

One Lexington Bi-Weekly

Report

June 24th, 2024



ONE Lexington is a city initiative that leverages government resources and community partnerships to address gun violence impacting youth and young adults (ages 10-29). Below are some of the latest gun violence statistics in Lexington, KY.

Total Shootings Statistics (through June 24th, 2024)

Youth & Young Adult Shootings Statistics

Lexington Homicide By Gun & Shooting Statistics

2024 (to date)	6 homicides by gun (7 total homicides)
2023 (at this point last year)	9 homicides (10 total homicides)
2022 (at this point in the year)	17 homicides (24 total homicides)

-3 (less gun-related homicides than the previous year)

Lexington Homicide By Gun & Shooting Statistics (Victims ages 10-29)

2024 (to date)	2 homicides
2023 (at this point last year)	5 homicides
2022 (at this point in the year)	6 homicides

-3 (fewer gun-related homicides than the previous year)

Lexington Shooting Statistics (Reported Residents Shot)

2024 (to date)	26 shootings
2023 (at this point last year)	37 shootings
2022 (at this point in the year)	57 shootings

-11 (fewer shootings than the previous year)

Lexington Shooting Statistics (Reported Residents Shot) (Victims ages 10-29)

2024 (to date)	12 shootings
2023 (at this point last year)	25 shootings
2022 (at this point in the year)	43 shootings

-13 (fewer shootings than the previous year)

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One Lexington Gives Away \$1000,000 in Violence Prevention

Grants to Local Nonprofits:

Fifteen grassroots organizations active in violence prevention are receiving grants from One Lexington, Mayor Linda Gorton said today. “Nonprofit organizations have been active in our community for many years, working to stop violence among our young people,” Gorton said. “While these organizations take different approaches to reaching our youth, the message is the same: be safe, make good choices, and enjoy a bright future ahead.” One Lexington Director Devine Carama said, *“One Lexington’s goal to address youth and young adult gun violence relies on our partnership with many grassroots nonprofit organizations. Over the last two years, our violence prevention grants have supported programs focused on sports, transitioning into adulthood, mentoring, conflict resolution, trauma support, art therapy, re-entry, and much more. This program allows us to put resources directly into the hands of those on the frontlines doing the work.”*

This is the third year of the grant program. The City estimates approximately 1,200 young people were served by programming funding by last year’s grants. Organizations submitted applications for funding through the Community Action Council, which vetted each proposal and recommended organizations for funding. There were originally 42 applications. One Lexington Crisis Response Coordinator Kenneth Payne said, “A community’s ability to affect its people holistically must be found in its efforts to meet the variety of needs in the community. These grant recipients share a common purpose but have a diverse skill set.” Founder and Executive Director of Operation Making a Change Geo Gibson said, “Operation Making a Change is very grateful to receive the necessary funds from One Lexington to further our initiatives, combat and educate against the violence we see firsthand in our communities. The kids in our program face many real-life challenges and situations throughout their lives daily, ranging from hunger, substance abuse, gun violence, and more. With this funding, we can address these problems by providing the necessary life skills and tools to stay with them for a lifetime.”

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One Lexington Gives Away \$1000,000 in Violence Prevention Grants to

Local Nonprofits:

The 15 organizations represent a variety of approaches to helping young people. The following are the organizations that received funding:

- **Charlotte Court Inc. (CCI)** - Targets elementary and middle school students who struggle academically, behaviorally, and/or socially. CCI will host camps, summer programs, and workshops, incorporate sports, and host guest speakers on important matters.
- **Community Inspired Solutions** - Will offer anti-violence workshops and speakers, diet and nutrition classes, financial literacy classes, arts and crafts classes, stop the bleeding, babysitting certification classes, and a host of other activities.
- **Exhilarating Inc.** - Provides a safe structured and holistic environment and programs that educate, empower, and promote social and emotional development. It enables participants to acquire and develop new skills, build self-confidence, and have fun doing it.
- **FoodChain Inc.** - Engages youth in paid internships through our Bluegrass Urban Farm Friends program. It will provide meaningful opportunities for skill development, mentorship, and community engagement.
- **HEARTS for Basketball** - Strives to break the cycle of marginalization and unlock pathways to success for young adults and at-risk youth in Lexington. Through tailored programming, it will provide access to quality education, skill-building, and mentorship opportunities.
- **Casa de la Cultura Hispana de Lexington** - The Joven Noble and Girasol Rites To Passage Program will target middle and high school students, and youth in the juvenile justice system. 12 weeks of "Circle Keeper" sessions will culminate in a Rites to Passage ceremony.
- **Kentucky Center for Grieving Children and Families** - Will create a series of grief-related programs in partnership with local churches and community-based non-profits to create a safe space for children and teens to talk about and process their emotions related to their death losses.
- **Kentucky Foundation for Black Women and Families** - Will employ workshops on conflict resolution, peer mediation training, violence prevention sessions, guest speaker and panel discussions, life-skills development workshops, and youth leadership and advocacy initiatives.

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Congrats to the Joven Noble Rites of Passage graduates at Bryan Station High School

- **Lexington Raven Football** – Will utilize Trust Based Relational Intervention and Positive Youth Development methodologies to promote discipline and respect on and off the field, leadership development, team-building skills, mentoring, and violence intervention strategies.
- **Lexington Leadership Foundation** - Program will teach how to understand and promote personal and community safety and success (Service), skill development (Education), address past and current trauma (Discovery), and envision new possibilities (Exposure).
- **Lexington Rescue Mission** - Will provide crisis care, case management, and support to individuals and family members at high risk of being the target of potential gun violence or individuals at risk of engaging in gun violence.
- **MPower Rhythm** - Drumming intensives and workshops will teach basic rhythms and familiarize students with the process of ensemble drumming; and provide an outlet for creative expression and emotional release; as well as teach teamwork, and an ability to concentrate.
- **NAMI Kentucky** - “Ending the Silence” helps youth learn warning signs of mental health conditions, and steps to take if you or a loved one are showing symptoms of a mental health condition. This engaging presentation will be offered in all Fayette County high schools.
- **Operation Making A Change (OMAC)** - Will provide mentorship, coaching, and support to teens and adults to enhance self-awareness to break the cycle of problem behavior and make sustainable behavior change. It also seeks to enhance respect, discipline, and accountability.
- **Resolve Fitness** - Youth will be exposed to a “Lifestyle Fair” where they will learn from others in the fitness industry. Programming will empower those who are overcoming adversity, by providing mentorship, executive coaching, and personal development.
- **Trauma Informed Counseling Center (TICC)** - The I.M.P.A.C.T. Project is designed to provide trauma-informed clinical mental health service to juveniles from identified at-risk areas of Fayette County, and their caregivers; and will conduct local support groups.

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Successful Opening Week For Our It Takes a Village Summer

Youth Program:

One Lexington kicked off its 4th annual "It Takes A Village" Summer Youth Program last week! Program leader, Tania Walker, set the tone by going over camp rules and expectations followed by a performance from local hip hop artist, Star Bookie! Before heading to GattiTown for fun and food last week, the Andrews Brothers Counseling team facilitated a trauma-informed care group session, where youth got a chance to talk about the effects gun violence has had on them and the community! On Thursday, our group spent some time at God's Pantry preparing food boxes for seniors. Our program will convene every Tuesday and Thursday until the end of July



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Black Men of Lexington United Convening:

For the 4th time in 3 years, One Lexington is calling all **Black Men of Lexington** to come together as the city continues its efforts to address youth and young adult gun violence. The cycle of violence disproportionately affects young men of color; therefore, we want to get more men of color involved in the prevention process.



Next Saturday, **June 29th, from 10 am to 12 pm, we will be convening at a location at the Farish Theater inside the downtown Lexington Public Library** and listening to a panel of single mothers, grandparents, and youth talk about the need for more accessible mentors in our community. Also present will be Fayette County Public Schools registering men who want to volunteer in the school system, community partners looking for male volunteers/mentors, and other resources for those wanting to get involved with our youth. There will be a limited amount of **FREE** food available, and gift card giveaways!

We hope you can join us, and if not please consider sharing this with those who may be interested.

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Gun Violence Symposium Returns To Spindletop! SAVE THE DATE!!

Please save the date of September 18th, 2024, as One Lexington will be hosting its 2nd “*Symposium On Youth & Young Adult Gun Violence*”. This year, the primary focus of the symposium will be the ROOT CAUSES of gun violence and building strategies to treat the illness and not just the symptoms. This 1-day event will not only feature national speakers and workshops focused on the work we do every day but will also celebrate and highlight YOU and the amazing work your organization is doing to make our community a safer place. We are also going to take this opportunity to set the stage for our next strategic planning convening in January 2025. It’s been 3 years since we’ve unveiled the city plan to address youth and young adult gun violence and it’s time to get back together and update that plan! As we close out the month of June, Lexington continues seeing a downward trend in homicides, shootings, and shots fired calls. We believe that progress can be attributed to the advancements in public safety and the collaboration and work of community partners like yourselves.

Our goal is to continue fostering this "all hearts on deck" approach by building the capacity and relationships of those who are on the ground doing the work!

SAVE THE DATE!! September 18th, 2024. More information is coming soon!



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One Lexington Engages Underserved Areas of Lexington:

Last week, One Lexington's crisis response coordinator led a group of volunteers in N.E.W. (Neighborhood Engagement Walks) at Bainbridge apartments and Walnut Hills apartment complexes. Both of these areas are off the beaten path, underserved areas where gun violence has happened over the last couple of years. We went door to door and checked on neighbors to see what their concerns were. One Lexington was able to provide some financial support, connect residents to housing services, recruit youth to our summer program, and more.



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Support Group For Survivors of Gun Violence:

Surviving Onward Sessions will resume July 2nd from 6-8 pm at Dunbar Community Center 545 N. Upper Street Lexington, KY 40508. In the past, the sessions would run once a week for 6 weeks in the Spring and Fall. I am changing it to the 1st Tuesday of every month. I have attached the invite for you all to give to homicide families. If they have interest, please ask them if it would be ok for you to share their email with me, so I can send them reminders. It is also very helpful to know how many people are attending due to providing food. Let me know if you have any questions.

Surviving Onward is for families that have lost loved ones to homicide. Our mission is to provide compassionate resources to families by inviting speakers to come educate about investigations and prosecution, counselors to discuss grieving and information on services available to families and community partners to discuss their groups and ways for families to become involved. Encourage families through their journey to offer support to other grieving families and work alongside law enforcement and agencies that advocate for victims for the purpose of meeting the needs of our families and our community. Each session will begin with food and fellowship and then a speaker to discuss their role and services they provide.



The Lexington Police Department
invites you for Food and Fellowship

Surviving Onward Sessions S.O.S

For Homicide Victims' Families
First Tuesday of the Month
Every Month from 6 - 8pm
(Recommended for 18 years or older.)

DunbarCommunityCenter
545 N. Upper Street Lexington, KY 40508

Please RSVP to Robin Anderson
859-258-3783
randerson@lexingtonpolice.ky.gov



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ONE Lexington Community Interactions - June 3rd - June 24th

Community Events/Meetings

- Juneteenth Press Conference
- Obe Lexington Violence Prevention Grant Press Conference
- LPD CompStat Meeting
- Annual Father's Day March
- Building Bridges to Opportunity Meeting
- FCPS State of Black Boys Meeting
- Meeting w/ UK Community Innovation Lab
- Education Builds Hope Luncheon

Youth & Young Adults

Engagements:

- It Takes A Village Summer Youth Program - 254
- **Total: 254**

Youth & Young Adult Conflict

Mediations

- Public Safety - 0
- Courts - 0
- School System - 0
- Community - 2
- **Total: 2**

Crisis Response Referrals

- UK Trauma Center (Project Peace) - 0
- Public Safety - 3
- Courts - 0
- School System - 0
- Community - 2
- **Total: 5**

