



Quarterly Newsletter for Grandmothers Against Gun Violence and their supporters who show up, stand up, and speak up!

SPEAK-UP!

Day of Remembrance

The City of Seattle Day of Remembrance was sponsored by the Mayor's Office, the Alliance for Gun Responsibility and various community partners. DeVitta Briscoe, liaison for gun violence prevention and Romell Witherspoon, Youth Mentorship Director were the program M.C.'s.

The keynote speaker was Audrey Jackson, mother of the late hip-hop artist Bashar "Pop Smoke" Jackson, and Chair of the Shoot for the Stars Foundation. Her son was killed by a 15-year-old during a home invasion robbery. Mothers Impacted by Gun Violence were featured on a panel that gave purpose to why the gun violence prevention movement is so needed. Through their pain, sadness, and tears these Mothers shared coping techniques, survivor stories and tried to describe what it feels like to lose a son or daughter, or in the case of one mother a son and daughter.

Mayor Bruce Harrell and first lady, Joanne Harrell were in attendance, as well as City and Martin Luther King County Council members, including Dow Constantine and Girmay Zahilay, Chief Diaz, RISE, Community Passageways, Urban Family and community partners, faith-based and community organizations, Mothers for Police Accountability and Grandmothers Against Gun Violence. Frontline workers discussed solutions and available resources. A video emphasizing that gun violence is a health issue, the importance of research and services for survivors was also shown.

At the end of the program a video stream of over 50 photos of gun-violence victims and the date they were killed. The families of those victims wore T-Shirts with pictures of their loved ones and it was very moving (and heart-breaking) to see the loss of life. Despite the stormy weather, families turned out to honor and remember their loved ones. GAGV bookmarks were given to the children and GAGV buttons were made available to the grandmothers in attendance.

Please go to www.whereweconverge.com/seattle-day-of-remembrance to watch the whole program.



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GRANDMOTHERS AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE FOUNDATION NEWS

We have so much great news to share. Thank you to all of our donors for making it all possible!

Alice Ellyson, a past awardee, writes to say that our comparatively small grant has had a major impact on her work on Domestic Violence Protection Order firearms restrictions and their impact on protection of domestic violence victims and children. Check this link <https://newsroom.uw.edu/news/boosting-compliance-domestic-violence-weapons-orders> for her team's most recent publication. Not only is she writing for top national journals, but she has just been awarded a CDC grant to continue her investigations.

"The GAGV Foundation funded project was instrumental in providing pilot data to support our application to the CDC," said Ellyson.

She promises to let us know when the official CDC announcement is available – it may even credit Grandmothers as having backed her earlier work! Certainly she credits us.



Lars Almquist, MAPJ



Julie Kafka, PhD



Camerin Rencken, ScM



Ali Rowhani-Rahbar, MD, MPH, PhD

As does **Professor Ali Rowhani-Rahbar**, our very first awardee, who moderated the very successful September 12th program featuring the current early career researchers we backed this year. Professor Rowhani-Rahbar emphasized that our willingness to award new researchers is rare and means we can have an outsized impact through our encouragement of work that keeps bearing fruit. He also acknowledged that the field of gun violence prevention is broader and more complex every year. He applauded our supporting three different areas in our researchers receiving grants from us this year.

The first researcher to present was **Lars Almquist**, who is investigating hospital-based intervention programs as a response to community gun violence. He will have more to tell us about what works in these programs when he reports again in the spring. Meanwhile, it was fascinating to realize that focusing on neighborhoods to prevent gun violence might miss the mark: networks of people may be a more helpful way to understand and influence, as these hospital-based programs do.

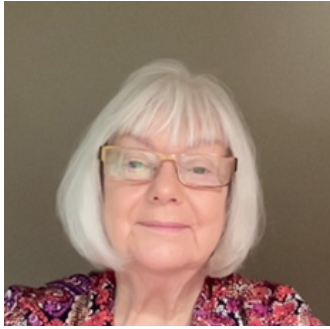
The second presenter was **Julie Kafka**, a post-doctoral fellow in the Firearm Injury and Policy Research Program whose already-award-winning work focuses on domestic violence and firearm safety. She intends to get a better understanding of what goes into domestic violence situations that lead to murder and suicide. As you may imagine, this is a complex area to tackle and Dr. Kafka's work is likely to have a strong influence on further research and policy development.

Our third awardee was **Camerin Rencken**, who is interested in the mental health impact of school shootings, not just in terms of people directly involved, but beyond. She may have a way to begin to see what happens to parents when such tragedies occur, whether their children are "in" the incidents or not. Her work promises to sharpen our picture of what gun violence is doing to our society and may give us new ideas about what needs to happen next.

All awardees will have updates for us in the Spring. Your donations to the GAGV Foundation are underwriting and enabling inquiries into domestic violence protection orders, hospital-based community interventions, murder/suicide as an outcome of intimate partner violence, and mental health impacts of school shootings.

After just a few short years we can see that our awards truly help get careers in gun violence prevention going and contribute directly to the findings that will help make better policies and a safer society. Thank you again. Every dollar counts.

Diane Gordon Joins the GAGV Board as Co-Chair of the Legislative Committee



Diane Gordon, Co-Chair,
Legislative Committee

Diane Gordon is a Pacific Northwest native and has a BA in Business from the University of Washington. She completed her MBA work at St. Martin's College in Olympia. She retired after 50 years in accounting and finance for non-profit and governmental entities. Diane is active with GAGV, Moms Demand Action, Everytown for Gun Safety, Citizen's Climate Lobby and the Meaningful Movies Project. She has also volunteered with organizations focusing on climate change, childcare accessibility, developmentally disabled adults, and rank choice voting.

Diane first became involved with the gun violence prevention movement after a showing of the film "Parkland Rising" for the Meaningful Movies Project.

The speakers were Jane Weiss and April Schentrup. The movie and speakers had a profound effect on her. She joined Moms Demand Action and works a weekly call shift as well as serving as Lead for the Northeast US organizing callers. Diane joined GAGV in 2021 and participated in the last three Lobby Weeks.

In July, her grandchildren were in Whistler, British Columbia, Canada walking out of an ice cream shop when a targeted shooting took place. Their trauma has strengthened her resolve to use her time to promote gun violence prevention and awareness of the impact on survivors.

Senator Dianne Feinstein 1933-1923



Senator Dianne Feinstein

Grandmothers Against Gun Violence salutes Senator Dianne Feinstein for her decades of bold leadership in San Francisco and the United States Senate. She was the absolute leader on the Assault Weapons Ban of 1994 and launched a new bill to ban these horrific instruments in 2022. No doubt her personal experience with the gun violence deaths of her colleagues, San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk, inspired action.

However, inspiration alone is insufficient. Leadership requires vision and persistence. Senator Feinstein manifested these and we are all grateful and full of respect for this trailblazing woman. Grandmothers expresses its sincere condolences to her family and friends. Her legacy inspires us.

Grandmothers Care - Safe Storage Saves Lives



The Grandmothers Against Gun Violence are focused on gun violence prevention and intervention. More than 1,300 children and teens have been killed by guns so far this year. Firearms are the leading cause of death among children and youth. Using a gun safe, gun lock box, a trigger lock or a chamber lock can help reduce deaths or injuries by a firearm.

Please stop taking chances with our grandchildren's futures! Safe Storage saves lives.

We Show Up!



Our goal is to get exposure for the need for gun safety, and bring attention to the epidemic of gun violence. Grandmothers pictured here at Day of Remembrance, Show Ups on the 14th at Franklin High School Overpass, Magnolia Farmer's Market, Waiting for the Interurban in Fremont neighborhood. Remember to wear ORANGE! Show Ups are held on the 14th of every month, 3:00 PM-4:00 PM. Check our website for future locations and more information.

Grand Conversation 4.0 Justice in Our Time of Gun Violence

OCTOBER 17, 2023 5:00 PM PST



Speaker,
Lara Zarowsky
Executive Director,
Washington Innocence
Project



Speaker,
Charlotte Whitmore
Supervising Staff Atty.,
Boston College
Innocence Program



Moderator,
Naomi Ishisaka
Seattle Times

Grandmothers Against Gun Violence, the Alliance for Gun Responsibility and the Museum of History and Industry work together to strengthen gun violence prevention and to address social inequities. We invite you to learn more about The Innocence Project.

The Innocence Project works to free the innocent, prevent wrongful convictions, and advance the innocence movement. It has been at the forefront of criminal justice reform. Hundreds of wrongfully convicted people have been freed or exonerated due to their efforts.

Please join us for this virtual program as we learn about the importance of their work and the lives changed by their endeavors.

Please register here