



GOODS FOR GUNS- A MODEL GUN BUYBACK PROGRAM

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MAY 2013

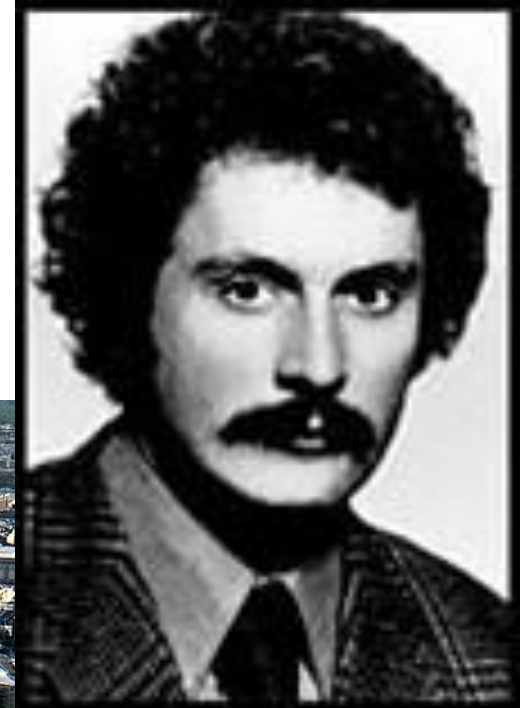


Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

GOODS FOR GUNS (G4G)

No disclosures

HOW DID I (WE) GET HERE?



HOW DID I (WE) GET HERE?



**KEITH REEMSTMA
AND DAN RATHER**



JOHN C. WOOD II
Killed 11/2/1981



JIM AND SARAH BRADY



“If disease were killing our children at the rate unintentional injuries are, the public would be outraged and demand that the killer be stopped.”

**C. Everett Koop, MD, ScD,
Founding Chairman,
National SafeKids Campaign,
Surgeon General 1982-1989**



ELIMINATE THE VECTOR!



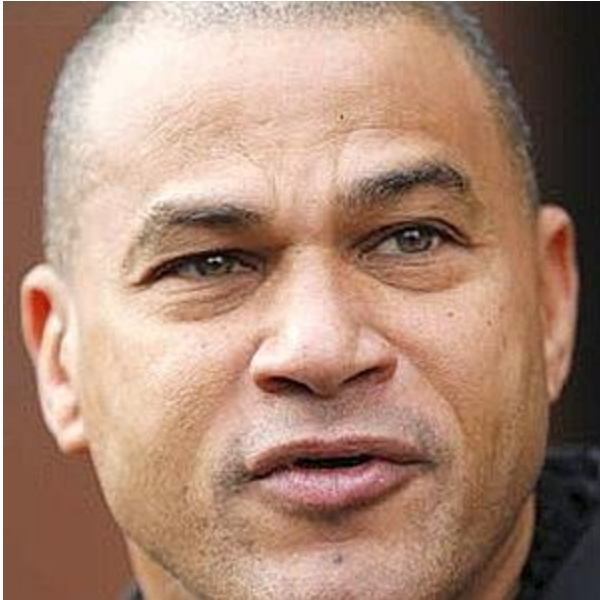
**Walter Reed, MD-
“Builder of the
Panama Canal”**

Background

Gun Buybacks

- **Gun buybacks have existed for over 30 years**
- **They are often criticized for**
 - **Failing to attract criminals**
 - **Failing to decrease crime or violence**
 - **Failing to collect the types of guns used in criminal acts**
 - **Being unable to make a dent in the huge # of American guns**

GOODS FOR GUNS



**FERNANDO MATEO, FOUNDER OF
WASHINGTON HEIGHTS, NYC
GOODS FOR GUNS PROGRAM, 1993**



**MATTHEW MASIELLO, MD, MPH,
CO-FOUNDER OF THE ALLEGHENY
COUNTY GOODS FOR GUNS PROGRAM,
1994**



**GOODS FOR GUNS PROGRAM IN ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA.
COLLECTS OVER 11,000 WEAPONS SINCE 1994,
LEAVING PITTSBURGH AS ONE OF
THE SAFEST CITIES IN THE RUSTBELT/MIDWEST OF THE USA**

Background

IFC Worcester GOODS FOR GUNS

- **Sponsored an annual gun buyback program for greater Central Massachusetts region for 11 consecutive years (2002-2012)**
- **Goals of this program**
 - **1) Remove unwanted improperly stored guns from homes**
 - **2) Educate the community about the increased risk of gun-related injuries in the home and the importance of safe gun storage**
 - **3) Identify individuals possessing improperly stored guns at home and provide them with safety information and alternatives**

Background

IFC Worcester GOODS FOR GUNS

- **Event is held at the Worcester Police and DPH headquarters**
- **Two Saturdays in December**
- **Advertisements done via**
 - **Local newspaper**
 - **Radio**
 - **Television**
 - **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Background

IFC Worcester GOODS FOR GUNS

- **Yearly funding**
 - **IFC-W/ UMASS MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM- \$5K**
 - **Corporate- approximately \$5-10K**
 - **Smaller donations**
 - **Department of Surgery**
 - **Department of Pediatrics**
 - **Department of Emergency Medicine**
 - **Individuals**
- **All participants receive immunity and anonymity**

G4G



Setup

IFC Worcester GOODS FOR GUNS

- **Participants enter the COLLECTION station**
 - **Concealed and carry laws suspended by DA to allow for transport of weapons with impunity**
 - **Police officers inspect and take the guns**
 - **Proceed to the lobby and receive a voucher for each gun**
 - **Rifle = \$25**
 - **Pistol or Revolver = \$50**
 - **Automatic or Semiautomatic = \$75**
 - **Invited to complete an anonymous survey**
 - **Those with remaining guns receive counseling about gun storage and free gun locks**

Surveys

IFC Worcester GOODS FOR GUNS

- **17 question survey**
- **Over 2002-2009**
 - **534 total survey participants**
 - **68% learned about the program from the newspaper**
 - **85% survey participation rate**

Table 1 Demographics		
	Predominant Demographics	
Race	White 508/534 (95%)	African American, Asian, American Indian
Gender	Male 390/534 (73%)	Female (23%)
Age	>55 256/534 (48%)	45-54 (24%) 35-55 (12%) 25-34 (10%) 15-24 (3%)
Education	Some college 155/534 (29%)	Grade 12 or GED 28% Bachelor's Degree 21% Graduate Degree 15% Some High School 2% Grade School 1%
Income	\$75,000 or more 150/534 (28%)	\$50,000-\$75,000 21% \$35,000-\$50,000 15% \$25,000-\$35,000 11% \$20,000-\$25,000 5% \$15,000-\$20,000 2% \$10,000-\$15,000 2% Less than \$10,000 2%

Results

IFC Worcester GOODS FOR GUNS

- **2/3 returned their gun for safety reasons**
 - Most commonly citing children in the home
 - Others were afraid of the gun or had a previous bad experience with a gun
 - 20% of participants knew someone injured or killed by a firearm
- **10% reported wanting gift certificates**

Results

IFC Worcester GOODS FOR GUNS

- **54% admitted to having additional firearms at home**
- **Of those with additional firearms**
 - **12% kept the gun loaded**
 - **7% kept the gun unlocked**
- **36% of homes had children under 14 living there or visiting at least weekly**

Results

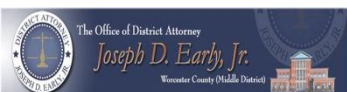
IFC Worcester GOODS FOR GUNS

- **Individuals identified with remaining firearms received**
 - Focused discussion about the importance of gun safety
 - Gun safety educational materials
 - Gun locks for any unlocked guns at home (**OVER 1000 DISTRIBUTED**)



Goods for Guns 2012

Year	Long Guns	Pistols, Revolvers	Auto Semi-auto	Total Guns	Total Cost	\$\$/Gun
2002	67	111	72	250	\$12,625	\$50.50
2003	37	116	91	244	\$13,555	\$55.53
2004	71	135	99	305	\$16,345	\$53.59
2005	43	77	86	206	\$11,300	\$54.85
2006	64	77	130	271	\$15,200	\$56.09
2007	63	80	74	217	\$11,125	\$51.27
2008	27	49	51	127	\$ 6,950	\$54.72
2009	72	93	76	241	\$12,150	\$50.41
2010	61	69	65	195	\$9,825	\$50.38
2011	48	40	25	113	\$5,075	\$44.91
2012	20	50	72	142	\$7,975	\$56.16
Totals:	573	897	841	2,311.00	\$122,125	\$52.84



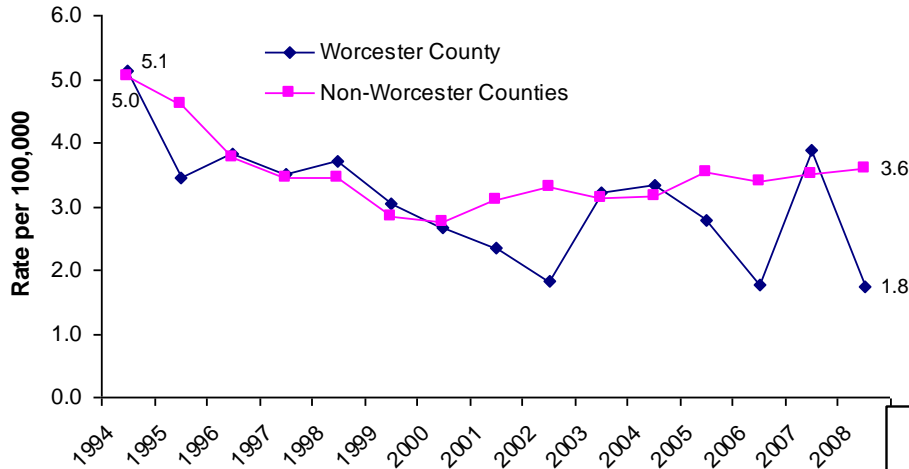




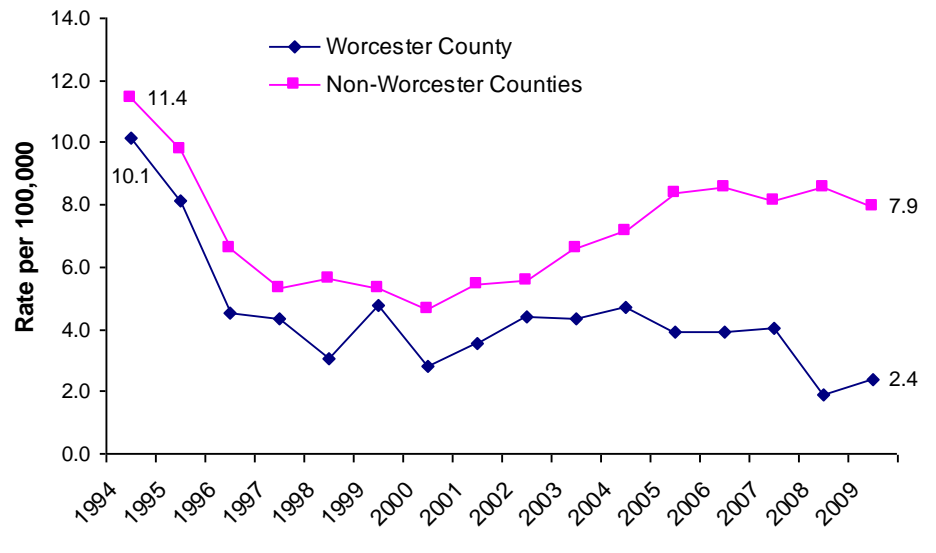
Results

IFC Worcester GOODS FOR GUNS

Firearm Fatalities, 1994-2008



Nonfatal Firearm Injuries, 1994-2009



**Incidence of Penetrating Trauma by MA City per 1,000 population
January - October 2012**

Patient's City of Residence	Population Estimate €	Jan - Oct 2012*	Incidence/1,000 pop.
Boston	617,594	355	0.57
Brockton	93,810	65	0.69
Fall River	88,857	39	0.44
Lawrence	76,377	51	0.67
Lowell	106,519	43	0.40
Lynn	90,329	28	0.31
New Bedford	95,072	41	0.43
Springfield	153,060	177	1.16
Worcester	181,045	55	0.30

€ **Source:** US Census 2010

* **Source:** Weapon Related Injury Surveillance System, Injury Surveillance Program, Bureau of Health Information, Statistics, Research, and Evaluation, MA Dept. of Public Health

WHY IS WORCESTER SO "SAFE"?

- 1) WPD Chief uses his discretionary powers to carefully grant gun licenses (hence, lawsuit pending)**
- 2) WPD allots same resources to any gun brandishing incident as they do to a firearm homicide**
- 3) G4G**

Future Projects

IFC Worcester GOODS FOR GUNS

- An art project is in development using the metal from the guns collected



Guns for Art History

"Artists of a Different Caliber." 1997.

Hewlett Gallery, Carnegie Mellon University. Pittsburgh.



GOODS FOR GUNS

- How to G4G Video
- Short version for promoting interest
- Long Version to teach counterparts in various cities- law enforcement, DA, DPH, corporate sponsors the who, what when, where and why of the program

Future Projects

IFC Worcester GOODS FOR GUNS



NATIONWIDE- Discussed with IFC partners in Atlanta, Charleston, Hartford, New Haven, Phoenix, Minneapolis, Chicago, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, Rochester

Met with Officials at the DOJ in Washington, D.C. as well as with U.S. Congressmen Jim McGovern (Central Ma.) and Carolyn McCarthy (LI, NY)

Sent proposals for funding to several national retailers and foundations (i.e. BLOOMBERG, JOYCE)

GO NATIONAL ??????



GOODS FOR GUNS GUN BUYBACK PROGRAM- CONCLUSIONS

**GUN BUYBACKS ARE REPRODUCIBLE COMMUNITY-BASED,
COALITION-DRIVEN EFFORTS TO :**

- **1) EDUCATE ABOUT GUN SAFETY AND THE RESPONSIBILITY OF GUN OWNERSHIP WITHOUT CHALLENGING 2ND AMENDMENT RIGHTS**
- **2) RAISE PUBLIC AWARENESS ABOUT FIREARM INJURIES**
- **3) REDUCE THE # OF CIRCULATING FIREARMS**
- **4) CREATE LASTING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN MEDICAL FACILITIES, THE LAW ENFORCEMENT /JUDICIAL COMMUNITY AND THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE**



COMMUNITY PARTNERS



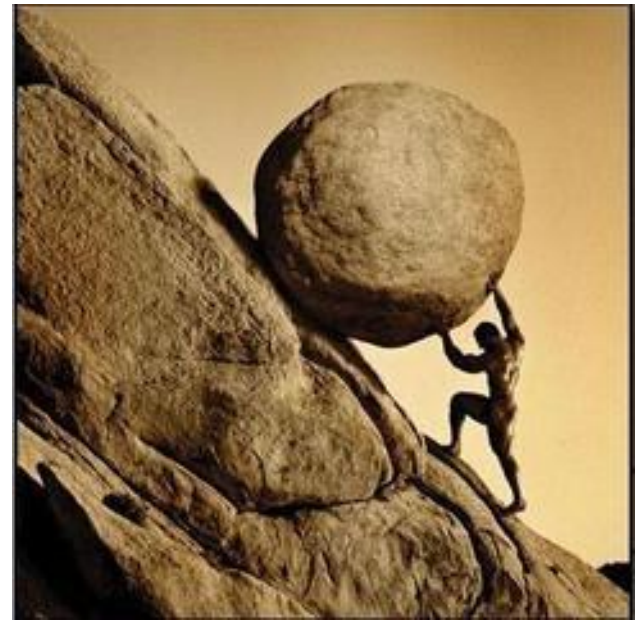
“I WISH YOU COULD HAVE COLLECTED JUST ONE MORE GUN”

Marcy and LaNyia Johnson



G4G

- **Look at the stonecutter hammering away at his rock, perhaps a hundred times without so much a crack showing in it. Yet at the 101st blow it will split in two, and I know it was not the last blow that did it, but all that had gone before.**
- **-Jacob Riis, NYC Crusader Journalist**





FOR MORE INFO-
www.injuryfree.org
see Worcester site
AND
www.worcesterma.gov