

DEFEATING GUN VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS WITH THE KTG SAFE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

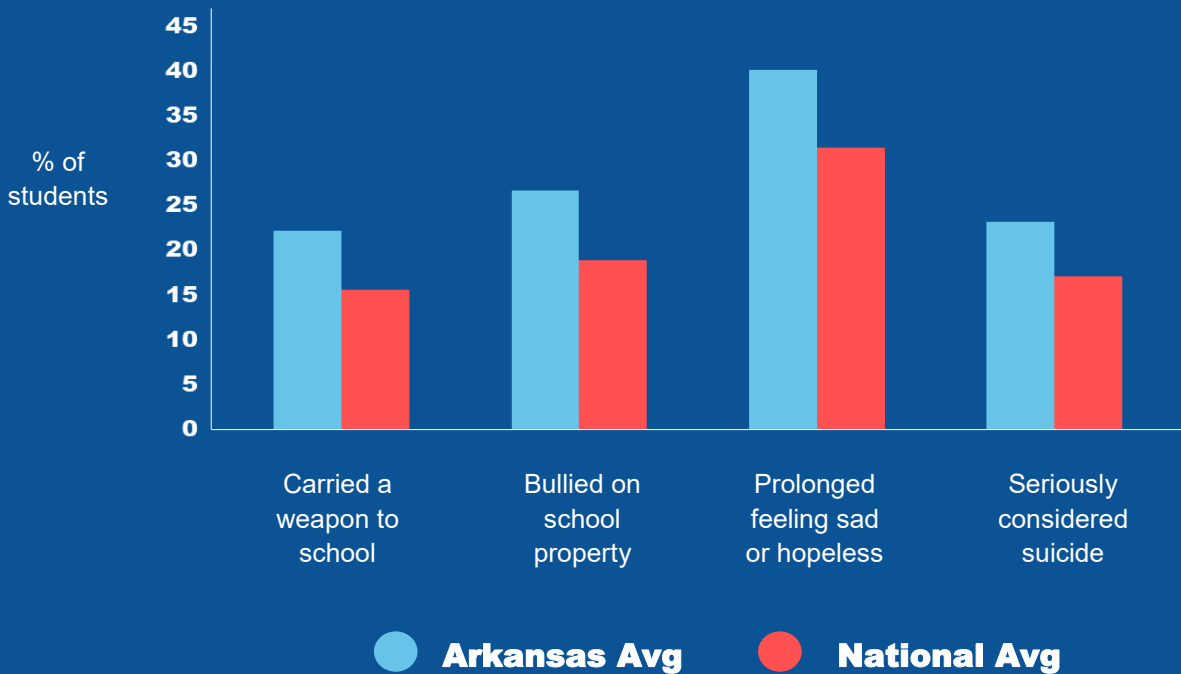
Less than 20%



US Schools adequately prepared to deal with an active shooter event



SAFE ADDRESSES KEY CONTRIBUTORS TO GUN VIOLENCE IN US SCHOOLS*



KTG SAFE SCHOOLS DELIVERS RESULTS



* CDC Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System YRBBS 2017

The KTG SAFE Schools Program

The Nation's students are constantly under threat of danger, violence, and even death. Their safety and security are being threatened where they should be the safest: in schools. At the Kenjya-Trusant Group we find this unacceptable, and in an effort to make an immediate impact, we created a suite of school focused safety and security products, called Security Awareness for Education (SAFE).

Through extensive research, and in consultation with teachers, school administrators, students, and survivors, the team at KTG developed a thoughtful, apolitical, evidentiary-based solution that focuses on addressing the causes of violence in schools rather than just preparing them to respond to the perceived inevitability of it. The SAFE program is a broad ranging initiative that strengthens the capabilities of people, policies, and facilities. Our efforts focus on four key principles:

PREVENTION

The SAFE program uses the drivers of violence to identify vulnerabilities in our partners' school populations, their facilities, and their planning with the goal of identifying and addressing issues before they become a crisis.

PREPAREDNESS

The SAFE program leverages evidentiary-based good practices to help school communities develop effective plans, policies, and procedures that will ensure they are best able to mitigate the effects of a significant act of violence.

RESPONSE

Rapid and deliberate response to events have proven to be lifesaving. The SAFE program ensures that everyone, at every level, who would be expected to participate in the response to a crisis event, is prepared to effectively do so.

RECOVERY

Developed with adult and child psychologists, the SAFE program focuses its recovery efforts on strengthening communities before a crisis happens, and empowering them to heal in the aftermath of one.

At KTG, we are devoted to working hand-in-hand with educational institutions, school communities, local governments, and other stakeholders to develop solutions that can be quickly implemented, sustainable, and immediately impactful.

The KTG SAFE Schools Program in Arkansas

When KTG was looking for a SAFE program partner, we chose a location where research showed a need for it, as well as one where there was considerable support from the state and local governments, the school board, and the school itself. Our main criteria were a broad buy-in for the SAFE program and a community where we could provide immediate value.

In 2000, the Department of Education and US Secret Service published a study on school shootings, and since then, private research has continued to look at the commonalities of these tragic acts. It has been shown, after looking at more than 200 school shootings, that mental health and bullying are common drivers in over 90% of the studied incidents.

A 2017 Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report that looked at youth risk factors in 39 states across the nation showed that Arkansas was outside of national norms for many of the previously identified drivers of school violence. Arkansas ranked in the top four for the percentage of students who said they were bullied on school property, for the percentage of students who are/perceive they are victims of cyber bullying, that had planned how they would attempt suicide, and those that had actually attempted suicide.

While violence isn't inevitable, the CDC findings clearly indicated that Arkansas has a significant population of at-risk youth. When overlaid with the drivers mentioned above, the report clearly indicated the conditions were right for a significant act of school violence.

Our partners in Arkansas allowed us to successfully validate our program while making a quantifiable difference for our partner community there.

