CREATING A GUN SAFETY TEAM
IN YOUR COMMUNITY
A PUBLIC HEALTH APPROACH
What it is

- Safety
- Prevention

What it is not

- Political or Partisan
- 2nd Amendment
WHAT WE KNOW NATIONALLY

1 in 3 homes have a gun

43%

3 out of 4 children ages 5-14 know where the gun is kept

Source: American Academy of Pediatrics
WHAT WE KNOW IN NORTH CAROLINA

CHILDREN live in a home with a gun that is unlocked and loaded (62%)

425

CHILDREN 17 and under lost their lives to gun violence (2008-2017)

81,110

Source: Child Fatality Task Force
WHY IT MATTERS

NATIONALLY

Firearms are the 2nd leading cause of death in children ages 0-19.

Children a day die from firearms.

Another 9 are injured.

Children as young as 3 years of age are strong enough to pull the trigger of a gun.

80% of unintentional deaths from a firearm in children under the age of 15 occur in the home.

Source: Brady Campaign
The Durham County Gun Safety Team was established in 1999 by the Durham County Board of Health in an effort to reduce gun violence in the community.

Membership includes a wide array of stakeholders in the community.

Activities focus on safe storage including the Asking Saves Kids campaign and providing free gunlocks in the community.

Community events, health fairs, clinics, veterans events, Dixie Deer Classic, schools, Harley Davidson annual event, day cares, Head Start, Wildlife Shooter Banquet, PTAs, etc.
MISSION STATEMENT

"To reduce death and injury related to firearms through broad based and preventive strategies to promote a safe and violence free environment for our children"

DURHAM COUNTY GUN SAFETY TEAM
MAIN COMPONENTS

EDUCATION
- Asking Saves Kids Campaign
- Safe storage

SHARE
- Team members act as liaison between their networks and the team

INTERVENTION
- Provide free gunlocks
STAKEHOLDERS

• Local Health Department
• Department of Social Services (CPS)
• Law Enforcement
• Domestic Violence Advocate
• Healthcare Providers
• Youth Groups
• Justice System (ADA, DA)
• Injury Prevention Advocates
• Mental Health Outreach
• Suicide Prevention
• Veterans
• Faith Based Groups/Leaders
• Community Outreach Groups
• Concerned Citizens
• Wildlife/Hunting Organizations
• Housing Associations
ASKING SAVES KIDS CAMPAIGN

Background

The ASK Campaign is a collaboration between the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Message

The ASK campaign encourages parents to ASK about firearms in the homes where their children play or visit.
GUNLOCK GIVE AWAYS

PROJECT
CHILD SAFE®
GETTING STARTED
PROCESS

IDENTIFY
stakeholders in your community

INVITE
a core group of 10-15 individuals to initial meeting

COLLABORATE
Best ideas come from collaboration
ESTABLISH A TEAM

- Engagement
- Education
- Activities
- Retention
Resources

Durham County Gun Safety Team
https://www.dcopublichealth.org/services/health-education/health-promotion-and-wellness/gun-safety-program

North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System
https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov

The ASK (Asking Saves Kids) Campaign
http://www.askingsaveskids.org

Project ChildSafe: National Shooting Sports Foundation (gunlocks)
http://projectchildsafe.org/safety/get-a-safety-kit

North Carolinians Against Gun Violence
http://www.ncgv.org

Means Matters : Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/meansmatter
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