



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB3700

Introduced 2/18/2025, by Rep. Maura Hirschauer

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Community Violence Intervention Workforce Development Act. Provides that the Office of Firearm Violence Prevention within the Department of Human Services shall establish the Community Violence Intervention Workforce Development Workgroup. Provides that the members of the Workgroup, other than the General Assembly members, shall be appointed by the Assistant Secretary of Firearm Violence Prevention, or the Assistant Secretary's designee. Provides that the Office of Firearm Violence Prevention shall convene a group of experts in the field of community violence intervention and conduct meetings and analysis as the Community Violence Intervention Workforce Development Workgroup. Provides that the Community Violence Intervention Workforce Development Workgroup shall complete the following tasks before December 31, 2026: (1) estimate the number of highest risk individuals currently being served with community violence intervention services and the number of high risk individuals that likely need these services; (2) determine the current and future workforce needs of the community violence intervention field in Illinois based on a goal of serving 75% of those with chronic exposure to gun violence in the next 5 years; (3) identify the critical job function and categories required by community violence intervention services; (4) develop estimates of the available workforce by job function and category to its best ability; (5) develop job descriptions and merit assessment tools by job function and category; (6) identify changes to grant and other State funding that can enable stronger recruitment, training, and evaluation of community violence intervention workers and services; and (7) make recommendations to the General Assembly by job function and category for changes to State law that will allow for the development and implementation of career paths and quality recruitment and retention of a community violence intervention workforce. Provides that the Workgroup is dissolved on January 1, 2027 and the Act is repealed on that date. Effective immediately.

LRB104 08640 RLC 18693 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning violence prevention.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
5 Community Violence Intervention Workforce Development Act.

6 Section 5. Intent.

7 (a) Community violence intervention services provide  
8 comprehensive outreach, mental health, and employment training  
9 and placement services to individuals at highest risk of being  
10 shot or shooting someone in communities with high  
11 concentrations of gunshot victims.

12 (b) Initial data and evaluation indicates comprehensive  
13 community violence intervention services show promise in  
14 contributing to the reduction in gun violence victims in  
15 Illinois.

16 (c) Community violence intervention services require a  
17 variety of skilled professionals with lived experience and  
18 cultural competency to maximize the effectiveness of outreach,  
19 mental health, and employment and training services.

20 (d) The need for those with lived experience and cultural  
21 competency to be the primary workforce for community violence  
22 intervention restricts the available workforce for community  
23 violence intervention professionals.

1 (e) Individuals with lived experience in chronic exposure  
2 to gun violence frequently require specialized supports to  
3 professionalize their approach and maintain their traumatic  
4 recovery from exposure to gun violence while working in the  
5 gun violence prevention field.

6 (f) Illinois has a shortage of qualified community  
7 violence intervention professionals at all job functions while  
8 less than 20% of those with chronic exposure to gun violence  
9 are currently being served with community violence  
10 intervention services.

11 Section 10. Community Violence Intervention Workforce  
12 Development Workgroup; duties. The Office of Firearm Violence  
13 Prevention within the Department of Human Services shall  
14 establish the Community Violence Intervention Workforce  
15 Development Workgroup. The Office of Firearm Violence  
16 Prevention shall convene a group of experts in the field of  
17 community violence intervention and conduct meetings and  
18 analysis as the Community Violence Intervention Workforce  
19 Development Workgroup. The Community Violence Intervention  
20 Workforce Development Workgroup shall complete the following  
21 tasks before December 31, 2026.

22 (1) estimate the number of highest risk individuals  
23 currently being served with community violence  
24 intervention services and the number of high risk  
25 individuals that likely need these services;

1           (2) determine the current and future workforce needs  
2 of the community violence intervention field in Illinois  
3 based on a goal of serving 75% of those with chronic  
4 exposure to gun violence in the next 5 years;

5           (3) identify the critical job function and categories  
6 required by community violence intervention services;

7           (4) develop estimates of the available workforce by  
8 job function and category to its best ability;

9           (5) develop job descriptions and merit assessment  
10 tools by job function and category;

11           (6) identify changes to grant and other State funding  
12 that can enable stronger recruitment, training, and  
13 evaluation of community violence intervention workers and  
14 services; and

15           (7) make recommendations to the General Assembly by  
16 job function and category for changes to State law that  
17 will allow for the development and implementation of  
18 career paths and quality recruitment and retention of a  
19 community violence intervention workforce.

20           Section 15. Community Violence Intervention Workforce  
21 Development Workgroup; membership.

22           (a) The Community Violence Intervention Workforce  
23 Development Workgroup shall be comprised of the following  
24 members:

25           (1) one representative from Metropolitan Peace

1 Academy;

2 (2) one representative from READI Chicago;

3 (3) one representative from a Chicago-based violence  
4 prevention organization that is not part of the  
5 Communities partnering for Peace or READI Chicago  
6 networks;

7 (4) one representative from Community Based Violence  
8 Prevention Agency-Peoria;

9 (5) one representative from Community Based Violence  
10 Prevention Agency-East St. Louis;

11 (6) one representative from Community Based Violence  
12 Prevention Agency-Rockford;

13 (7) one representative from Community Based Violence  
14 Prevention Agency-Aurora/Elgin;

15 (8) one representative from an organization that  
16 operates community violence intervention services itself  
17 and funds the development of other network services with  
18 private funds;

19 (9) one representative from the Illinois Criminal  
20 Justice Information Authority;

21 (10) one representative from a university-based  
22 research institution that evaluates violence prevention  
23 programs;

24 (11) one representative from the Office of Firearm  
25 Violence Prevention;

26 (12) a representative from the behavioral health

1 community;

2 (13) one representative from the foundation community  
3 that both funds violence intervention services itself and  
4 participates in a private funding collaborative that funds  
5 violence prevention services;

6 (14) a representative of a community college;

7 (15) a representative of the City of Chicago; and

8 (16) 4 members of the General Assembly, one each  
9 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives,  
10 the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the  
11 President of the Senate, and the Minority Leader of the  
12 Senate.

13 (b) The members of the Workgroup listed in paragraphs (1)  
14 through (15) of subsection (a) shall be appointed by the  
15 Assistant Secretary of Firearm Violence Prevention, or the  
16 Assistant Secretary's designee.

17 (c) The Assistant Secretary of Firearm Violence  
18 Prevention, or his or her designee, shall convene the  
19 Community Violence Intervention Workforce Development  
20 Workgroup, and work in collaboration with members to submit a  
21 final report to the General Assembly.

22 Section 20. Dissolution. The Workgroup is dissolved on  
23 January 1, 2027.

24 Section 25. Repeal. This Act is repealed on January 1,

1 2027.

2 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
3 becoming law.