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**Alameda County Public Health Department Release a County-wide Gun Violence
Report Amid Recent Violence Prevention Funding Cuts**

“Understanding the why behind gun violence is going to help us address this issue more effectively,” said Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley

Alameda County, CA — The Alameda County Public Health Department's (ACPHD) Office of Violence Prevention (OVP) has released a new report on gun violence in Alameda County that provides an overview of gun violence locally, explaining what factors contribute to gun violence, how gun violence impacts various communities, and what can be done about it.

“I am incredibly grateful to ACPHD's OVP for developing and releasing this report. We want our residents to be safe from gun violence and having a better understanding of the ‘why’ behind gun violence is going to help us address this issue more effectively” said Alameda County Board of Supervisor Nate Miley. “This report reflects our dedication to building safer, healthier communities through policy, education, and equity.”

The report was released in June, nationally recognized as Gun Violence Awareness Month. Its key findings include:

- Alameda County experienced increases in gun homicides during the COVID-19 pandemic; preliminary 2024 data indicates that there were 119 gun homicides, reflecting a 16 % decrease from the prior year.
- Residents living in Alameda County’s poorest neighborhoods have a gun homicide rate over 8 times higher than those living in the wealthiest neighborhoods. Programs to reduce poverty and support food, housing, and health care remain essential for the health and well-being of the whole community.
- Guns are the leading cause of death among children (ages 1-17) and transition-aged youth (ages 18-24) in Alameda County.
- Gun homicides disproportionately impact Black and brown residents. Black males make up roughly 5% of the population in the County but accounted for 48% of all gun homicide deaths from 2019 to 2023.

“These findings reaffirm the need to address the drivers of violence like poverty, early trauma, and underfunded social supports,” said ACPHD Director Kimi Watkins-Tartt. They also highlight the vital role of community violence intervention programs. At a time when



federal funding for violence prevention programs are being cut, this report is a powerful reminder that the health and safety of our communities depend on sustained investment.

OVP is committed to examining the root causes of violence, supporting community-based violence intervention efforts, and reshaping local narratives around gun violence. This report outlines a three-part public health strategy to reduce gun violence in collaboration with community partners:

- 1) Intervention: Fund and implement community violence intervention strategies to interrupt cycles of violence and support those at highest risk.
- 2) Prevention: Support prevention efforts that promote healing, create opportunity, and shift norms around gun use.
- 3) Transformation: Work with communities to eliminate structural inequities and promote peaceful and healthy families and communities.

Launched in 2023, the OVP is dedicated to addressing the impacts of violence, which harm both individual and community health. The OVP is housed within the Alameda County Public Health Department and serves to promote peaceful families and communities, which is a priority of Alameda County's Community Health Improvement Plan.

To date, OVP has allocated \$6.2 million to support over 19 community-based programs countywide. OVP is one of only a dozen county-level Offices of Violence Prevention in the United States.

Click [here](#) to read the full report titled, "*Promoting Peaceful Families and Communities: Maintaining Progress in Reducing Gun Violence in Alameda County*" and learn more about ACPHD's Office of Violence Prevention.

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About Alameda County Health

Alameda County Health is the local government agency that promotes and protects the health and well-being of all who live, work, learn, and play in the Alameda County. Across our Environmental Health, Behavioral Health, and Public Health departments, and major programs covering emergency response, access to care, and homelessness services, we coordinate and partner with community organizations support a robust safety net, build resilient communities, and improve health for all. We focus on health equity through programs and systemic change to reduce disparities for the people and communities we serve.