



*National Youth Violence Prevention Week*

# ***YOUTH LEADER ACTION KIT***

***#NYVIPW***



Sandy Hook  
**PROMISE**

You can lead the way for

## **National Youth Violence Prevention Week (NYVPW)!**

See a sample week of actions and dig deeper into more events and activities in this kit to work with your community to prevent violence. Youth violence is everyone's concern and #NYVPW helps you make some noise, elevate your voices, and work with others on awareness, prevention, and solutions.



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### **YOU CAN PARTICIPATE BY:**

**Hosting** a week's worth of daily theme-based youth violence prevention activities using the provided action plan in this kit.

**Sending** the message to local community leaders and legislators that youth violence is a community-wide PRIORITY! Convince your local representatives to support bills like the **Stand Up Act** that allocate funding for evidence-based suicide prevention programs in schools. Create your own petition using [change.org](https://change.org).





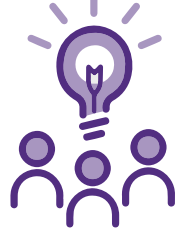


**Producing** a **#ENOUGH** play to support ending gun violence. Host a screening, virtual or live, and share your one-to-ten-minute play with Sandy Hook Promise for a chance to win a prize. Team up with your school's drama club and create a minute-long play. Post on social, tag @sandyhook on Twitter and @sandyhookpromise on Instagram and Facebook with #NYVPW #ENOUGH so we can amplify your voices and share-out your creativity! Take it to the next level and submit to the nationwide **#ENOUGH: Plays to End Gun Violence contest**.

**Posting** your activities and events on social channels using these frames and stickers [[digital assets](#)]. Don't forget to #NYVPW!

**Starting** a *Say Something Against Racism & Discrimination Campaign*. Hatred, Violence, Exclusion, Stereotypes. Take a stand and erase hateful and harmful language and actions as your core message for #NYVPW.

# NATIONAL YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION WEEK

## Action Plan

2 Weeks Before NYVPW	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>PLAN IT!</b> Organize &amp; Plan</p> 	<p><b>TEACH IT!</b> Educate &amp; Inform</p> 	<p><b>MODEL IT!</b> Encourage, Respect &amp; Inclusion</p> 	<p><b>CONNECT IT!</b> Empathize &amp; Connect</p> 	<p><b>ACT ON IT!</b> Empower Changemakers</p> 	<p><b>UNITE FOR IT!</b> Engage &amp; Unite In Action</p> 	<p><b>BE A PART OF IT!</b> National Youth Summit!</p> 
<p>Reach out to youth clubs, especially <b>SAVE Promise Clubs</b>, and key leaders in your school community who want to make the prevention of youth violence a priority.</p> <p>Coordinate on running the theme-based activities and share in the promotion of this important week.</p>	<p>Host a Town Hall.</p> <p>Invite representatives from the NYVPW wheel to listen to youth speak about the issues most affecting them and their safety at school and in the broader community.</p> <p>Here's a <b>Town Hall checklist</b> to get you started!</p>	<p>Upstander awards!</p> <p>Recognize superhero students and Trusted Adults who stand up to bullying and work hard to create an inclusive, positive, safe, and friendly school and community culture.</p>	<p>Host a live or virtual coffeehouse.</p> <p>Create an open mic or poetry slam where all students are invited to express themselves artistically and creatively.</p> <p>Encourage everyone to share a spoken word poem, art piece, dance, song, or theatrical performances that speaks to Unite in Action to Prevent Youth Violence.</p>	<p>Organize a Youth Violence Prevention Invention Convention — Shark Tank style!</p> <p>Ask students to work in groups and pitch ways to prevent the violence your school community is most affected by. Invite guest judges from the community.</p>	<p>Creating school communities where students feel a sense of connection and belonging can reduce youth violence.</p> <p>Engage in a service-learning project where groups of Trusted Adults and students work together on a peace mural, community garden, or space where students can de-stress.</p>	<p>Join youth leaders working in schools nationwide to prevent violence at this youth-led virtual <b>Summit</b>.</p>

# NATIONAL YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION WEEK


## Team Up!

**Who will you team up with for National Youth Violence Prevention Week #NYVPW?**

Put the names of other youth leaders, community-based organizations, and stakeholders from the #NYVPW wheel who will collaborate and coordinate with you.



### TEAM UP! #NYVPW

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<p>Community leaders collaborating with us to train, educate and organize programs to support National Youth Prevention Week</p>  <p>Sandy Hook <b>PROMISE</b></p>
Name Title Organization	Name Title Organization	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
Name Title Organization	Name Title Organization	

**Team Up with your local SAVE Promise Club or start a club of your own!**

Find out more here: [SAVE Promise Club — Sandy Hook Promise](#)

# WHAT ARE THE STATISTICS ON YOUTH VIOLENCE?

## Facts & Figures

- The warning signs and threats most commonly reported via the **Sandy Hook Promise Say Something Anonymous Reporting System** tip lines are:
  - Bullying and cyberbullying
  - Self-harm, suicide ideation
  - Depression
  - Domestic Violence/Child Abuse
  - Weapons
- 1 in 5 high school students reported being bullied on school property, and more than 1 in 12 high school students reported being cyberbullied in the last year. (Center for Disease Control: **Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System**)
- 48% of students in grades 7-12 experienced some form of sexual violence at school during the 2010-11 school year. (AAUW: **Crossing the Line Sexual Harassment at School**)
- Get facts about gun violence and shootings on Sandy Hook Promise's **website**.

What are the most pressing and significant types of youth violence happening in your own community?

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Which forms of youth violence are most pressing and concerning to you and your classmates?

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Which areas should you prioritize?

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LEADING UP TO

# National Youth Violence Prevention Week

**Educate on the stats!** Check-out the [CDC youth violence stats page](#) and get your peers and community-wide support for preventing youth violence.

**Get your teachers and administrators on board** to train students to "Know the Signs" with the Say Something program. Use Sandy Hook Promise's core student training [here](#).

**Post on social** using these [\[graphics and logos\]](#)

**Produce a Public Service Announcement video** that educates everyone on the warning signs of potential violence. Here's a list of some of the warning signs you can highlight: <https://www.sandyhookpromise.org/gun-violence/know-the-signs-of-gun-violence/>.

**Get artistic.** Make some flyers and ask local businesses, community agencies, and health care facilities to join you in solidarity and unity for #NYVPW. Personalize the #NYVPW wheel and put names of hospitals, faith-based organizations, community agencies, and politicians in each spoke.

**Start or join a SAVE (Students Against Violence Everywhere) Promise Club.** Find out more [here](#).

**Contact community experts** representing all spokes of the #NYVPW wheel to speak on an informational panel to launch #NYVPW.

**Contact your local legislators** and declare a week in April your town's/city's official National Youth Violence Prevention Week. Just like Denver, Colorado! Use this [proclamation template](#).



**Denver Office of Children's Affairs** @CityofDenverOCA • Apr 10  
On Monday, April 8th in Recognition of National Youth Violence Prevention Week, Denver City Council read a proclamation officially recognizing the 2nd week of April in Denver as Youth Violence Prevention Week. [#NYVPW](#) [#Denver](#)





**MONDAY**

## Educate & Inform

**Spread the word** about the pervasive dangers of gun violence. Share these [16 Facts](#) from Sandy Hook Promise.

**Get permission to paint or do chalk art** in educators' parking spots that remind them they are Trusted Adults and an important part in violence prevention.

**Think before you speak.** Conduct an activity to identify words that INCLUDE instead of EXCLUDE to help create a culture of acceptance. Create posters or a bulletin board with encouraging and inclusive words.

**Anti-Microaggression\* Monday.** Words hurt. Teach peers about the damage microaggressions can do and share more positive language. Watch a video to learn about microaggressions and then produce your own educational video. *\*What are microaggressions? The Anti-Defamation League defines them as the everyday slights, indignities, put-downs, and insults that People of Color, women, LGBTQ populations, and other marginalized people experience in their day-to-day interactions. Microaggressions have been compared to mosquito bites — over time, those bites can do lots of harm.*

**TUESDAY**

## Encourage Respect & Inclusion



**Break bread and problem-solve!** Host a lunch bunch or breakfast "chat-n-chew." Invite students to share their concerns about youth violence and propose/brainstorm solutions.

**Celebrate Your Superheroes & Upstanders!** Recognize Superhero students who go above-and-beyond to help create a positive, safe, and friendly school culture. Surprise them with a shout-out from the Principal on morning announcements or even a special visit from some local Superheroes just like highlighted in [this video](#) by W.E.B. DuBois Academy in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Launch a poetry and art contest.** Students submit artwork and original writing that speaks to the message: Respect, Acceptance, and Inclusivity Will Prevent Youth Violence. Tag @sandyhook on Twitter and @SandyHookPromise on Instagram and Facebook with #NYVPW and your original artwork and writing will be entered into a raffle for door prizes, including Sandy Hook Promise merch!



WEDNESDAY

## Empathize & Connect

**Start a mentoring program in your school.** Pair Trusted Adults or youth mentors with younger students to serve as positive role models and do positive activities together.

**Say Something.....Positive!** Start a positivity campaign and share communication patterns and upstander sentences that squash bullying.

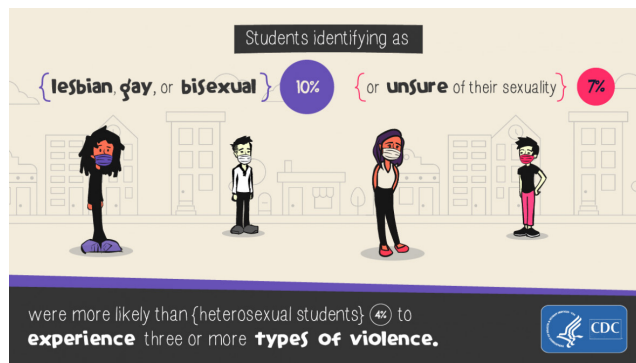
**Run a *Start With Hello* student mixer** during lunch waves or homeroom. Teachers, school staff, and students grab or make a color-coded name tag and participate in a speed friending game. Everyone starts at a station in groups of students with the same color name tag and spends one-minute getting to know each other's names + one fun fact. After one-minute, groups split-up and find new group mates by making a rainbow with multi-colored name tags or mix two colors together. Keep rotating until everyone has met! Use the Hey Day name tags in this [activity kit](#).

THURSDAY

## Empower Changemakers



**Organize a Violence Prevention Invention Convention.** Invite all students to enter creative, innovative inventions, and marketing campaigns that will help reduce youth violence in your schools and local communities.



**Contact school administration or town council** and ask for their support in the creation of more afterschool programming, like clubs and mentoring programs.

**Set-up a Violence Prevention Fair.** Organize youth and adult experts to set-up info tables and presentations. Be sure to invite guests who can speak to the groups most affected by and vulnerable to violence:

- Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC)
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LCBTO)
- Ethnic Minorities
- Immigrants





FRIDAY

## Engage & Unite in Action

**Host a rock-a-thon, double-dutch competition,** or field day that raises awareness about youth violence and raises funds for local violence prevention efforts and projects.

**Organize a service project** where youth and adults come together and make a difference. Organize a park clean-up, plant a community vegetable garden / peace flower garden, or help feed community members in need.

**Celebrate!** Make announcements and broadcasts about how you and your peers came together for a week of youth violence prevention awareness activities. Organize an ice cream social, board game tournament, or karaoke party where students can come together and give each other a loud "Congrats!" for organizing a successful #NYVPW

**Write a blog** using these [tips on blogging](#) about how your participation in NYVPW made a difference in your own life and the community. Share your blog with Sandy Hook Promise at [savepromiseclub@sandyhookpromise.org](mailto:savepromiseclub@sandyhookpromise.org).

SATURDAY

## Youth Summit!



**Head to the National Youth Summit!**

Attend the virtual National [SAVE Promise Club National Youth Summit](#) and discover the impact youth like you are having on preventing violence and increasing connection in schools and communities.

SAVE Promise Clubs create a culture of looking out for one another, being upstanders and preventing violence. Find out how to create your own club at <https://www.sandyhookpromise.org/savepromiseclub>



NYVPW YOUTH LEADER ACTION KIT

**CREATE AN ANTI-VIOLENCE**  
**Instagram Photo Booth**

**I unite in action with others for  
National Youth Violence Prevention Week**



**#NYVPW**

FLYER

# Violence Prevention Invention Convention

**Who:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**What:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**When:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Where:** \_\_\_\_\_

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# I'm a Proud Participant in #NYVPW

Uniting in ACTION with others in my community to prevent youth violence



**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**We will be:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**In support of National Youth Violence Prevention Week.**