In partnership with the community, Breakthrough has a vision for a safe, stable, and engaged East Garfield Park. Responding to the needs of residents, Breakthrough is pursuing a comprehensive approach to violence reduction.

Breakthrough seeks to reduce violence and its impact so children, families, and individuals in East Garfield Park are safe, healthy, and free to reach their full potential.

Over the last year at Breakthrough:
- Nearly 4,000 residents have been involved in outdoor community events
- 95 people have engaged in intensive case management
- Breakthrough's outreach team has engaged in 46 direct conflict mediations

Over the last three years at Breakthrough:
- An average of 85% of preschool students are kindergarten ready
- An average of 85% of after-school students are meeting academic standards
- Over 200 people have found permanent housing with an 83% retention rate
- Over 200 people have found jobs with a 70% retention rate
- Over 1.4M pounds of food have been distributed to 8,000+ families

Our community
Residents of East Garfield Park face an intense risk of violence due to a number of factors.

Chicago ranks among the highest homicide rates for large US cities. In 2017, Chicago had 22 gun homicides per every 100,000 individuals, compared to Los Angeles (5) and New York City (2).

There is a disproportionate rate of young, Black men being victims of homicide in Chicago.

East Garfield Park has the 7th highest rate of homicides of Chicago’s 77 neighborhoods.

Our approach
Breakthrough has a three-pronged approach to reducing violence in East Garfield Park.

**Prevention**
- Early childhood education
- Afterschool academic enrichment and youth development
- Sports, technology, and art clubs
- Teen employment
- College readiness

**Intervention**
- Victim services
- Crisis intervention
- Case management
- Community events
- Re-entry services
- Community engagement

**Restoration**
- Transitional and permanent supportive housing
- Employment
- Behavioral health care
- Food pantry

And it’s working...

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Breakthrough's violence intervention programs are part of a collaborative with 8 other local community-based agencies (Communities Partnering for Peace), as well as Metropolitan Family Services, the City of Chicago, and the Chicago Police Department.

OVER THE LAST YEAR, THERE HAS BEEN A 13% REDUCTION IN HOMICIDES IN EAST GARFIELD PARK

COMUNITIES

1. Austin
2. Back of the Yards (New City)
3. Englewood
4. West Englewood
5. East Garfield Park
6. West Garfield Park
7. Humboldt Park
8. Little Village (South Lawndale)
9. North Lawndale

OUTREACH ORGANIZATIONS

- Institute for Nonviolence Chicago (INVC)
- Precious Blood
- Target Area DevCorp
- Cure Violence
- Breakthrough
- INVC
- Alliance of Local Service Orgs. (ALSO)
- New Life Centers
- UCAN

MEN'S CENTER
402 N. St Louis Ave.

FRESH MARKET
3334 W. Carroll Ave.

WOMEN'S CENTER
3330 W. Carroll Ave.

FAMILYPLEX
3219 W. Carroll Ave.

OUTREACH HUB
214 N. Homan Ave.

Breakthrough’s Violence Reduction Focus Area