June is Gun Violence Prevention Month

Upcoming Events and Advocacy Tips

Hi all,

Just got back from Portugal for a hiking trip and have been off the grid - Now, back and re-energized!

**This is a CALL TO ACTION for health professionals**. **Here are 3 tips on what you can do NOW:**

Unfortunately, our children have fallen victim to yet another school shooting - We are all frustrated.

The good news is that we have all of you FIRED UP AND READY TO GO.

As Rep Dickey said when expressed regrets about the amendment in his name, doing nothing is no longer an option

As a trusted voice, you have the unique opportunity to increase awareness and make a difference:

**TIP#1: LEARN -  Say GV is a public health crisis!**

*What does it mean to be a public health crisis? Is it a number?*NO.

115 people die everyday from opioids and 105 from guns, acc to recent CDC stats. Many more kids died from guns in one year than from influenza over the past 4 years.

All affect health, can be deadly, and are preventable.

Influenze and opioids are public health emergencies and gun violence is not.

*Is GV increasing?*  YES

When I started doing gun violence work at the time of Sandy Hook, 94 people died every day from guns.

We don't have solid answers on why it's increasing. Dickey has put has 22 years behind in accurate and large scale data collection and research.

The good news is federal $ was allocated this year to increasing the # of states reporting on gun related death factors from 42 states to 50 in the CDC's national violent death reporting database.

*What is the benefit of being designated a pubic health crisis?*

GVP would have a large scale national, state, and local prevention and intervention campaign.  An example of public health intervention is free naloxone kits available to community members and health professionals. It involves EVERYONE. If you see something, do something.

*Stay informed!*

There are articles and research being published more on GV.  Connect with your specialty organization and get their materials. If they don't have something set up, offer to set up a committee!

**TIP#2:  CONNECT - Find middle ground!**

*What can we all agree on?*

Kids should feel safe in their homes, schools, communities - of all socioeconomic statuses, ethnicities, and races. Active shooter drills are important just like fire drills. But, just like we remove flammable materials, create safer playgrounds, wear bicycle helmets, we need to do the same for guns.  Most gun owners want gun safety, just like those who don't own guns.

*Aren't we supposed to stay away from politics?*

GVP is NOT politics. It's about child health and child safety. Kids are dying. It's about implementing effective POLICY and SAVING LIVES.

Create dialogue with everyone and anyone.  Relay the facts, just like you do with other disease and injury prevention.  Most people only learn from the media and don't know the facts.

Most people don't know about the Dickey Amendment and it's chilling effect on research and our ability to identify solutions. Raise awareness about the big obstacles to finding solutions.

*How do I bring up GV?*

Tell YOUR story.  Your patient is not just a statistic.  GV affects EVERYONE directly and/or indirectly. You don't to be a trauma surgeon!

We are all living in fear for our children and our families. The more you personalize it, the more effective you will be.  Start collecting stories in your institution and beyond. Members of Congress want stories to understand the issue, connect with their constituents, and relay those stories to other change makers.  Your voice and your story matters!

*Spread the word!*

Find an event in your community and invite others to attend. It's a great opportunity to meet and unite with like minded people.   Join Moms Demand Action and other list serves to get event postings

**TIP #3 -  ACT - June is GV Prevention Month!**

*What can I do?*

Raise awareness.  Plan an event - big or small. Just do something!  You can be a speaker and/or host a speaker at your institution, community meeting, children's school. Allow space and time for dialogue. This is an emotionally charged issue.  Allow time to listen and allow A LOT OF TIME to discuss ACTION opportunities. Every community is unique and solutions will be based on your strengths and resources.  You don't need $ - just passion and dedication. Grassroots is about everyone pitching in. It helps to unite and empower!

***June 2 is National Orange Day.***

Just like red is for heart disease.  Orange is the color of hunters - DON'T SHOOT!

Wear orange, take a picture, and post it on social media.  PICTURES are great for viral messaging!

\*\*\*\*\*For just $13.00, buy a roll of 25O orange ribbons stickers on Amazon.com <https://www.amazon.com/Large-Orange-Ribbon-Stickers-stickers/dp/B00SHVG9VI>

Hand out ribbons at noon conference, your schools - It's easy and cheap!

***June 21st is National ASK day.***

Download free materials from the Brady Campaign site. Can also order them!

<http://www.bradycampaign.org/press-room/june-21-marks-national-ask-asking-saves-kids-day>

Contact Bettina at the Brady Campaign for more information.

blanyi@bradymail.org

Just like active shooter drills in educating kids, we need to educate parents.  Educating children on not touching a gun have been ineffective in reducing injuries. Educating parents is effective.

This can be applied to all communities.  According to my research in the South  Bronx, 96% of parents want gun safety education and only 11% were getting it from their pediatrician.

For a GREAT RESOURCE on adult patient patient education and more caregiver education, go to <http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/vprp/>

Reach out to med students, public health grads, undergrads to do a GVP summer project  Attached is a list of sample projects.

**STEP UP AND BE A LEADER!**

All are welcome! Med students, residents, practicing physicians, allied health professionals.  Parkland has inspired me and many others to put fears aside and fight for what's right.   As a community/team leader, you will be responsible for disseminating information. communicating with health professionals and non-health professionals in your community - this can be defined as hospital, city, region.. GV  transcends all walks of life. It's important that create partnerships with non-health professionals. We need all hands on deck and more boots on the ground for the short haul and the long haul!-  in personal and remotely. The more boots and the more hands, the better!

Please email me if you are interested in being a leader within:

1. American Academy of Pediatrics - NY Chapters 2 or 3

2. Doctors for America - NY

3. NY Docs Advocacy Coalition

Our goal is to have monthly meetings for the next 3 months.

If you are not in the NY area, feel free to modify this email to your area.

**GET TO AN EVENT.**

You will learn, connect, and act!

**Brooklyn Bridge**

**June 7th**

**The Public Health Association of New York City (PHANYC is the NYC Metro-area affiliate of the American Public Health Association) is hosting its annual Public Health Forum this year focusing on "Gun Violence As A Public Health Issue."**T

The event will include presentations by professionals and students.

This is a wonderful chance to network with fellow public health practitioners, make new connections, and interact with speakers on one of the most challenging issues we confront today.

It is hosted this year by the the NYU College of Global Public Health.

The event is free of charge, but we do ask folks to register:

[***https://www.eventbrite.com/e/annual-public-health-form-tickets-46132343080***](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/annual-public-health-form-tickets-46132343080)

DATE & TIME: Thu, June 7, 2018  6:00–8:00pm

LOCATION:  NYU, Kimmel Center for University Life, [60 Washington Square South, New York, NY 10012](https://maps.google.com/?q=60+Washington+Square+South,+New+York,+NY+10012&entry=gmail&source=g)

**June 2nd**

Left forum 2018:

**Workshop led by NYDocs: Physician Coalition Building as a Strategy for Advocacy**

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, 899 10th Ave. NY, NY 10019

<https://leftforum.ourpowerbase.net/civicrm/event/register?reset=1&id=1024>

For more info about NY Docs, contact bill.jordan@npalliance.net

**June 2nd**

**Annual March across the Brooklyn Bridge against gun violence**

Saturday, June 2nd at 1 PM.

JUNE RUBIN, NEW YORK STATE CHAPTER Co-Leader

junenycamb@gmail.com

MOMS DEMAND ACTION FOR GUN SENSE IN AMERICA

[MOMSDEMANDACTION.ORG](http://momsdemandaction.org/)

Like our state [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/MomsDemandActionNYGreaterNYC/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) so we can keep you up to date on upcoming events!

**June 23rd**

**GV is a public health crisis: Policy Summit hosted by NY Docs**

**RSVP Link**

Policy Summit:

Gun Violence Is a Health Crisis

Learn | Connect | Act

Join fellow public health advocates to learn about gun violence prevention, connect with and be inspired by others fighting for change, and take local action for better gun-related policies. Introductory remarks, keynote, policy panel, and break-out groups.

Saturday, June 23, 2018

8:30am-12:30pm

Breakfast at registration

NYC Health + Hospitals / Metropolitan

1901 1st Avenue, NY, NY 10029

Suggested donation: $5

Tickets via Eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gun-violence-is-a-health-crisis-tickets-46266633747>

Facebook event page

<https://www.facebook.com/events/216018339000057>

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In unity,

Nina