



Children Exposed to Violence (CEV)

The REACH Team
Supporting children and families exposed to violence



REALITY - Guns and Violence Cause Trauma

Trauma therapy is not routinely offered to children who see, hear, or know of violence

Only if they are the DIRECT victim (shot) will they receive that type of support



Violence is...

Any Gun Violence

Homicide

Gang violence

Robbery

Suicide

Domestic Violence/Intimate
Partner Violence

Assault



Respond Educate Advocate Community Healing for Kids

Respond

Respond to scene when LAPD calls us to do crisis counseling with kids

Make

Make contact with the family in the first 24 hours of the incident (reports)

Care

Care packages, crisis counseling, assess for needs and explain our program

Follow up

Follow up to do intake for short term support. We provide up to 6 counseling sessions – no paperwork, only consent

Long-term

If very traumatic or complex, fast track into long-term support

Link

Link to other services, housing, legal, job training, VOC, and internal Cii programs.

Help

Help families get basic needs met until they are stable, food, clothing, hotel, diapers, etc...

Refer

Refer adults to counseling with other agencies

Why this program is needed?



Change trajectory of a child keep them out of the criminal justice system



Educate Parents, Schools, Law Enforcement about Children Exposed to Violence and Trauma



Truancy – keep them in school



Change narrative of police and community interactions



Kids Are Exposed

- DIRECTLY
- Present
- Threatened
- Injured



INDIRECTLY

- Hear shots fired
- See or hear violence
- Hear stories about violence
- Know a person shot, killed or injured
- Violence is near a place the child frequents (school, park, store, place of worship)

It is important to treat trauma early because...

- Trauma has been shown to have a negative effect on the child's developing brain
 - Especially if not treated while brain is still developing
- There are clear links between exposure to violence and emotional and behavioral health issues such as:
 - Learning Disabilities
 - Low School Attendance/Dropping out
 - Health Problems (asthma and more)
 - Suicide Attempts
 - Criminal Behavior
 - Alcohol and Drug Problems
 - Intergenerational Violence



How The REACH Team supports the South Los Angeles Community

FREE SERVICES
GRANT
FUNDED



Crisis response within
first 24 hours

Contact & engage with
children exposed to the
trauma

Provide care package and
resources for family

Offer crisis counseling for
children 4-6 sessions
and/or linkages to
support services through
Cii or other partners

Follow up with family
with case management
and possible long-term
support

1-800-984-2404

WORKING TOGETHER TO HELP KIDS!

- Los Angeles City Attorney
- LAPD
- CII (Children's Institute)
- Community Partners (Tessie Cleveland (adult mental health referrals) Community Resource Coalition My Stuff Bags, Inc. and more

