



2024 Public Policy Agenda

Gun violence is the leading cause of premature death in the United States, disproportionately impacting communities of color that have suffered from long-standing racism and community disinvestment.

The Marion County Youth Violence Prevention Coalition legislative agenda is focused on the youth most impacted by gun violence in Marion County and is organized around three broad themes: advancing racial equity, supporting the needs of families and communities, and addressing firearm access.

In all, we ask legislators to prioritize prevention over enforcement.

Advancing Racial Equity

1. End school discipline disparities and the “school-to-prison pipeline.”
2. Establish a Commission on Black Male Youth Gun Violence.
3. End policies that disproportionately impact communities of color and disinvested communities – access to high-quality education, health care, substance use treatment, mental health treatment, civilian (not police) crisis response.

Supporting the Needs of Families and Communities

1. Expand support services for the mental health needs of youth and parents.
2. Expand the behavioral health workforce.
3. Expand youth-serving programs—employment programs, mentoring programs, and after-school programs focused on building self-control, social skills, and decision-making.
4. Expand childcare and pre-k access.
5. Ensure access to food, housing, and broadband internet.
6. Address issues of literacy and educational success.

Addressing Firearm Access

1. Remove the state’s preemption of local gun laws, to allow cities and counties to create stricter regulations.
2. Repeal the state’s recently enacted permitless carry law.
3. Enact child access prevention and safe storage laws.