



## **A COMMON AGENDA TO STOP GUN VIOLENCE IN PENNSYLVANIA**

Dear Pennsylvania State Senators, State Representatives, and Governor Wolf,

We, the undersigned, support a common-sense policy agenda designed to stop gun violence, an epidemic that claims approximately 1,600 Pennsylvanians every year.

Because gun violence takes so many forms--many of which are claiming more lives in the wake of this pandemic--we need different solutions to address them. We believe the following common-sense policies will best address important strains of this public health crisis:

Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs) will reduce firearms suicides, mass shootings, domestic violence, and even community violence/homicides. With an ERPO, family members can petition a judge to temporarily remove firearms from a loved one in crisis without stigmatizing them with an involuntary mental-health commitment.

Closing the Private Sale Gap in Our Background Checks System would prevent violent felons and other dangerous individuals from purchasing military-style rifles, the weapon of choice for mass shootings, from a private/non-licensed seller. A background check at the point of sale is the only surefire way to tell a "good guy with a gun" from a "bad guy with a gun."

Lost or Stolen Gun Reporting would, by increasing responsible gun-owning behavior, keep illegal firearms out of the hands of people with violent intent. By requiring gun owners to report the loss or theft of a firearm within three days of discovering the firearm is gone, this policy would reduce community violence in our most beleaguered communities by giving police a much-needed tracking tool to identify repeat offenders as probable neighborhood traffickers.

Each of these would be a significant step towards reducing gun violence--via suicide, mass shootings, homicides, domestic violence, or unintentional shootings--in our communities. Without these reforms, Pennsylvanians will continue to die. We urge you to prioritize and pass these laws in 2021-2022.

Very truly yours,

### COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Millennials In Action

TLD Building Bridges

North Side Partnership Project



Anti-Violence Partnership of Philadelphia  
Coalition for Fathering Families  
Community Responders Network  
Edgewood Neighbors for Gun Safety  
G.R.O.W.N- Elevate Your Thinking.  
International Day of Peace Committee  
MOTHERS IN CHARGE, INC  
NOMO  
Operation Better Block  
Philadelphia Anti Drug Anti Violence Network  
Recovery Christian Center Urban CDC.  
South Pittsburgh Coalition for Peace/South Pittsburgh Peacemakers  
The Greater Pittsburgh Coalition Against Violence (CAV)  
Voices Against Violence  
Homewood Homes  
IDAAY  
Jamar Place of Peace  
The Community Responders Network  
Unity and Community  
Women of Strength, United for Change

#### LOCAL OFFICIALS

Allegheny County Councilwoman Olivia Bennett  
Allegheny County Councilwoman-at-Large Bethany Hallam  
Harrisburg Mayor Eric Papenfuse  
Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto  
Pittsburgh City Councilman Bruce Kraus  
Pittsburgh City Councilwoman Erika Strassburger  
Pittsburgh City Council Corey O'Connor

#### FAITH

Congregation Dor Hadash  
Beth Am Israel, Rabbi David Ackerman  
Rodeph Shalom, Rabbi Eli Freedman  
First Reformed Church UCC, Pastor Devin Jeffers  
Gospel Fellowship Church/GHTU  
Harrisburg BiC Church, Senior Pastor Henry Johnson  
Lancaster Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Associate Pastor Carla Wilson  
Main Line Reform Temple  
National Council of Jewish Women Greater Philadelphia  
Pennsylvania Council of Churches



Pittsburgh Area Pax Christi,  
PleasMuslims of Central Pa  
Tabernacle Baptist Church  
The Episcopal Diocese of Central PA, Bishop Audrey Scanlan  
Union Lutheran Church, Lead Pastor Joel Folkemer  
Unitarian Universalist Church of the South Hills (Sunnyhill),  
United Lutheran Seminary  
UU Justice PA  
York First Church of the Brethren, Pastor Joel Gibbel  
Beth David Reform Congregation  
Beth El Temple Harrisburg, Rabbi Ariana Capptauber  
FREE Together  
FREE Together - Harrisburg & Messiah University  
Moravian Center of Lancaster  
Moving Circles-Carlisle Beloved Community

#### GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Amnesty International Group 39  
Delaware County United for Sensible Gun Policy  
Gettysburg for Gun Sense  
GunSenseUs  
Harrisburg Chapter of Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence  
Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence  
Lehigh Valley Friends of CeaseFirePA  
Orange Wave For Gun Safety  
Radnor Residents for Gun Safety  
Squirrel Hill Stands Against Gun Violence

#### SOCIAL JUSTICE

Bend the Arc Jewish Action: Pittsburgh  
Harrisburg Peace Garden Assn  
Indivisible Pittsburgh  
Lawrence County Action  
Women's Advocacy Coalition  
Progress PA  
Tuesdays with Toomey

#### PUBLIC HEALTH

American Academy of Pediatrics  
Dr. Ruth McDermott-Levy, Villanova Center for Global Health  
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia



Hamilton Health Center  
Christine Ludwick, Physician Assistant  
Health Promotion Council  
National Nurse-Led Care Consortium  
Dr. Vivek Ashok, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Pediatric Resident  
American Academy of Pediatrics, PA Chapter  
Dr. Uma Raman, St. Christopher's Hospital for Children Pediatric Resident  
PA Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Pennsylvania Public Health Association  
Philadelphia Department of Public Health  
Public Health Management Corporation

#### Survivors

Survivors Empowered  
Team 26/Sandy Hook Riders

#### Veterans

Action Tank  
Veterans Leadership Program  
RISE: Rank & File

#### Youth

Enough Greater Philadelphia  
March for Our Lives  
Mighty Writers  
Peace collective  
Turning Points for Children

#### Racial Justice

Black Women for Positive Change  
Bucks County NAACP  
The Black Political Empowerment Project (B-PEP)