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***Anti-Violence Partnership Philadelphia Announces Coordinated
Community Response to End Gun Violence***

*The organization will reopen its West Philadelphia location and launch a
West/Southwest Collaborative Response to Gun Violence*

Philadelphia, PA: Anti-Violence Partnership Philadelphia (AVP), a nonprofit victim service agency that provides support services to victims of violence and co-victims of homicide, announced today the reopening of its West Philadelphia location (5548 Chestnut St.). The West/Southwest Collaborative Response to Gun Violence (WSW Collaborative) will also occupy the space. WSW Collaborative is a first-of-its-kind multi-organizational response by community, academic, health system, and government stakeholders responding to the dramatic increase in gun violence,

The reopening of the West Philadelphia site comes at a critical time in Philadelphia. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, our community has experienced exponential increases in gun violence, homicides, and victimizations. The rise in demand for social services to address the impact of the violence, set against a backdrop of limited resources, requires collaboration with social service agencies, anti-violence community groups, law enforcement, health systems, and other well-resourced institutions. The WSW Collaborative will leverage centralized infrastructure, a dedicated staff, and structured processes to collectively address the scale and complexity of gun violence in West and Southwest Philadelphia.

The WSW Collaborative is primarily composed of four key collaborators representing university, government, and community-based organizations. Joining AVP at the West Philadelphia hub is:

- Beloved Care Project, a community-based grassroots organization that aims to tackle the root causes of pain and trauma among those most impacted by violence in Philadelphia
- Penn Injury Science Center, a national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-funded Injury Control Research Center
- Philadelphia District Attorney's Office's Crisis Assistance Response and Engagement for Survivors of Homicides Unit, a municipal program that provides crisis support to a victim's family in the immediate aftermath of a homicide

Additional collaborators will include: Code Red PA, Cure Violence Philadelphia of Temple University, and the Pennsylvania John Paul Pryor Shock Trauma Center at Penn Presbyterian.

To learn more visit [AVPPhila](#).

About Anti-Violence Partnership Philadelphia: Since 1983, the Anti-Violence Partnership of Philadelphia (AVP) is the largest organization in Philadelphia whose mission is to reduce the cycle of violence. All services provided are **free** and include individual, family, and group counseling, victim advocacy, court accompaniments, grief support, crisis intervention, and early prevention training for children, their parents, teachers, and service providers.

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