



## **June is Gun Violence Awareness Month: WEAR ORANGE!**



**Advocates for Responsible Care** has a passionate history of bringing attention to gun violence as a public health crisis. We took the first steps by creating the [Georgia Coalition for Safe Communities, \(GCSC\)](#), working to pass Georgia’s Hates Crimes Bill and Reforming our Citizen’s Arrest legislation. As GCSC, we partner with other organizations (mentioned below) to continue to advocate for responsible firearm safety and methods to reduce violence in our communities. We share a committed willingness to have the difficult conversations surrounding gun violence and its dangerous effect on the health of our communities.

**At GCSC we know, [Gun violence is now the number one cause of death of children and teenagers in the United States.](#)**

Firearm issues we are working on include:

- safe storage legislation
- universal background checks
- waiting periods for new firearm purchases
- community violence prevention
- investment and expansion of mental health services

### **Georgia Accomplishments:**

- Last year, Rep. Michelle Au’s Pediatric Health Safe Storage Act ([HB 161](#)) became **the first substantive gun safety bill to receive a subcommittee hearing in nearly a decade.**
- [HB 971](#), a duplication of Rep. Au’s Safe Storage Tax Credit Act ([HB 855](#)), was **the first substantive gun safety legislation to pass out of the House in decades.** Historically, it was passed with the [endorsement of Georgia 2A](#) (who believe all citizens have the right to own and carry the firearm of their choice for any reason other than to commit a crime), a slate of [Republican lead sponsors](#), and passage with an almost unanimous bipartisan vote.

- The passage of **HB 971** through the House is a sign that as a result of our years of work, not only are attitudes on the issue of gun safety changing here in Georgia.
- At Georgia Coalition for Safe Communities, we made new friends this year and new Partners joining efforts to help pass responsible firearm policies in GA and across our nation. A longtime partner, [Congresswoman Lucy McBath](#) and in Georgia, Representative [Michelle Au](#) are working with our new partners: **Heather Hallett** of Georgia Majority for Gun Safety and **Drs. Sofia Chaudhary** and **Dr. Mike Greenwald** of Georgia Clinicians for Gun Safety.

**Rally and Concert: *Stop Gun Violence* on June 9, 2024; 6-9PM, Brook Run Amphitheater, Dunwoody GA.** Contact Heather: [heather.hallett@hallettcapital.com](mailto:heather.hallett@hallettcapital.com) to attend.