

# DATA DRIVEN PROSECUTION

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# Core Statement of Values

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- Effect concrete crime reduction
- Minimize the use of the criminal sanction when compatible with public safety
- Rebuild legitimacy and relationships with crime-ridden neighborhoods

# Firearm Violence Nationally

## Generally:

- 70% of homicides in the U.S. are related to firearms.
- 40 times as many nonfatal firearm-related crimes as there are firearm-related deaths, and 23% of victims of such crimes sustain an injury.<sup>1</sup>

## Among Youth/Young Adults (10-24):

- Homicide is the 3<sup>rd</sup> leading cause of death for youth
- In 2014, 86% of youth homicide victims were killed with a firearm.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Rowhani-Rahbar et al. *Firearm Related Hospitalization and Risk for Subsequent Injury, Death, or Crime Perpetration*. Ann Intern Med. 2015; 162:492-500.

<sup>2</sup> David-Ferdon et al. *A Comprehensive Technical Package for the Prevention of Youth Violence and Associated Risk Behaviors*. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

# Firearm Violence King County

## □ Generally:

- More people in K.C. killed each year by gun violence than car crashes (average of 130 people per year).<sup>1</sup>
- 59% of all homicides from 2004-2013 were firearm related.<sup>2</sup>

## □ Among Youth/Young Adults:

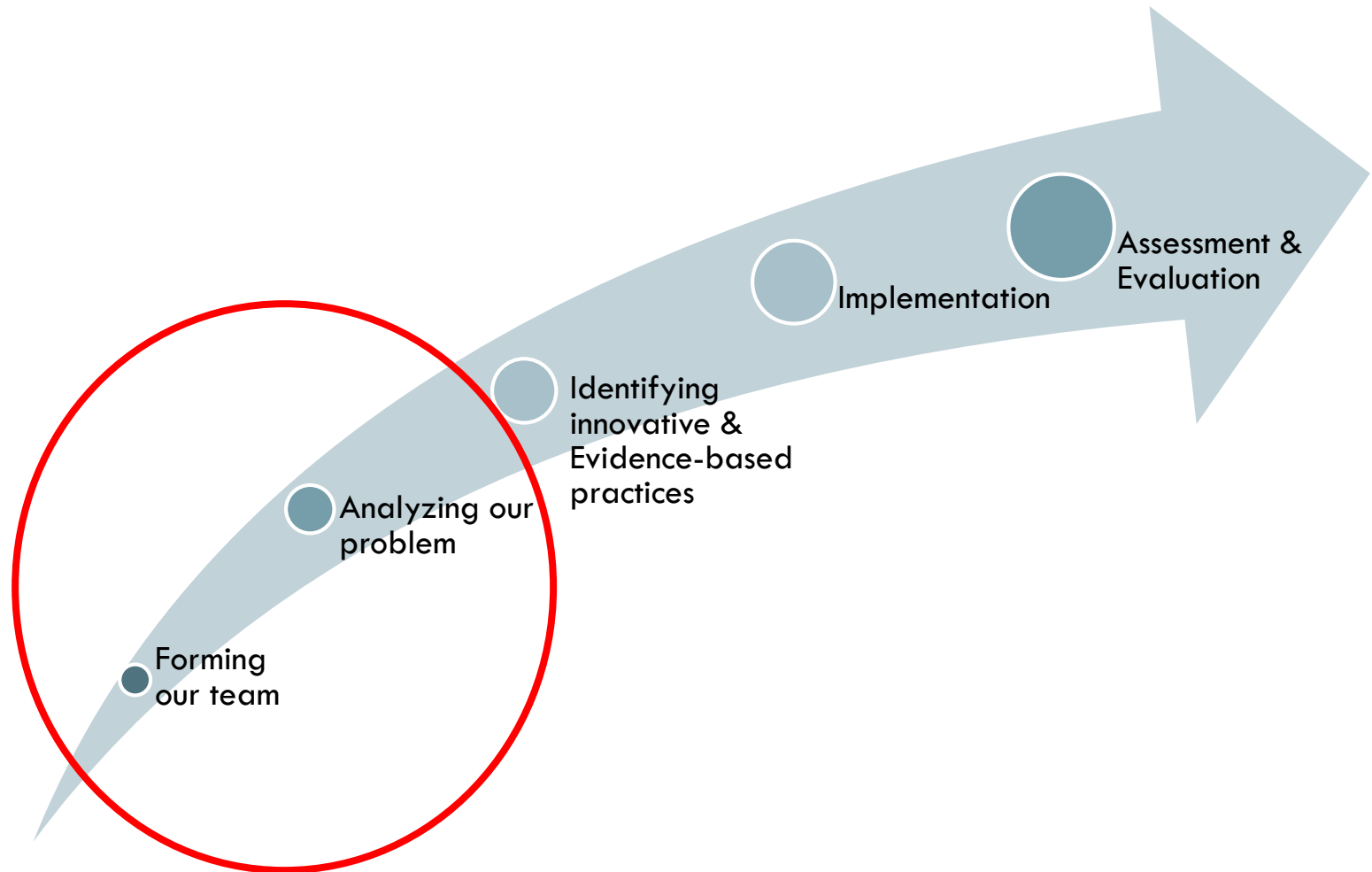
- Young adults, ages 18-29, comprise about half of both firearm victims (47%) and suspects (52%).<sup>1</sup>
- 42% of youth homicides from 1999-2012 were firearm-related.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Tony Gomez. Firearm Violence in King County: A Look at the Data. Public Health - Seattle and King County (2015).

<sup>2</sup> Washington State Department of Health Injury Data Tables. County: Fatal by Year (2004-2013).

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/Pubs/689143.pdf> . Accessed 2/20/17.

# Strategic Problem Solving & Planning



# Forming Our Team

- Lack of accurate, reliable, and consistent data around firearm violence is a major hurdle.
  - ▣ Partner with seven law enforcement agencies throughout King County to improve collection and analysis of standardized violent crime data.
  - ▣ Partner with research partner from Cal-State Fresno to help develop and support data collection protocols.
  - ▣ Partner with Public Health – King County & Seattle to work to fill data gaps and align with public health approach.

# Public Health Partnership

In 2013, King County Executive adopted a public health approach to the problem, aimed at developing evidence-based strategies to limit preventable injuries and deaths.

- Found that there is a paucity of data to inform policy and program decision making.
- Recommended changes to systems to improve information gathering and sharing and to allow creation of a robust data system.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Impact on Firearms on Children 1999-2012. Public Health – Seattle & King County (2013).

# Lasting Consequences

- Serious and lasting effects on the physical, mental, and social health of young people.<sup>1</sup>
  - ▣ Exposure to violence as victims, perpetrators or witnesses more likely to have behavioral and mental health difficulties:
    - Future violence perpetration and victimization
    - Smoking, substance abuse, high risk sexual behavior
    - Obesity, depression, academic difficulties, etc.
  - ▣ Related economic and community burden

<sup>1</sup> David-Ferdon et al. *A Comprehensive Technical Package for the Prevention of Youth Violence and Associated Risk Behaviors*. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



# Analyzing Our Problem – Law Enforcement

- Begin with law enforcement data – arrests, police reports, calls for service, etc.
- Seven partner agencies: Seattle, KCSO, Renton, Tukwila, Kent, Auburn, Federal Way → Responsible for 94% of firearm homicides from 2001-2012.<sup>1</sup>
- Look at law enforcement data and gain a better understanding of the firearm problem: where, when, why, what, who, how.

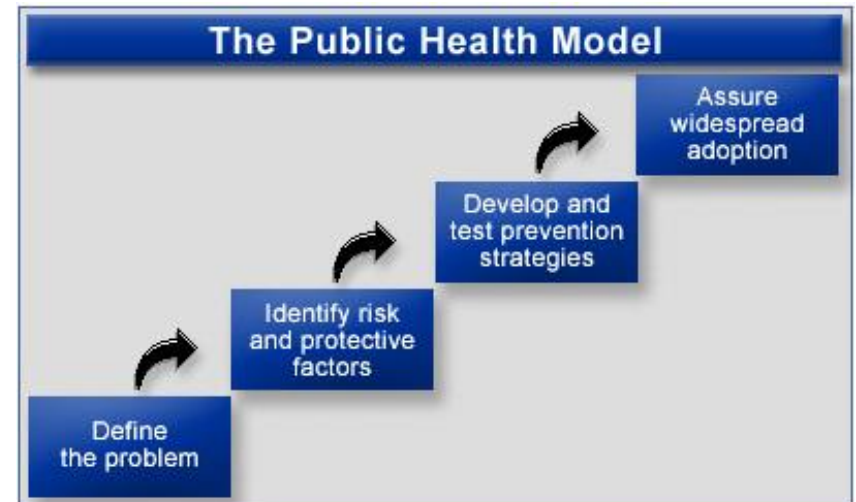
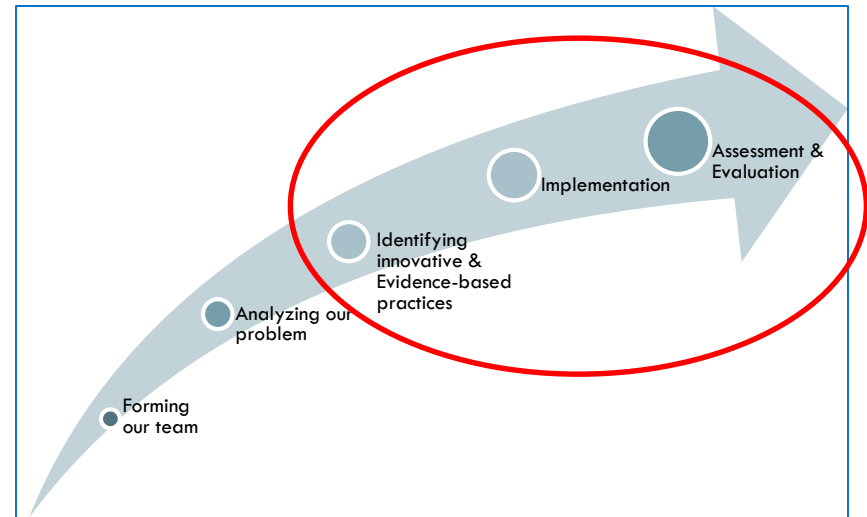
<sup>1</sup> Tony Gomez. Firearm Violence in King County: A Look at the Data. Public Health - Seattle and King County (2015).

# Analyzing Our Problem – Public Health

- Identify Protective/Risk Factors
  - ▣ Protective factor: decreases likelihood of person becoming victim or suspect
  - ▣ Risk factor: increases the same likelihood
- Young Adult/Youth Violence Review with Public Health
  - ▣ Designed to supplement law enforcement data with data from health care, education, government, and social service sectors with the aim of identifying modifiable risk and protective factors.

# Next Steps After Analysis

- Identifying innovative & Evidence-based practices
- Implementation and Assessment/Evaluation
- Not a law enforcement strength, but a Public Health strength
  - ▣ Experience collecting and disseminating data, implementing preventative measures, evaluating programs and policies, and tracking progress.



# Application of DDP

- Law enforcement priorities: prosecution and law enforcement resources aimed at identified problems
- Community priorities: using community involvement to reach out to likely victims and suspects
- Outreach to community organizations already working in those neighborhoods
- Public Health priorities: evidence-based programs that address identified needs, i.e. early intervention, preschool, mentoring

# Goal of DDP Priorities

- Focus on small numbers of key people, not communities
- Treat offenders with respect and the information necessary to stay out of trouble
- Use methods of deterrence rather than enforcement when appropriate
- Using the community to positively influence behavior and choices