Healing Hurt People

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Healing Hurt People PDX

In 2019 Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center (POIC) and Legacy Emanuel Medical Center continued to focus on reducing community violence through Healing Hurt People Portland (HHP PDX).

In 2021 POIC and OHSU established an MOU to extend HHP PDX services.
CREDIBLE MESSENGERS

WHO PROVIDES SERVICES MATTER
HHP was originally launched in 2013 through Cascadia Behavioral Health and transitioned to POIC as a service with Legacy Emanuel Hospital in 2018.

HHP Portland is modeled from the Healing Hurt People Philadelphia and has proven effective in 22 other major cities across the country.
Research suggests that intervening within four hours of a trauma increases the likelihood of preventing future violence. HHP PDX makes use of this “timing.” There is a critical window for intervention and then there is the TIME over the course of six months to a year, helping victims and their families get on the road to healing.

HHP addresses the victims' physical, social, and emotional needs after being released from the hospital. Not as a criminal justice matter only, but it looks at it from a public health approach as well. These victims generally are processing a new reality for themselves, a reality that says, someone probably still wants to do them harm; a reality that says they will be expected to retaliate against whoever did this to them; and or a reality that’s dealing with psychological trauma, recognizing that what they are possibly planning could actually land them back in the hospital, or possibly worse.

When victims are at this crossroad, without proper guidance they will most likely choose the road most familiar to them. HHP strives to guide these wayward travelers down a road of reform and not retaliation.
Expected outcomes include:

- Reduction in repeat emergency room visits
- Reduction in retaliatory violence
- Reduction in arrest and re-arrests
- Reduction in the development of Acute Stress and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
Most Impacted

Communities of Color, nation wide, are disproportionately impacted by gun violence.
Services Provided

While in the emergency department a multidisciplinary team that will include social workers, chaplains, and emergency and trauma physicians will address the trauma and find ways to connect the victim and their families to resources provided by Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center staff to include, but not limited to emotional support, family support, housing, medical follow-up, substance abuse treatment, legal and educational support.

HHP Portland employs a trauma-informed approach, which takes into account the adversity clients have experienced over their lives and recognizes that addressing this trauma is critical to breaking the cycle of violence.
HHP offers trauma counseling that combines several modalities, including motivational interviewing, CBT, mindfulness, relational strategies, and other techniques. This approach helps our participants who are often distrustful of systems of care, to understand how counseling can help them heal. The counseling aims to reduce trauma symptoms, as well as to increase coping skills, safety, and a sense of future. Participants are linked with long term sources of support and behavioral health care as needed.

Healing Hurt People PDX is currently getting trauma 1 injury response calls from Legacy Emanuel Hospital. In looking at this data it is also important to understand that HHP does not respond to all calls, only those that fall into the target demographic, which excludes domestic violence cases, suicide attempt cases, and some gun violence cases that do not involve people of color.
SHOOTINGS
• In 2020 there were 189 injury shootings reported. Of those reported shootings
• HHP was called to respond in 92 cases.
• (see shooting chart)
• Of the remaining 97, 72 met our criteria and we were not able to respond. (No call was made for HHP support or Victim’s injuries were to sever for immediate contact)

STABBINGS
• In 2020, in addition to the 92-gun violence cases that HHP responded to, we were also called to 20 cases that involved individuals who had been involved in stabbings. (see stabbing chart)
• Of the remaining 76, 32 met our criteria and we were not able to respond.
HHP provides the following supports for victims of shooting or stabbing injuries.

- **Relocation Services** - funding is used to assist victims to help reduce trauma associated with returning to injuries that took place in or near their residence. The services also help to temporarily or permanently move victims and their families to ensure safety and avoid retaliation or another occurrence of victimization at their residence. Victims and their families can receive support of temporary hotel stays, relocation to another house and or moving out of state.

- **Referrals for Therapy, Mental Health Counseling: Addiction and Recovery Services**: HHP partners with multiple Behavioral health partners for culturally specific and culturally responsive services, trauma informed care, rehabilitation and more.

- **Assist client’s family Needs**: Assist family members of clients directly impacted with food Insecurities needs, relocation, counseling, mentoring/life coaching referral, or children support...

- **Transition and Recovery Support**: HHP help clients during their physical and emotional recovery with Job readiness support, education endeavors to return to school, GED completion courses, PCC connections to start or return to college, trade work referrals and more

**PROVIDING STABILIZATION SUPPORT SERVICES**
TRAUMA INFORMED CARE
Healing Hurt People PDX

TRAUMA INFORMED
HHP PDX uses a trauma-informed approach. This approach takes into consideration the client’s life course of hardships and recognizes that addressing any trauma is critical to breaking the cycle of violence. We provide both emotional and physical support.

Besides violence, African American males as well as Latino males will often experience other subtle forms of trauma. Their lived exposure to racism, discrimination, oppression, and poverty, when all combined over a lifetime can be fundamentally life altering.

Because we recognize that victims of violence are especially vulnerable to recurring violence and retaliation our services focus on interrupting this violence by developing relationships and providing support services.
EVERY VICTIM DESERVES A CHANCE TO HEAL