

# Reference Material for Outside Partners

## International Intervention

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### Background and Introduction

NNSC significantly broadened the scope of its network in 2017 with the launch of an international portfolio. International Interventions collaborates with a diverse range of partners outside the U.S. on effective strategies to increase community safety and reduce violence. Just as we do domestically, “International Interventions” provides evidence-based violence reduction solutions to help partners reverse negative trends. Distinct from our U.S. work, our international portfolio requires significant country-based adaptation, taking into account variations in social norms, histories of violence, institutional capacity and legitimacy, and more. By building coalitions of key stakeholders in communities, sharing knowledge among cities in the NNSC network, and consulting with subject matter experts, “International Interventions” is playing a meaningful role in addressing global violence.

Guided by our [six key principles](#), we take steps to learn from our partners in an effort to fully understand the challenges they face. These steps include action research and convening local thought leaders who will work with us to adapt the framework to their context. Building coalitions of key stakeholders in the community, knowledge sharing with other cities in our network, and consulting with subject matter experts are different ways we support our partners. The goal is to achieve sustainable impact through leveraging and reallocating existing resources and social capital to implement the strategy, rather than relying on significant additional funding.

### Legitimacy

At International Interventions, we believe that successful violence reduction must be a collective effort across institutions and communities. Effective violence reduction hinges on the legitimacy of state institutions in the eyes of the community—when legitimacy goes down, violence goes up. Communities need to see law enforcement, especially the police, as fair, respectful, and on their side. Our work in the United States continuously addresses questions of legitimacy in cities and communities that have been historically marginalized and where institutions have struggled to meet the needs and demands of the people they serve. International Interventions brings this understanding of how legitimacy issues play out in practice to our global network.

As a global community we have committed to certain principles of human rights, global development, and international cooperation. We believe that NNSC approaches can be a positive

part of the solution to violence outside the U.S., just as they have been a part of the solution to reducing violence within the U.S.

## Key Articles and Relevant Information

The International Intervention team has selected a number of key pieces on evidence-based violence reduction solution known as Group Violence Intervention (GVI). The Group Violence Intervention (GVI) is designed to reduce homicide and gun violence, minimize harm to communities by replacing enforcement with deterrence, and foster stronger relationships between law enforcement and the people they serve.

The selected pieces aim to provide a clear overview on the strategy.

- Group Violence Intervention: An Implementation Guide
- An NNSC GVI Issue Brief on the intervention (Spanish version)
- An NNSC Problem Analysis Brief on the intervention (Spanish Version)
- An Implementation Review format
- An NNSC International Portfolio Overview
- Group Violence Transcending Borders
- An article on Focus Deterrence Strategies by Braga, A (2017)
- An article on Focus Deterrence by Felbab-Brown, V. (2013)
- Group Violence Intervention: A Guide for Project Managers

## ENDNOTES

1. National Network for Safe Communities webpage.

The **National Network for Safe Communities at John Jay College** supports cities to implement and advance proven strategies to reduce violence and improve public safety, minimize arrest and incarceration, strengthen communities, and improve relationships between law enforcement and communities.

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