



PREVENTING VIOLENCE  
AND DEVELOPING  
YOUTH LEADERS

YOUTH ALIVE!  
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September 18, 2019

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor of California  
State Capitol, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**HONORARY  
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

HON. DIANNE FEINSTEIN  
United States Senator

EDWARD JAMES OLMOS  
Actor

HON. BARBARA LEE  
United States Representative

**Re: Request for Signature – AB 1603: CalVIP Grant Program**

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UC Berkeley Extension  
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Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of Youth ALIVE! and our constituency of youth and families personally impacted by violence, we are pleased to support AB 1603, which codifies the California Violence Intervention and Prevention (CalVIP) Grant Program, a program that is a core ally and active funding source for our violence intervention services.

Youth ALIVE! is an Oakland-based, nationally recognized nonprofit organization known for treating violence as a public health crisis and developing young leaders in the process. Youth ALIVE! has been invested in serving Oakland communities historically plagued by gun violence. Tasked as one of Oakland's primary anchors in serving victims of violent crime, Youth ALIVE! has maintained a successful track record of implementing evidence-based violence intervention and prevention services.

Violence prevention professionals at Youth ALIVE! achieve transformative results.

- 95% homicide families and victims are reached
- 98% of victims of violent crimes do not return to the hospital with a re-injury
- 90% of students in our workshops no longer believe a gun makes them safer

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

ANNE C. MARKS  
Executive Director  
Youth ALIVE!  
Oakland, CA

Oakland is just one of California's local communities currently suffering from the tragic effects of gun violence. There are a number of local violence reduction intervention and prevention programs like ours that have helped reduce gun violence in California's hardest hit communities. CalVIP is an essential source of funding for programs like ours and it enables us to sustain life-saving work.



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While California has spent roughly \$0.23 per capita annually on CalVIP, Massachusetts and New York have already been spending about \$2 and \$1 per capita, respectively, on their highly successful analogous grant programs. Thankfully, in your first budget, you have already allocated \$30 million for the CalVIP program. AB 1603 takes the next step of codifying CalVIP to ensure resources are supporting the people and communities with the highest need.

For these reasons, we proudly support AB 1603 and respectfully request your signature on this bill.

Sincerely,

  
Anne Marks  
Executive Director