



# Yale New Haven Hospital Violence Intervention Pilot

February 2023 - January 2024

## Summary

4-CT is partnering with the Yale New Haven Hospital (YNHH) Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Program (HVIP) and the Health Alliance for Violence Intervention (HAVI) to determine the effectiveness of direct cash assistance to promote positive outcomes for victims of violence, particularly in their post-injury recovery, or to assist families of victims of homicide.

## Pilot Overview

For a 12-month period, approximately 100 YNHH HVIP patients will receive one-time cash payments of \$500 via prepaid Mastercard. Next of kin of victims of homicide enrolled in YNHH HVIP will receive one-time cash payments of \$1,000.

Pilot participants will be selected by YNHH HVIP, which fosters collaboration between hospital providers and community resources to advance trauma-informed case management services for victims of violence (including, but not limited to, gun violence, human trafficking, intimate partner violence, physical assault and sexual assault) in the emergency room and in the months following injury to empower individuals to recover, make changes in their lives, prevent future injury and end the cycle of violence.

The YNHH HVIP team and HAVI policy director will conduct a mixed-methods evaluation using the RE-AIM Framework to determine the public health impact of the pilot.

## Aims

The aims of this pilot are: (1) to demonstrate the benefits of direct cash assistance for victims of interpersonal violence; (2) to improve systems for delivering support to victims post-injury; and (3) reduce violence, an epidemic that disproportionately hurts young people of color.

## Background

Violent injuries are a leading cause of disability and death among those ages 15 - 34 in the US, according to the CDC. Victims of violence face not only physical injuries but also psychological and emotional disturbances associated with post-traumatic stress disorder, depression and substance use disorder.<sup>1</sup>

Many victims of violence suffer from repeat victimization and, in urban settings, researchers estimate that up to 41 percent of patients treated for violent injury are reinjured within five years, placing a significant cost on health systems and communities alike.<sup>2</sup> What's more, Everytown for Gun Safety reports that homicide in the US accounts for \$280 billion in costs to taxpayers, survivors, families, employers and communities.

Despite their best efforts, HVIPs across the globe are very limited in what they can provide to victims beyond medical care and case management. They lack resources like emergency cash, which would help patients meet urgent needs like purchasing a bus or train ticket to get to the next loved one or to a

---

<sup>1</sup> "Community Violence," The National Child Traumatic Stress Network.

<sup>2</sup> Kennedy, Brown, Brown, and Fleming, "Geographic and temporal patterns of recurrent intentional injury in south-central Los Angeles"; Goins, Thompson, and Simpkins, "Recurrent intentional injury"; D.S. Reiner, et al., "Trauma recidivism."

safe place, paying for food, bandages or a prescription co-pay due to lost wages while hospitalized. Many resources are not available to patients for weeks or months.

“The global lack of cash assistance programs for HVIPs highlights how unique and impactful this pilot is for us. We don’t know of anyone giving at the level of 4-CT nationally.” James Dodington, MD, YNHH HVIP Medical Director.

That’s why 4-CT is supporting the commitments of YNHH, the City of New Haven and the CT HVIP Collaborative to addressing violence as a public health issue.

Direct cash assistance is a powerful tool to relieve economic pressures while giving recipients the dignity and autonomy to decide for themselves how to improve their lives.

### Highlights

**Total Cost:** up to \$75,000

**Number of Participants:** 100

**\$500 one-time cash payments**  
(\$1,000 for families of victims of homicide)

**Population Focus:** Victims of Violence at Yale New Haven Hospital

Providing no-strings-attached cash makes it possible for individuals to meet their immediate needs and reach longer-term personal and financial goals.

### Pilot Administrator

4-CT partners with community-based organizations across Connecticut to provide direct cash assistance to residents in need, giving them the agency to make their own decisions and the resources to improve their lives. Originally established at the onset of the Covid-19 crisis to provide emergency funding statewide, we have expanded our mission beyond the pandemic to use cash assistance to address immediate crises while also exploring the efficacy of recurring payments as a means for addressing systemic injustices.

Please contact Sarah Blanton, CEO, at [sarah@4-ct.org](mailto:sarah@4-ct.org) with any questions.

### Performance Indicators:

- Post-Injury Recovery
- Medical Follow-Up for Injuries
- Mental Health
- Referrals for Community-Based Services for Food, Clothing and Legal Advocacy
- Employment and Educational Advancement
- Violent Re-Injury Prevention

### Timeline

<b>Feb 2023</b> Pilot Launch	<b>Jan 2024</b> Pilot Ends	<b>Mar 2024</b> Release of Findings
---------------------------------	-------------------------------	--