

VISIONQUILT

2022 IMPACT REPORT



www.visionquilt.org

WHAT WE CAN IMAGINE...
WE CAN CREATE.



OUR MISSION

To harness the power of art and community voice to create real change against gun violence in our neighborhoods.



LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDER

At the beginning of 2022, schools and community based organizations were still recovering from the Covid-19 pandemic. Vision Quilt used this time to plan for future work.

Following the tragic Uvalde Shooting of innocent elementary students in Texas, Vision Quilt publicized our free multidisciplinary toolkit entitled, “Addressing Gun Violence: Creating Visionaries, Storytellers, and Community Activists” to schools and nonprofits across the U.S.. A major article featuring our work was written by The Guardian in their section entitled, “Guns and Lies”.

Vision Quilt also received praise from key community leaders for its work in schools and its high visibility for the Peace In The Streets Banners which now span 1.6 miles along International Boulevard in East Oakland. Many of the students we work with live in unsafe neighborhoods with limited mental health resources. One of the most strategic decisions Vision Quilt made in 2022, was to offer self care tools to our teacher and community leader partners so they can offer practical resources to their young people.

In 2023, we hope we can raise funds to expand from a volunteer organization to a nonprofit with paid BIPOC leadership.

THANK YOU for doing your best to prevent further mass shootings, community violence, suicides and accidental shootings. Your commitment to preventing gun violence is needed now more than ever.

We appreciate every one of you for your donations of time, money and activism!

Cathy DeForest, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Vision Quilt



The Vision Quilt Model



Inspires Dialogues
via Our Toolkit



Builds Coalitions
Across Differences



Amplifies Visionary Art
& Host Exhibitions

Our Impact



92% are more likely to take action to intervene when someone is being bullied or hurt

91% intend to prevent gun violence within their family, school or community

95% learned how art, poetry, music and/or video can impact change



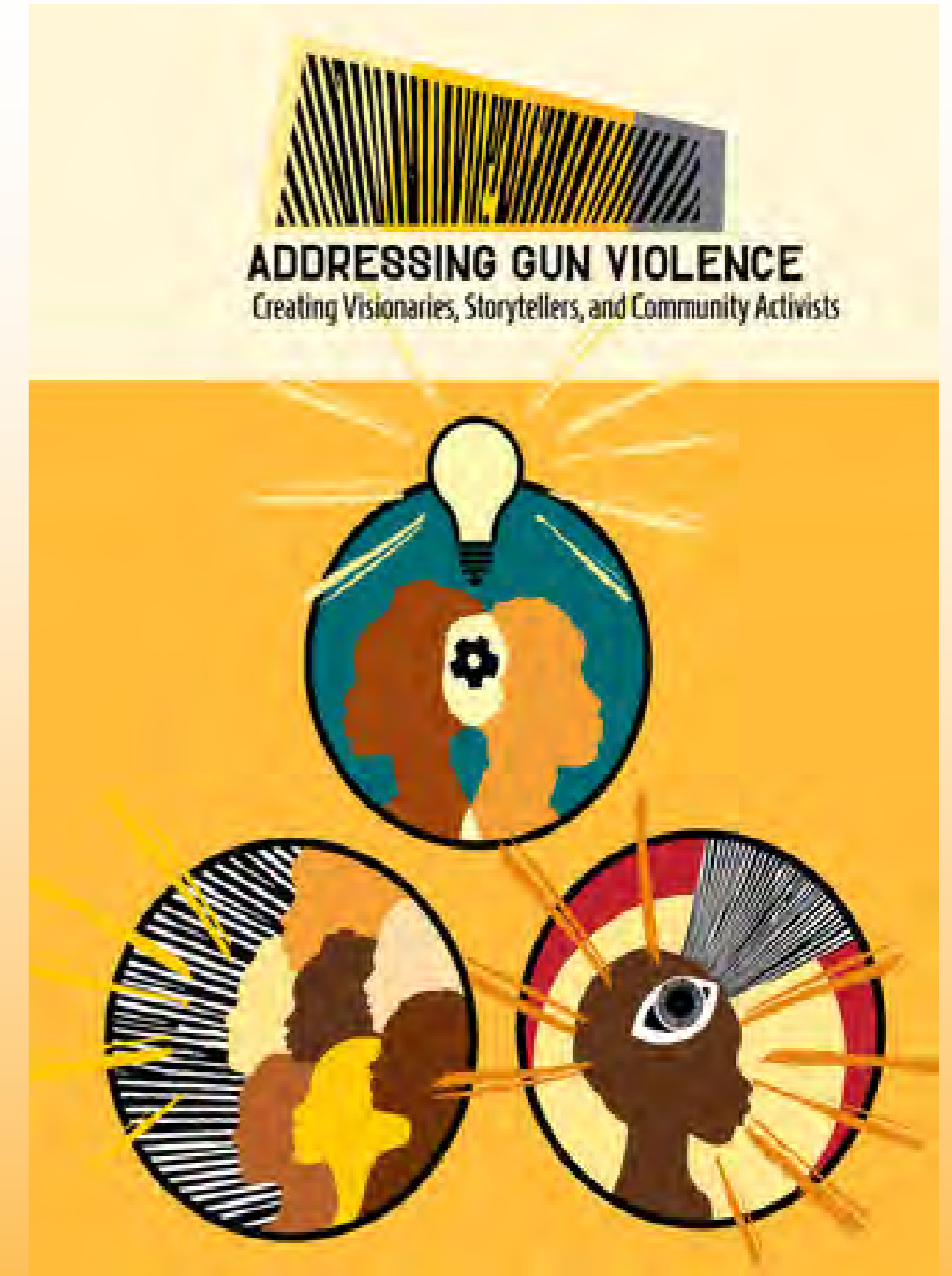
Gun violence is now the number one cause of death for children and teens in America. It's a statistic we refuse to accept as the norm. Our children and communities should never have to live in fear of senseless gun violence. Our country deserves better.

IN 2022

VISION QUILT

Amplified the voices of underserved youth
Lifted up the need for safe schools and neighborhoods
Supported healing
Inspired hope
Created inclusive dialogue

Vision Quilt met with educators in 9 different states in response to their interest in the FREE curriculum Vision Quilt developed with teachers from Lighthouse Community Charter School in Oakland.



Designed plans for a Freedom School Saturday program, an African-centric cultural enrichment program in East Oakland including classes in African and Black History and culture, African dance and drumming, cooking, playwriting, violence prevention arts-based activities and restorative circles.

Facilitated a workshop for teachers on Tools of Resistance at the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education in Portland Oregon

Met with teachers and administrators at 4 schools in East Oakland to plan implementation of AGV in Spring of 2023.



Promoted the Vision Quilt panels made by Nancy Bardos to honor the precious lives lost at: Tops Supermarket in Buffalo, New York; Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas; University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia; the LGBTQ nightclub in Colorado Springs, Colorado and many others. Check out our social media channels: FB, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube and Pinterest.



PEACE IN THE STREETS

Our Vision Quilt Peace In The Streets banners now cover 1.6 miles along International Boulevard from 73rd to 102nd Avenue! Check out our short video filmed at our original launch, “OVERWHELMING the Streets with Peace! We will gladly share our dynamic Peace In The Streets banner and yard sign images with other towns and cities!

Expanded the Peace in the Streets Vision Quilt Banner Project to 1.6 miles along International Boulevard In Oakland





I PLEDGE:

- TO CREATE PEACE IN MY HEART
- TO PRACTICE PEACE IN MY HOME
- TO EXTEND PEACE TO MY COMMUNITY

Take the Pledge with Peace in the Streets

Get involved with Vision Quilt Art Project: VisionQuilt.org

Peace in the Streets.net

The image shows a yard sign with a black background and a red border. At the top, it says 'TRUCE' in a green box. Below that, there's a graphic of two hands shaking. Underneath the hands, it says 'Join Us' in a red banner. The main text 'PEACE IN THE STREETS' is written in large, colorful, block letters. At the bottom, there are two small figures of people. To the right of the sign, there is a list of pledges under the heading 'I PLEDGE:'. Below the sign, there are two QR codes. The first QR code is for 'Take the Pledge with Peace in the Streets' and the second is for 'Get involved with Vision Quilt Art Project: VisionQuilt.org'. At the bottom left, there is a small logo for 'Peace in the Streets.net'.

In 2022, Vision Quilt received a mini-grant from Oakland's Department of Violence Prevention to create Peace In The Streets yard signs for West Oakland's SAVE: Center for Community Change and Development. SAVE Center for Community Change and Development stands at homicide sites once a month with Vision Quilt yard signs.



Partnerships

Expanded our partnerships to include:

Teachers United to End Gun Violence

Newtown Action Alliance

Wings4Peace

#EnoughPlays

SAVE: Center for Community Development,

Bay Tech Middle School

Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for

Holocaust Education

Love1

Social Eyes Together



Highlights

- Received media attention from these news outlets: The Guardian, Oaklandside, Local News Matters, Local News Matters
- Lighthouse Administrators, Tina Hernandez and Dr. Jeanine Evains-Robinson, presented our multidisciplinary curriculum to a standing ovation at the National Expeditionary Learning Conference in Chicago.
- Was powered by a 95% volunteer team dedicated to amplifying the visions and voices of underserved communities.
- Participated Actively in Oakland's Black-led Violence Prevention Coalition and the Oakland Frontline Healers who are comprised of 20 nonprofits serving East and West Oakland.
- Vision Quilt has earned a 2022 Platinum Seal of Transparency with Candid!



Vision Quilt is the only nonprofit in Oakland serving youth, survivors and community members in direct conversations about gun violence through a multidisciplinary trauma informed educational art approach.

