

Lethal Means and Risk in the Community - Common Sense Approaches

Miriam Delphin-Rittmon Ph.D.
Commissioner, CT DMHAS

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Overview

- Red flag legislation and strategies
- Other gun control measures
- Community interventions
- Links and resources

Red Flag Legislation

- Extreme Risk Protection Order
 - Implemented in CT in 1999 (PA 99-212)
 - Allows police to obtain warrant from a judge to confiscate guns from individuals deemed a risk to self or others
 - Within 14 days of gun removal a hearing is held
 - For some, gun removal intervention serves as a portal to treatment

Red Flag Legislation

- Participation in National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) – PA 05-283
 - Database used by Federal firearms Licensees (FFLs) to determine eligibility to buy a gun
 - Used for all gun sales including gun shows
 - Ineligibility can occur due to criminal record, dishonorable discharge, fugitive from justice system, immigration status, etc.

Red Flag Legislation

- Gun restrictions and civil commitment - PA 98-129
- Requires individuals admitted to hospitals to relinquish guns temporarily
 - Hospitals enter: Name, DOB, address, last 4 # SS#
 - DMHAS notifies state police only if a match occurs
 - State police check for permits or guns, notifies patient to surrender guns/permit for 6 months



Stricter Gun Control Measures

- Imposed or Expanded Existing Bans
 - Military-style assault weapons (PA 13-3 passed in 2013)
 - Large capacity magazines (Part of PA 13-3)
 - Bump stocks (PA 18-29 passed in 2017)
- Universal background checks on all gun sales
- Registry of weapons offenders
- Imposed age restrictions on certain gun sales

Community Interventions

- Expansion of ACT Teams
- Community Intervention Teams (CIT)
- Peer Bridgers
- Mobile Crisis and Jail Diversion
- Public Awareness through YMHFA
- School Safety

Links and Resources

- CT Gun Laws Resource Page
<http://www.jud.ct.gov.lawlib/law/firearms.htm>
- PA 13-3 An Act Concerning Gun Violence Prevention and Children's Safety
<https://www.cga.ct.gov/2013/ACT/PA/2013PA-00003-R00SB-01160-PA.htm>
- CT Chapter 529 Division of State Police
 - Sec. 29-38c. Seizure of firearms and ammunition from person posing risk of imminent personal injury to self or others. (extreme risk protection order)
 - Sec. 29-38b. Determination of commitment or admission status of person who applies for or seeks renewal of firearm permit or certificate.

Links and Resources

- Swanson, J., Norko, M., et al, (2017). Implementation and effectiveness of Connecticut's risk-based gun removal laws: Does it prevent suicides?