

National Dialogues on Behavioral Health Levers of Change

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November 1, 2023

Areas of Discussion

- **Social Determinants of Health**
- **Public Policy**
- **Collaboration with Law Enforcement**



- Medicaid Contracting
- Addressing trauma

Public Health- Based Policy Solutions

Evidence shows three state-level public policies are effective at reducing firearm suicide by mitigating the risk factors



SAFE FIREARM STORAGE



**EXTREME RISK
PROTECTION ORDERS**



WAITING PERIODS



SAFE FIREARM STORAGE

- 5.4 million American minors live in homes with loaded, unsecured firearm
- PA has no legal requirements for safe firearm storage
- Prevents:
 - Suicide (esp. youth)
 - Unintentional shooting
 - School shooting
- Education/Resources + Legal Duty is Best
- States with Safe Storage law saw 11% decrease in overall suicide rates



Extreme Risk Protection Orders

There are few actions available in Pennsylvania when you're worried a close family member might hurt themselves or others with a firearm. Extreme Risk Protection Orders temporarily take away an individual's firearms so they can get the help they need before it is too late.

80%

exhibit suicidal thoughts
before an attempt

21

states have an
Extreme Risk
Protection
Order law

1

life saved for every 10
firearms removed

15%

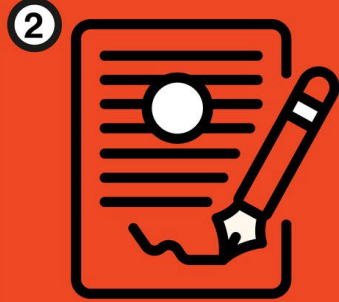
decrease in suicide in
Connecticut

EXTREME RISK PROTECTION ORDER PROCESS



Warning Signs

- Suicidal thoughts
- Leaked plans for mass shooting
- Domestic violence threats



Petition for Order

- Family or law enforcement provide proof of danger to court



Court Hearing

- Full due process afforded to gun owner in civil proceeding



Judge Issues Order

- Firearms must be temporarily relinquished to law enforcement or a firearms dealer



Time To Get Help

- Firearms may be returned if crisis passes



After One Year

- Firearms returned
- ERPO may be renewed if necessary

WAITING PERIODS

- States with waiting period laws had 51% fewer firearm suicides than states without
- Another study showed that waiting periods lead to a 7–11% reduction in gun suicides
- 72% of gun owners support a three-day waiting period



➤ Behavior Threat Assessment & Management (BTAM)

