

# CURE

# VIOLENCE



## Grand Rapids

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**Urban League**  
of West Michigan

*Empowering Communities.  
Changing Lives.*

Initiatives, Impacts, and Influences

# What is Cure Violence?

The Cure Violence Model (CVM) is based on the World Health Organization's approach to reversing the epidemic spread of infectious diseases such as AIDS, tuberculosis, and cholera.

The model applies these same three proven strategies to stop violence: ***Trained, culturally appropriate workers interrupt the transmission of violence, prevent its future spread, and transform community norms.***

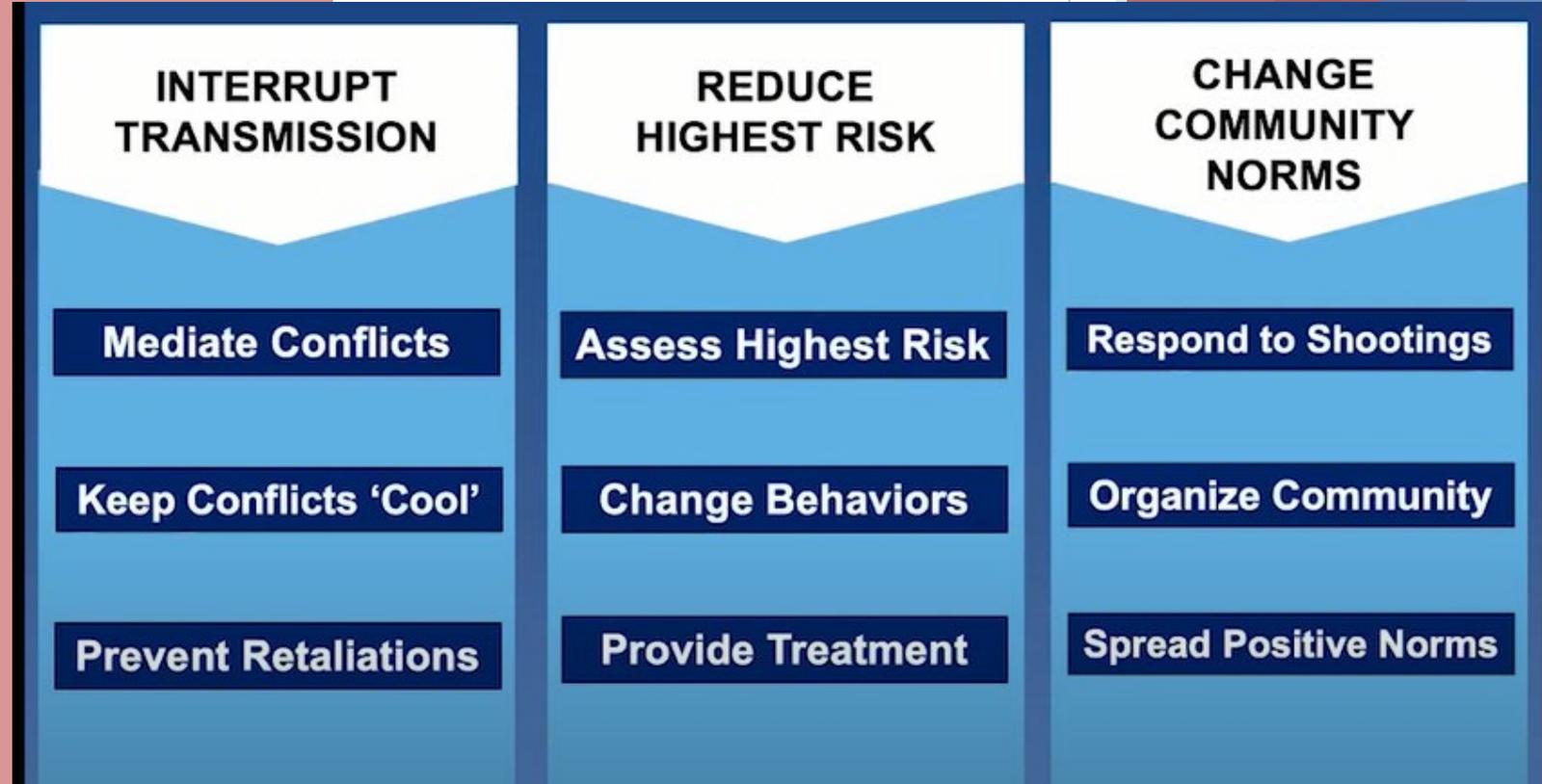
The model has been successfully replicated in diverse settings, proving its effectiveness across a variety of communities, cultures, and ethnicities.

# The Cure Violence Approach

## The Model

Three Strategies:

- ▶ Detect and Interrupt Potentially Violent Conflicts
- ▶ Identify and Treat the Highest Risk Individuals
- ▶ Mobilize the Community to Change Norms

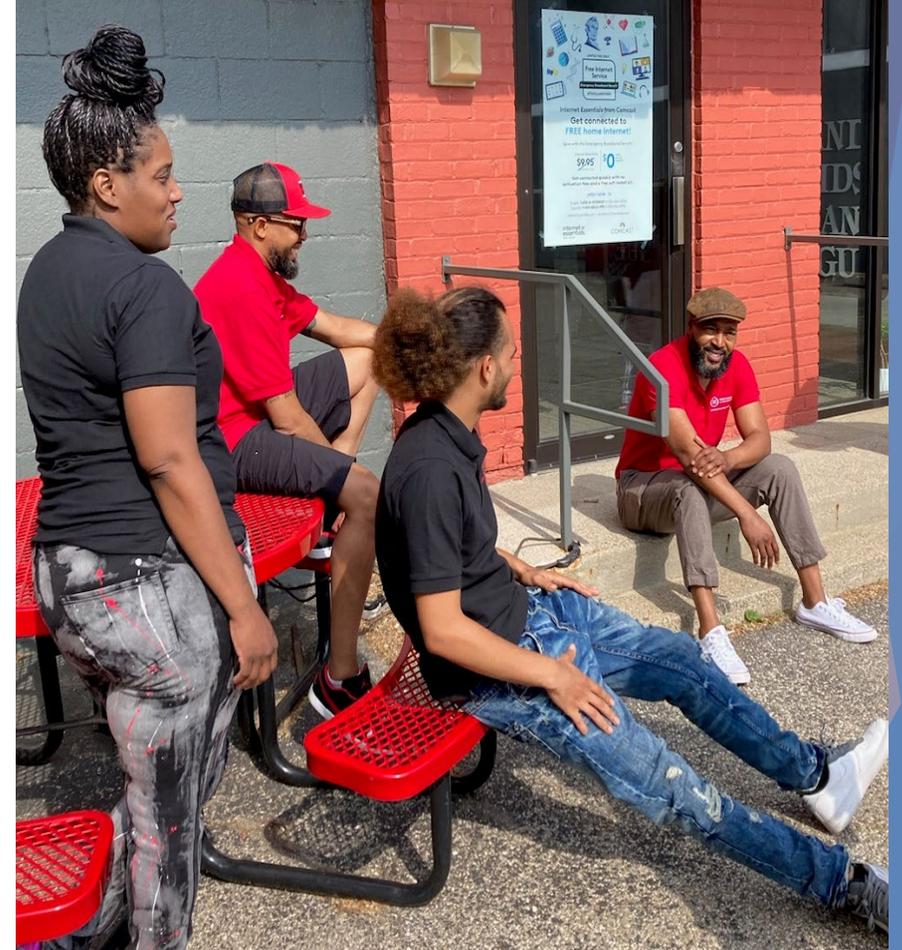


# How the Cure Violence Model Works

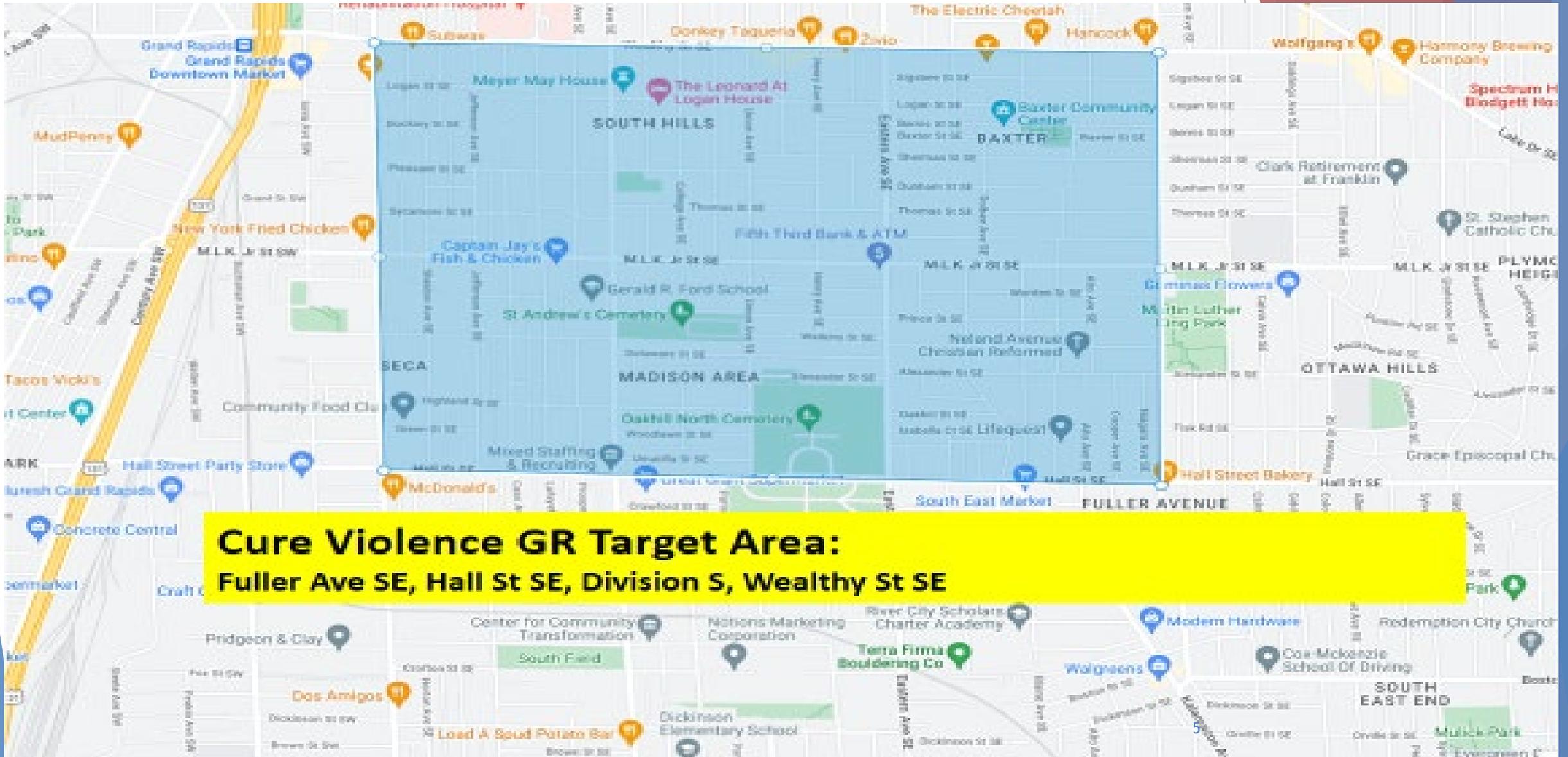
## Credible Workers

Cure Violence hires and trains violence interrupters and outreach specialists who

- ▶ already have the trust of community members.
- ▶ are able to influence and change behavior.
- ▶ have the background, life experiences, mistakes and knowledge to embark upon the Cure Violence journey.



# Cure Violence Model - Target Area



# Cure Violence Team - Structure and Roles

## Program Site Director

- Oversees programming implementation and evaluation.

## Education and Research Consultant

- Helps facilitate staff training; conducts data analysis

## Site Supervisor

- Oversees staffing and scheduling.

## Outreach Specialists

- In the community working directly with Violence Interrupters.
- Work with the referred individuals to connect them to resources.

## Violence Interrupters

- In the community building rapport with the highest risk.
- Defusing tensions in the community.
- Connect individuals with Outreach Specialists.

# Data Informed Approach

- ▶ There is evidence that Cure Violence GR is having a positive impact within the **target area**.
- ▶ Crime data indicates that there is a notable decrease in violent crime within the **target area**.
- ▶ It is not possible to determine the **cause** of decreased crime in the **target area** yet—too soon—but there are **correlations** between the interventions of the CV team and the decreased levels of violent crime within the **target area**.
- ▶ Establishing **statistical significance** is determining that these correlations are most likely NOT a result of chance. Consistent with initial discussions about Cure Violence, 2.5-3 years of data are required.

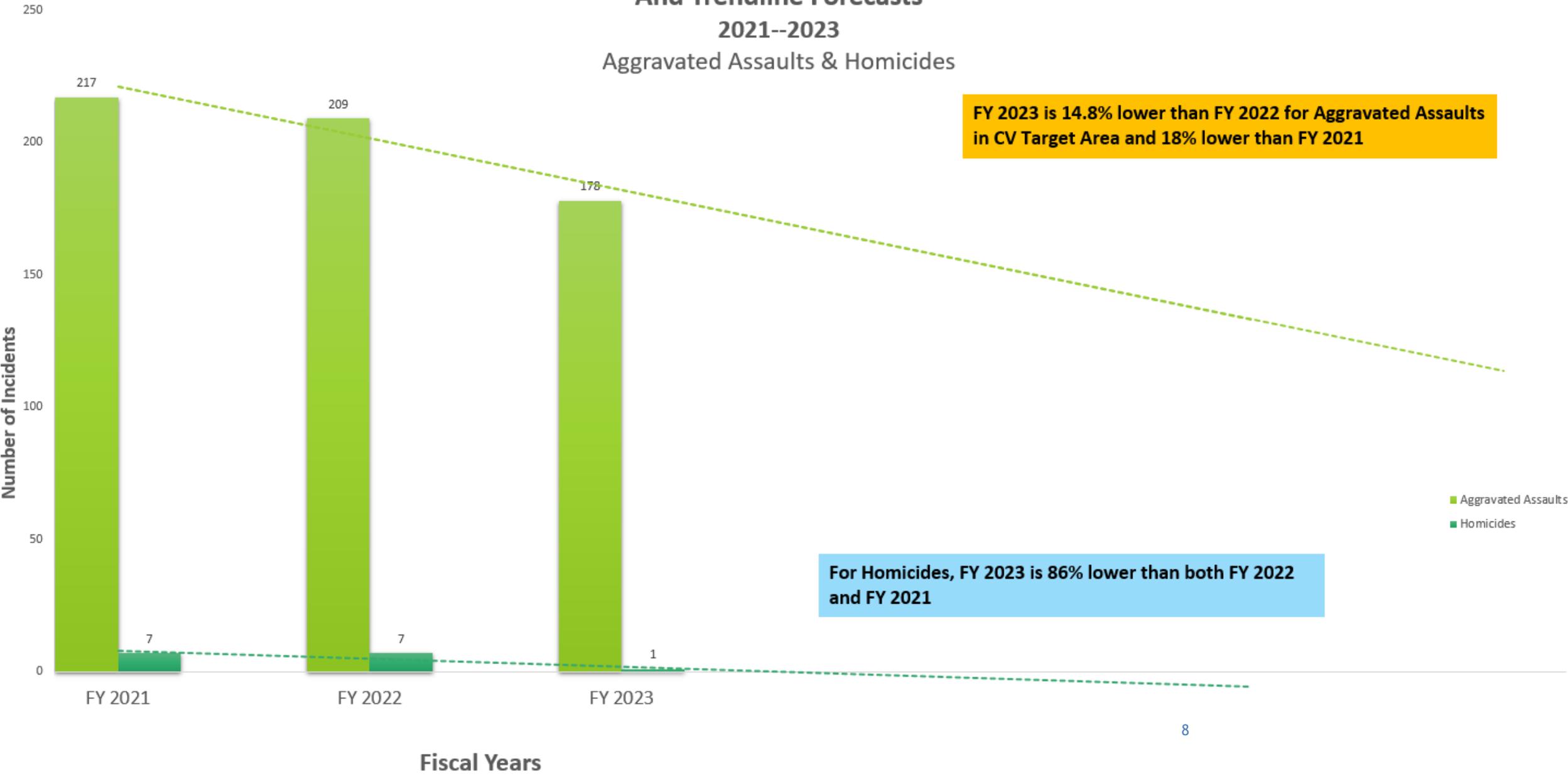


# Cure Violence GR Target Area: Fiscal Year Totals And Trendline Forecasts 2021--2023

## Aggravated Assaults & Homicides

**FY 2023 is 14.8% lower than FY 2022 for Aggravated Assaults in CV Target Area and 18% lower than FY 2021**

**For Homicides, FY 2023 is 86% lower than both FY 2022 and FY 2021**

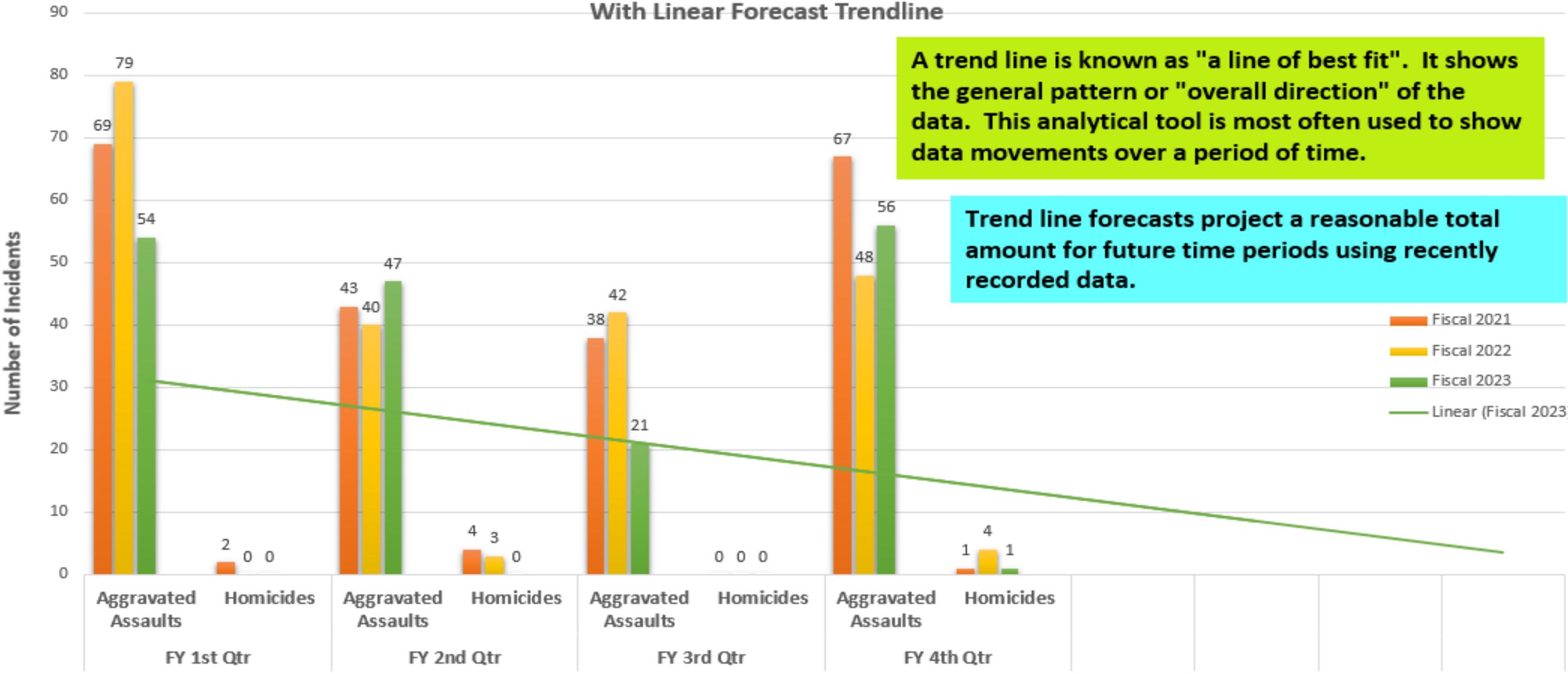


## Violent Crime--Aggravated Assaults & Homicides: Cure Violence GR Target Area: Fiscal Year 2021--Fiscal Year 2023

With Linear Forecast Trendline

**A trend line is known as "a line of best fit". It shows the general pattern or "overall direction" of the data. This analytical tool is most often used to show data movements over a period of time.**

**Trend line forecasts project a reasonable total amount for future time periods using recently recorded data.**



# Conclusion

- ▶ Data suggests that the Cure Violence Model is working in Grand Rapids
- ▶ Given the success of the program and request from Community the City of GR has expanded Cure Violence to target areas in all three wards
- ▶ This model uses a holistic public health approach to violence prevention to interrupt the spread of violence

## Additional Services Include

- ▶ Mentorship Programs
- ▶ Parent Support and Advocacy
- ▶ Youth Support and Advocacy
- ▶ Summer Programming
- ▶ Career Coaching
- ▶ Motivational/Life Navigating
- ▶ Skill Building
- ▶ Credentialing through local colleges and universities



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