

## Preventing Violence Business Sector Action Checklist

Violence affects everyone, either directly or indirectly. It not only affects the lives of victims and their family members, colleagues and employees, but violence also takes a toll on the business and economic climate. The business sector has a stake in the solution to violence and an important role to play in achieving peace.

The following checklist is based on the Spectrum of Prevention, a tool for developing comprehensive solutions to violence and other complex problems. The Spectrum promotes multifaceted action that results in systems and norms changes. This is what we need to significantly reduce violence in communities across the United States.

Spectrum Level	Business Sector Activities to Advance Violence Prevention Efforts
<b>1. Influencing Policy and Legislation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Support policy by testifying to policymakers and advocating for prevention.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Write op-ed pieces and letters to the editor in support of violence prevention.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Support candidates who are committed to violence prevention.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Meet with elected officials to let them know your violence concerns and commitment to violence prevention.</li> </ul>
<b>2. Changing Organizational Practices</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Adopt a neighborhood or school by providing volunteer hours, youth job training, in-kind donations, etc., to that neighborhood.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Provide employees with opportunities to volunteer through dedicating a set number of paid hours for volunteer time or establishing a company-wide volunteer day.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor and participate in community beautification efforts.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Establish a grant-making program to fund violence prevention efforts in your community.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Implement family-friendly practices, including providing employees with time off to attend events at their children's schools (e.g., first day of school, parent-teacher conferences).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Encourage media outlets to establish advertising sales policies that support violence prevention goals.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Donate money to support the development and implementation of local strategic plans to prevent violence.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Establish clear safety and violence prevention policies.</li> </ul>
<b>3. Fostering Coalitions and Networks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Form networks and coalitions with other businesses to promote violence prevention policies in the workplace and community.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Encourage employees to serve on boards of community based organizations.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Participate in coordinated efforts to prevent violence, e.g., serving on a local violence prevention leadership council.</li> </ul>
<b>4. Educating Providers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Train employees how to apply their specific expertise or the expertise of the business to violence prevention (e.g., banks train young people to balance checking accounts, printers copy informational materials, phone companies provide support lines, bookstores establish literacy programs, radio DJs transmit messages and resources, etc.).</li> </ul>
<b>5. Promoting Community Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor a community violence prevention day by hosting speakers and community guests.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Establish hate-free and violence-free zones in your workplace to build awareness about these issues and to set a tone for employees and customers that violence and hatred will not be tolerated.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Hold community education campaigns when violence prevention legislation is introduced.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Incorporate violence prevention messages into your advertising, information about your business, and into signs and posters at the workplace.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Encourage your employees to speak out against violence and about violence prevention at community events.</li> </ul>
<b>6. Strengthening Individual Knowledge and Skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Provide mentoring and career opportunities to at-risk youth.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Establish internship and apprentice programs for young people, and for adult and youth ex-felons.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Adopt a school in the community to provide job training and internship programs to students.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Provide anti-violence trainings (e.g., domestic violence, sexual assault, workplace violence) and diversity trainings to employees.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Provide violence prevention resource referrals to employees.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Post information about violence prevention around the workplace.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Establish conflict resolution programs at your workplace or make appropriate referrals.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Provide coverage that includes access to mental health and substance abuse services.</li> </ul>