



# Youth Violence Prevention: Merging the Science of Prevention & the Art of Community Collaboration

Brain Injury Association of Kansas & Greater Kansas City Conference

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# KU Center for Community Health & Development

## Research & Evaluation

- Community change & improvement
- Helping groups use data to evaluate their efforts

## Teaching & Training

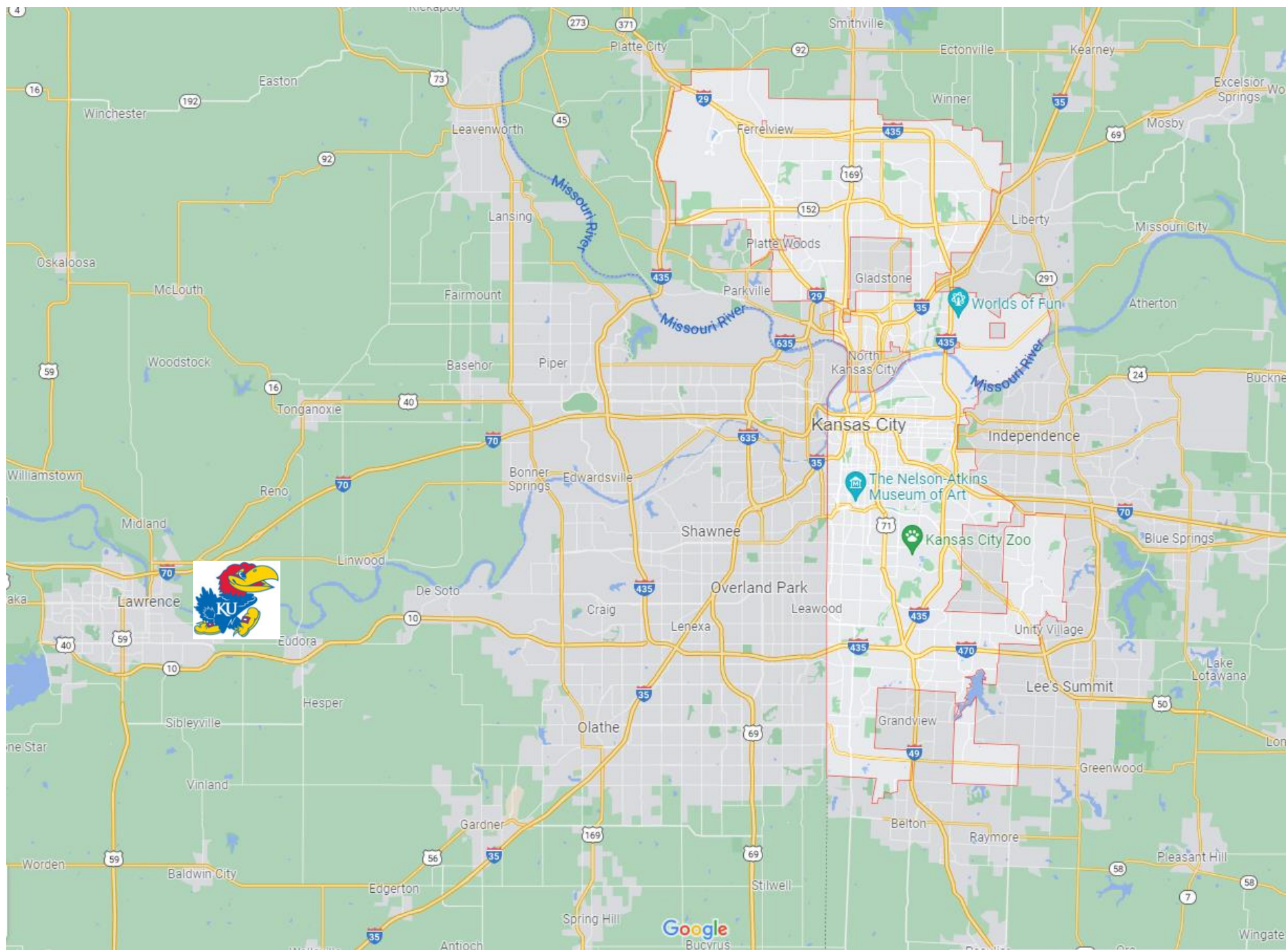
- Undergraduate & graduate training in community health & development
- Joint MPH & PhD

## Public Service

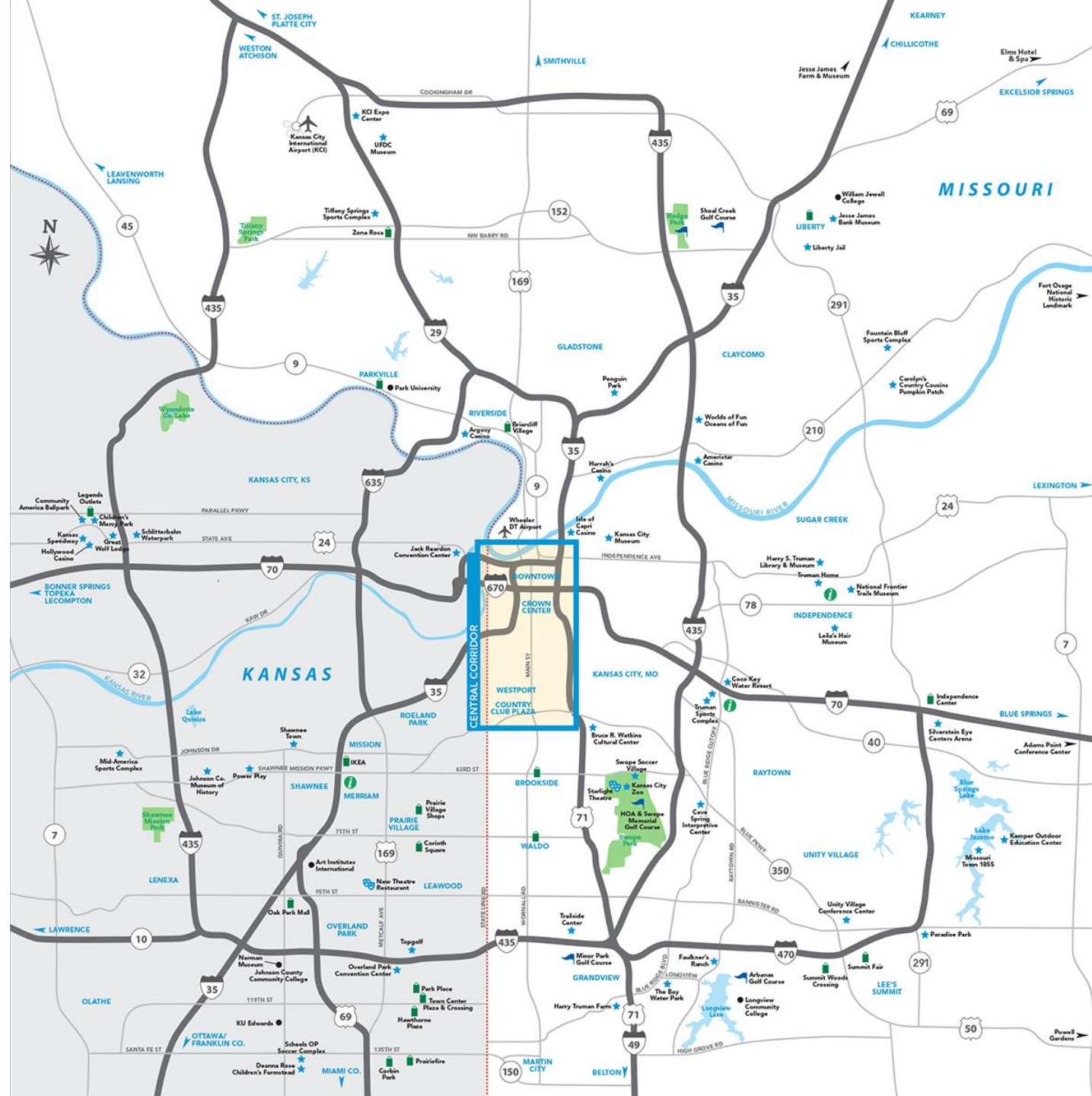
- Community Tool Box (CTB)
  - Free online community-building resources

## Technical Support

- Participatory evaluation
- Community Check Box (CCB)
- Implementation support & consultation
- Assessments & strategic planning







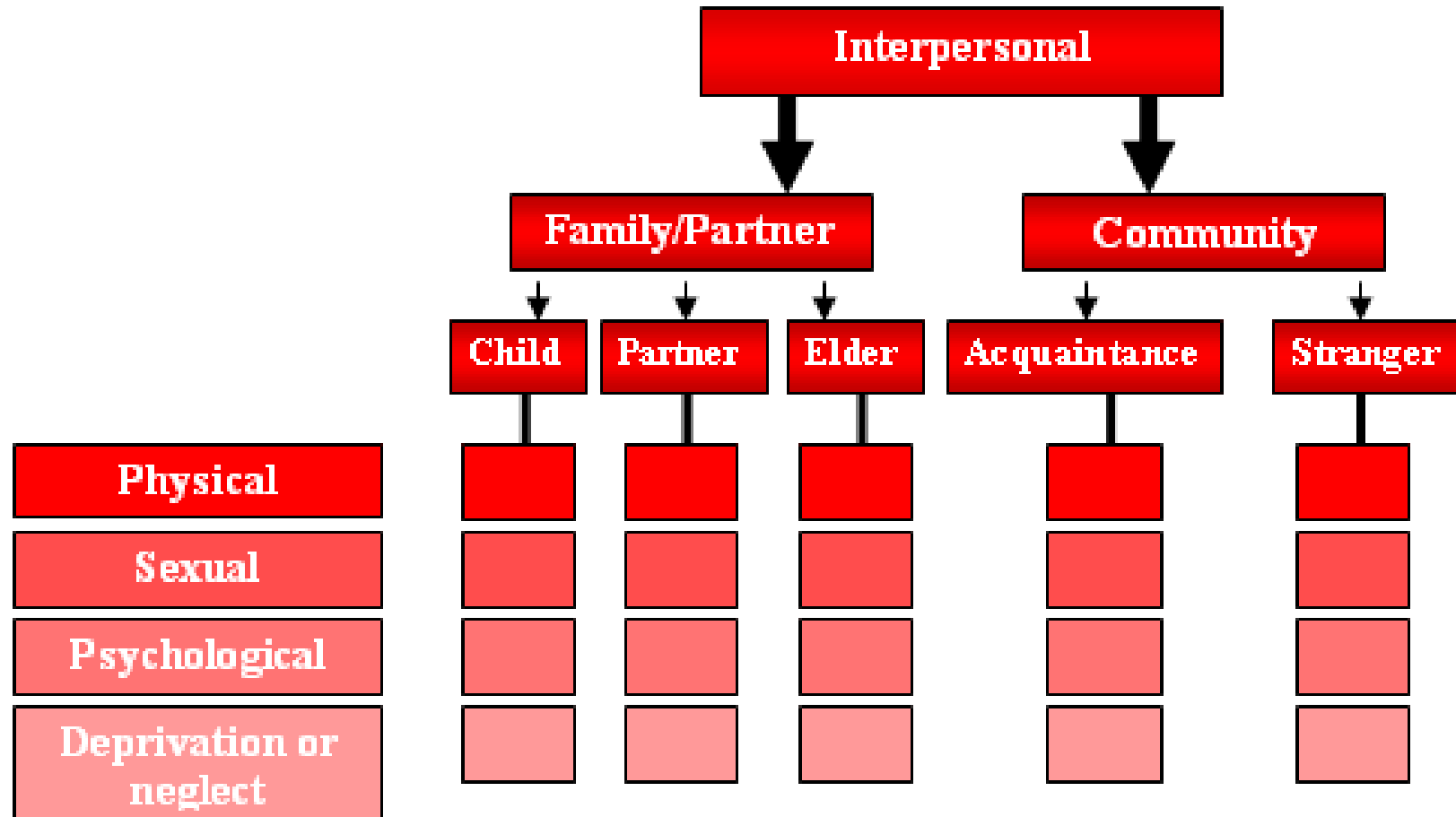
# Together Helping Reduce Youth Violence for Equity (ThrYve)

- Community-based youth violence prevention & intervention program in Kansas City, KS
  - ThrYve aims to support and empower youth to positively develop in a safe community through improving youth outcomes and promoting more equitable conditions.
- Youth served ages 13-20, primarily racial and ethnic minorities
  - Service area prioritized by areas in community most impacted by violence
- Engagement of youth, families, & community members
  - Collaborative network of youth opportunities (e.g., programs, training, outreach efforts)

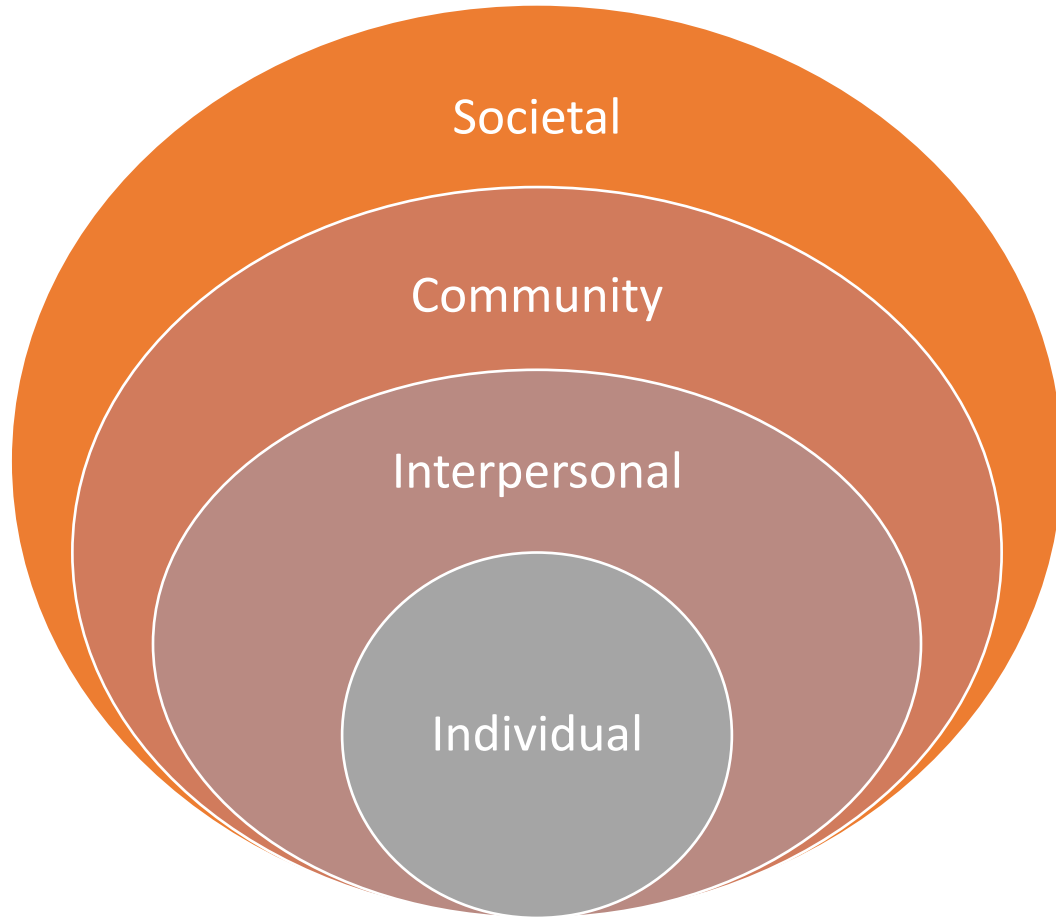
# Violence Defined

*“The intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment, or deprivation.”*

# Typology of Violence



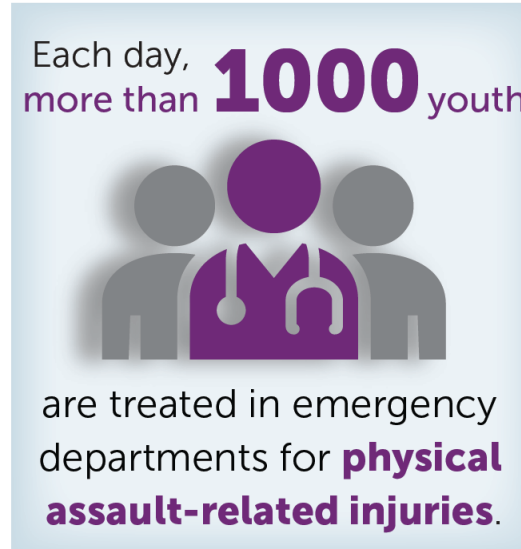
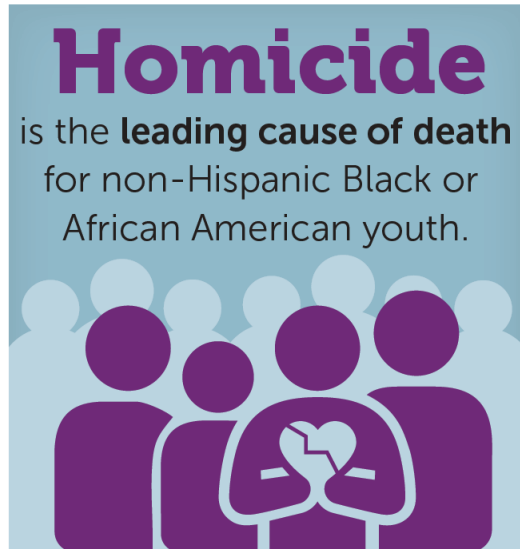
# Social-Ecological Model



- Framework for Prevention



# Youth Violence & Public Health



National Center for Injury Prevention and Control  
Division of Violence Prevention





- **Public Health Connects Us All**

- Public health is the science of protecting and improving the health of people and their communities. This work is achieved by promoting healthy lifestyles, researching disease and injury prevention, and detecting, preventing and responding to infectious diseases.

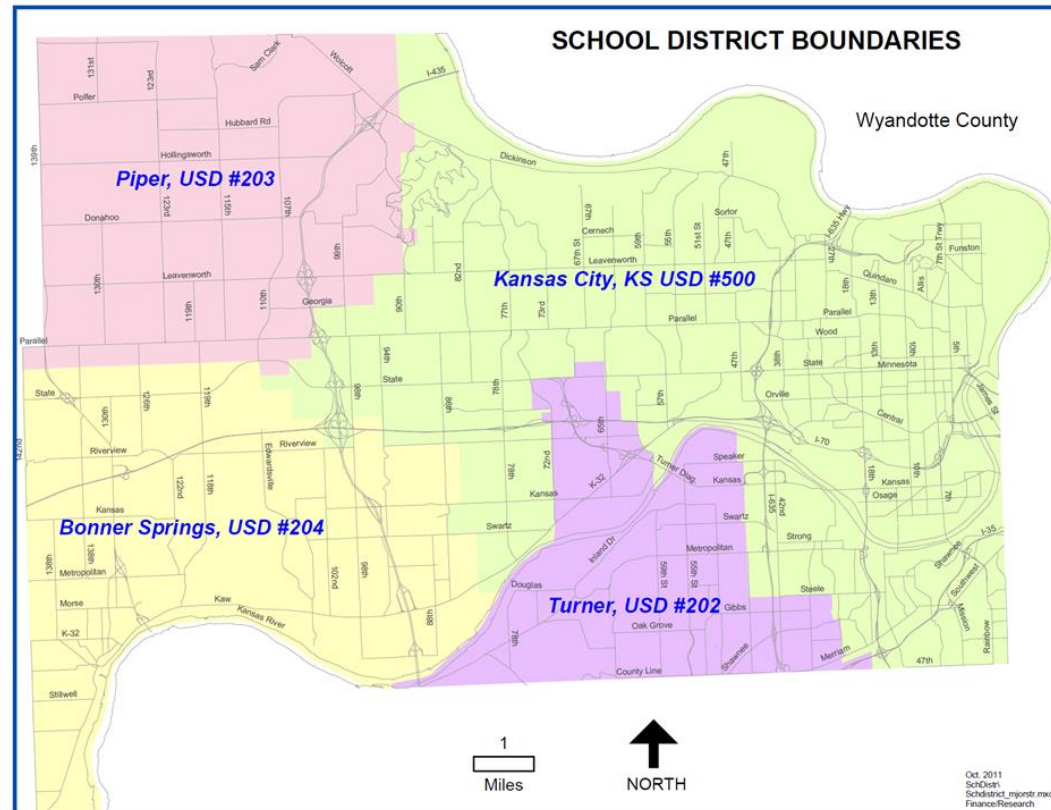
# Background on Violence: KC Local Statistics

Nearly,  
**30%**  
homicides  
involve youth  
victims

**81%**  
Youth victims  
racial/ ethnic  
minorities

**23**  
Youth deaths  
KCKPS 2019-2020

# Kansas City, KS Public Schools (KCKPS, USD 500)



- USD 500 is largest school district in Wyandotte County, KS.
  - 30 Elementary Schools (K-5)
  - 8 Middle schools (6-8)
  - 4 Senior High Schools (9-12)
  - Sumner Academy of Arts & Science (8-12)
  - 2 Alternative Schools

Race & Ethnicity	Percent	
	Overall	12-17 y/o
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	0.5%	1.4%
Asian alone	5.2%	3.4%
Black or African American alone	22.4%	15.3%
Hispanic or Latino	30.7%	23.9%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	0.2%	
Two or More Races	6.5%	
White alone	53.9%	40.0%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	37.3%	16.1%

Percent Living in Poverty by Census: Priority Areas, City, & County (All Ages)

Location:	Percent in Poverty:		
	2013-2017 ACS <sup>10</sup>	2000 Decennial <sup>3</sup>	1990 Decennial <sup>4</sup>
Wyandotte High	34.6%	27.2%	28.7%
Kansas City, Kansas	22.3%	17.1%	17.9%
Wyandotte County	21.4%	16.5%	17.1%





**Carl B. Bruce**  
Middle School



**Sumner**  
Academy of Arts and Science



**Wyandotte**  
High School

# Current ThrYve Youth Served

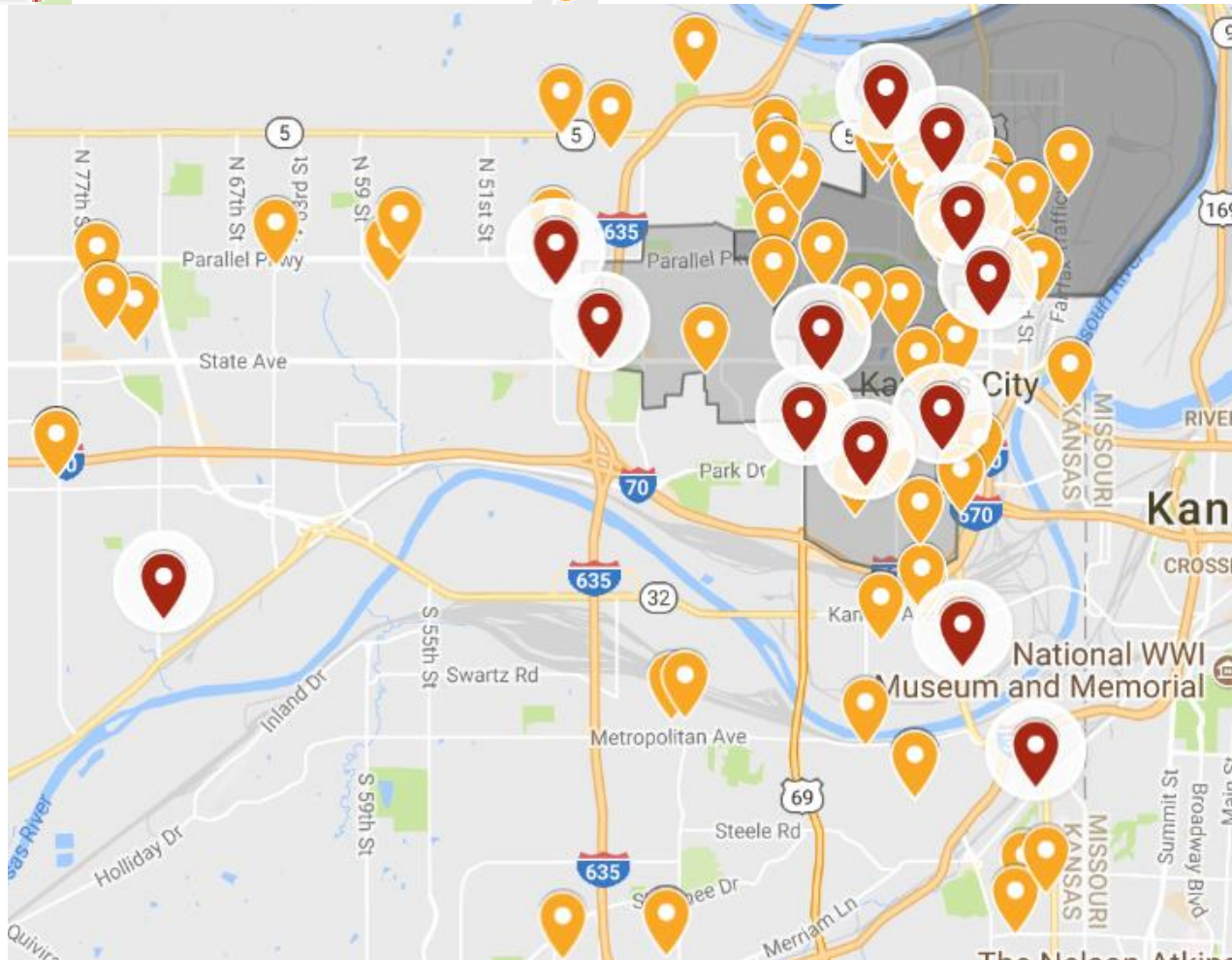
Grades 8-12



**Youth Homicide**



**Adult Homicide**



**Wyandotte**  
High School

**WYHS Cluster**  
**Zip Code Areas**

**66101**

**66102**

**66104**

**66105**

**66115\***

# **ThrYve Approach** Together Helping Reduce Youth Violence for Equity

Universal: Broader Community-Level Strategies

Focused Supports for Youth to Address Social Determinants

## Systems Advisory Board

### Collaborative Action Teams & Initiatives

- Youth Opportunities
- Youth Justice & Crime Prevention
- Trauma, Social Services, & Supports
- Parent, Family, & Community Engagement

### Community Change Levers

- Youth Advisory Board
- ThrYve4Change Academy

## Youth Violence Prevention Programs

Hospital-Based Violence Prevention Program (REVIVE)

School-Based Violence Prevention Supports (Peer Mediation)

Community-Based Violence Prevention Supports (CPTED)

## Out-of-School Time Supports

Community-Based Program Menu (Leadership, Social-Emotional, Life Skills, Soft Skills)

Preferred Leisure Alternatives for Youth (PLAY)

Cultural Enrichment, Service & Leadership Activities

## Education, College, & Career Readiness

College Readiness, Access, & Academic Coaching (LEAD UP)

Academic Enrichment Supports & Tutoring

Employment Prep & Career Readiness Training Menu

## Youth & Family Navigation

Near Peer Youth Navigators

Life Coaching Teams

Parent/Guardian & Family Engagement Support

## Comprehensive Approach to Prevent Youth Violence Across Socio-Ecological Levels

Citation: Center for Community Health and Development. (2018). ThrYve Approach. Lawrence, KS University of Kansas.

Retrieved from <https://wethrYve.org>

# **ThrYve Approach**

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# Out-of-School Time Supports

- Weekly in-person curriculum delivery focused on skill development (leadership, social-emotional, life skills, healthy relationships, conflict resolution, soft skills)
- Individual-level supports
- Social emotional check-ins
- Academic check-ins
- Referrals
- Summer Menu
- Partner opportunities



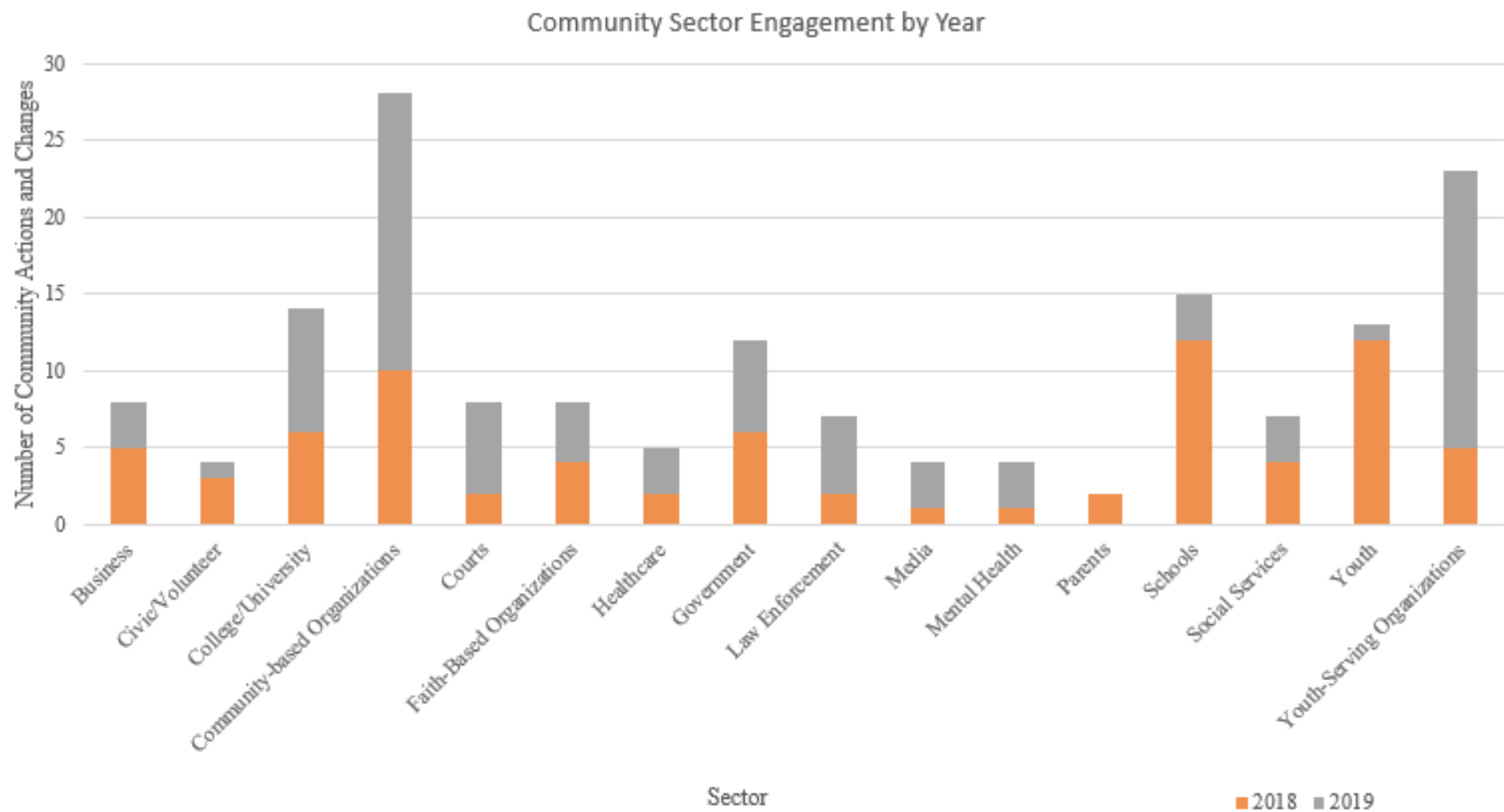
# ThrYve Data Examples

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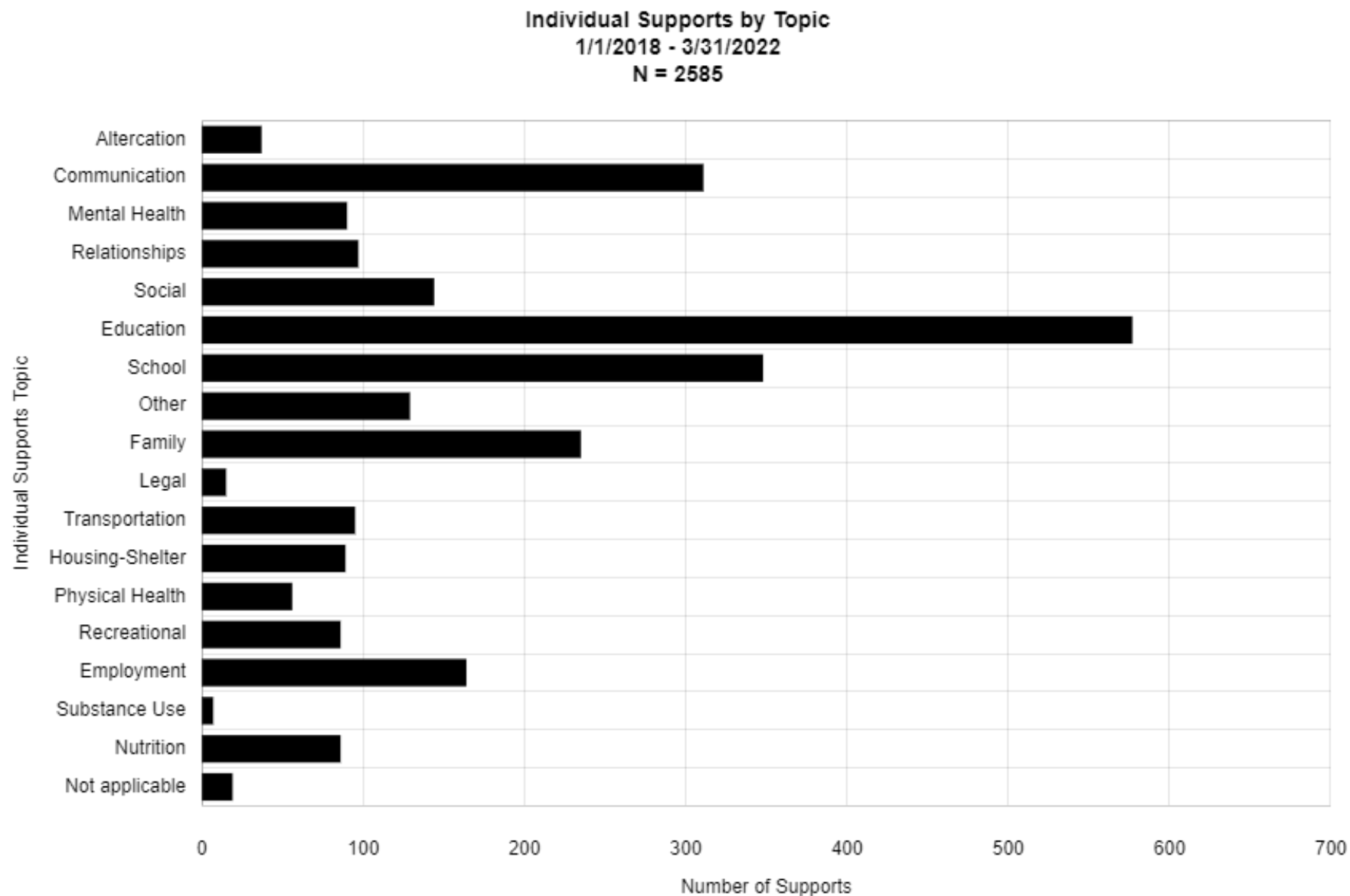
2016 - Present



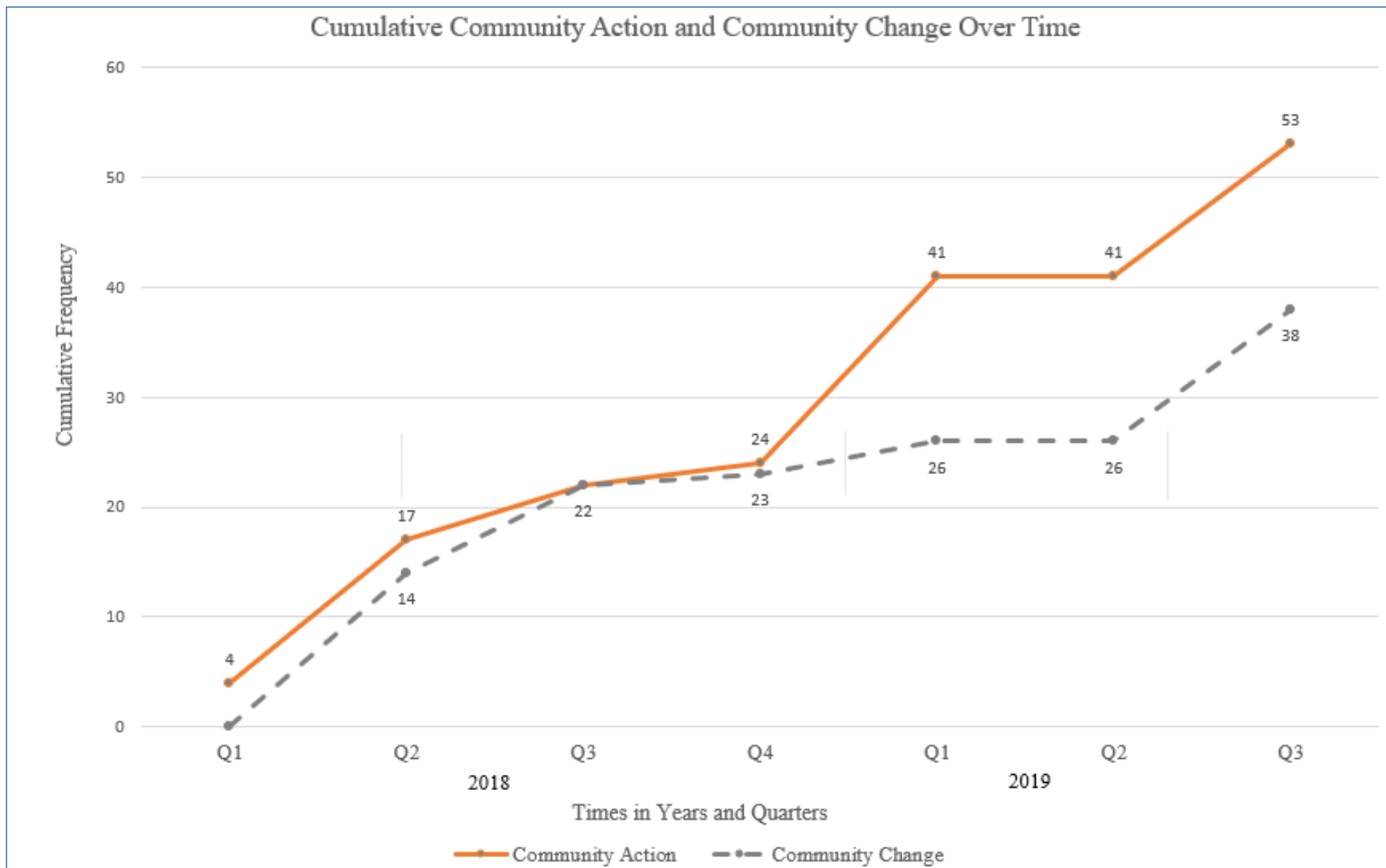
Incident Type	Example
Homicide	Youth mother victim of domestic violence
Shooting	ThrYve participant shot at 2am. The vehicle was shot approximately 50 times and the youth was struck 7 times. Youth is in critical condition but is stable at this time.
Theft	Group of youth involved in theft during program outing. Discussion with youth, returned to store to return items and submit apology and reflection letter.
Peer Conflict	Three youth were involved in an altercation with each other during programing. The altercation was initiated when youth were having a 4 corners chat about who they are and what they want to be in life. During the session, one youth made outbursts and cursed at peers. Staff conducted 1-on-1 mediation followed by group session.



Source: Watson-Thompson, J., Jessop, N., Hassaballa, I., Vanchy, P., Henderson, J., & Moore, C. (2020). Together Helping Reduce Youth Violence for Equity (ThrYve): Examining the development of a comprehensive multisectoral approach to youth violence prevention. *American journal of community psychology*, 66(3-4), 244-255.



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# Side by Side Comparison of Current HVIPs

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**REVIVE:**

**A collaboration  
to help reduce  
youth violence**



KU

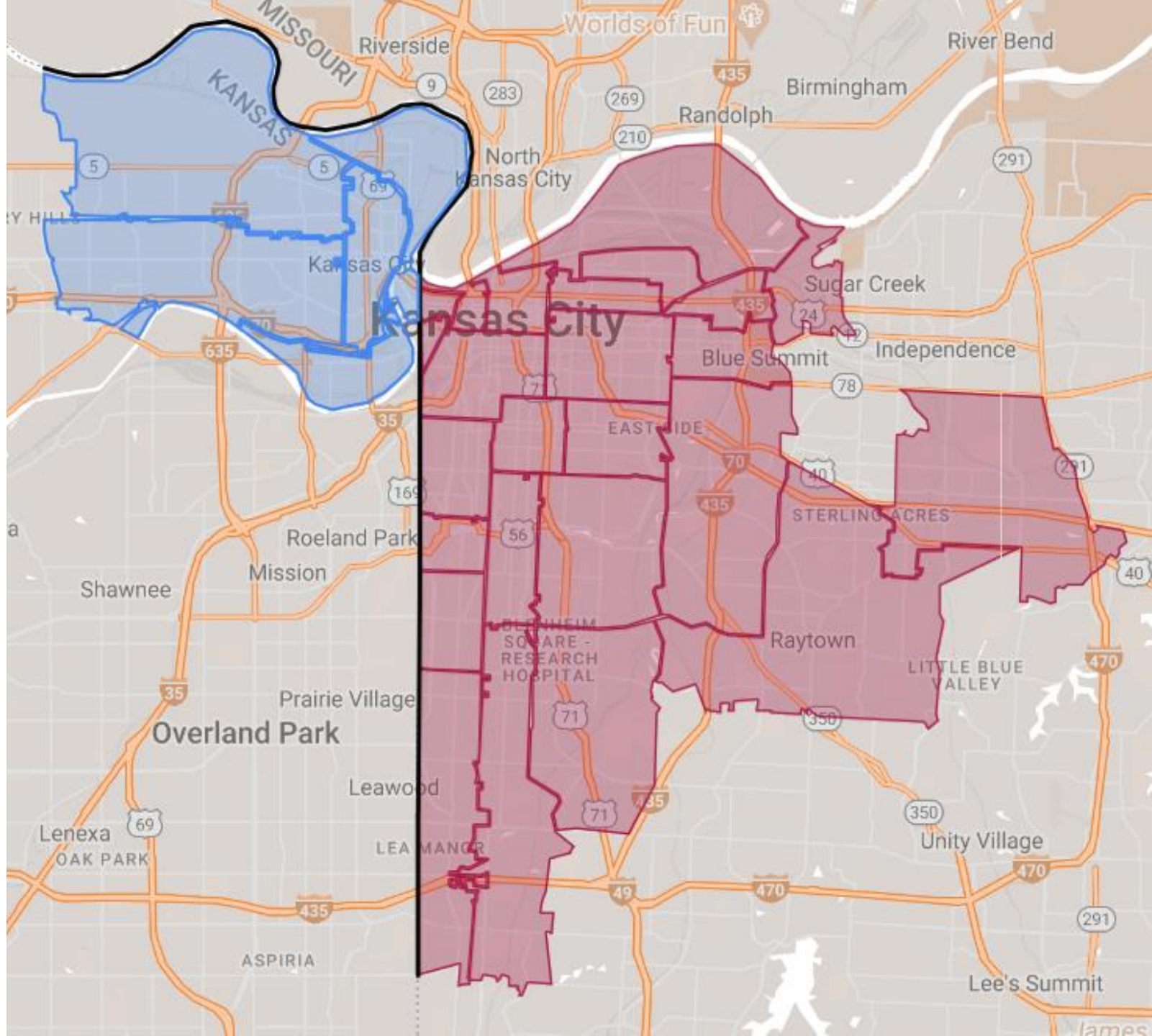
**Aim4  
PEACE**

### REVIVE

- Kansas City, KS
- Est July, 2020
- Partner Hospital: University of KS Hospital System
- Population Served: Youth 12-24 y/o who have experienced interpersonal violence (excl. DV)
- 2022 Referrals: 54

### Aim4Peace

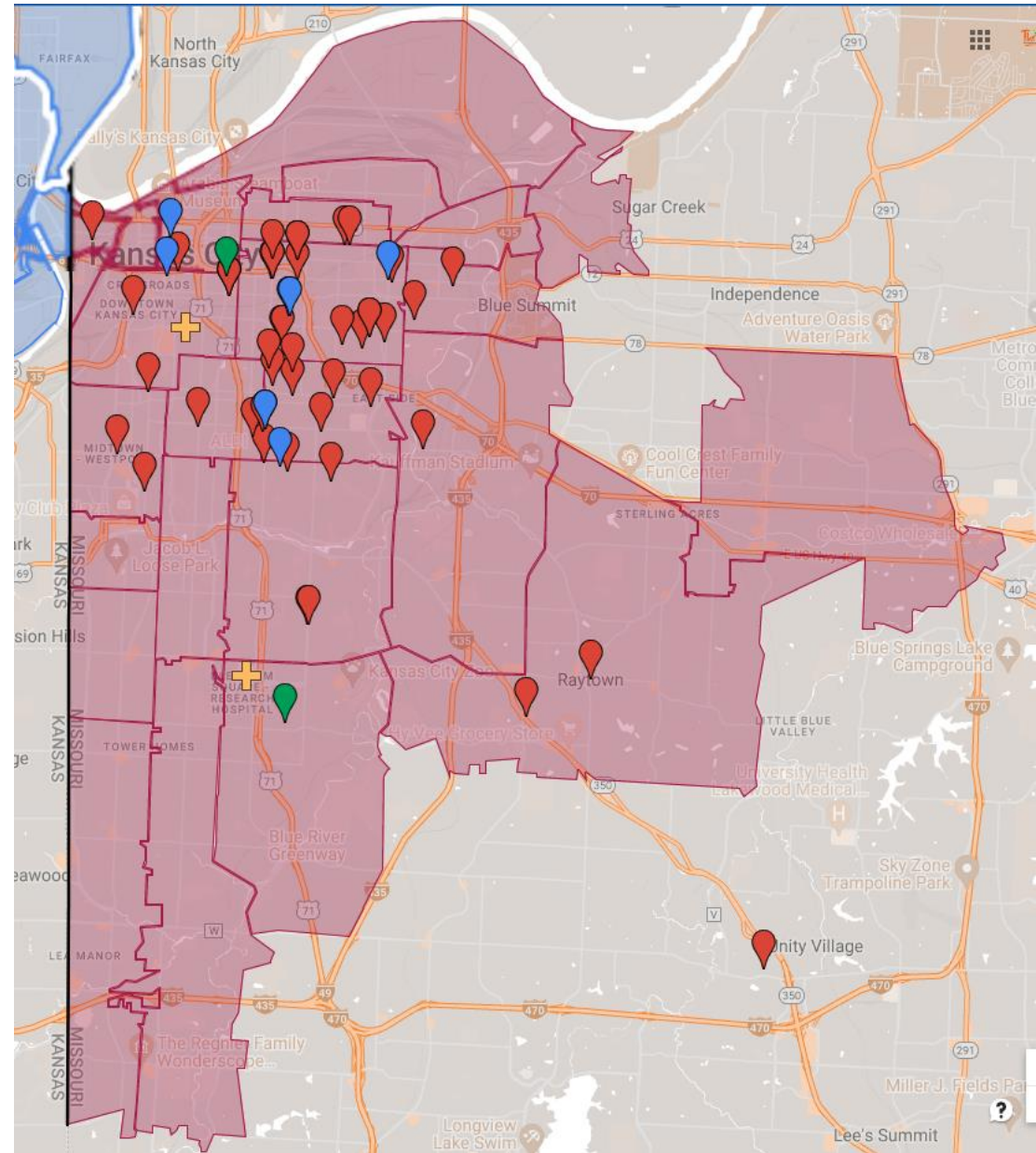
- Kansas City, MO
- Est. January, 2008
- Partner Hospitals: Research Medical Center; University Health
- Population Served: All victims/survivors of interpersonal violence (excl. DV)
- 2022 Referrals: 252





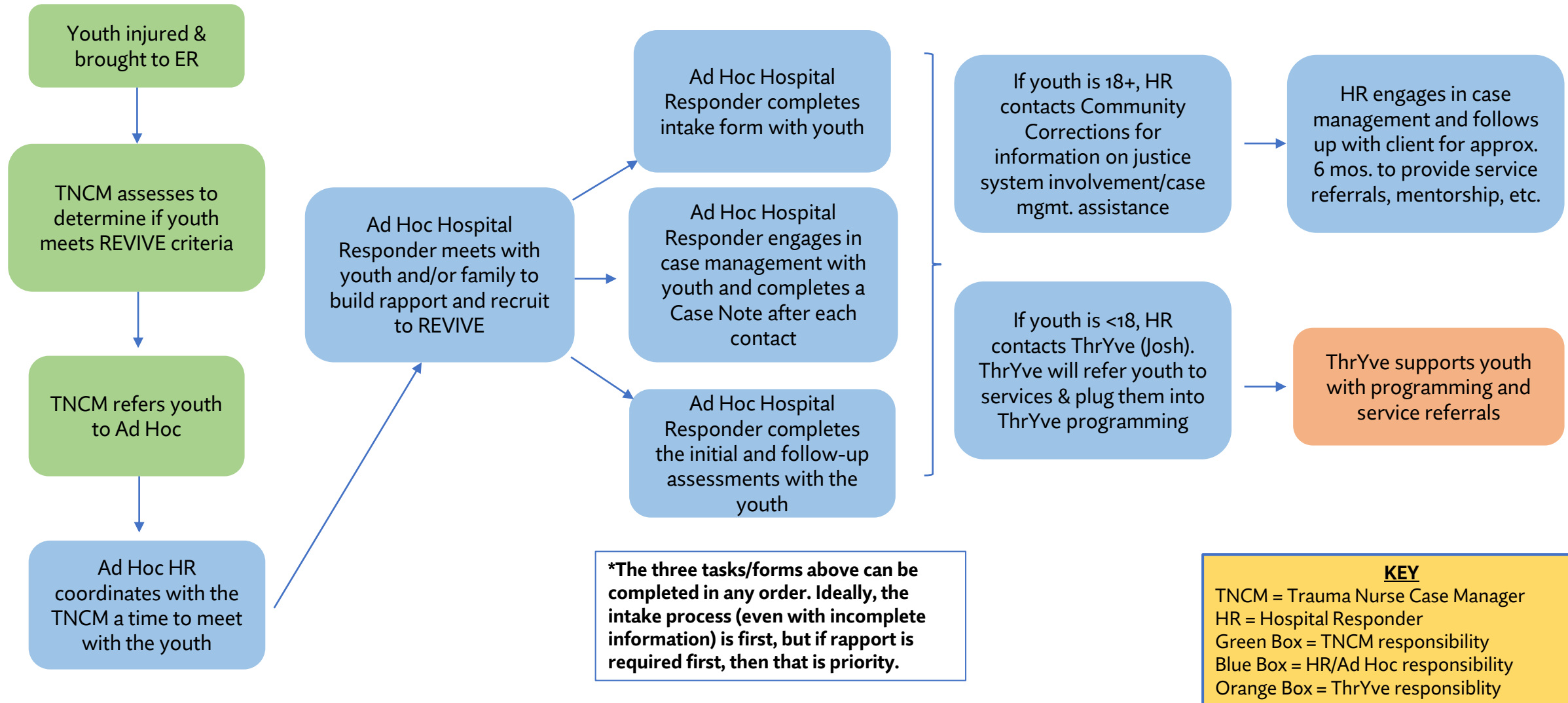
# Injury Type & Hospital Location

Gunshot Wound  
Blunt Force Trauma  
Stabbing Wound  
Hospital



Intentional Injury Patient Referral (2021)

# REVIVE Participant Flow





## CDC's National Centers of Excellence in Youth Violence Prevention (YVPC)

YVPCs are **academic-community collaborations** that advance the science and practice of youth violence prevention. Through **local partnerships**, the **YVPCs develop, implement, and rigorously evaluate innovative strategies to prevent violence** and create safer, healthier family and community environments for youth.

# Current 2021 – 2026 YVPCs



## Center for Youth Equity

- Tulane University of Louisiana



## Kansas City Youth Violence Prevention Research Center

- University of Kansas, Lawrence



## Michigan Youth Violence Prevention Center

- University of Michigan at Ann Arbor



## VCU's Clark-Hill Institute for Positive Youth Development

- Virginia Commonwealth University



## Youth Violence Prevention Center-Denver

- University of Colorado, Boulder



**Children's Mercy**

**KANSAS CITY**

**125 Years and Growing**



**RESEARCH  
MEDICAL CENTER**



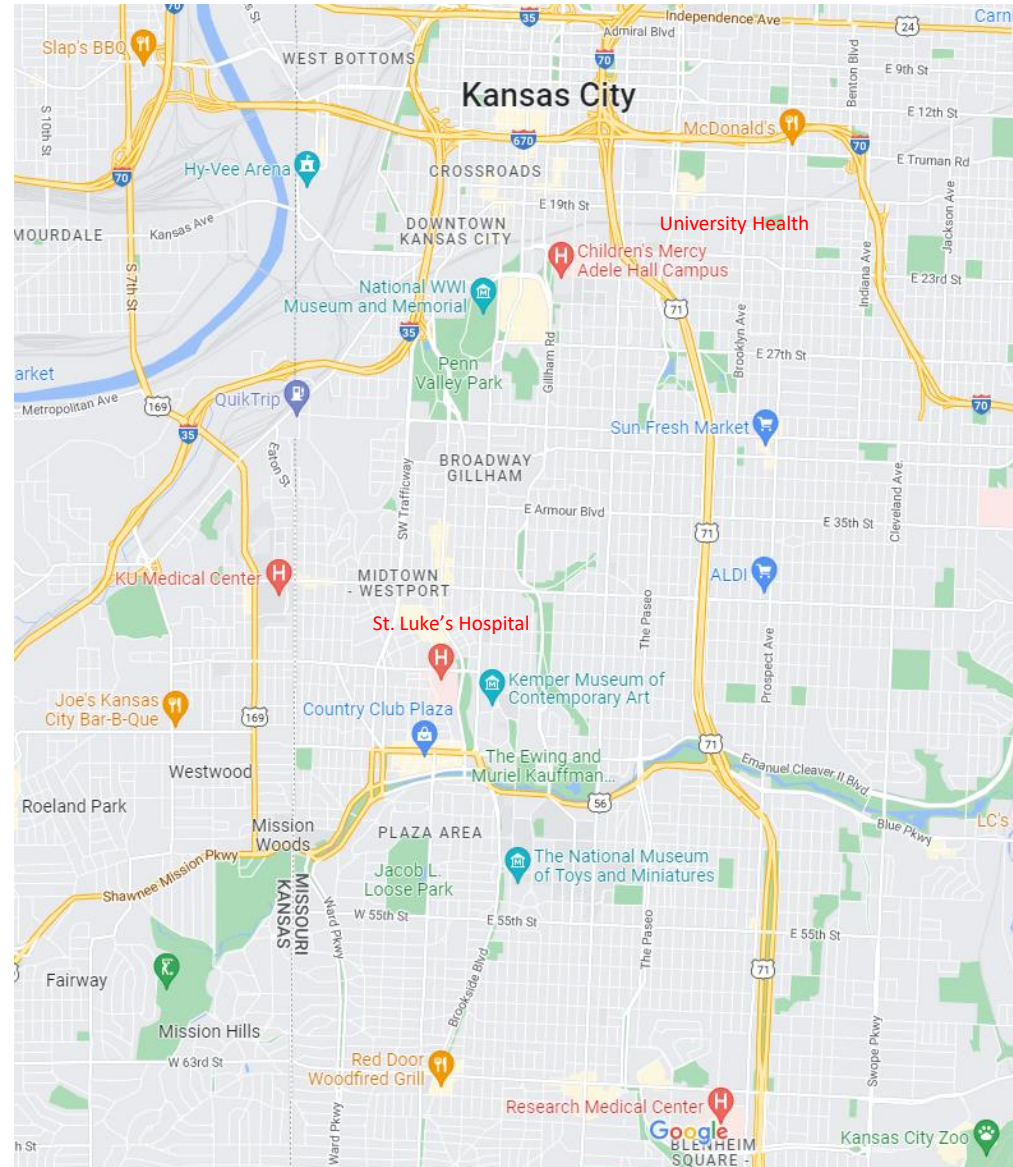
**Saint Luke's  
Hospital**

**OF KANSAS CITY**



**university  
health**







# Current Community Needs/Opportunities

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A way to systematically and collaboratively engage multiple hospital sites in the KC metro area

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To determine number of hospital admissions & re-admissions for victims of interpersonal violence

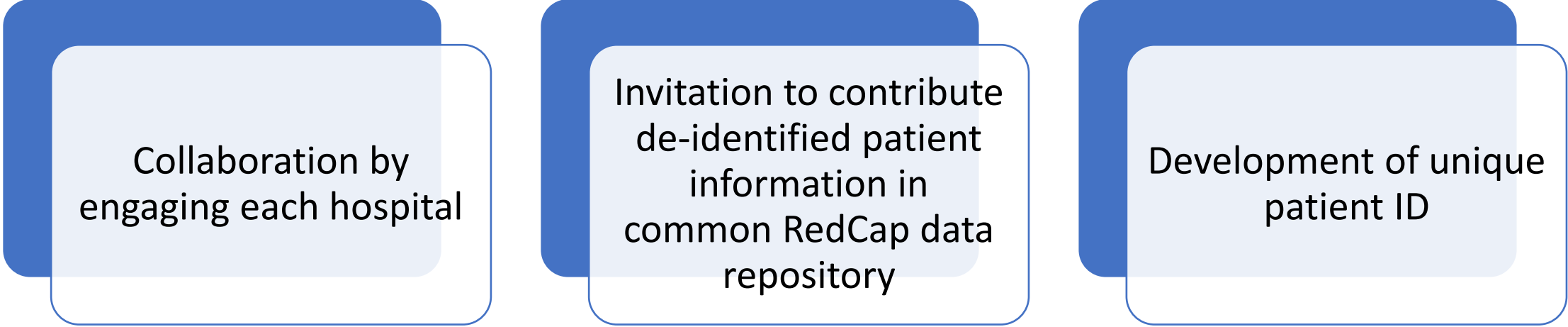
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To generate data for rates of recidivism

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Dissemination of information to community members across the KC metro area

# Data Repository

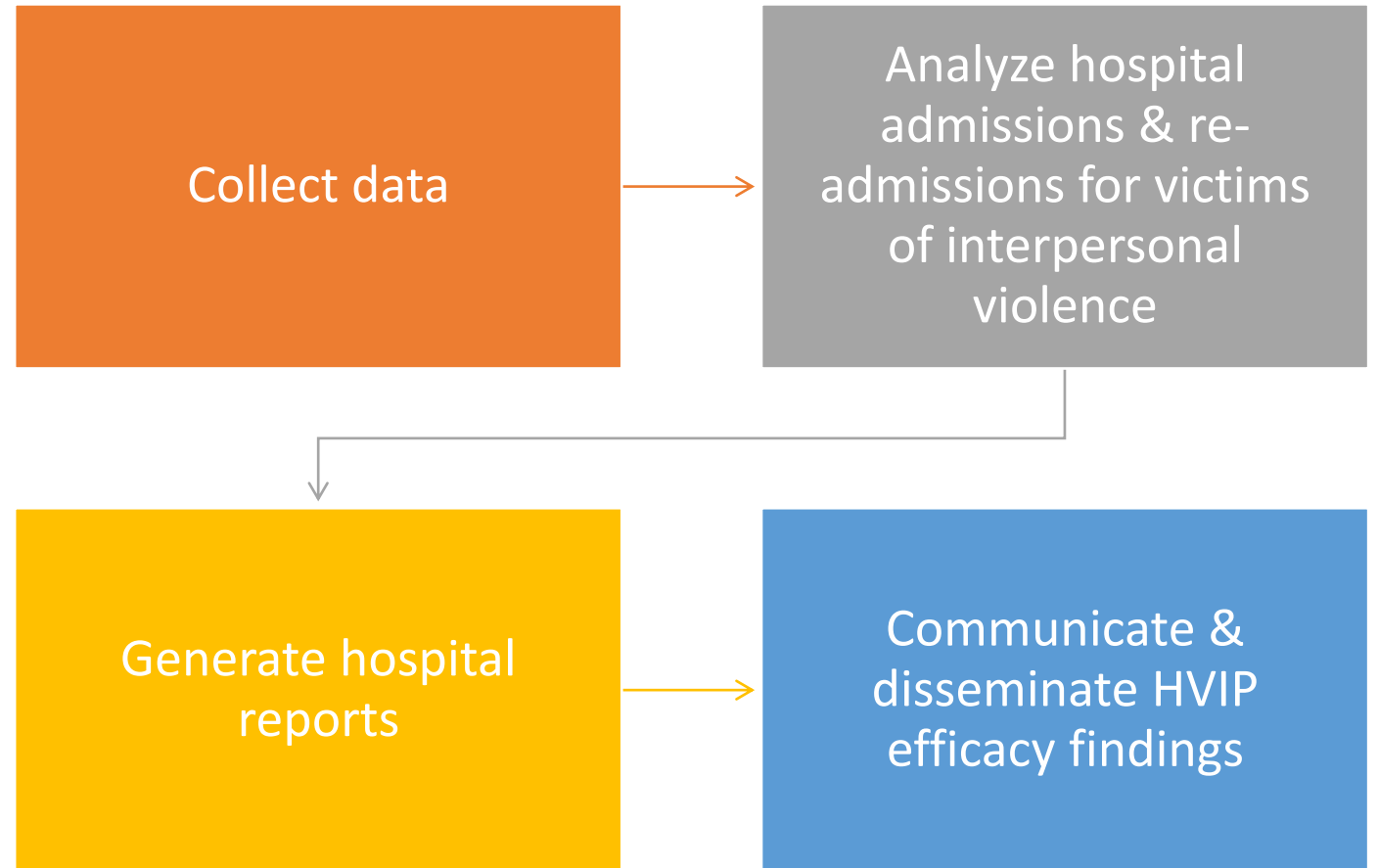


Collaboration by  
engaging each hospital

Invitation to contribute  
de-identified patient  
information in  
common RedCap data  
repository

Development of unique  
patient ID

# YVPC-KC Goals





wethryve.org

Thank You & Q&A