Welcome!

Child Fatality Review Conference

May 11, 2023

Presented By: Alanna Truss, PhD & Kelsey Gastineau, MD FAAP
Be SMART is a program developed by Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund to bring together parents and all adults concerned about kids, guns and safety.

BeSMARTforkids.org
We all want kids to grow up happy and healthy.

We each have the right to make responsible decisions about how to protect our homes, families, and communities—including whether or not to have a gun in our home.

If we can prevent even one child gun death or injury, it’s our responsibility to do so.
Resources Contact Info

**National Suicide Prevention Line**
1 (800) 273-8255
(24 hours/day)

**988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline**
can be reached by calling or texting 988, or chatting on http://988lifeline.org

**Trevor Project**
*The LGBTQIA+ Youth Suicide Prevention Line*

Trevor Lifeline
1 (866) 488-7386

Text “Home” to 741-741
From anywhere in the United States, anytime, about any type of crisis
Firearms are the LEADING CAUSE of death for CHILDREN in the US.
In incidents of gunfire on school grounds, up to 76% of shooters under the age of 18 obtained the gun(s) they used from their home or the home of relatives or friends.
An American Problem

Local 4 News Detroit
Sheriff: Oxford High School shooter used 9 mm pistol recently purchased by father
Teen accused of shooting, killing 3 students, injuring 8 other people

6 Action News Philadelphia
Officials: 3-year-old shot after being left alone in car with gun in Caln Township

Newsweek
Loaded Gun Brought to Elementary School by 7-Year-Old Days After Uvalde:
An investigation is underway at a Columbia, South Carolina, elementary school after a loaded handgun was found in the backpack of a 7-year-old student.

ABC, Inc., KTRK-TV Houston
Two teenage boys are in the hospital after being shot in what investigators believe to be a murder-suicide attempt in the Spring area.
#NotAnAccident Index

In 2023 there were at least **96 unintentional shootings by children**, resulting in **40 deaths** and **58 injuries** nationally.
AMERICAN KIDS ARE 11X MORE LIKELY TO DIE FROM GUN VIOLENCE THAN CHILDREN IN OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.
## A Tennessee Problem

### News Channel 5

Lee Victory Park, Smyrna, TN - 8/15/22

Smyrna Police Department officials confirmed that Monday night a 5-year-old boy died after a shooting at Lee Victory Park, and that he found the firearm within a backpack belonging to his parent.

### WRGN

Memphis, TN – 3/2/23

A 2-year-old boy unintentionally shot and wounded himself in a home. A 22-year-old man had left the loaded firearm unsecured between couch cushions, where the child was able to gain access to it.

### Chattanooga Free Times Press

Chattanooga, TN – 2/11/23

Police were told the 13-year-old boy's 2-year-old brother accidentally shot him after finding a gun in the home, a news release states.

### Channel 2 News

Nashville, TN – 2/26/23

A 4-year-old child unintentionally shot and killed themself in a home. It is not yet known who the firearm belongs to or how the child gained access to it.
#NotAnAccident Index

In 2023 there were at least **6 unintentional shootings by children**, resulting in **1 death** and **5 injuries** in Tennessee.
Figure 19. Firearm-Related Deaths and Rates per 100,000 Children Ages 0-17 Years
Tennessee, 2016-2020

SECURE STORAGE MATTERS

- Association between child access prevention (CAP) laws and injuries and deaths from unintentional child shootings\(^1\)
- Association between CAP laws and youth suicides\(^2\)
- Awareness campaigns to promote public health have been extremely effective in changing behaviors related to a variety of major issues, including smoking, wearing seat belts, and impaired driving

Firearm Safety

49% of TN Parents are firearm owners of these, the majority agree that...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A gun should be stored securely in a lockbox or safe.</td>
<td>87.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easy access to loaded guns in homes is a major cause of unintentional shootings involving children.</td>
<td>83.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ammunition should be stored securely and separately from the gun.</td>
<td>79.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A gun should be stored unloaded.</td>
<td>78.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A gun should be stored securely with a cable lock or trigger lock.</td>
<td>78.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A gun temporarily stored in a vehicle should be kept unloaded in a secure storage device</td>
<td>77.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easy access to loaded guns in homes is a major cause of gun-related suicide involving youth.</td>
<td>73.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parents were polled in the Fall of 2022. For more information, including poll timeline & methods, visit [www.childpolicy.org/poll](http://www.childpolicy.org/poll)

Thank you to the TN Parent Leadership Collaborative, part of Nurture the Next, for their contributions to the poll. Supported in part by the Boedecker Foundation.
Firearm-Related Injuries and Deaths in Children and Youth: Injury Prevention and Harm Reduction

Secure
All guns in your home and vehicle

Model
Responsible behavior

Ask
Unsecured guns in other homes

Recognize
The role of guns in suicide

Tell
Your peers to Be SMART
Secure guns in homes and vehicles

- 13 million households with children contain at least one gun
- One study found that the majority of children in gun-owning households knew where the gun was stored
- Store guns locked up and inaccessible to kids
- Hiding a gun is not “securing” a gun
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Safe Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Security Features</th>
<th>Price Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Full-Size Gun Safe</strong></td>
<td>Storage of multiple guns in one place. Biometric lock more secure than key or passcode.</td>
<td>Prevents access by children, Prevents access by unauthorized users, Prevents theft (if secured to a structure in home), Enables fast access</td>
<td>$200-$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lock Box/Locker</strong></td>
<td>Smaller and lighter than safe. Biometric lock more secure than key or passcode.</td>
<td>Prevents access by children, Prevents access by unauthorized users</td>
<td>$25-$350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Console/Vehicle Gun Safe</strong></td>
<td>For storage in a vehicle. Biometric lock more secure than key or passcode.</td>
<td>Prevents access by children, Prevents access by unauthorized users, Prevents theft (if secured to a structure in car), Provides secure vehicle storage, Enables fast access</td>
<td>$50-$350</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gun Case
For home or in-transit storage of one firearm. Uses external lock. $10-$150

Prevents access by children
Prevents access by unauthorized users
Enables fast access

Trigger Lock
Locks trigger of single weapon. Never use with loaded gun. May be dismantled with minimal tools and skills, so not as effective with older children and teens. $10-$75

Prevents use by small children
Enables fast access

Cable Lock
Cable runs through action of single weapon to prevent firing. Ammunition must be removed for lock use. May be dismantled with minimal tools and skills, so not as effective with older children and teens. $0-$50

Prevents use by small children
Enables fast access
*Often provided free with firearm purchase.

*BeSMARTforKids.org
Model Responsible Behavior

- It is always an adult’s responsibility to prevent unauthorized access to guns, not a curious child’s responsibility to avoid guns

- Make it a part of the normal safety conversation you have with your children

- Keep the language simple; for example: “If you see a gun, don’t touch it. Tell an adult right away.”
Ask About Unsecured Guns in Other Homes

- Make it a part of your general safety conversation you have when sending your child to any home
- Try email or text
- 4.6 million U.S. children live in a household with at least one loaded, unlocked gun
his own I need to practice what I preach and ask if you guys lock up any guns that you might own to keep them out of curious hands. We actually own one (our kids aren’t aware of it) but it’s just one that my husband used to use at the range so he keeps it unloaded, disassembled and in a fingerprint safe. I’m trying to help normalize this conversation in the interest of kids’ safety!

Tue, Jan 3 at 12:29 PM

is excited too!

Yes. We do have guns that are locked up in a safe in our barn. actually has his own that he’s been learning to shoot with my dad. We nicknamed my husband the safety patrol. He is over the top about all things safety including guns. All our guns are not loaded and locked up. Love that you asked. I agree it’s an important conversation to have.

I will connect back with you when [redacted] gets home from school today and firm up a time. I am sure he would love to come over and hang out.

Quick question.....happy to talk on the phone if you prefer. We ask this of all families before our kids go to their houses....does your family either 1) not own guns or 2) own them and they are stored in locked safes that only the parents have access to? I don’t need to know which answer applies, just to know that there are no unsecured firearms in the home. Doing what I do for work, I probably know too much about the risks. But once you know you can’t unknow. Thanks for understanding!

I sincerely appreciate the question. We are not a gun family.

Thanks for the quick reply. I have been pleasantly surprised that most people are pretty open to answering that question, including letting me know if they do own guns and how they are secured. Looking forward for meeting you and [redacted].
If I already asked you this question, my apologies. I ask everyone now and made the mistake of deleting old texts (which is a mistake with a 42 year old brain).

Quick question....happy to talk on the phone if you prefer. We ask this of all families before our kids go to their houses now...does your family either 1) not own guns or 2) own them and they are stored in locked safes that only the parents have access to? I don't need to know which answer applies, just to know that there are no unsecured firearms in the home. Doing what I do for work, I probably know too much about the risks. But once you know you can't unknow. Thanks for understanding!

Hey, no apologies at all!! We also take gun safety very seriously in our home. We do not have any unsecured guns in our home. All but my 8 year old have taken the hunter safety course in our house. Please let me know if you have any other questions or concerns.

Thanks for understanding! Secured guns are great....the teen suicide by guns and unintentional shootings are a major issue in this country....and those don't happen when guns are secured. I grew up in moose hunting country and the combo of secured guns and hunter safety training is awesome.

Alana, I forget what you do for a living. Can you remind me? My hurt breaks for all the kids have to hear and deal with these days. Wished I could make life easy and let them just be kids.

I'm a clinical psychologist and in my volunteer life I'm the state lead for Be SMART.

The first step to saving kids' lives could be in your living room.
besmartforkids.org
Recognize the Role of Guns in Suicide

- Most people who attempt suicide do not die—unless they use a gun
- 90% of suicide attempts with a gun result in death—a much higher fatality rate than any other means of self harm
- This contributes to the fact that 41 percent of child suicides involve a gun
A survey of High School students found that 20% had seriously considered attempting suicide within the last year.

And one study showed that 41% of adolescents in gun-owning households report having “easy-access” to the guns in their home.
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From anywhere in the United States, anytime, about any type of crisis
Tell Everyone You Know to Be SMART

- Your voice, and all voices are critical. How will you commit to Be SMART today?
- Consider at least THREE people that you want to share the Be SMART message with right now
- Share Be SMART within your community
- Text SMART to 64433 to learn more
Be SMART Partnerships in Tennessee

Medical
- Endorsed by Tennessee Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (TNAAP), co-branded materials available
- Active partnerships with Vanderbilt Children's Hospital, ETSU Medical School, and LeBonheur
- Working on partnerships with Erlanger Children's, Regional One, East TN Children's and Nashville General
- Several pediatric practices using Be SMART materials

Schools
- Metro Nashville and Williamson County Schools have approved Be SMART materials and presentation for use in the schools
- Lebanon Special School District just sent home Be SMART materials in every student's backpack
- Several private schools and preschools are sharing Be SMART materials

Public Safety
- Car seat technicians at Brentwood and Franklin Fire Dept are sharing the Be SMART message and materials at car seat checks
- Williamson County Sheriff's Office providing Be SMART materials with free cable locks
- National Partnership with NOBLE (National Organization of Black Law Enforcement)

Other
- Presented BeSMART to Metro Nashville Child Death Review Board, TN Trauma Care Advisory Council, and TN Injury Prevention Coalition
- Upcoming partnership with statewide Evidence Based Home Visiting (EBHV) program
Hey Mike. On my way to drop off Junior. Thank you so much for the last minute help.

You got it! See you soon.

BTW, I know you have a gun. Is it locked at home? It freaks me out that the kids might find it.

Of course I have it in a gun safe! Don’t worry!

I figured. Thanks!

Visit besmartforkids.org to learn more and to get you and your community involved.
Gun violence is the leading cause of death for kids in the US

It’s a shocking fact, but there are more. Every year, **700 kids** die by suicide with a gun. And nearly **350 children** shoot themselves, or someone else, unintentionally. **76%** of the guns used by children in school shootings were from a parent’s or relative’s home. Almost **25% of them** are taken from their vehicles.

More than **500,000 guns** are stolen every year. In 2020, more than half of gun thefts were from cars.

Secure storage prevents tragedies

The best way to be sure your kids can’t access firearms in your household is to store them securely. There are plenty of options for all budgets—from a full-size gun safe to a cable lock, and additional options for secure storage in vehicles.

Talking about secure firearms protects your loved ones wherever they are

You want your kids safe from guns everywhere they go, including other homes. **Ask other adults** if their firearms are secure, and talk to your friends and family about the importance of secure storage.

Visit beスマートforkids.org to learn more and to get you and your community involved.

About Be SMART

Be SMART is a national program dedicated to protecting kids by raising awareness about the importance of secure gun storage. Here’s how to Be SMART and protect your family:

- **S**ecure all guns in your home and vehicles
- **M**odel responsible behavior around guns
- **A**sk about unsecured guns in other homes and vehicles
- **R**ecognize the role of guns in suicide
- **T**ell your friends and neighbors to be SMART

Statistics from everytownresearch.org
Secure firearm storage protects your family

Gun violence is the leading cause of death for kids in the US. The best way to be sure your kids can’t access firearms is to store them securely.

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Keeping your firearms secure saves lives.

SMART
besmartforkids.org

Tennessee Chapter
American Academy of Pediatrics

El almacenamiento seguro de armas de fuego protege a su familia

La violencia con armas de fuego es la principal causa de muerte en niños de los EE. UU. La mejor manera de asegurarse de que sus hijos no puedan acceder a las armas de fuego es guardarlas de manera segura.

Aquí le mostramos cómo seguir el programa Be SMART y proteger a su familia:

- Sea consciente y mantenga sus armas de fuego bajo llave en su casa y en los vehículos.
- Muestre un comportamiento modelo responsable respecto a las armas de fuego.
- Asegúrese de verificar si hay armas de fuego que no estén bajo llave en otros hogares y vehículos.
- Reconozca el riesgo del suicidio por armas de fuego.
- Tenga conversaciones con sus amigos y vecinos sobre este tema.

Mantener sus armas de fuego bajo llave salva vidas.

SMART
besmartforkids.org

Tennessee Chapter
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Tennessee Chapter
American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN

Important information for parents and caregivers

The Be SMART framework is designed to help parents and adults normalize conversations about gun safety and take responsible actions that can prevent child gun deaths and injuries.

Help keep children safe by storing guns locked, unloaded and separately from ammunition, and ensuring that kids never have access to unsecured guns.

Visit BeSMARTforKids.org to learn more and to get you and your community involved.

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Junior just told me that he found your gun the other day.

Nah.

It's hidden.

Is it in the shoe box on the second shelf of your closet?

Next to the old console?

You gotta lock that up, man.

Hey, how's Jayden? He seems really down lately.

I'm worried about him...

He just comes home and shuts himself in his room.

He won't talk to me.

I'll talk to him.

Thanks so much. He always listens to you.

Hey, I spoke with Jayden. He mentioned your firearm.

Do you have it locked up?

It's good to be sure.
Secure firearm storage protects your family.
BeSMARTforKids.org

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BeSMARTforKids.org
A kid in Jerome's class got caught with a gun in his backpack.

OMG

Oh no. Is everyone OKAY?

Yes, thankfully everyone is safe. He's in a lot of trouble though.

The kid took it from his grandma's nightstand.

She kept it in her nightstand???

This is why everyone should lock up their guns.

It's good to be sure
Secure firearm storage protects your family
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Help keep children safe by storing guns locked, unloaded and separately from ammunition, and ensuring that kids never have access to unsecured guns.

SECURE all guns in your home and vehicles
MODEL responsible behavior around guns
ASK about the presence of unsecured guns in other homes
RECOGNIZE the role of guns in suicide
TELL your peers to Be SMART

For more information, visit BeSMARTforKids.org
Be SMART in the Clinic

MUSC doctors will ask questions about guns in the home with new safety campaign

BY MARY KATHERINE WILDEMAN MKWILDEMAN@POSTANDCOURIER.COM
JUL 2, 2018

MUSC physicians Annie Anderson started an effort to encourage fellow pediatricians to open more conversations about gun safety with their patients’ parents. Wade Sanders/Staff
Be SMART in the Hospital

Percentage of H&Ps with Documented Lethal Means Counseling

- Resident Champion on Service
- PHM Teaching
- Admission Template Updated
- Attending Phrase Added
- BeSMART Home Base Rooms
- BeSMART Added to Team

Lethal Means Counseling Monthly Sessions at the Beginning of the Block

Mean = 1.76%

Mean = 38.50%

Week (subgroups n=20)
AAP Trainings

CALM for Pediatric Providers: Counseling on Access to Lethal Means to Prevent Youth Suicide

MOC

AVAILABLE:
07/28/2022 - 07/27/2025

DESCRIPTION & LEARNING OBJECTIVES | CREDIT INFORMATION | REGISTRATION FEES
| COURSE DETAILS | TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

FORMAT:
Online Course
1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Center for Health Statistics. WONDER Online Database. Underlying Cause of Death. Data from 2019. Children and teenagers aged 1 to 17, Black defined as non-Hispanic, number of deaths by known intent (homicide, suicide, unintentional deaths). Age 0 to 1 calculated separately by the CDC because leading causes of death for newborns and infants are specific to the age group.

2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Center for Health Statistics. WONDER Online Database. Underlying Cause of Death. A yearly average was developed using five years of most recent available data: 2015 to 2019. Analysis includes children aged 0 to 17, homicide includes legal intervention.

3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Center for Health Statistics. WONDER Online Database. Underlying Cause of Death. A yearly average was developed using five years of most recent available data: 2015 to 2019. Analysis includes children aged 0 to 17, homicide includes legal intervention.


10. Everytown analyzed data obtained by The Trace from 1,054 law enforcement agencies in 36 states and Washington, DC. For the yearly comparison, Everytown narrowed the analysis of local data obtained by The Trace to 39 cities in 16 states based on the availability of data for all years between 2006 and 2015. Available at: https://bit.ly/2UmQnU9.


Thank You!
Any Questions?

Alanna Truss, PhD
Licensed Clinical Psychologist, HSP
TN Be SMART Lead
atruss.tn@gmail.com