

# You can prevent gun injuries among children and teens

Take steps to protect those you care about:



## **SECURE HOUSEHOLD**

**GUNS:** Lock up, limit access or remove household guns and other lethal means.

Keep guns and ammunition stored separately. Only the owner should know where keys and combinations are kept.



## **HAVE OPEN AND HONEST CONVERSATIONS:**

Talk to children, teenagers, and other parents about gun safety.

Too often, the **victims** of unintentional shootings and gun injuries are **children and teens**.



**Around 1 in 7** gun incident victims is under 18  
*In Anne Arundel County of incidents where age is known.*

## **Adolescents are curious and smart.**

Teenagers know where household guns are kept and how to get to them, even in households with parents who believe otherwise.

Sources: Police report incident data for from Anne Arundel County and Annapolis City Police Departments (2019-2023)



<https://www.aahealth.org/gun-violence-intervention-team/active-projects/youth-gun-safety-toolkit>

# Gun injuries are tragically common and have long-term consequences

## Among Anne Arundel County residents every year:



An average of **129 individuals** seek medical care due to gun injuries at a combined medical cost of over **\$3 million dollars**.

### Did you know?

Gun violence costs each Maryland resident \$1,731 every year.

## Of county resident seen in a hospital for a gun injury:

The median age is **28**. Black males have the highest gun injury rate at **143 injuries per 100k people**.

This is 9X the rate for white males.

Many survivors experience **life-long impacts** on their mental and physical health.

Sources: HSCRC Data (2018-2022) and EveryStat for Gun Safety. Last updated: 08/17/2023