

# Violence Prevention & Intervention

## OVERVIEW

Since 2016, the Milwaukee Health Care Partnership (MHCP) triannual Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) has elevated violence as a significant issue in Milwaukee County. Findings from the most recent 2024 CHNA show violence being the top health issue according to primary data. 53% of all respondents named gun violence and community violence as a top health issue.

Violence includes both interpersonal and community violence, and takes the form of firearm, domestic violence, sexual assault, and reckless driving. After years of decline in violence in Milwaukee County, trends reversed and started to increase in 2019. They continued to increase through the pandemic in 2022. However, by 2023 and through today, both homicide and non-fatal shooting annual rates have been on the decline.

Health care providers can play an important role in identifying, treating, and preventing violence for patients and their families. Health systems are home to violence prevention and intervention programs, and they engage in cross-sector coalition work like the Blueprint for Peace and the Violence Response Public Health and Safety Team (VR-PHAST).

## TARGET POPULATION

Violence, in all its forms, does not discriminate. It affects people of all ages, races, genders, and socio-economic groups - inflicting schools, workplaces, recreational, and neighborhood settings. However, it does not impact all groups equally. For example, firearm and assaultive violence disproportionately affects communities of color and are concentrated in certain neighborhoods. Specifically, nearly 90% of all victims are Black/African American, with youth Black/African American rates being between 95%-100%.

The MHCP violence initiative seeks to support victims of violence who present in health care settings having experienced numerous types of violence, including:

- Victims and families of firearm violence (homicides and non-fatal shootings)
- Victims and families of assaultive violence (intentional interpersonal violence such as stabbings, domestic and intimate partner violence, physical assault, and strangulation)
- Children and youth under age 18 in Milwaukee County (Project Ujima)
- Residents age 15-35 in Milwaukee County (414LIFE)
- Populations that are at highest risk for violence recidivism

## GOALS

Collectively, MHCP members are working on four goal areas related to violence prevention and intervention:

- Improve and expand **hospital-based violence intervention services** to support patient victims and reduce retaliation and recidivism
- Enhance **forensic nursing assessment and supportive services** to improve treatment, advocacy, recovery, and prevent subsequent interpersonal violence incidents through a shared Healing Advocate position
- Report **patient violence incidence data via the CARDIFF model** to improve surveillance and inform community intervention strategies
- Share learning and advance collective strategies to **address and reduce violence in health care workplace settings** to protect patients and associates

## PARTICIPATING MEMBERS

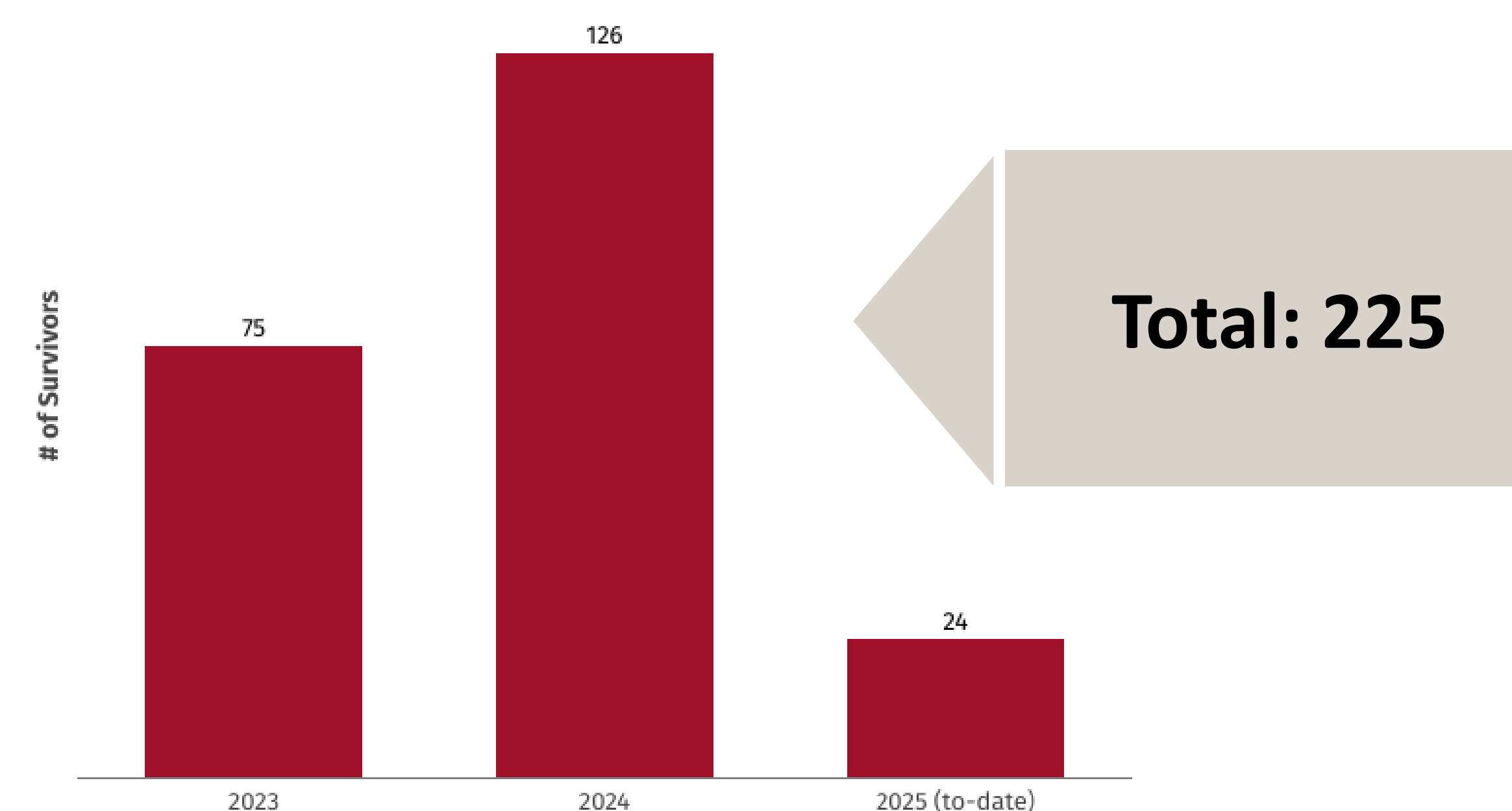
- Aurora Health Care
- Ascension Wisconsin
- Children's Wisconsin
- Froedtert ThedaCare Health
- Medical College of Wisconsin Comprehensive Injury Center (CIC)
- Milwaukee County Department of Health and Human Services
- City of Milwaukee Office of Community Wellness and Safety



## OUTCOMES

### MHCP-Sponsored

MHCP FNE Shared Healing Advocate Total Services by Year, 2023-2025



### 414LIFE and Project Ujima MHCP-Led Highlights

#### Project Ujima

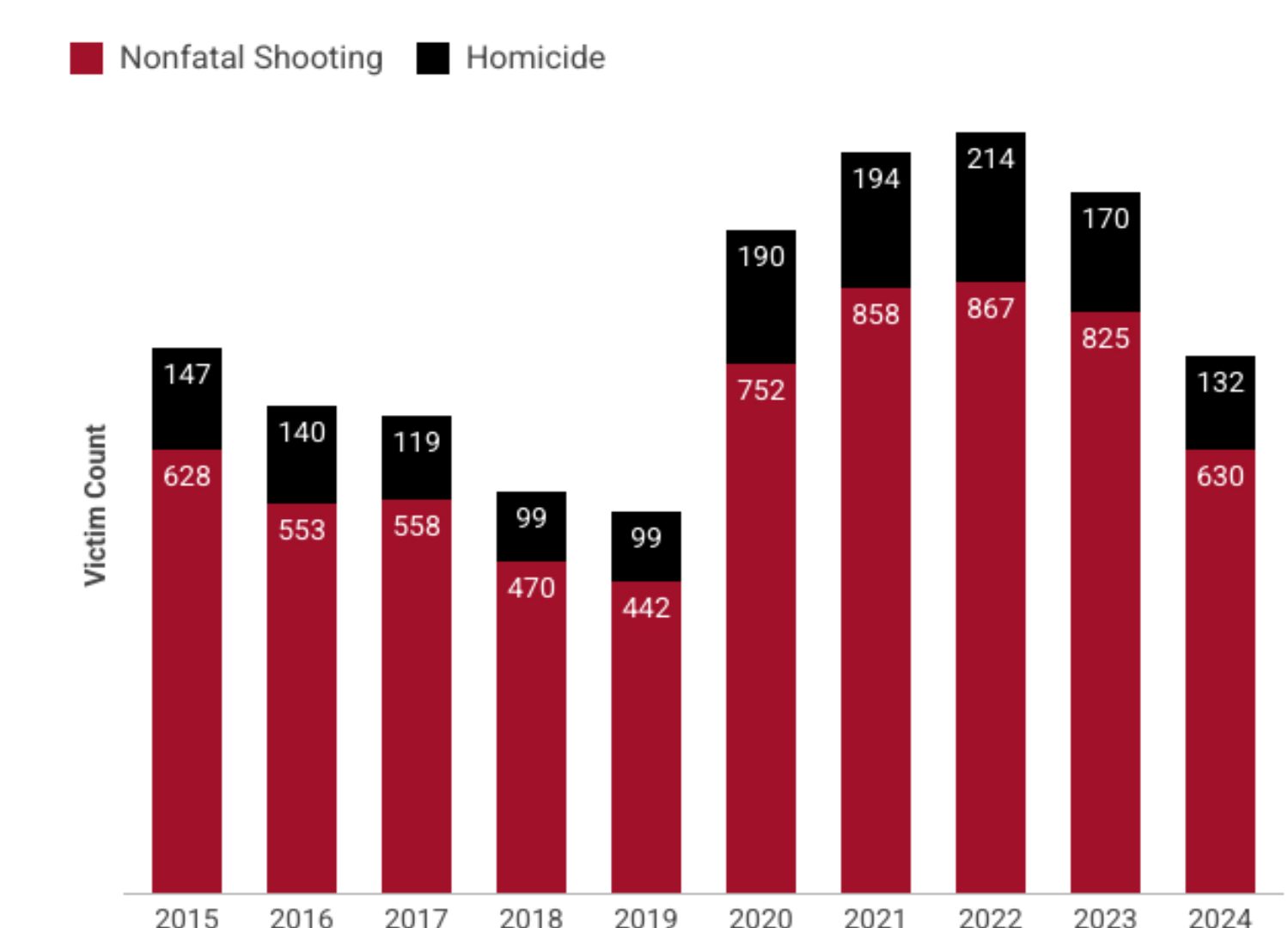
Completed evaluation of Project Ujima expansion opportunities in partnership with the HAVI

#### 414LIFE

Expanded referral pathways to include two additional hospital sites, Ascension St. Joseph's and Aurora Sinai

### Community Measures

Homicide and Non-Fatal Shootings (NFS) Victim Frequency by Year, Milwaukee County, 2015-2022



Percentage Change Since 2002 in Speeding-Related Auto Fatalities by Year, Milwaukee County versus all other Wisconsin counties, 2002-2022

