

2022 One Lexington Year-End Report

Good morning, Community Partners!

I pray that everyone had a blessed and restful holiday season. I personally took some time off and I'm definitely ready to get back to the grind in 2023. I think all of us deserved some time off after such a challenging year! One Lexington will continue its bi-weekly reports this year, but first I wanted to provide a summary of the work we did in 2022. ONE Lexington is a city initiative that leverages government resources and community partnerships to reduce gun violence impacting youth and young adults (ages 13-29). Below are some of the latest gun violence statistics in Lexington, KY.

Total Shootings Statistics

Lexington Homicide by Gun & Shooting Statistics

2022 - 36 homicides

2021– 36 homicides

0 difference

Lexington Shooting Statistics (Reported Residents Shot)

2022 (to date) - 118 shootings

2021 (at this point last year) – 135 shootings

- 17 (*less than previous year*)

Comparative Gun-Related Homicide Stats Year-To Date

5-Year average YTD (2017-2021): 20 homicides

2022 YTD: 36 homicides

+16 (*above the 5-year average*)

Youth & Young Adult Shootings Statistics

Lexington Homicide by Gun & Shooting Statistics

(Victims ages 13-29)

2022 - 12 homicides

2021 - 24 homicides

- **12** (*less than previous year*)

5-Year average YTD (2017-2021): 16 homicides

2022 YTD: 12 homicides

- **4** (*below the 5 year average*)

Lexington Shootings Statistics (Reported Residents Shot)

(Victims ages 13-29)

2022 - 77 shootings

2021 - 87 shootings

- **10** (*less than previous year*)

2022 was the first time in 4 years we didn't see a rise in gun related homicides and a decrease in overall injury shootings. It's hard to believe because last year saw the highest number of NON gun related homicides in the last 10 years, resulting in another record-breaking year for homicides, overall. **Also, last year we had 118 injury shootings compared to 135 in 2021.** We also saw decreased gun related homicides and shootings among youth and young adults, ages 13-29. But it's hard to celebrate progress in this work, because despite any progress, lives have still been lost and families have still been heavily and forever impacted. So, we don't "celebrate" progress, we just acknowledge it and continue working.

From the bottom of my heart, I believe we are on the right path towards reducing gun violence in our community, but more investments into underserved communities have to be made. Our faith and business communities must get more involved and community partners must continue to collaborate. This was never going to be a "quick fix" or a short term strategy. We are battling an evil that is systematically embedded in our neighborhoods that took centuries to build, therefore it's going to take some time to undo. But above all the violence prevention strategies, is LOVE. If we don't instill LOVE back in our communities and realign our moral compass, nothing will change. From how we support the most vulnerable, to the way we talk to each other, to prioritizing mental health,

and caring for our neighbors, we have to start LOVING again! Last year was such a challenge because I believe the “noise” drove many of us apart, but this year, I'm pushing myself to be better, to be more of a bridge that connects us together so that we can combat this evil as ONE.

As we enter 2023, I wanted to provide a year-end summary of what we did in 2022. Let's start with the work we facilitated through our P.I.E.R. (*Prevention. Intervention. Enforcement. Re-Entry*) Gun Violence Reduction Framework.

Prevention:

- One Lexington held 7 community forums of gun violence (4 in collaboration with council members and 1 with the 8th graders at Crawford Middle School).
 - Attended the Cities United convening in Baltimore to study violence prevention efforts from other cities across the nation.
 - Over 3,000 total interactions with over 300 students through our *It Takes a Village* in-school mentoring program.
 - Over 1,000 interactions with 50 teens through our *It Takes A Village* Summer Program.
 - The *We Are One* Poem Program served 40 students at Crawford Middle School. [Activists work to curb Lexington’s gun violence by starting young \(wkyt.com\)](#)
 - Provided a \$20,000 renewable scholarship in partnership with Galls through our *Be the Change* scholarship program that rewards a student of color from Bryan Station High School pursuing a degree in criminal justice. We also awarded a one-time \$10,000 scholarship to the runner up thanks to a donation from the Central Bank of Lexington. [“Be the Change” scholarship recipient announced | City of Lexington \(lexingtonky.gov\)](#)
 - One Lexington convened 3 strategic planning sessions to help form our *Violence Intervention Plan*. This model is based on the Cure/Community Violence Intervention strategy that features the P.I.E.R. violence prevention model, that has been successful in other cities. Led by Cities United & University of Kentucky, we convened community partners from public safety, FCPS, faith community, justice system, nonprofit sector, survivors of gun violence, and youth to get their feedback on our plan.

Intervention

- Each Wednesday we convened our *Violence Intervention Work Group*, which consists of community partners from multiple sectors. We discuss the gun related incidents from the week prior.
 - We received referrals for and provided services for over 50 families impacted by gun violence, many of which came from our weekly Violence Intervention Work Group meetings.
 - We received 19 requests to mediate conflicts among youth.
 - Successfully transitioned Safety Net to the Lexington Rescue Mission who serves individuals and families directly impacted by gun violence.
 - We successfully served families through our N.E.W. (Neighborhood Engagement Walks) program in which we provided food, connections to mental health services, and other resources. We strategically targeted areas that were recently impacted by gun violence.

Enforcement

**We leave the enforcement piece to our friends in public safety. However, we do look forward to working to bridge the gap between under-served communities and law enforcement in 2023.*

Re-Entry

- One Lexington has facilitated a weekly *It Takes a Village* mentoring group with participants in Kentucky Specialty Group.
 - One Lexington hosted *It Takes a Village* mentoring group for members of the Juvenile Treatment Court Program.
 - One Lexington worked with Judge Carl Devine to serve participants in his child support, domestic violence, and truancy docket. We connected those referred from his child support docket to the Fayette Fatherhood Initiative.

2022 Statistics:

We had the same amount of gun related homicides in 2022 as we did in 2021, **36**. We also had 17 less shootings last year than the year prior,

We've seen a **50 percent decrease** (from 24 in 2021 to only 12 this year) in gun related homicides among youth and young adults in 2022. That number (12) also falls under the 5-year average of 16.2.

Injury shootings among youth and **young adults were down to 77 in 2022 from 87 in 2021 and juvenile shootings were down to 14 in 2022 from 21 in 2021.**

50 percent of our homicide victims in 2022 were 35 or older.

⅓ of our homicides in 2022 were related to domestic violence.

It Takes a Village in School Mentoring Programs Interactions (the number of student interactions we had in 2022):

Tates Creek High School - **121**

Frederick Douglass High School – **457 (this includes a Freshman assembly)**

PLD High School – **72**

Bryan Station High School - **173**

STEAM Academy - **77**

Lexington Traditional Magnet School – **82**

Beaumont Middle School – **85**

Winburn Middle School – **311**

Southern Middle School - **275**

Edythe J. Hayes Middle School – **1,222 (including school assembly)**

The Learning Center – **145**

The Family Care Center – **19**

Success Academy – **90**

KY Specialty Courts – **25**

Total: **3,154 Interactions**

One Lexington Spending in 2022:

It Takes a Village Summer Program: This includes cost for food, programming materials, speaker stipends, activities, and rewards for the 50 youth we served 2 days a week for 7 weeks last summer. - **\$34,568.64** (we didn't do technology this summer as proposed)

It Takes a Village In-School Mentoring Program: This includes stipends for group leads, fees for guest speakers, snacks for each mentoring session, and end of the semester rewards for participants in the program. We served over 300 kids total this year. - **\$30,559.22**

Community Support: This includes financial support for community-led events and programming geared towards gun violence reduction in Lexington, KY. Community partner PSA's, Neighborhood block parties, stop-the-violence rallies, community training, youth scholarships, youth sports, are examples of the type of things One Lexington funded in 2022. - **\$21,629.77**

Victim Support: This includes support for individuals and families impacted by gun violence. One Lexington helped to provide temporary housing, permanent relocation, food & groceries, clothing, furniture, repairs to housing structures impacted by gun violence, connection to mental health services, activities for youth directly impacted by gun violence, & more. - **\$27,641.48**

Be the Change Scholarship Program: This includes 1 one-time \$10,000 scholarship and pieces of another ongoing scholarship. - **\$15,120.00**

One Lexington Community Communications (Marketing): This includes social media sponsored ads, radio ads, TV marketing, promotional & vendor materials. This part of our budget helped promote our programs and initiatives for One Lexington and it's community partners. - **\$14,305.30**

N.E.W. (Neighborhood engagement): This covered the food shares from Black Soil, Kroger, and Walmart that we purchased for our weekly neighborhood walks. This also covered packing materials and promotional community literature that accompanied the food bags we passed out. - **\$7,022.35**

One Lexington Conference, Trainings & Volunteer Events: These expenses are associated with trainings, conference, or volunteer events facilitated by One Lexington, including speaker stipends, participant parking, food, etc. - **\$4,468.91**

Re-Entry Support: - **\$500**

Things on the horizon:

As we transition into 2023, One Lexington looks to be less programmatic and more of a capacity builder to our community organizations on the ground, each and every day. We understand the amount of red tape and bureaucracy that surrounds government, which can delay services for issues that often require immediate responses and we also recognize the lack of trust many under-served communities have when it comes to government entities. We want to support

those trusted organizations and individuals on the ground who are already doing the work. Take a look at some things on the horizon in 2023!

- We are happy to introduce Kenneth Payne to the One Lexington team, joining myself & Larry Johnson. His experience and passion for community will be a much-needed addition to One Lexington's mission of reducing gun violence among youth & young adults in Lexington.
 - The continued implementation of our One Lexington Strategic Plan to Reduce Gun Violence Among Youth & young Adults. You can read our strategic plan HERE - [One Lexington Strategic plan 0.pdf \(lexingtonky.gov\)](#)
 - One Lexington Grant Program awarded to grassroots organizations who work in violence prevention and intervention.
 - One Lex & Cities United Grant Program awarded to organizations focused on victim services and re-entry work.
 - One Lexington will provide \$1,000 grants to the FRYSC in schools located in areas most affected by gun violence in 2022. These grants are to be used for Violence Prevention programming and services.
 - One Lexington will sponsor activities for youth directly impacted by gun violence or with incarcerated parents.
 - Compensating Street Outreach Workers for crisis response situations involved gun violence among youth and young adults.
 - One Lexington will pay for a series of training for community partners in violence prevention work. Following our Trauma Informed Care training in November of 2022, we look to cover for training in Bystander Awareness, Restorative Justice Practices, Conflict Resolution & violence Disruption.
 - One Lexington will provide support to grassroots organization, focused on gun violence reduction. Helping them expand so that they can impact more people.
 - One Lexington will continue its It Takes a Village Summer & In-School Mentoring Programs.
 - Our biggest gap in services for 2022 was re-entry support. We are looking to find ways to ramp up support for youth and young adults who are system involved and judges looking for alternative sentencing options.

Community Partnerships & Collaborations:

- Cities United
- University of Kentucky CLD
- University of Kentucky Hospital
- Stop the Bleed
- Fayette County Public Schools
- Kentucky Specialty Courts
- Juvenile Treatment Court Program
- Lexington Police Department
- Fayette County Sheriff Department
- Lexington Rescue Mission
- Black Achievers of Central KY YMCA
- Trauma Informed Counseling Center
- Surviving Onward Sessions
- Lexington Parks & Rec
- Moms Demand Action
- FoodChain
- Black Soil
- Galls
- Central Bank of Lexington
- The Voyage Movement
- YAP
- Jonathan Beatty
- Tania Walker
- Davita Gatewood
- And many more!

**There are other partners we work with that prefer to remain anonymous and we respect their request*