WoMen Against Gun Violence

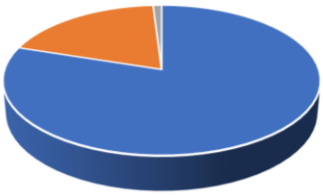
Staying Fearless

November 2022

For almost 30 years, WoMen Against Gun Violence (WAGV) has mobilized communities – local, state and national – to take decisive action against the dangers of firearms. We hope you will join with gun violence survivors and the fearless women and men of our Board of Directors as we advocate for meaningful gun regulations and educate the public and our policymakers about the human, financial and public health consequences of America's gun violence epidemic.

Among charity watchdog organizations, the Better Business Bureau says at least 65% of a non-profit's expenses should be for programs; Charity Navigator says the most efficient charities spend 75%+ on programs; and the American Institute of Philanthropy says at least 75% is ideal. WoMen Against Gun Violence consistently directs 80% or more of your donations to our program work and continues, year after year, to be a good steward of your financial support.

2021



Program 80%
Administration 19%
Fundraising 1%

We are pleased to share with you just some of what, together, we have accomplished this year. Our expanded Annual Update will be available December 1, 2022 on our website at wagv.org .

WoMen Against Gun Violence is active on social media as a way to bring attention to issues, call for action, share successes, and discuss solutions. In 2022, WAGV posted over 1,200 messages across all our social media platforms … Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and TikTok.

You can support our efforts by donating online at wagv.org/donate/ or by using the enclosed envelope.

WoMen Against Gun Violence
10401 Venice Boulevard, #723 Los Angeles, CA 90034
wagv.org thetalkproject.org divestforourlives.org

WE BELIEVE …

Safe Storage Saves Lives

Our TALK Project continues to put safe gun storage information – available in English, Spanish, Armenian, and Korean – into the hands of parents and caregivers because we know that when guns are properly locked up they can't be used for suicides, school shootings, and unintentional shootings. At community events throughout Los Angeles County, WoMen Against Gun Violence Board Members and volunteers spoke to over 3,500 families and distributed over 1,000 TALK brochures. In 2022, there were more than 3,000 visits to our TheTALKProject.org website and over 700 views of our TALK Project tutorial!

Sherman Oaks Street Fair: Sherman Oaks

Fiesta La Ballona: Culver City

International Society for Key Women Educators: Sherman Oaks

An update of our TALK Project materials is underway with Farsi, Filipino, and Mandarin translations coming soon!

Safe Storage Saves Lives continued

National Night Out: Pasadena

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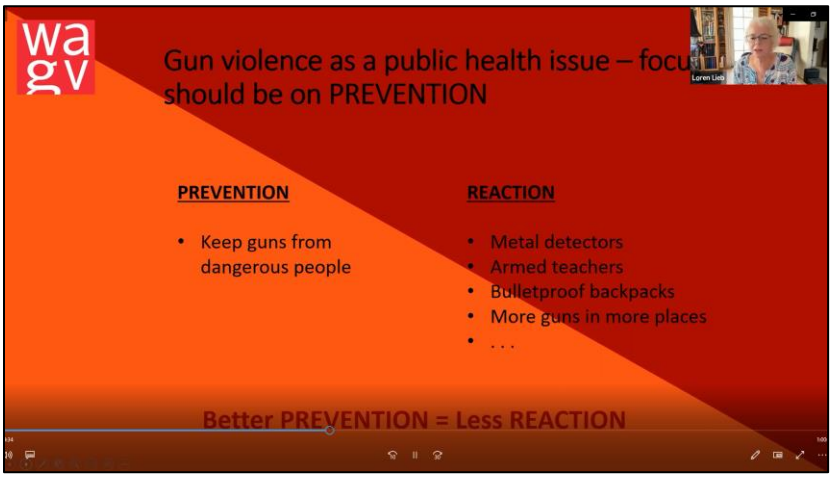
At the Gabby Giffords documentary presentation, *Won't Back Down*, in Encino.
We were proud to co-sponsor the event with California Assembly Member Jesse Gabriel.

WE BELIEVE …
Information Is Power

Our educational summits and salons bring together experts and community members across specialties and interests to come up with innovative solutions to prevent gun violence. We currently have two online educational events scheduled – *How A Bill Becomes A Law In California* and *California's Parole and Probation System*: *Purpose and Outcomes* – and continue to partner with other organizations and institutions to provide our expertise.

Paul Torrens Health Forum:
A Public Health Approach to Gun Violence

UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs
Gun Violence and Gun Violence Prevention



Leo Baeck Temple
Gun Violence Prevention
Online Summit

- *A Survivors Story*
- *Legislation and Litigation*
- *A Public Health Approach*
- *What Local Communities Are Doing*
- *Faith Based Imperative To Address Gun Violence*

WAGV has rolled out two new initiatives: our new Lunch and Learn programming for small companies and corporations with our first online presentation for PacSun; and our Faith Based Initiative. Watch our presentation at Temple Israel of Hollywood here and our presentation at Congregation Kol Ami here.

Information Is Power continued

Called on to share our expertise on gun violence and gun violence prevention, WoMen Against Gun Violence was pleased to work with the Los Angeles Mexican Consulate and Global Exchange as a sponsor of the Los Angeles 2022 Summit being held in advance of the 2023 Peace Summit in Mexico City.

WE BELIEVE …

Ballots Stop Bullets

For real and lasting change, we must all vote. WoMen Against Gun Violence continues its work to register voters and, through our social media platforms, to publicize key voting deadlines throughout the nation.

WE BELIEVE …

Money Talks

This year WoMen Against Gun Violence unveiled a new website DivestForOurLives.org. This new website provides concise information on divesting from the firearm industry as well as links to sites with more detailed and specific information. Historically, we can see that divestment has worked – in South Africa to help end apartheid and in the United States where fossil fuel divestment campaigns have resulted in an estimated total of $39.2 trillion in assets being divested. We must work together to withhold our money from the firearm industry and to align our banking, investing, and spending with our values.

WE BELIEVE …

Legislation Works

We believe that strong impactful legislation is necessary to prevent gun violence because the data show that states with strong gun violence prevention laws have lower rates of deaths associated with gun violence.

We are excited to see local action in the cities of Culver City, Burbank, and Torrance, where parents and families have joined together to ask their city government to ban new gun stores and the expansion of existing gun stores. We are pleased to be a resource to Culver 878, a group of residents that are lobbying their Culver City Council to pass a slate of ordinances to help keep the City safe from gun violence.

In 2022, WAGV emailed 22 Action Alerts to over 7,900 constituents calling for phone calls, emails, and letters to legislators and policymakers on gun violence prevention issues. To sign up to receive our Action Alerts, email us at wagv@wagv.org.

In California, we are pleased to have helped advance the following legislation that has now been signed into law:

AB 452 and **SB 906** that require schools to send home an annual notice to student households on safe gun storage,

AB 1621 that bans the sale and possession of untraceable ghost guns and ghost gun kits,

AB 1594 that allows victims of gun violence to sue the gun industry for negligent or reckless conduct that led to their injuries, notwithstanding the federal protections that have existed for years that have insulated the gun industry from accountability,

AB 58 that requires suicide prevention training for staff in all California schools, and

AB 1929 that provides Medi-Cal reimbursement for violence prevention programs in hospitals.

Legislation Works continued

In Washington DC, WoMen Against Gun Violence joined with other gun violence prevention groups from throughout the United States to hear President Biden speak about gun violence prevention and the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act. We were honored to be invited to recognize the hard work it took to achieve this legislative milestone. We know what it takes because we – and you – have been doing this work for almost 30 years. We are, of course, disappointed in the limited scope of this legislation and are looking forward to a future where we can help pass strong and impactful federal gun regulations such as an assault weapons ban, universal background checks on sales and transfers, and a ban on high capacity magazines.

You can get more details on these new laws as well as information on local ordinances and federal legislation on our website at wagv.org/about-gun-violence/california-legislation/.

WELCOME NEW WAGV BOARD MEMBERS

Megan Oddsen is a Culver City parent and activist with a background in the music business as a licensing agent for tv, film and commercials. She is an involved member of her school community serving on the District Advisory Committee for Special Education and the Council PTA Board. Megan is the founder of Culver 878 – a gun violence prevention organization with an interest in preventing gun sales in close proximity to schools and other sensitive areas. She has organized and motivated the Culver City community around the issue of gun control and is currently pursuing local action to pass ordinances that will protect Culver City and others from gun violence.

David Dassey, MD is originally from New Orleans but a Californian for more than half his life. He graduated from Louisiana State University Medical Center in New Orleans, then moved to California to complete a residency in Public Health & Preventive Medicine and a Master's Degree in Public Health from UC Berkeley. His career consisted of positions in communicable disease prevention and control for the Counties of San Francisco, Alameda, Riverside and Los Angeles and now brings this expertise to gun violence and gun violence prevention.

Katherine Hennigan Ohanesian has rejoined the Board of Directors of WoMen Against Gun Violence where she previously served as Chair of the Board. She is an owner and co-founder of ColLAborate. Since the firm's launch in 2017, Kate has played an integral role in growing the government affairs and strategic communications firm into the thriving business it is today. Kate served the City of Los Angeles more than a dozen years in various capacities before she launched ColLAborate. Kate is the current Chair of the L.A. County Library Foundation and sits on the Boards of the Alliance of Women Philanthropists, the Center for the Study of Los Angeles (StudyLA) at Loyola Marymount University, and 211. She received her Master's Degree in International Public Policy and Management from the University of Southern California.

You can find our podcast Bullet Points on PodBean and Apple Podcasts. Follow us on YouTube @wagvorg, on TikTok @wagvorg for Keishas With The News, on Instagram @wagv, on Twitter @wagv, and, of course, on Facebook. Our websites remain active at wagv.org , theTALKProject.org and DivestForOurLives.org .