



***“Shift our lens from what’s wrong with this kid,  
to what happened to this kid”***

—Dr. Isaiah Pickens, Assistant Director of Service Systems  
The National Center for Child Traumatic Stress, University of California, Los Angeles  
“Understanding Trauma in the Context of Juvenile Justice Systems”—Webinar

## **Breaking the Cycle of Gang Violence**

The **Comprehensive Gang Model** and the **Trauma-Informed Care Public Health Model** approach both share the ultimate goal of reducing violence in the community. The two approaches differ in how they achieve this goal. With long-term goals in view, the **Comprehensive Gang Model** offers a framework that can work in tandem with public health programs. When combined, the **Comprehensive Gang Model** and **Trauma-Informed Care Public Health Model** can focus on individual and community factors causing post-traumatic stress. The strength of this collective action further fosters conditions that nurture the well-being of young people, stem youth violence, and ultimately promote safe and thriving communities.

For more information about the **Comprehensive Gang Model**, visit the National Gang Center Web site at <https://www.nationalgangcenter.gov/Comprehensive-Gang-Model>.

# Breaking the Cycle of Gang Violence

**Shared Goals:** Reduce Gang and High-Risk Behaviors Among Young People; Reduce Violence in the Community

## Comprehensive Gang Model

### Risk Factors

- Criminal activity

### Points of Engagement

- Often through street outreach
- Can also be through school, justice systems, and law enforcement

### Types of Intervention

- Violence prevention programs/activities for at-risk youth
- Provision of services and opportunities to gang-involved youth
- Community mobilization strategies
- Suppression strategies

### Desired Outcomes

- Prevent gang joining
- Gang desistance/disengagement
- Reduce gang violence in community

## Trauma-Informed Care Public Health Model

### Risk Factors

- Loss of family
- Interpersonal relationships

### Points of Engagement

- Often after victimization at the hospital emergency room, using teachable moments

### Types of Intervention

- Provide support to individuals: safety, emotional management, loss, addressing and envisioning their future
- Referrals made to trauma-informed partner agencies including Cure Violence and Comp Model projects
- Address community factors influencing unhealthy environments, which perpetuate community violence

### Desired Outcomes

- Ameliorate the stress suffered from traumatic experiences
- Find alternatives to violent lifestyle
- Reduce retaliatory violence

## Shared Aspects

### Risk Factors

- Poverty
- Adverse childhood experience (ACE)
- Access to weapons
- Substance abuse
- Mental health issues
- Inadequate parenting
- Educational derivation

### Points of Engagement

- Targeted outreach to individuals

**Shared Vision:** Safe and Thriving Youth, Family, and Communities

For more information about **Trauma-Informed Care Public Health Model**, visit the National Network of Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Programs Web site at <http://nnhvip.org/trauma-informed-care/>.