



# PREVENTION MATTERS

THE CENTER FOR INJURY PREVENTION AND POLICY

## Violence Prevention

Violence is one of the leading causes of admission to the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, University of Maryland.

In fact, 21% of Shock Trauma's admissions in FY 2017 were the result of violence — gunshot, stabbing, or physical assault.



“Violence is a leading cause of death for young adults here, making it a real public-health concern.”

**THOMAS SCALEA, MD**

Physician-in-Chief, R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, University of Maryland

### Baltimore's 2017 Homicides

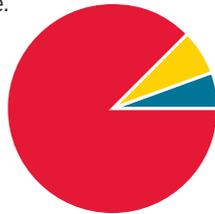
Over 87% of all homicides in Baltimore were committed with a firearm. The *Baltimore Sun* reported that “roughly two-thirds of homicide victims are either shot in the head or multiple times.”

Almost 45% of Baltimore's homicide victims were shot in the head, and 74% of patients treated for gunshot wounds at Shock Trauma had been shot more than once.

#### Type of Weapon Used in Homicides:

Source: Baltimore Police Department, Part I Victim Based Crime Data

- Firearm **300**
- Knife **23**
- Other **19**



#### Shock Trauma Center Survival Rates:

Overall (FY 2017): **96%**

Gunshot Wound Victims: **80%**

#### Gunshot Wounds at Shock Trauma Account for:

**9%** of overall admissions

**33%** of deaths

#### Putting Things In Perspective:

#### Maryland Firearm and Motor Vehicle Deaths (1999–2016)



### Stop the Bleed



The top cause of preventable death in trauma is bleeding, especially in cases of

penetrating trauma, like gunshots and stabbings. A person can bleed to death in less than 5 minutes — well before an ambulance has arrived at the scene.

Now, anyone can learn how to Stop the Bleed. It's a lifesaving skill that can be used in response to a school shooting, a mass casualty event, a motor vehicle crash, or a slip of a simple kitchen knife.

In partnership with the Maryland Committee on Trauma, Shock Trauma offers Stop the Bleed classes to interested groups free of charge. In one hour, the instructor goes over how to recognize life-threatening bleeding, how to apply a tourniquet, and how to pack a wound. The instructor demonstrates the techniques on a manikin leg and participants are able to practice and demonstrate their skills.

In 2017, Shock Trauma team members taught more than 1,300 people how to Stop the Bleed. Those who learned came from all walks of life — from the security industry, schools, health care, and even places of worship.

### RESOURCES

Stop the Bleed: [bleedingcontrol.org](http://bleedingcontrol.org)

To register to attend a Stop the Bleed class: [umm.edu/StopTheBleed](http://umm.edu/StopTheBleed)

### FOR MORE INFORMATION ON:

Center for Injury Prevention and Policy visit [umm.edu/CIPP](http://umm.edu/CIPP)

STC Prevention Matters visit [umm.edu/PreventionMatters](http://umm.edu/PreventionMatters)

Violence Prevention Program visit [umm.edu/ViolencePrevention](http://umm.edu/ViolencePrevention)

## Violence Prevention Program

The mission of the Violence Prevention Program (VPP) is to prevent violent personal injury among Baltimore City's most at-risk populations through research into the root causes of violence and the development of evidence-based programs targeting those root causes.

Dr. Carnell Cooper started the Violence Intervention Program in 1998 after seeing victims of traumatic violent injury being treated, released and readmitted months later due to another, often more serious, violent injury.

He recognized that this "revolving door phenomenon" occurred repeatedly, with patients being discharged without any form of counseling or intervention to the same streets where they had sustained their injuries. Seeing this caused Dr. Cooper to ask a simple scientific question: "How can we reduce the number of repeat victims of intentional violent injury coming through the doors of Shock Trauma every day?"

The Violence Prevention Program at Shock Trauma is the answer to that revolving door phenomenon.

It is an evidence-based program and is recognized as a "best practice" in its field.

VPP services include:

- Peer Support Groups
- Individual Counseling and Advocacy
- GED/Diploma Assistance
- Job Readiness and Training
- Parole and Probation Services
- Connections to Community Resources
- Protective/Peace Order Filing Assistance



University of Maryland Medical Center

UMMC Midtown Campus

UM Baltimore Washington Medical Center

UM Capital Region Health

UM Charles Regional Medical Center

UM Rehabilitation & Orthopaedic Institute

UM St. Joseph Medical Center

UM Shore Regional Health

UM Upper Chesapeake Health

Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital



## Art Against Violence

The Violence Prevention Program also attempts to prevent young adults from even entering the cycle of violence, as this is the leading cause of death for young adults in Baltimore.

In an effort to change the health outcomes for Baltimore City residents, the Violence Prevention Program hosts an annual Art Against Violence show every spring. Art Against Violence is a city-wide art show and contest for Baltimore City students. Through art, Baltimore City students and residents are inspired to reduce hostile and risk-taking behaviors that lead to violent and traumatic injury.

Hundreds of outstanding art pieces have been submitted and displayed over the years of this event and many of them offer messages of peace and hopefulness for the future. Participating in primary prevention activities such as the creative arts has been shown to increase resilience and mitigate the effects of trauma.



Submitted in 2017 by  
Nadiya Burton, 15 from  
Western High School

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