

Response to **Mass Violence for Legislation** and **Government Agencies**

DISCUSSION



Rising public outcry and demands for legislative solutions to the complex issue of mass violence have produced disturbingly little action from our governmental leadership. While the reasons for this legislative silence are numerous and hotly debated, the problem remains and festers.

In the absence of coordinated policy-driven action, individuals and communities have pursued opportunities for prevention and, in doing so, helped promote resilience and relieve emotional distress. While such activities are laudable and frequently effective; they are not enough. We call upon our leaders to respond loudly and decisively to the problem of mass violence.

RECOMMENDATIONS



- Increase funding for threat assessment training at the local, state, tribal and national levels.
- Develop a payment policy for threat assessment and management.
- Promote expansion of the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) model.
 - CCBHCs are required to provide extensive crisis response capability.
 - The CCBHC prospective payment model can support development and operation of threat assessment teams.
- Enact state orders that allow temporarily removing guns from individuals known to pose an immediate risk of harming others.
- Fully implement the existing federal background check requirement for firearms purchases.

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