

Response to **Mass Violence for Health Care Organizations**

DISCUSSION



Community mental health centers and treatment providers play an essential role in prevention and community response to a mass violence incident.

In addition to providing systems of care for individuals at risk of committing acts of mass violence, behavioral health providers offer support to victims and their families, first responders and the community at large, including trauma-specific therapies. They play an important role in incident response and command structure and leverage key relationships to support a reeling community.

Many of the recommendations made by the Expert Panel require methodologies like Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) that cover the actual costs of interventions without compromising funding for traditional mental health and substance use services or integrated health care models.

RECOMMENDATIONS



- Establish multidisciplinary threat assessment and management teams including representatives from security, human resources, legal and law enforcement.
- Implement ongoing quality improvement around violence risk assessment and threat assessment and management.
- Train staff in lethal means reduction - reducing or restricting access to firearms and other highly lethal methods.
- Prepare staff for vicarious trauma and compassion fatigue and provide ongoing support.

EXPERT PANEL



An expert panel appointed by the National Council for Behavioral Health Medical Director Institute examined the issue from multiple perspectives and found the solutions are as complex as the problem.

The insightful and evidence-based response, “Mass Violence in America: Causes, Impacts and Solutions,” provides a call to action to respond to this complex issue.

Membership of Expert Panel

- Medical Directors of mental health and addiction treatment provider organizations
- CEOs of mental health and addiction treatment provider organizations
- Members from the American Psychiatric Association
- Members from the American Psychological Association
- Member from the American Association of Emergency Psychiatrists
- Members representing law enforcement/courts
- Members from National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors
- Content experts on mass violence and trauma
- Mental health consumer/patient representatives/parents of a mass shooter