

FY21 Firearm Injury and Mortality Prevention Funding

Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research

National Institutes of Health

Dara R. Blachman-Demner Council of Councils January 29th, 2021



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Background

- Firearms account for three quarters of homicide deaths with rates more than 10 times higher among black men ages 20 to 24
- When firearms are involved with violent events (suicide, intimate partner violence, child or elder maltreatment, youth/gang violence, and sexual assault) the risk for injury and mortality increases
- Non-fatal injury and witnessing violent victimization increases risk of acute and chronic physical and mental or behavioral health conditions
- NIH is committed to supporting scientific research to advance efforts to understand and prevent firearm violence injury and mortality



FY20 Appropriations Report Language

Firearm Injury and Mortality Prevention Research

- ► \$12,500,000 to conduct research on firearm injury and mortality prevention
- Recommends the NIH take a comprehensive approach to studying underlying causes and evidence-based methods of prevention of injury, including crime prevention
- All grantees required to fulfill requirements around open data, open code, pre-registration of research projects, and open access to research articles
- Ensure that such awards support ideologically and politically unbiased research projects
- None of the funds made available in this title may be used, in whole or in part, to advocate or promote gun control



FY20 Funding Opportunity Announcements

- ► Open March 20,2020 to May 15, 2020
- R61 Clinical Trial Optional
 400K Direct costs per year; 2 year maximum
- NOSI: Competitive Revisions
 - parent R01 and R21: clinical trial required, not allowed, and Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required
 - to expand the scope of active grants (not in no-cost extension status) to include firearms research;
 - one-year supplements with budget of up to 200K direct costs



FY20 Funding Opportunity Announcements

- ► Public health approach:
 - Healthcare and community settings
 - Multi-level considerations (individual, family, peer, community, structural)
 - Victimization and perpetration risk
 - Inclusive of developmental stage, gender, disparity population, comorbid condition, other special population
- ► Topics include:
 - Innovative methods to improve the ability to identify individuals at risk for injury/mortality
 - Develop and validate accurate and efficient screening procedures in healthcare settings
 - Understand multi-level developmental and contextual factors associated with risk
 - Develop and pilot innovative multi-level interventions in healthcare, online or community settings to prevent injury/repeat injury, retaliatory violence or mortality
 - Implementation research to improve uptake of existing evidence-based programs or practices
 - Precision approaches to determine for whom programs most likely to be effective
 - Assess impact of changes in various laws and policies that may influence impact of prevention efforts



Funded Grants (R61)

NICHD:

- A comparison of firearm-related intimate partner homicide in Texas and Maryland: Prevalence, identification of those at risk, and the effect of firearm regulations (PI: Jacquelyn Campbell)
- Evaluating implementation and feasibility of evidence-based universal screening and intervention strategies for firearm injury and mortality prevention among youth and adults in emergency departments (PI: Thomas McGinn)

NIMH:

- Family Safety Net: Developing an upstream suicide prevention approach to encourage safe firearm storage in rural and remote Alaskan homes (PI: Lisa Wexler)
- ► Mechanisms underlying the association of firearm availability and vulnerability to suicide (PI: Craig Bryan)
- ► Online Storage Maps to Facilitate Voluntary Firearm Storage: Mixed Methods Evaluation (PI: Marian Betz)

NIAAA:

 Alcohol restrictions and firearm prohibitions based on mental illness: Effects on fatal and nonfatal firearm injuries (Nancy Nicosia)

NIA:

► Firearm Injury and Mortality Prevention with Project Talent (PI: Benjamin Chapman)

Funded Grants (Supplements)

- R01 HD096070-03S1: Impact of State-Level Policies on Maternal Mortality (PI: Maeve Wallace)
- R01 AG059613-02S1: Decision Making Among Older Adults: Firearm Retirement (PI: Marian Betz)





FY21 Plans

- Appropriations Language is identical to FY20
- Substantive topics and content will likely stay the same
- Longer project periods planned (3-4 years vs. 1-2 years) for FY21 awards to allow time to assess intervention impacts on firearm injuries and fatalities



Thank You

- ► OER: Liza Bundeson
- ► OBSSR: Bill Riley, Katie Morris, Caitlin Burgdorf

