# 60%

Of America's children have been exposed to violence, crime or abuse



Of America's children are direct victims of two or more violent acts

# Contact Information

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For more information about the Handle With Care Program, Please visit the following website:

www.HandleWithCareWV.org

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## HANDLE WITH CARE PROGRAM





## What is Handle With Care (HWC)?

### **HWC and You**

## Study of HWC and ACE

HWC is a partnership between MNPD and Metro schools that identifies students who have witnessed or who have been victims of traumatic events. This allows administration the ability to "handle with care" at-risk students by providing needed support and intervention.

The HWC program educates the police, youth, educators, and all stakeholders on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) and trauma-informed care.

HWC also connects students, educators and families/caregivers with resources that promote recovery, resilience, and empowerment

#### The Importance...



Sudden, unexpected and traumatic events such as accidents, death, domestic violence or homelessness can impact a child's ability to succeed in school. Ongoing exposure to highly stressful events can impact physical, mental, and behavioral health and wellness which can set the stage for persistent lifelong challenges.



Notice changes in your child/children's behaviors such as: bed wetting, sleeping patterns, anger, sadness, loss of interest in regular activities, etc.



## **Educators**

Be aware of

absenteeism, loss of concentration, falling asleep in class, increase in complaints of stomach aches or headaches, isolation, anger, or outbursts.



Learn the HWC program and train on how trauma and the brain correlate.





Learn Trauma Informed Practices.

HWC educates youth, parents, police and stakeholders on the importance of lowering the impact of ACE (Adverse Childhood Experiences).

These Adverse Childhood Experiences harm children's developing brains and impact how they respond to stress. Additionally, research has shown that ACE profoundly damages children's immune systems, with effects appearing decades later.

ACE causes the onset of much of our chronic disease, most mental illnesses, and is at the root of most violence.

#### A Few Examples of ACE:

- Physical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- o Emotional Abuse
- o Neglect
- o Extreme Poverty
- Exposure to Violence



