WORKING TO STOP
GUN VIOLENCE
IN CALIFORNIA

#ENOUGH

hopeandhealfund.org
Every year guns kill more than 3,000 Californians in places that should be safe havens. That’s why we’re bringing together a diverse group of funders around a common goal: to stop the gun violence epidemic in California and elevate community solutions that can be replicated across the country. Hope and Heal Fund addresses all forms and drivers of gun violence.

We focus on preventing suicide, which accounts for more than half of California’s gun deaths. We work to keep guns out of the hands of domestic violence offenders, and we partner with community-based organizations working to disrupt the cycle of gun violence.

Hope and Heal Fund is the nation’s only state-based fund investing in a public health and community-based approach to gun violence prevention. Hope and Heal Fund harnesses the collective power of individuals, communities, business leaders, government and philanthropy to ensure homes and communities in California are safe and free from gun death, injury and trauma.
Brian Malte is a nationally recognized leader in the gun violence prevention movement. Over the course of his 25-year career, Brian has led community-based movements as well as strategic political campaigns for sensible gun reforms. In 2001, Brian joined the Washington, D.C. office of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence.

First as national field director, then political director and lastly as senior national policy director for Brady, Brian became one of the country’s most familiar spokesmen for the gun reform movement. While at Brady Brian worked with dozens of state legislatures, members of Congress and White House officials of both parties. He also oversaw the strategic growth of Million Mom March Chapters across the country.

In 2016 he returned to his California roots to helm the Hope and Heal Fund. Having begun his career in 1995 as a successful community organizer who helped pass many of California’s effective gun laws and build local capacity, Brian now spearheads the philanthropic movement to increase support to local anti-violence organizations and community leaders working to end gun violence.

Brian’s organizing work has been highlighted by Wellstone Action. He has been a featured speaker at many state and national conferences and routinely provides expert analysis to news outlets such as The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Guardian, Al Jazeera, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, NPR, and Mother Jones.

Brian holds an undergraduate degree from the University of California Davis and a master’s degree from the University of San Francisco.
Berkeley Media Studies Group

In 2017, Hope and Heal Fund provided a grant to Berkeley Media Studies Group (BMSG) to assess prevailing media narratives on gun violence and to identify opportunities to elevate community-lead action over that of mass shootings. BMSG Issue 25: More than mass shootings: Gun violence narratives in California news, details how the three most common forms of gun violence—domestic violence, suicide, and community violence—are framed in California print media.

Building on the first grant, BMSG has begun a second phase of the project. This phase focuses on identifying new and dynamic messages that will shine a narrative spotlight on solutions to reduce gun-related deaths and injuries in the state.
COMMUNITY VIOLENCE

Advance Peace

Advance Peace interrupts gun violence by providing opportunities for at-risk young men caught in the cycle of violence to transform their lives by placing them in personalized fellowships that include employment opportunities and mentorship. The success of its participants has been shown to improve public safety. In Richmond, the program led to a 66% reduction in firearm assaults causing injury or death between 2010 and 2017. Hope and Heal Fund provided funding to support Advance Peace in Stockton, which kicked off in 2018.

GUN VIOLENCE IN THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY

The Williams Institute

Because gun violence is significantly understudied in relationship to LGBTQ people, Hope and Heal Fund provided a grant to fund the Williams Institute report, Gun Violence Against Sexual and Gender Minorities in the United States: A Review of Research Findings and Needs. The Williams Institute reviewed and synthesized existing research, developed a research agenda to fill identified gaps, and discuss implications for gun violence prevention efforts.

FIREARM SUICIDE PREVENTION

Educational Fund to Stop Gun Violence (Ed Fund)

Hope and Heal Fund provided a grant to Educational Fund to Stop Gun Violence (Ed Fund) to produce the Prevent Firearm Suicide website. This new site expands upon the Ed Fund's 2018 paper (also funded by Hope and Heal Fund) Limiting Access to Lethal Means: Applying the Social Ecological Model for Firearm Suicide Prevention. The website outlines firearm suicide prevention interventions aimed at limiting access to lethal means across all four levels of the social-ecological model, as well as hosts a robust directory of educational materials, initiatives, research, and other resources about firearm suicide prevention and means safety.
IMPLEMENTATION OF KEY GUN LAWS

Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence
In collaboration with Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, Hope and Heal Fund provided funding for two California training sessions for judicial officers, court professionals, prosecutors, defense attorneys and probation officers around Gun Violence Restraining Order (GVRO) and domestic violence firearm relinquishment laws. Through better enforcement of these laws, we can effectively address firearm suicide and firearm deaths and injuries related to domestic violence.

GUN VIOLENCE IN THE LATINO COMMUNITY

Violence Policy Center
Hope and Heal Fund provided a grant to support the Violence Policy Center’s (VPC) comprehensive study of available data on the lethal victimization of Latinos in California.

The final report, Lethal Hispanic/Latino Firearm Victimization in California, issued in both English and Spanish, was shared widely with key stakeholders, community organizations, policymakers, and members of the English and Spanish-language news media.

In addition to heightening awareness on issues related to the intersection of gun violence in the Latino community, the report also identified research gaps and presented a roadmap for community-based solutions.
How do I contact Hope and Heal Fund for a breaking news story or expert quote?

We know journalists are often on tight deadlines and require rapid response. You can contact our Communications Officer, Ally Barron, at abarron@hopeandhealfund.org or (818) 970-2554. But you can also tweet to us @hopeandhealfund and @BMalte32.

Where does the name Hope and Heal Fund come from?

Created in 2016 by philanthropic leaders, Hope and Heal Fund is the only collaborative fund solely dedicated to preventing gun violence in California. The “Hope” demonstrates gun violence is preventable, not inevitable. The “Heal” is about taking action and following the lead of communities, knowing those closest to the problem are closest to the solution.

Does Hope and Heal Fund advocate for legislation?

No. Hope and Heal Fund supports a public health, community-based approach to ending gun violence, and does not lobby or advocate on legislation.

Which communities does Hope and Heal Fund prioritize?

Although gun violence affects all Californians, we know in particular it adversely affects our urban communities, as well as our rural and military veteran communities where firearm suicides are a public health crisis.

What types of community strategies do you fund?

Hope and Heal Fund invests in proven strategies that can be replicated in other similar communities throughout the state.
2019 HIGHLIGHTS

The Chronicle of Philanthropy, January 18, 2019
How Can Philanthropy Advance Martin Luther King’s Goals?
13 Leaders Weigh In.

LA: Under the Gun, March 5, 2019 on Spectrum News 1
Brian Malte joined as an expert panelist in a live Town Hall hosted by Spectrum News 1.

Interview with Brian Malte, April 20, 2019 on Al Jazeera
On the 20-year mark of the Columbine shooting, Brian Malte was interviewed on Al Jazeera.

Interview with Brian Malte, June 10 and July 1, 2019, on Politics or Pedagogy
Brian Malte was interviewed in a two-part series.

Church & State, February 14, 2019 at UCLA (Los Angeles)
In honor of Parkland, Brian Malte joined a panel to discuss gun violence and the youth movement.

ArcLight Cinemas Hollywood, March 11, 2019 (Los Angeles)
Brian Malte joined a panel discussion after the Los Angeles screening of the documentary, Behind the Bullet.

Question & Answer at TOMS, June 7, 2019 (Los Angeles)
Brian Malte was invited to give a presentation to the staff at TOMS for their gun violence awareness day.

Center for Health Journalism, September 18, 2019
How active shooter drills in schools are traumatizing our children.

Op-Ed Contributor, September 24, 2019
Mass shootings dominate reporting on gun violence.
2018 HIGHLIGHTS

Healing Gun Violence, January 2018

Turning Point? Philanthropy vs. Gun Violence After the Parkland Shooting, February 23, 2018

In the Wake of Parkland, Young People Are Leading the Charge Against Gun Violence. Philanthropy Should Follow Suit, March 13, 2018

This Report Is A ‘Must Read’ For Understanding Violence Caused By Guns, June 21, 2018

There Is No One-Size-Fits All Solution to the Gun Violence Epidemic, April 17, 2018

March for Our Lives Movement Sparks Broader Foundation Response to Gun Violence, August 2, 2018

Analyzing Gun Violence Narratives in California News, July 13, 2018

Letter from the President, November 16, 2018

LGB adults half as likely to have guns than heterosexuals, December 11, 2018
2017 HIGHLIGHTS

Lessons Learned from the Hope and Heal Fund Listening Tour Across California, April 21, 2017

Politics, Not Stories About Victims, Dominates Media Coverage of Gun Violence, September 6, 2017

September 7, 2017: What's missing in the media conversation on gun violence

October 2, 2017: Progress Is Possible: How These Funders Are Tackling Gun Violence
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GUN VIOLENCE IN CALIFORNIA
BY THE NUMBERS

download complete fact sheet

ONE PERSON DIES FROM A GUN SHOT IN CALIFORNIA

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Every three hours someone dies from a gun shot in California — that's 3,184 people a year (2017).

GUN VIOLENCE AFFECTS ALL CALIFORNIANS.

WOMEN ARE 5 TIMES more likely to die in situations of domestic violence if a gun is present.

IN CALIFORNIA, 1 OUT OF EVERY 2 GUN DEATHS IS A SUICIDE.

THE INCOME INEQUALITY GAP is a driving force and root cause of gun homicides.

77% OF ALL GUN HOMICIDES in California are African Americans and Latinos (2017).

29% African American
48% Latino

29% of all gun homicides in California are African American, and 48% are Latino.

NO. 1 CAUSE OF DEATH FOR BLACK CHILDREN

NO. 2 CAUSE OF DEATH FOR CHILDREN OF ALL RACES

FIREARMS ARE THE LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH for black children and teens and the second leading cause of death for children and teens across all racial categories in the U.S.

ANNUAL GUN DEATHS BY INTENT IN CALIFORNIA

Suicides: 1,610
Homicides: 1,435
Unintentional: 38
Legal Intervention: 84

Download complete fact sheet for more information.