



SPEAK-UP!

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

GAGV Foundation Research Update

BY KAY BEISSE, PAST CHAIR, GAGV FOUNDATION

The Grandmothers Against Gun Violence Foundation is pleased to provide this update on two funded research projects that are currently underway. With a grant awarded to the UW School of Medicine, the Foundation is supporting a study in King County of firearm threats and violence against children and youth who are exposed to domestic violence. The study is evaluating the extent to which Domestic Violence Protection Orders that include removal of firearms protect children and youth from gun violence. Dr. Alice Ellyson, the study’s principal investigator, has submitted a detailed interim report that confirms the project is meeting its goals and is on target for completion this summer. With a grant awarded to the UW School of Social Work, the Foundation is supporting the development of a suicide prevention curriculum that is being pilot tested with parents and caregivers in two school districts in central Washington.

The *Asking is Caring* curriculum includes lethal means safety training to promote safe storage of firearms and medications in the home. It also trains parents and caregivers to have conversations with their youth about mental health and suicidal thoughts to reduce the risk of youth suicide, firearm injury and death. In their interim report, the research team of Dr. Jennifer Stuber and Taylor C. Ryan indicates the project is progressing well and is on track for completion this summer.

Cindy Jackson, Foundation Vice-Chair and liaison to the project, was invited to observe the initial trainings. Cindy reports that the researcher team shows great dedication to the project and has been nimble in adapting to pandemic-related restrictions.

The Foundation Board commends both research teams for their accomplishments to date and looks forward to sharing findings from these studies in the September GAGV Program Meeting.

<https://www.foundationgrandmothersagainstgunviolence.org/>



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Speak up Staff

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LADONNA KENNY
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Contributors

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JENNIFER DOLAN-WALDMAN
VICKI YOUNG



Success during the 2022 Legislative Session

SB 5078
 HB 1630
 HB 1705
 HB 1941

BY JENNIFER DOLAN-WALDMAN, LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR

Finally, after six years, this session passed SB 5078 limiting the capacity of gun magazines to 10. Gun magazines are add-ons to guns that enable more bullets to be fired in a very short time and have been used in many mass shootings. Additionally, we saw the passage of House Bill 1630 which bans open carry of firearms in local government buildings during public meetings. It also prohibits open or concealed carry at school board meetings. Finally, House Bill 1705 restricts the manufacture, assembly, or sale of “ghost guns” which are untraceable and are often used by people who cannot pass background checks.

Governor Inslee signed all three bills into law on March 23rd with several Grandmothers in attendance.

We were also very pleased to see the passage of HB 1941 which bans the use of school “active shooter drills” which have been shown to be upsetting to children and unnecessary because of the other drills already required.

“On behalf of the hundreds of Grandmothers who advocated to pass these vital public safety measures, we applaud the legislators on both sides of the aisle who voted in favor of these responsible and enforceable gun violence protection laws. These laws will save lives and build on our mission to advance commonsense reform at the local, state and national levels.”
 GAGV co-founder and past chair, Margaret Heldring



GAGV Co-founder and Past Chair, Margaret Heldring



Grandmothers with Governor Jay Inslee and First Lady, Trudy Inslee (Member of Grandmothers), and Chief of Staff, Jamila Thomas,

GAGV Vice Chair, Cherie Rowe Proctor

Representatives from Moms Demand Action, Alliance for Gun Responsibility, Grandmothers Against Gun Violence, Governor Jay Inslee and Legislators



Senator Jamie Pedersen, Attorney General, Bob Ferguson and Grandmothers, Jennifer Dolan Waldman, Sarah J.E. Dean, Winona Hollins Hauge and Margaret Heldring

Membership Is Growing!

BY LADONNA KENNY, COMMUNICATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBER

It is not too late to join or renew your membership for 2022! Grandmothers has 799 active members, 442 historical supporters, two honorary life members and we have already welcomed 52 new members and 430 renewed members this year. Go to our website to join or renew.

The committee is working to expand GAGV information sharing at local Farmer's Markets this spring and summer, with plans for participation in 4-5 markets and organizing help from members of other committees. The Membership Committee is continuing its placement of GAGV brochures at local libraries and expanding the number of participating libraries across the region.

52
New
430
Renewed
and
799
Active

The Foundation Sponsors UW Information School Capstone Project

BY KAY BEISSE, PAST CHAIR, GAGVF FOUNDATION

This year the Foundation has launched a new initiative to sponsor a *Capstone Project* in the University of Washington's Information School. The Information School offers an undergraduate degree in Informatics which is the study of the application of information technology to real-world problems. In the Capstone Project, near the end of their studies, students work with community-based organizations to apply skills they have learned in the program to support the organization's goals. Jill McKinstry, Foundation Treasurer, UW Librarian Emerita and the inspiration for this project—along with members of the Research Committee, are working with a team of four Informatics students to create enhancements to our website.

In this project entitled "*Translating Gun Violence Research into Action*," the students are creating graphics, data visualizations, and other website features to highlight the risks of gun ownership for children and youth and present specific gun safety steps families can take to protect their children and youth.

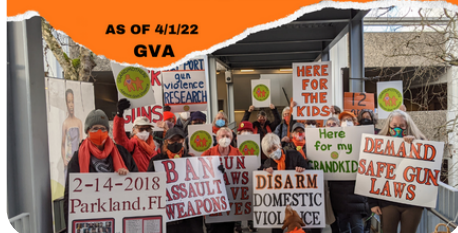
This project is a wonderful opportunity for the Foundation to engage young people in gun violence prevention research and education. Additionally, GAGVF benefits from the students' skills to improve our website.

We will share more details about the project in the next edition of this newsletter.


Why We Stand up! Show up! and Speak up!

**4,567
GUN DEATHS
ALREADY IN
2022**

AS OF 4/1/22
GVA



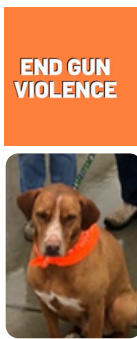
**44,577
GUN
DEATHS
IN 2021**



**241
CHILDREN
SHOT
1,052
TEENS
SHOT**

SINCE
4/1/22
GVA





We Show up to Make the World a Safer Place for All Children

BY VICKI YOUNG, SHOW UP COORDINATOR

Fifty-one Grandmothers and Grandfathers have attended one or more of the monthly Show-Ups since we started on August 14th, 2021. We are still going strong! You are our driving force and have shown up in rain, wind, and shine. Thank you for your commitment to GAGV and safer gun laws.

We would like to hear from you about good Show Up locations in your own communities. Our goal is to get as much exposure as possible for GAGV and our message. Meeting late afternoons during the week in locations where traffic volume is high meets our goal. So far, pedestrian overpasses on surface streets have worked well, but it can be anywhere with a high volume of commuter traffic.

The April 14th Show Up will be from 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm at the pedestrian overpass on Holman Rd NW and 13th Ave NW in Seattle. See you there and don't forget to wear ORANGE! We will stand on the overpass as usual, but also on street level for those who prefer to be closer to the commuting public.

We welcome any suggestions you may have to make our Show ups even better! Keep up the good fight!
<https://www.grandmothersagainstgunviolence.org/upcoming-events>



Meg, Maggie,
Margaret
Chocolates
and/or
Half Price
Membership



Hannah Marcus,
Membership
Committee
Co-Chair

GREAT GIFT IDEAS for Moms and Grandmoms on Mother's Day

The Membership Committee is offering two gift opportunities for Mother's Day. Meg, Maggie, Margaret Chocolates will again offer its delicious, handmade chocolates for sale with a portion of each sale going to support GAGV.
<https://www.megmaggie.com/>

Also, the Membership Committee is offering a special half price 2022 Membership for current members to gift for Mother's Day. Visit our website for more information.

WHY I JOINED Grandmothers Against Gun Violence

"Because I have two beautiful grandsons who deserve to grow up...because all grandchildren deserve to grow up...because going to school shouldn't include the fear of being shot at... because too many of our young are dying from gun violence... because I enjoy the company of other wise, passionate women who like me are in our *third act*."

Hannah Marcus