



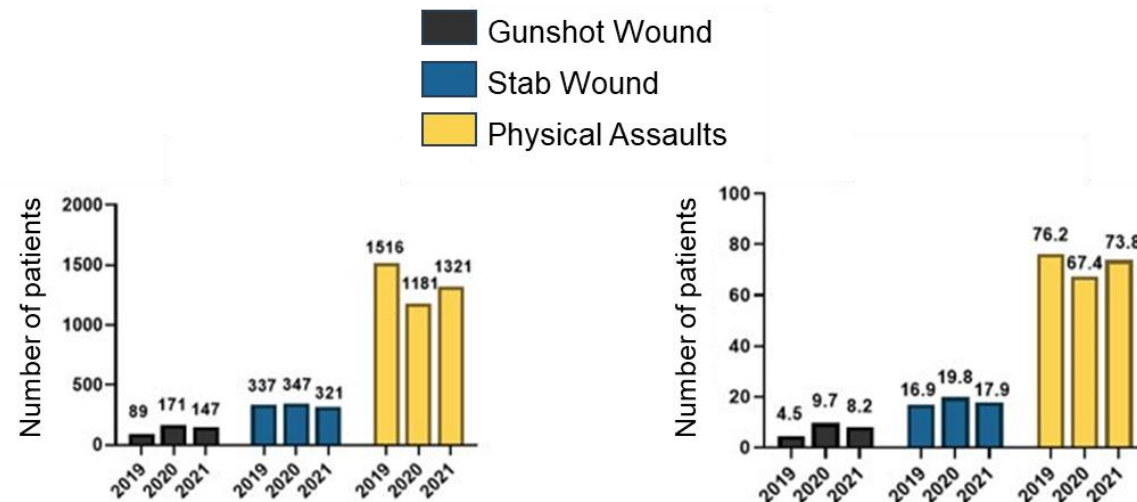
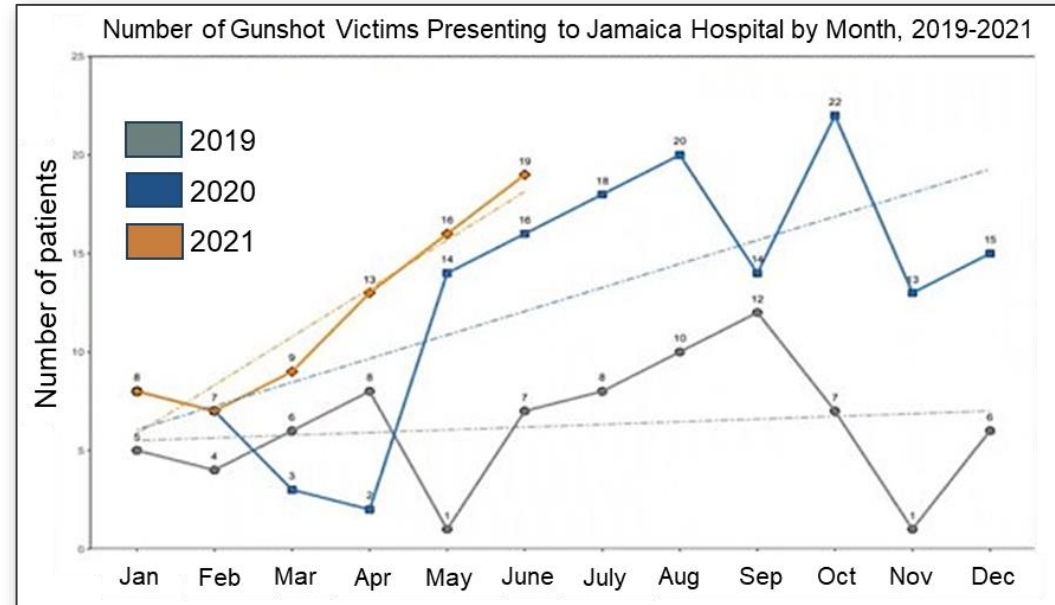
## **Violence Elimination and Trauma Outreach VETO Program at Jamaica Hospital Medical Center**

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MediSys Health Network

# Scope of the issue

- During the COVID-19 pandemic, JHMC treated **nearly twice** as many patients for gun violence.
- 20% of GSW patients were trauma recidivists
- Overwhelmingly low-income Black and Brown men with a history of justice-involvement.



## VETO program at Jamaica Hospital

The VETO Program at Jamaica Hospital Medical Center is dedicated to eliminating the cycles of violence that are endemic to our community.

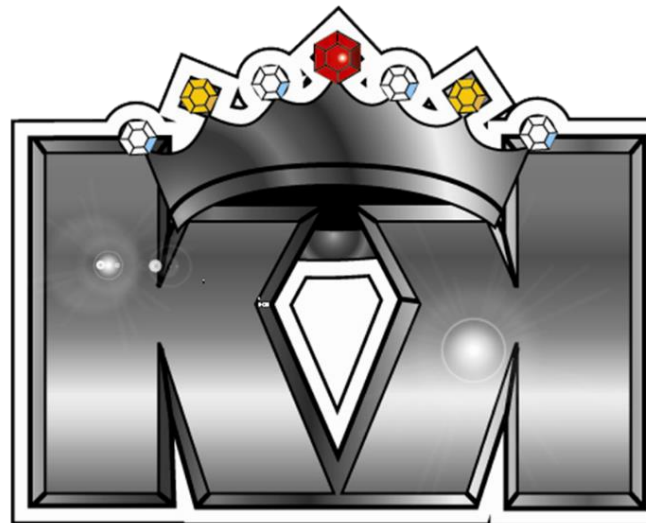
- Clinical group of physicians and nurse – treat injuries.
- Social service workers – address social determinants of health.



## Community partnerships

In the summer of 2021, JHMC signed MOUs with three local Cure Violence groups:

- King of Kings Foundation;
- LIFE Camp, Inc.; and
- Sheltering Arms- Rock Safe Streets.

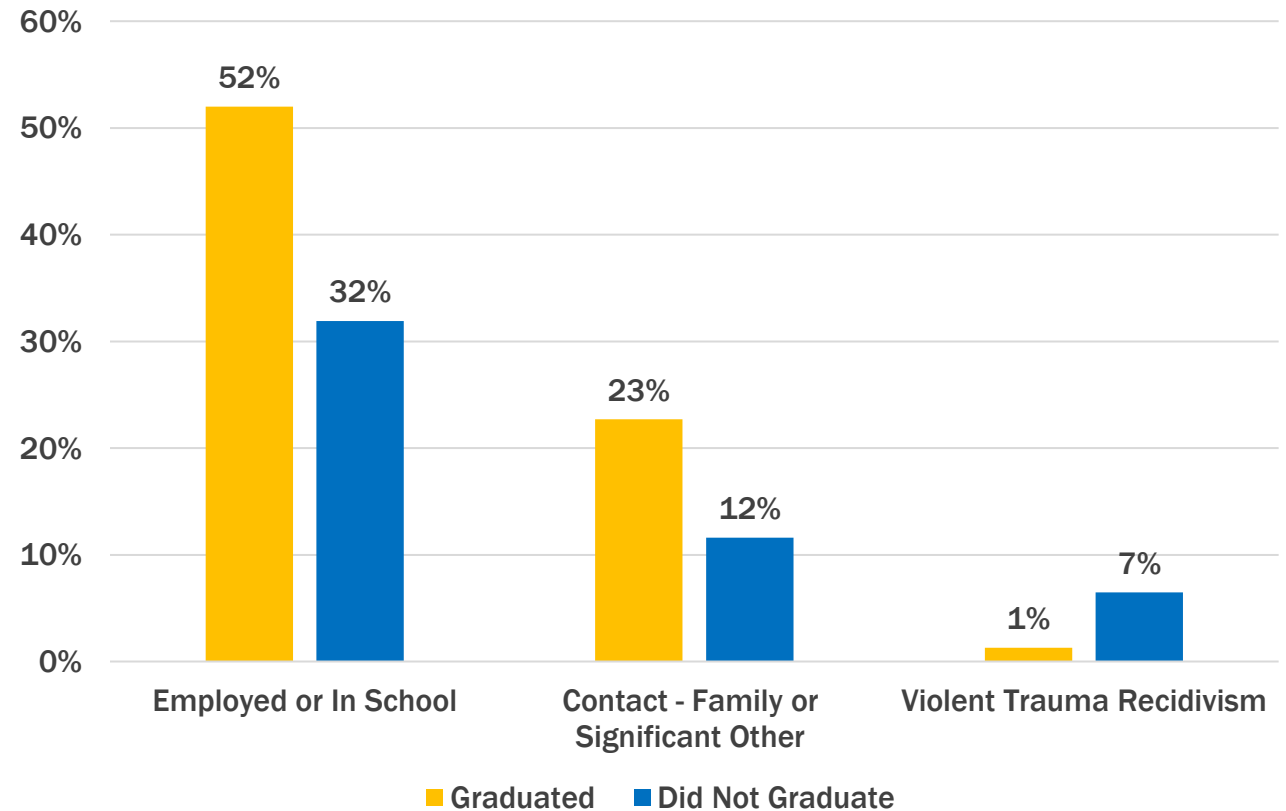


**A SHELTERING ARMS PROGRAM**

# Success stories

- Address medical and non-medical determinants of violence.
- In the first two years, 128 GSW patients were enrolled in the program.
- Enrollees and graduates had lower rates of trauma recidivism.

Sample Characteristics of GSW Patients by VETO Pilot Completion Status (N = 213)



# Challenges

- Lack of coverage after business hours and on weekends.
- Overlapping services.
- Addressing complex needs for patients and their social network.
- Medical mistrust in marginalized communities.



# What's next?

We have many exciting announcements, including hiring additional staff, establishing the THRIVE Trauma Survivor Center, and expanding targeted services.

## K-12 Violence Prevention & Response Curriculum

The CDC defines youth violence as "the intentional use of physical force or power to threaten or harm others by young people ages 10-24". It is a common adverse childhood experience (ACE) that causes long-term physical and psychological consequences. The **K-12 Violence Prevention & Response Curriculum** is a series of courses that give school-aged children & teenagers the knowledge, support, and community needed to reduce their risk of inflicting or experiencing violence.



### How does it work?

- Workshops will be delivered by the Injury Prevention Coordinator, VETO Peer Coaches, and our partner organizations.

#### Courses include:

- Conflict Mediation
- Youth Empowerment
- Healthy Relationships
- Gang Awareness 101
- Anger Management
- Stop the Bleed
- Active Shooter Response

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## V.E.T.O. PROGRAM (VIOLENCE ELIMINATION & TRAUMA OUTREACH)

### WHO ARE WE?

The VETO Program at the Jamaica Hospital Medical Center is dedicated to eliminating the cycles of violence that are endemic to the South Queens community. As our clinical group of trauma physicians and nurses focus on healing injuries, our social service workers focus on addressing non-medical determinants of health by providing violence intervention services and guidance to hospital & community resources.

### WHAT PROGRAMS DO WE OFFER?

- Comprehensive medical services for violently injured patients at the Trauma Healing & Recovery Integrative Violence Elimination (THRIVE) Survivor Center.
- Intensive case management and linkage to a wide range of resources, including education, employment, legal aid, nutrition, housing, counseling, etc.
- Trauma-informed counseling and bedside crisis response by trained violence interrupters, peer coaches, and social workers.
- Educational workshops and support groups on economic empowerment, interpersonal violence prevention, anger management, conflict mediation, and wellness.

# 466

Patients were admitted to our Level I Trauma Center due to a violent injury in 2021


# 50%

Of patients treated for gun violence had previous admissions to the hospital

# 1.2 MILLION

Residents in our catchment area in Queens and East Brooklyn

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## H.O.P.E. Program (Homicide Outreach, Prevention, and Empowerment)

Homicide wreaks catastrophic damage on families and other survivors. They're forced to emotionally cope with the death of their loved one while navigating the complex network of law enforcement, the criminal justice system, burial services, and social service providers. Through the **HOPE program**, trained peer crisis responders will assist grieving survivors as they heal from their loss.

### How does it work?

- Peer Crisis Responders are dispatched within 72 hours of a homicide to provide crisis counseling, advocacy, and referrals.
- 24-Hour service, including holidays and weekends, delivered by staff with extensive training and lived experience.
- Multiagency approach to homicide response, with involvement from law enforcement, Mayor's Office, local community-based organizations, etc.



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**ADVANCING HEALTHCARE**  
**EXCELLENCE AND INCLUSION**

# Questions?

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