resources to communities they operate in.
<b>Wrap-around Services</b>	Wraparound services is a strengths-based planning process that occurs in a team setting to engage with children, youth, and their families. Wraparound shifts focus away from a traditional service-driven, problem-based approach to care and instead follows a strengths-based, needs-driven approach. The intent is to build on individual and family strengths to help families achieve positive goals and improve well-being.  <a href="#">Click here to learn more</a>
<b>Universal</b>	Focus on an entire population (e.g. national, local community, school, grade, neighborhoods, etc.) with programs, policies, and practices aimed at preventing or delaying engagement.
<b>“Youth”</b>	A person with an age of 10-24 years.
<b>Acronyms</b>	
APTY	Aurora Partners for Thriving Youth
CMT	Community Mobilization Team
IWG	Intervention Work Group
MRT	<a href="#">Moral Reconciliation Therapy</a>
FFT	<a href="#">Functional Family Therapy</a>
RFP	Request for Proposals
PSC	Policy Steering Committee
YAC	Youth Advisory Council
YVPP	Youth Violence Prevention Program