

THE PEACEMAKER FELLOWSHIP®

Transform Lives – Build Healthy, Safe and Just Communities

MISSION

Advance Peace is dedicated to ending cyclical and retaliatory gun violence in urban neighborhoods by investing in the development, healing, health and wellbeing of those at the center of the crisis. Advance Peace [AP] helps cities do this by providing transformative opportunities to individuals at the center of gun violence through the Peacemaker Fellowship®. We believe that community health and safety is most likely to be improved when the focus of change starts with a willingness to directly engage and invest in individuals who are most at-risk for either committing or suffering the harm we want to prevent. As an organization, we do not use the agency or instruments of law enforcement to achieve our developmental and healing-centered objectives with our Fellows. By working with and supporting a targeted group of individuals at the core of gun hostilities, Advance Peace bridges the gap between anti-violence programming and a hard-to-reach population at the center of violence in urban areas, thus breaking the cycle of gun hostilities and altering the trajectory of these men's lives. A priority of the Fellowship is to ensure greater connectivity to culturally responsive and empathic human, social and economic opportunities for young adults who are traditionally isolated and excluded from such supports. Through a racial justice lens, Advance Peace equips urban communities most impacted by gun violence with the emotional intelligence to thrive in peace.

GOALS

- Disrupt and reduce cyclical and retaliatory gun violence and associated injury and death.
- Provide intensive focused engagement to a hard to reach population of young adults.
- Increase opportunities for personal healing and development, and provide social, educational, and vocational supports for each Fellow.

APPROACH

- Our approach offers a minimum 18-month+, non-mandated, high touch and impact, personalized fellowship.
- Our approach utilizes evidence-based practices, is person-centered, and is assistive and collaborative with each individual Fellow.
- Our approach encourages intensive focused engagement with individuals at the core of firearm conflicts in urban neighborhoods.
- We hire, train and develop formerly incarcerated leaders from the local community to manage and facilitate the strategy.
- We incorporate a public health, developmental and healing centered approach to prevent gun violence by addressing the root conditions, such as trauma and drug addiction—not just the symptoms.

OUTCOMES

The Peacemaker Fellowship has been shown to:

- Reduce firearm assaults by 50% over a 5-year period
- Reduce firearm-related homicides by 50% over a 5-year period
- Reduce government costs associated with gun violence
- Improve and sustain public health outcomes in “AP Zones”.