

A Journey for Justice...

Preventing Gun Violence Across Wisconsin

Every year, approximately 450 people in Wisconsin, and 30,000 nationwide, are killed with guns.

Lives lost to gun violence are the ultimate injustice because we know that gun violence is preventable, especially when policy makers and the public make the right choices.

For far too long, though, inaction or bad decisions on gun policy have led to a shameful, needless death toll – a toll we must no longer tolerate.

WAVE and Public Allies Milwaukee invite you to take a stand and support us as we travel 450 miles on a Journey for Justice.

The Journey – featuring a traveling exhibit of 450 shirts representing the victims – will raise awareness and lay the groundwork for life-saving prevention strategies.

For the Journey to have a lasting impact, your involvement now and in the coming months is essential.

April 20-22

An awareness-raising tour and exhibit visiting:

APPLETON - April 20

10:30am

Appleton City Center Plaza
10 E. College Avenue

STEVENS POINT - April 20

3:00pm - UW Stevens Point

Dreyfus University Center

Laird Room

1015 Reserve Street

LaCROSSE - April 21

10:00am - UW LaCrosse

Cartwright Center

1725 State Street

MADISON - April 21

5:00pm - State Capitol Rotunda

MILWAUKEE - April 22

12:30pm - Milwaukee City Hall

200 E. Wells Street

Take a Stand

See back page for details on how you can support the Journey for Justice.



Hearts Full of Names, Dates, Places

Through Public Allies – an AmeriCorps affiliated program that partners with nonprofits to advance new leadership, strengthen communities and nonprofits, and expand civic participation – I have had the opportunity to work at WAVE for the past 7 months.

Working here has been a wonderful experience. I have learned so much about gun violence in our state and what we can do to help prevent these senseless deaths. I have had the opportunity to speak with people all over the city, collaborate on several projects and participate in various coalitions that are committed to reducing violence in our state.

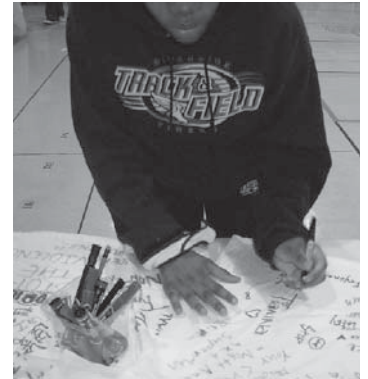
I am constantly inspired by the dedication of those working to change our society's conversation about guns. Too often, we talk about protecting the right to have guns instead of our right to be protected from the violence and devastation they create.

These experiences have helped me to discover my own passion for public policy and the work to create a more peaceful world. Connecting with a wide range of organizations has given me a deeper appreciation of what it means to be invested in my community. It has taught me to look at my city and see beauty and strength.

One recent WAVE outreach activity was especially compelling. On March 25, we went to a health fair at Milwaukee Riverside High School to talk to students about their experiences with gun violence and to gather shirts for the Journey for Justice (front page).



Students at Milwaukee Riverside High School personalized Journey for Justice shirts in memory of victims of gun violence.



The students decorated these shirts with messages of peace and non-violence. They also wrote the names of people they knew who have been shot.

We asked each group to guess how many people are killed by guns in Wisconsin each year. The actual number is approximately 450, but, because nearly all of the students knew someone who had been shot, I heard these answers over and over: “one thousand,” “two thousand,” “a million.” Reflecting on the day, I wrote:

Too many had names to share.

Too many had stories.

Each time I put out a new white shirt, my heart sank.

I knew it would soon be full of pain.

A gym full of high school kids

The room full of laughter

Their hearts full of names, dates and faces.



WAVE Educational Fund, Inc.
is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3)
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Groups Statewide Support Criminal Background Checks

More than 60 organizations have signed on in support of criminal background checks on all firearm transfers. New supporters include Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association, YWCA of Greater Milwaukee, American College of Emergency Physicians - Wisconsin Chapter, Wisconsin Public Health Association, Children's Health Alliance of Wisconsin and the National Association of School Safety and Law Enforcement Officers.



“The broad support for background checks is tremendous. The people of Wisconsin agree that background checks make sense,” said WAVE Program Director Heidi Rose.

If your organization is interested in signing on to the Statement of Support for Criminal Background Checks, contact WAVE at 414-351-9283 or wave@WaveEdFund.org

With Great Appreciation to Those Who Support the Work to Prevent Gun Violence in Wisconsin

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In Honor of Verdell DeYarman

Verdell DeYarman, a tireless anti-violence activist and member of the WAVE Board of Directors, celebrated her 90th birthday in 2008. The following individuals made special contributions to mark the occasion in honor of Verdell and her life's work:

Charles Baynton
Clark Blomquist
Kathleen Hart
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Kristina Paris
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Margene & Joseph Woida

WAVE Educational Fund, Inc.

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**Don't Miss the Annual Benefit
to Prevent Gun Violence!**

PEACE through MUSIC

The Music of John Lennon

Sunday, May 24, 2009

Linneman's Riverwest Inn

1001 E. Locust St., Milwaukee
Doors Open 6 p.m., Music Starts at 7 p.m.

Featuring the usual awesome lineup of musicians!

**\$10 Donation Benefits WAVE
& the Brady Campaign**

Journey for Justice Sponsorship Form

/We will help the Journey as indicated with a ✓ below:

Sponsor _____ mile(s) @ \$100/mile = \$ _____

Sponsor a portion of a mile: 3/4 mile (\$75) 1/2 mile (\$50) 1/4 mile (\$25)
(WAVE Educational Fund is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization; contributions are tax-deductible)

Sponsor/Organization Name: _____
 Please do not include our name on publicity materials

Contribute a shirt to represent a victim of gun violence (You may personalize the shirt with a picture, note or poem)

Attend the event in Appleton Stevens Point La Crosse Madison Milwaukee
(See front page for dates, times and locations)

Contact Person: _____ Telephone: (_____) _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

A check payable to WAVE Educational Fund is enclosed

You may charge this sponsorship contribution of \$ _____ to MasterCard Visa

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

The Journey is co-sponsored by
WAVE Educational Fund and
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WAVE: 414-351-9283
wave@WaveEdFund.org

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