

The Out-of-Home Firearm Storage Project

IMPACT PROFILE

Brief Impact Statement. Firearms account for the majority of suicide deaths in the USA. A recommended approach for suicide prevention is reducing access to firearms, including through voluntary, temporary storage away from home. This project identified opportunities and addressable challenges for out-of-home storage.

The Impact

The Out-of-Home Firearm Storage project has resulted in community and policy benefits.

- Additional states have created networks and/or maps showing storage locations.
- Research on community support and concerns allowed targeted programs to optimize uptake, including funding, protocol clarification, and new policy (WA, LA).
- Pilot programs through VA (concluded) and military

The Challenge

Moving firearms out of the home – for temporary, voluntary storage elsewhere – is a recommended **suicide prevention** strategy. It may also help prevent homicide, unintentional injuries, and theft. **Online state maps** can show firearm retailers/ranges and law enforcement agencies offering storage, but little was known about viewpoints of storage locations or storage users.

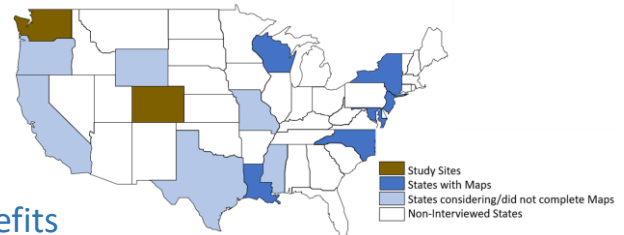
The Approach

With [NIH funding](#), the team used mixed methods to examine the perspectives of stakeholders, along with barriers and facilitators to storage.

- Qualitative interviews and surveys with storage locations (firearm retailers/ranges, law enforcement agencies) and storage users (firearm owners) in Colorado & Washington
- Qualitative Interviews with key personnel in other states building or considering maps
- Creation of a 'how-to' toolkit for states to support temporary, voluntary, out-of-home storage

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

- Interviews with **100** stakeholders showed support for concept but concerns about liability and funding/logistics^{REF}
- **27%** of people in homes with firearms had stored them away from home in past 5 years^{REF}
- **45%** of firearm ranges/retailers in two states had provided storage^{REF}



Key Benefits



COMMUNITY

The toolkit and a Google Group are enhancing communication across states



POLICY

The [White House](#) highlighted multi-state storage maps highlighted as promising suicide prevention approach



POLICY

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms [clarified storage procedures](#) for firearm retailers/ranges



POLICY

[Washington](#) and [Louisiana](#) passed state laws providing liability protection for locations offering storage



POLICY

Federal legislation is being drafted to provide funding to storage locations

The team:

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Find out more:

<http://cufirearminjuryprevention.org/>
Study [publications](#)



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