

TAKING A STAND



Annual Report 2018-2019

Where We Stand: Executive Director's Corner

2018-19 has been another year of highs and lows in Pennsylvania. We passed the first real piece of gun reform legislation in years, the bill to disarm domestic abusers, and saw a broad bipartisan coalition come together to do it. But our gun deaths and shootings have increased, and Squirrel Hill was the site

of the deadliest hate crime against Jews in this country. We elected more officials who pledged to make gun violence prevention a priority but still our legislature lets good bills languish in committee with no action or even discussion.

There is so much work to do. The good news is, there are more of us engaged in the fight. And we have new tools like our Texting program to make advocacy even easier. We are creating advocacy toolkits, video libraries and action taker resources so you can help us engage even more folks in this critical work.

We know it can be discouraging to have ongoing and repeated tragedies met with silence by our policymakers. Our task is to make that silence unacceptable. We are a growing force that will not be ignored. To continue that growth, this year we have hired an organizer based in Scranton, and our staff travels across PA to engage in dialogue and educational work. We know these efforts are paying dividends — our action rates are increasing and we have local folks writing and calling every Representative and Senator in the Commonwealth.

The challenge is to keep energy and engagement high in the face of the frustratingly slow pace of policy change. Your support — on the ground, as ambassadors for the work and as donors — helps us do that. Thank you for all you do.

Shira Goodman

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Standing Up

Policy Update

The close of the 2017-2018 legislative session brought victory in the form of Act 79, the bill to disarm domestic abusers. This was a significant accomplishment that will make Pennsylvania families safer. And, it helped create a foundation for gaining bipartisan support for commonsense policies. We are hoping to build on this foundation to enact strong policies like Extreme Risk Protection Orders in the 2019-2020 session.

We have been testifying in policy hearings and bringing groups of activists—including survivors, medical providers and students—to lobby at the Capitol. We are supporting HB 1075 and SB 90, the ERPO bills. We are seeking support in the Judiciary Committees, which are under new leadership, and we have been holding educational meetings with stakeholders including medical providers, veterans and suicide prevention advocates. We believe PA can and should pass this measure and join the growing number of states (15 at the time of this writing) that are giving this tool to concerned families and law enforcement.

We are again fighting against punitive preemption, also known as the Sue Our Cities Bill. Our advocacy over the last few legislative sessions has created an educated force of Pennsylvanians who understand the dangers of this legislation.

This latest attempt follows Pittsburgh's efforts to enact local ordinances to keep the community safe. In days, we had more than one thousand emails and hundreds of calls placed to key Senators, and we were able to temporarily get this bill moved off the calendar. We plan to continue our advocacy and will do all we can to continue the streak of keeping this bill off the Governor's desk.

As always, we are fighting efforts to weaken our existing laws and advance the gun lobby's guns for everyone everywhere agenda. This includes a bill to allow anyone to carry concealed without a license, a dangerous proposal opposed by law enforcement, and an effort to arm teachers. We are fighting the guns in school movement in the legislature and in



▲ Rep. Movita Johnson-Harrell with Congressman Mike Thompson, Congresswoman Madeline Dean and advocates

litigation in Schuylkill County.

On the federal level, we applauded the passage of HR 8 and HR 1112 to strengthen the federal background check system. Our goal now is to advance these bills in the Senate, where we have the support of Senator Casey but need to advocate for Senator Toomey's support.

The summer gives us several months when legislators are in their district offices, away from Harrisburg. This is a great time to go visit your Representative and Senator and let them know what you're concerned about and what you expect them to do. Let us know if we can help set up a meeting or get you and a group prepared for a discussion with your legislators!



▲ Sen. Williams, Sen. Kearney, Sen. Santarsiero, Sen. Boscola and Sen. Haywood hold a policy hearing about G.V.P

TAKING A STAND

New Voices and a New Tool



Squirrel Hill Stands Against Gun Violence

Squirrel Hill Stands Against Gun Violence arose in response to the massacre at Tree of Life Synagogue on October 27, 2018. Partnering with members of all three congregations and the broader Squirrel Hill Community, they work to educate the public about gun violence and advocate a move forward to evidence-based legislation. CeaseFire Pennsylvania is proud to support Squirrel Hill Stands Against Gun Violence as a partner in the fight for commonsense firearms policy. On April 28, Squirrel Hill Stands Against Gun Violence held a ceremony to mark six months since Tree of Life and to announce its formation. It was a moving day, made more poignant by the tragic shooting at Poway Chabad the day before.



▲ Squirrel Hill Stands Against Gun Violence founders Eve Wider, Carolyn Ban, and Dana Kellerman, with Pittsburgh Mayor Peduto and CeaseFirePA staff member Rob Conroy

**WANT TO STAY UPDATED?
JOIN OUR NEW TEXTING PROGRAM**

GET LEGISLATIVE ALERTS, ADVOCACY TIPS, AND
INFORMATION ABOUT EVENTS IN YOUR AREA

**TEXT "CEASEFIRE"
TO 97779**

By providing your mobile phone number you consent to receive recurring text messages from CeaseFirePA. Text HELP for Info. Text STOP to opt out. No purchase necessary.

Thanks to a generous donation from the Elsie H. Hillman Foundation, CeaseFirePA is excited to announce the launch of our texting program! Supporters can opt in by texting CeaseFire to 977-79 and be added to a database to receive updates and action items from the CeaseFirePA team. We have received great responses from our first handful of texts - we are seeing many supporters follow through on our alerts. Please join us! It is a great way to stay on the front line of the fight!

TAKING A STAND

The Year in Action



▲ Lieutenant Governor Fetterman speaking with students



▲ Tuesdays with Toomey



▲ Robert Harden, Boardmember Miriam Harden, Boardmember Jill Zipin, and Myrna Asher at the Keystone Courage Award

▼ Auditor General DePasquale speaking with students



▲ Sister Mary Scullion, Keystone Award honoree Fred Guttenberg, with Lynne and Harold Honickman



▲ March for our Lives one year anniversary



▲ Students March for our Lives 2019



▲ Sandy Hook Riders in Pittsburgh



▲ Remembering Sandy Hook



▼ Scranton Townhall on G.V.P.



► Columbine survivor Jami Amo speaks on the 20th anniversary of the Columbine Shooting



▼ Pittsburgh student Daumere Radlien speaking at the Capitol



▲ Awaiting the Sandy Hook Riders at Temple University



▲ Standing with Tamaqua Parents

TAKING A STAND

SPOTLIGHT: DOCTORS

This year we kicked off a new program directed at medical students and doctors. We wanted to build on the conversations we were having with medical providers and students and create a focused advocacy training program. Medical providers can be advocates in the patient-care room and in the community, and they are trusted, credible messengers. Materials were created to guide the doctor-patient firearm discussion beyond questioning if there is a firearm in the home to a discussion about the risks of guns in the home, safe storage, and responsible ownership. We also wanted to offer these leaders guidance for using their voices in the broader community, in the media and with policy makers. We urged them to “Put on the White Coat and Speak Up!” We have had great success with the program and held 18 sessions throughout the year with different members of the medical community. The NRA’s November 2018 warning to doctors to “stay in their lane” intensified interest by medical providers in working with us. We have created a partnership with a coalition of trauma surgeons who are engaging their colleagues -- doctors, nurses and first responders -- across Pennsylvania. We are working with them to develop strategies to move beyond ThisIsOurLane#.

In addition to our training programs, we held our first Harrisburg advocacy day with the medical community in January 2019 where we brought supporters, partners, and medical providers from across the Commonwealth to speak with legislators about policies that can help reduce gun violence, like Extreme Risk Protection Orders and fighting gun trafficking. We are currently planning our next trip to the Capitol for health care providers; if you are interested in lending your voice, please join us!



▲ Medical Providers Rally in the Capitol Rotunda for G.V.P.



▲ Students with Rep. Dan Frankel

SPOTLIGHT: YOUTH



▲ Students with Rep. Joanna McClinton

This past year we have seen an explosion in gun violence prevention activity by young people. The March for our Lives movement sparked an interest in speaking out and advocacy, and we have been fortunate to partner with students of all ages. We held over 30 leadership institutes this past year with schools and youth groups across the Commonwealth. We discussed Pennsylvania firearms policy, often through the context of local current events such as the shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh and the decision by a Tamaqua school board to arm their teachers. We coordinated many of these sessions with students to coincide with bus trips to the Capitol to hold press conferences and speak with legislators.

We were fortunate to receive another grant this past year from the Pittsburgh Foundation, William K. Fitch Fund, for the Motivating Young Citizens Project. The grant provided for CeaseFirePA to conduct advocacy education and training programming in several high schools and after school programs in Pittsburgh. We were able to weave lessons and discussions about PA legislation and firearms policy with current events like the tragedy at the Tree of Life Synagogue and the death of Antwan Rose for a very relevant and impactful curriculum. The year culminated with a trip to the Capitol for a press conference and talks with state legislators.

The young adults we have had the opportunity to work with are engaged and eager to build their knowledge base to take the lead on gun violence prevention measures. We look forward to reaching more students and supporting their activism in the coming year.

TAKING A STAND SPOTLIGHT



KEYSTONE COURAGE AWARD

On April 7, 2019 CeaseFirePA honored Fred Guttenberg with the Keystone Courage Award. Fred has been a tireless advocate for gun violence prevention since the loss of his daughter Jaime at the tragic shooting at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland Florida on February 14, 2019. Fred has inspired us with his ability to turn enormous grief into action, aggressively pursuing strategies to enhance public safety, enact common

sense gun safety and turn out the vote through his non profit dedicated to Jaime's life called "Orange Ribbons for Jaime." At the event, Fred inspired the crowd to further action, and shared that we gave him hope that change was coming.

CeaseFirePA also presented the Lighting the Way Forward Awards to Dr. Amy Goldberg, and Scott Charles, MAPP. Dr. Goldberg is Professor and Chair of the Department of Surgery at the Lewis Katz School of Medicine, Surgeon-in-Chief of Temple University Health System. Mr. Charles is the Trauma Outreach Coordinator for Temple University Hospital and is the Director of TUH's Cradle to Grave Program, a hospital based violence prevention initiative. Through their work with trauma informed care, both Dr. Goldberg and Mr. Charles have been leaders in the movement to view gun violence prevention as a public health initiative. They are saving lives through their work in the Hospital and out in the community.

A crowd of 300 assembled to honor these heroes and commit to ongoing action to reduce gun violence. Thank you for being part of this special night. Next year, we hope you will join us when we present the Keystone Courage Award to Senator Bob Casey.



▲ Lighting the Way Forward Honorees Amy Goldberg, MD and Scott Charles, MAPP with Keystone Courage honoree Fred Guttenberg



▲ CeaseFirePA Boardmember and Keystone Courage Co-Chair Kathy Ochroch



▲ Sen. Casey and Keystone Courage Award Honoree Fred Guttenberg



▲ Keystone Courage Co-Chairs Robin Hauner and Michael Scott



▲ Jean Lee, Dr. Walter Tsou, Dr. Jeffrey Dubb and Ruth Ann Dubb

COMMITMENT TO ACTION WHAT WE DID TOGETHER

We measure success in so many ways: passing the new law to disarm domestic abusers, blocking bad policies like the Sue Our Cities bills, a full Rotunda Rally even on a snowy day, and growth in the numbers of people attending programs and taking action. This year, we have some exciting accomplishments to share -- accomplishments that you made possible by your advocacy, action taking and support!



Voter Turnout Significantly Increased in Key Districts

We targeted 50,000 voters in key districts who generally skip midterm election with a mail piece highlighting that gun violence prevention is always on the ballot. 56% of those voters showed up and voted in November 2018!



9,712 calls
to elected officials



9,877 emails
sent to elected officials



1,009 new voters
registered in Pennsylvania

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER CHALLENGE

With CeaseFirePA, we work to amplify the voices of whole communities calling for an unrelenting, determined end to gun violence.

Together we are a Force that Cannot Be Stopped because The Honickman Moving Forward Together Challenge is Coming This Fall.

STANDING TOGETHER

YOU MAKE OUR WORK POSSIBLE

Your generous support makes our work possible. We know your charitable giving is driven by many factors, and we are honored to be part of your decision. Every gift makes a tremendous impact.

Your contributions to CeaseFire Pennsylvania Education Fund, a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization, support our education and training programs and our efforts to create an informed, prepared corps of Pennsylvania activists. Your contributions to CeaseFire Pennsylvania, a tax exempt 501(c)(4) organization, support our lobbying and advocacy work.

There are many ways you can help us grow financially, beyond your own contribution. Let your friends and networks know that you support our work and give them the opportunity to learn how to do so as well. A small gathering at your home, where a CeaseFirePA team member comes to talk about our work and lead a discussion, is a great fundraiser and friend-raiser. Earlier this year, one of our Board members held a fundraiser at the gym where she trains. After a short introduction to our work, the guests were able to choose yoga or strength training. Their workouts supported our work!

Others have raised money by running in races and collecting pledges for us. We have donors who give gifts of stock, and others who give through donor advised funds. Some donors have their gifts matched by their employer. There are so many ways you can support our work. Please, reach out to our Development Director, Rhona Gerber, to help you get started, and please consult with your tax advisor as you make your charitable giving plans

Thank you for your ongoing support.



▲ Boardmember Ellen Brookstein hosted a workout fundraiser for CeaseFire Pennsylvania

LEAVING YOUR OWN GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION LEGACY

Shawn Kraemer, President



I became involved with CeaseFirePA after the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in 2012. My husband Tom and I were shaken to our core when we heard the stories of the families that lost their children at school that day.

I still say a little prayer every day when I send my kids off to school that they will return to me safely. Sadly, I know that I am not alone, as this fear has gripped our country. For

many, it is not only the growing chance of a mass shooting at a school, place of worship, or workplace that terrifies them, but the ever-present risk of gun violence in their own neighborhood or home.

The love that Tom and I have for our family is at the center of our lives, and we know that it is a value that we share with many others. That's why it breaks our hearts to know that so many Americans are torn from their loved ones by gun violence.

We believe that we have a responsibility to our fellow parents and to children everywhere to do all we can to end this epidemic. We also believe that we have a responsibility to teach our own children to give of their time, talent, and treasure to make the world more just and loving. For these reasons, we give to CeaseFirePA every year and volunteer our time.

We have also recently chosen to leave a gift to CeaseFirePA in our will. We want our legacy to be about love and justice, and we want to help CeaseFirePA continue its advocacy programs that will be needed for generations to come – whether it be safe storage, suicide prevention, or keeping our legislators committed to protecting our communities.

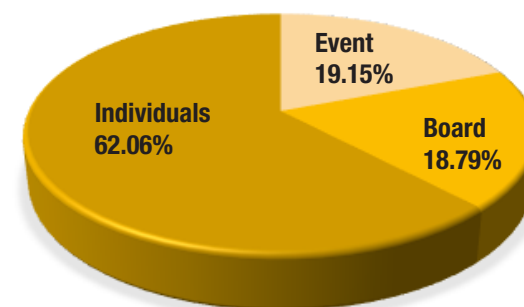
We invite you to consider joining us in ensuring that CeaseFirePA has the resources it needs to work for a safe future for our children and grandchildren. Such a gift doesn't necessarily require an attorney either – it can be as easy as naming CeaseFirePA as a beneficiary of a retirement plan or life insurance policy.

To learn more about creating your own legacy of ending gun violence and caring for future generations, please contact Rhona Gerber at Rhona.Gerber@ceasefirepa.org or 215-923-3151. If you already have included CeaseFirePA in your plans, please let us know – we would welcome the opportunity to thank you.

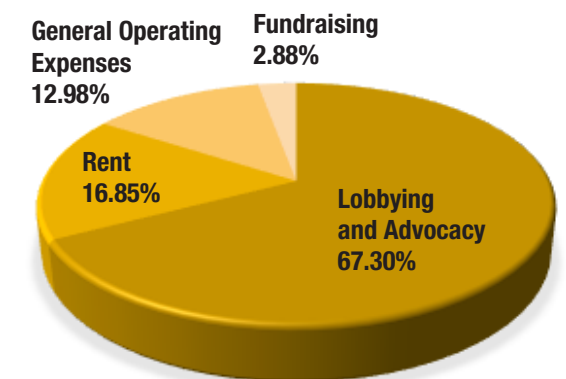
YOUR SUPPORT IN ACTION

The mission of CeaseFirePA is to end the epidemic of gun violence across the Commonwealth and our country through education, coalition building, and advocacy.

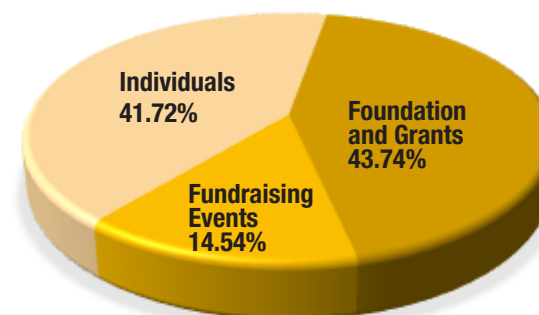
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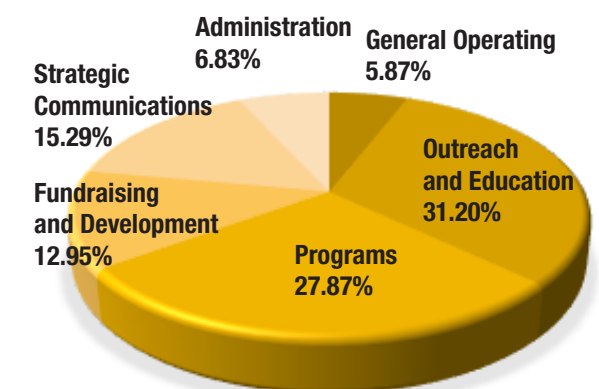
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CEASEFIRE PENNSYLVANIA EDUCATION FUND 501 C3 INCOME



CEASEFIRE PENNSYLVANIA EDUCATION FUND EXPENSES

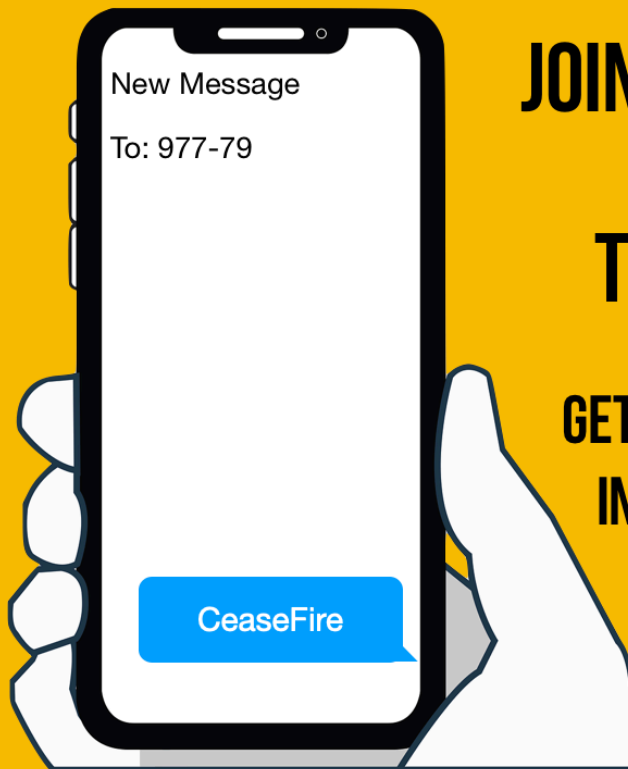


CeaseFire Pennsylvania Education Fund is a 501 (c)(3), non profit, charity organization. CeaseFire Pennsylvania is a 501 (c)(4), non profit, advocacy organization. Information for both entities may be viewed at charitynavigator.org.

CeaseFirePA

*Thank you for your support of CeaseFirePA
and for taking a stand against gun violence in the Commonwealth.*

CeaseFirePA *Taking a Stand Against Gun Violence*



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