



Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention  
National Center for Injury  
Prevention and Control

## CDC Awards Funding to Two New Academic Centers of Excellence (ACEs) to Prevent Youth Violence

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) yesterday announced funding for new **Academic Centers of Excellence in Youth Violence Prevention (ACEs)**. Two new ACEs will receive \$1.3M per year for five years to address youth violence in high-risk communities.

In the United States, youth violence is a significant public health problem. Homicide is the second leading cause of death of young people, with an average of 16 youth victims each day. Approximately 20 percent of high school students report being bullied at school and more than 30 percent of high school students report being in a physical fight according to a CDC national survey. More than 619,000 young people ages 10 to 24 were treated in emergency departments for injuries sustained from violence in 2009.

The CDC grant is expected to cover five years of youth violence prevention programs and evaluation activities in the following ACEs:

- Johns Hopkins University
- The University of Colorado at Boulder

The two new centers join four other ACEs funded by CDC in September 2010:

- The University of Chicago
- The University of Michigan
- The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Virginia Commonwealth University

The ACEs use a unique multidisciplinary approach to youth violence prevention. The mission of the ACE Program is to research and prevent youth violence by using effective youth violence surveillance tools, identifying and testing successful violence prevention programs, and strengthening responses to youth violence through community mobilization efforts. The centers research youth violence prevention approaches and foster relationships with local community partners to help develop, implement, and evaluate comprehensive youth violence prevention efforts. ACEs engage in collaboration among researchers, local organizations (including health departments), and a defined high-risk community with the goal of reducing interpersonal youth violence.

### More Information

- Visit CDC's [Division of Violence Prevention](#).
- Learn more about [Youth Violence Prevention](#).
- Learn more about CDC's [Academic Centers of Excellence in Youth Violence Prevention](#).