Hospital Violence Intervention (HVIP)

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HARTFORD COMMUNITIES THAT CARE, INC.



Hospital Violence Intervention

Agenda

- 1. Hospital Violence Intervention- An overview
- 2. The CT HVIP Collaborative- Who are we and how did we get started?
- 3. HVIP on the national stage
- 4. The Connecticut Story- A lot to celebrate





Aspen Institute 2023

"In the face of overwhelming health harms, it is imperative for the health sector to act and to lead. The burden of firearm injury cannot be eliminated by the health sector, but health care professionals, health systems, and all who work in health care have a role to play in responding to this large and growing problem."

— THE ASPEN HEALTH STRATEGY GROUP





HVIP- What is it?

Hospital Based Violence Intervention

(HVIP) is a specific, evidence based, violence intervention methodology that involves partnerships between hospitals and frontline and community agencies.

Beginning at the point of injury, victims are offered wrap-around services and support, including intensive case management, to reduce the risk of re-injury or becoming an offender themselves.









How Do They Work?



- Engage patients at hospitals being treated for community violence injuries, at risk of repeat injury
- Link patients with hospital- and community-based resources
- Provide intensive follow-up and case management services aimed at addressing risk factors for violence
- Long-term case management into the community to address underlying risk factors and related social determinants of health







HVIP Program Models

Hospital Linked

 Most HVIP staff are hired by a partner CBO and are granted access to the hospital, information, and consenting patients.

Hybrid

 HVIP staff are housed in both the hospital and CBO. Requires clear MOU and accountability practices.
 Supervision, cross-training, and communication practices are critical.

Hospital Based

 HVIP staff are entirely housed within the hospital with community partners engaged for training, referrals, and consultation.







Scope of Practice

What an HVIP Specialist Is

- A non-medical professional trained to meet a victim and their family where they are after a traumatic injury
- A credible messenger connected to a network of services and after care supports
- An intentional partner with a medical system, looping clients back into essential services

What an HVIP Specialist Is Not

- A medical professional
- Law enforcement
- Hospital Security
- A volunteer or layperson







Scope of Practice

An HVIP provider walks with a client and their family through the recovery process, staying by their side as they begin a new chapter post injury. HVIP work stands on the shoulders of the medical team.

Some specific services provided by our HVIPS in CT are:

- Assistance with filling out Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) funding documents
- Emergency Financial Assistance
- Assistance in mental health services care & referral
- Return for clinical care & rehabilitation
- Housing, education & employment assistance
- •30, 60, 90 Day and 6-month Evaluations







How HVIP Helps- One Case Example



- In October 2022, a 17-year-old gunshot victim was referred to HCTC by Trinity Hospital.
- This individual sustained a gunshot wound to the face resulting in them losing their sight.
- Case Managers conducted a home visit, where they initially met with the teenager's mother to start the process of supporting her and her son. During this process, they:
 - Connected the family to the Victim Compensation Program
 - Made frequent calls and visits to offer social/ emotional support, and to learn if there
 are other ways we can help
 - o Provided transportation to and from medical appointments for the victim and parents
 - Connected them to the Bureau for the Blind, and
 - Connected mom to the CT paid leave program.
- Over the past few months, the client has significantly improved both physically and mentally and with the support of the Bureau for the Blind, he has learned Braille, adjusted to this current medical status and he would like to be an advocate for other young people who may have been violently injured and in need of support.



The CT HVIP Collaborative- A Statewide HVIP Collective



The CT HVIP Collaborative was formed in 2019 in response to a dramatic spike in violence. After a community forum, led by Hartford Communities that Care, those doing Hospital Violence Intervention (HVIP) across the state came together to form a new convening body.

The mission of this new collaborative is to, strengthen and expand the HVIP safety net across the state through training, research, sharing of best practices and collaboration.



















THAT CARE, INC.

















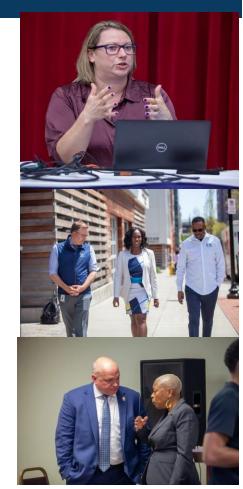
The HVIP Collaborative Structure and Priorities

Structure

- The HVIP Collaborative is a program of Hartford Communities that Care, a hospital-linked HVIP
- There is one Program Director supervised by the HCTC CEO
- There is a leadership team with representation from our hospitals and national partners
- Member agencies and stakeholders meet quarterly for a large update and strategy session

Priorities

- Providing access to training and technical assistance to those interested in Hospital Based or Hospital Linked Violence Intervention best practices
- Striving for continuity and benchmarks in research and data evaluation across the state
- Building relationships across the spectrum of stakeholders to expand the knowledge of and advocacy for HVIP practices.







Benefits of a collaborative





The CT HVIP Collaborative is made better by its diversity of partners.

- Statewide partners contribute within their area of specialty.
- Having member agencies across the state means more representation of our priorities at the state legislature.
- Frontline workers across the state have formed a cohort.
 These workers are able to share their experiences, best practices and provide support for one another.
- The statewide nature of the CT HVIP collaborative allows for common issues to be identified and addressed, for example, finding safe and secure housing for victims and their families after a violent incident.





Spotlight- The Strengthening Collaborative A City of Hartford HVIP Collective





Launched in 2023, this HVIP collective is a 3 year pilot funded through ARPA dollars.

- This HVIP Strengthening Collaborative of Hartford includes the three level 1 trauma centers, Trinity Health, Hartford Hospital, Connecticut Children's and three community agencies, Hartford Communities That Care, COMPASS Youth Collaborative, and Mothers United Against Violence.
- In the first six months (January thru June), the three hospitals saw 111 gunshot wound victims and 76 stabbing victims in their trauma centers. Of these trauma victims, 114 of the 187 victims were connected to support services.





Saint Francis Hospital and HVIP Partners 2023-2024







The Connecticut Story

A lot to celebrate



Connecticut Gov. Ned Lamont signs a ceremonial bill on gun safety at Hartford Communities That Care, Tuesday, July 27, 2021 in Hartford, Conn. (AP Photo/Jessica Hill)





Addressing the Urgency, and the Future









- Upstream problems deserve upstream solutions
- A vital part of the HVIP ecosystem is working daily to address the urgent needs of the community while also advocating for policy change at the state and federal levels
- CT HVIP Collaborative members traveled to conferences in LA and Chicago this year, as well as attending the Safer Communities Summit.
- We speak from experience when we educate the public about Community Violence Prevention.
- Our work has helped make Connecticut a national leader in gun violence prevention



Celebrating our Legislative Milestones









- In 2021, thanks to the advocacy of HCTC and other groups across the state, Connecticut became the first in the nation to expand Medicaid to include Violence Prevention Professionals as providers.
- In 2022, the CT HVIP Collaborative members helped advocate for the creation of this Commission. Many Collaborative members are seated here.
- Members of our Collaborative and community have testified for bills during this current legislative session, including a bill to study the effectiveness of CVI programs.



Building the Bench- Best Practice Training



















- The Health Alliance for Violence Intervention is our national partner and is recognized as a best practice provider of training and technical assistance
- Professional (VPP) training curriculum and certification is required by CT statute for providers to be reimbursed by Medicaid
- HCTC hosted the first and only trainings in Connecticut in 2019, and again in 2024 resulting in over 40 VPPs being trained and certified



Data Collection- Standards and Indicators

In 2022, the Health Alliance for Violence Intervention released its Standards and Indicators guide. A framework to help bring continuity to its partner HVIPS across the country.

Individual HVIP partners collect data across their programs to make sure the services we are developing and delivering are meeting the needs of the community.













Wrapping Up

By focusing on the needs of the community and being present through the journey to healing, as well as working to change systems, HVIPs meet people where they are and support better outcomes across the communities









Thank you!



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