

WoMen
Against
Gun
Violence



*Staying
Fearless*

2023 IMPACT STATEMENT

WoMen Against Gun Violence (WAGV) is one of the oldest gun violence prevention non-profits in the country. We've been around over 30 years and we know what it takes to get things done. Our Board of Directors and constituents represent many different communities and many points of view but we all agree that to make our communities safe we must do more than react to gun violence, we must prevent it before it starts. That is why we continue to focus on storing guns safely to prevent suicide, unintentional shootings, and school shootings. And that is why this year we have doubled down on trickle up legislation -- starting locally to initiate action statewide and nationwide.

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

We hope you will donate to support our lifesaving work. You can donate online at <https://wagv.org/donate/>. We also accept donations of stock.

Thank you!

2023 IMPACT STATEMENT

OUR ONLINE PRESENCE

- ▶ Over 500 informational and call to action social media posts on X (twitter), Facebook, and Instagram;
- ▶ 12 podcasts, one a month, covering topics in the gun violence prevention movement in 15 minutes or less. You can listen on PodBean, Spotify, Apple, and IHeart;
- ▶ 52 posts (one a week) of our cartoon Keishas With The News on TikTok and on our YouTube channel;
- ▶ 52 Action Alerts distributed via email to over 7,500 readers a week.



Scan To Follow Us On Social Media

OUR ACTION LOCALLY, STATEWIDE, AND FEDERALLY

LOCALLY

This year we have doubled down on trickle up legislation -- starting locally to initiate action statewide and nationwide. Partnering with local gun violence prevention organizations and community members, we successfully advocated for stronger gun violence prevention ordinances in Culver City, Santa Monica, West Hollywood, and Burbank with our new focus on Monterey Park. Efforts in Culver City resulted in the City's purchase of a local gun store, finally breaking the grandfather clause that allowed the gun store to be less than 1,000 feet from an elementary school, park, and mosque.

We have successfully supported several Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors' efforts to prevent gun violence including speaking at Supervisor meetings in support of Gun Violence Restraining Order trainings and participating in gun buybacks where we also supplied free gun locks to those turning in their firearms. We have spoken in favor of free gun locks to be made available at all County health facilities and also in favor of restrictions on firearm retailers in sensitive areas.

STATEWIDE

Statewide, we joined with our coalition partners to successfully pass and have signed into California law ...

AB 28

Makes California the first state in the nation to create a permanent, dedicated gun violence prevention fund supported by a tax on firearm sales. The Gun Violence Prevention and School Safety Act, is a holistic approach to preventing gun violence. Starting in July 1, 2024, California will impose an excise tax in the amount of 11% of the gross receipts from the retail sale of firearms and ammunition. That money will be used to fund various gun violence prevention, education, research, response, and investigation programs that will help all our communities.

SB 2

To counter the dangerous US Supreme Court's *Bruen* ruling, SB 2 now requires stronger vetting and safety training to carry weapons in public and creates more sensitive areas (parks, playgrounds, bars) as off-limits to firearms.

AB 1089

Strengthens the restrictions on the sale and marketing of the machines that manufacture ghost guns. The California Attorney General report (July 2023) found that annual law enforcement seizures of guns without serial numbers (ghost guns) has increased from fewer than 1,300 in the early 2010s to more than 20,000 in both 2021 and 2022 and coincides with a surge in gun violence in California and the nation as a whole.

AB 1587

Creates a merchant category code to help track purchases at gun and ammunition dealers. This new law will help law enforcement track firearms and ammunition purchases to help prevent mass shootings and firearm trafficking.

AB 1420

Authorizes the California Department of Justice to conduct inspections of firearm dealers at least once every three years and to levy fines.

AB 818

Strengthens protections for survivors of domestic violence and abuse by ensuring proper service of protective orders on the perpetrators.

NATIONWIDE

Federally we joined with our nationwide coalition partners to add our name to a letter to all members of Congress to urge them to take action on:

✓ [S.25](#) and [H.R.698](#) — Assault Weapons Ban of 2023 (Feinstein/Cicilline-McBath)

✓ [S.173](#) and [H.R.660](#) — Ethan's Law for Safe Gun Storage (Blumenthal/DeLauro)

✓ [S.2048](#) and [H.R.4184](#) — Equal Access to Justice for Victims of Gun Violence Act (Blumenthal/Schiff)

✓ [S.494](#) — Background Check Expansion Act (Murphy), [H.R.715](#) — Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2023 (Fitzpatrick), and [H.R.2403](#) — Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2023 (Clyburn)

✓ [S.2638](#) and [H.R.5003](#) — Break the Cycle of Violence Act (Booker/Horsford)

✓ [S.1026](#) and [H.R.2390](#) — Gun Violence Prevention Research Act of 2023 (Markey/Slotkin)

And we have signed onto a letter to urge President Biden to return export controls from the Commerce Department to the State Department. Please read [this Bloomberg article](#) and [Senator Warren's press release](#) on why we have been pushing for this change since President Biden was elected.

LITIGATION

We continue to follow and share with you the dangerous court decisions impacting our gun violence prevention laws and legislation and what gun violence prevention organizations like WAGV and our government representatives are doing to preserve common sense.

OUR SAFE GUN STORAGE ACTIVITIES

We have continued to participate in community activities like Fiesta La Ballona in Culver City to distribute lifesaving information about the importance of safe gun storage to prevent suicide, school shootings, and unintentional shootings. Our materials have not only been provided to communities but also to County organizations such as the Office of Violence Prevention.

EDUCATION IS POWER

In recognition of Gun Violence Awareness Month, we sponsored community speaking engagements with Adam Winkler, constitutional law professor and author of *Gunfight: The Battle Over the Right to Bear Arms in America*; and with Brendan Constantine, a poet based in Los Angeles, and Patricia Maisch, gun violence survivor.

VOTING IS OUR SUPERPOWER

This year we expanded our efforts to engage young potential voters with our Voting Is Our Superpower initiative. We co-sponsored the Valley International Preparatory High School in Northridge, CA, participation in the National Event: The 4th Annual Enough! Plays to End Gun Violence and, working with representatives of Voters of Tomorrow, we presented information about voting and registered new potential voters as young as 16!

OUR 30TH ANNIVERSARY

This year we were proud to celebrate our 30th anniversary. We presented Keiko Fukazawa our first ever Laurie Saffian Courageous Leadership Award in memory of our Board Chair Laurie Saffian who recently passed away. The film we produced to introduce and recognize Keiko's art won the Eva Haller Women Transforming Media Award at the 2023 My Hero International Film Festival. You can view this powerful video by Anabelle Vo about and featuring Keiko on our [YouTube Channel](#).

You and your participation and support have helped make this work possible.

We are grateful for your commitment.