

# Community Violence Intervention and Prevention (CVIP) Strategies: Mitigating Variations in School and Neighborhood Violence

**Schools can create safer learning environments via tailored, comprehensive approaches that address the root causes of violence.**

Urban public schools, particularly those with large populations of Black and brown students, often perpetuate violence through biased, Eurocentric curricula and overly punitive policies. K-12 urban public schools are uniquely positioned to challenge and alter the structural violence impacting Black and brown students using CVIP strategies.

**Contemporary urban public schools could benefit from 3 outreach-based CVIP strategies:**

## 1. Holistic Approaches to Address School Violence







Schools can enact **holistic, student-centered violence prevention strategies** by employing a **Whole School, Whole Child, Whole Community (WSCC)** perspective.

The **WSCC model** acknowledges the **significant relationship** between **schools** and the **communities** within which they reside and the inherent links between **health** and **education**.

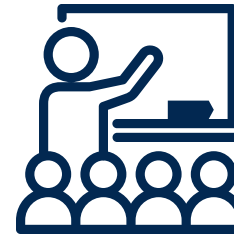
## 2. Community Engagement

Outreach-based CVI programs rely on **specialized intervention strategies that are co-constructed and maintained alongside numerous community partners**, including public health, law enforcement (under certain conditions), education, employment, and housing.

**To build and sustain these partnerships, it is essential to have:**

-  **Trust**
-  **Communication**
-  **Transparency**
-  **Commitment to building capacity and sustainability**

## 3. Relationship Building



Educators must **cultivate strong student-teacher relationships** by **intentionally and regularly engaging** with students and their families.

This will ensure educators have a **deeper understanding** of their **students' lived experiences** and can help them to **develop resources** that align with their students' identities.

## Key Understanding

**CVIP strategies can help schools center students' needs, build community, and redress structural violence.**

**? How can schools, especially those in which teacher autonomy is limited and the status quo is expected, integrate CVIP strategies?**

- Build a course or adopt a pedagogical frame that centers community engagement and rewards the co-creation and facilitation of instruction. This process can foster new partnerships and lay the foundation for a more equitable classroom environment.
- Adopt project-based learning models that provide a sound foundational framework for delivering a holistic, community-centered education rooted in strong relationships and restorative care.