

# How to Maximize Crime Data Analysis to Support CVIPI

CUNY Institute for State and Local Governance



**CVIPI**  
Community Based Violence Intervention  
and Prevention Initiative

**OJJDP** Office of Juvenile Justice  
and Delinquency Prevention

**NIJ** National Institute  
of Justice  
STRENGTHEN SCIENCE. ADVANCE JUSTICE.

Office for Victims of Crime  
**OVC**



**BJA**  
Bureau of Justice Assistance  
U.S. Department of Justice

# CUNY INSTITUTE FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNANCE



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GOVERNANCE

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**CVIPI**  
Community Based Violence Intervention  
and Prevention Initiative

# AGENDA

01

CUNY ISLG  
and CVIPI

02

Learning  
Objectives

03

Building  
Partnership

04

Using Data  
to Inform  
Action

05

Key  
Takeaways



# CUNY ISLG and CVIPI



**CVIPI**  
Community Based Violence Intervention  
and Prevention Initiative

# WHO WE ARE



**CUNY INSTITUTE  
FOR STATE & LOCAL  
GOVERNANCE**

## Areas of Work

Criminal Legal System Reform  
Fiscal Management  
Non-profit Management  
Education  
Public Health  
Equitable Cities

## Partners

Governments  
Philanthropy  
Public institutions  
Community-based organizations  
Community members



**CVIPI**  
Community Based Violence Intervention  
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# WHO WE ARE



**CUNY INSTITUTE  
FOR STATE & LOCAL  
GOVERNANCE**

## Strategic Interventions

Building  
partnerships &  
infrastructure

Analyzing &  
diagnosing  
challenges

Designing &  
innovating  
solutions

Changing public  
dialogue



**CVIPI**  
Community Based Violence Intervention  
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**CUNY INSTITUTE  
FOR STATE & LOCAL  
GOVERNANCE**

**CUNY ISLG  
PROJECTS**



**CUNY INSTITUTE  
FOR STATE & LOCAL  
GOVERNANCE**

**SAFETY AND  
JUSTICE  
CHALLENGE**



**CUNY INSTITUTE  
FOR STATE & LOCAL  
GOVERNANCE**

**REDUCING  
REVOCATIONS  
CHALLENGE**



**CUNY INSTITUTE  
FOR STATE & LOCAL  
GOVERNANCE**

**CRIMINAL  
JUSTICE  
INVESTMENT  
INITIATIVE**



**CVIPI**

Community Based Violence Intervention  
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# Community-Led Learning: A Collaborative Approach to Training and Technical Assistance for Violent Crime Problem Analyses

- 1 2023 NIJ Grantee to provide TTA to community-based organizations and units of local government
- 2 Violent Crime Problem Analysis and Strategic Plan Development TTA
- 3 Community-led TTA with an Advisory Committee and local Learning Collaboratives





# LEARNING OBJECTIVES



**CVIPI**

Community Based Violence Intervention  
and Prevention Initiative

# LEARNING OBJECTIVES

01

Determine key partners and know why, when, and how they should be engaged

02

Identify research questions that are critical to violent crime analysis

03

Approach participatory data collection and analysis

04

Utilize findings to inform the design and implementation of programs that address key drivers of violence

05

Understand how to apply a racial equity lens across analytic and planning work



# BUILDING PARTNERSHIP



**CVIPI**

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# INITIAL QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

01

Why should we engage partners?

02

When should we engage them?

03

Who should we engage?

04

How should we engage them?



# INITIAL QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

01

Why should we engage partners?

Legitimacy

Innovation

Opportunity

Buy-in

Diversity



# INITIAL QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

01

Why should we engage partners?

02

When should we engage them?

03

Who should we engage?

04

How should we engage them?



# INITIAL QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

02

When should we engage them?

Engage partners as soon as is feasible to develop relationships, establish trust, and ensure crucial perspectives are included from the earliest stages.



# INITIAL QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

01

Why should we engage partners?

02

When should we engage them?

03

Who should we engage?

04

How should we engage them?





# INITIAL QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

Who is impacted?

Who is historically excluded?

Who has subject matter expertise and experience?

Who has the power to affect change?

Who makes decisions?

Who controls resources?

03

Who should we engage?



# INITIAL QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

01

Why should we engage partners?

02

When should we engage them?

03

Who should we engage?

04

How should we engage them?



# INITIAL QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

Advisory group  
member

Focus group/  
interview/survey  
participant

Reviewer

Consultant

04

How should  
we engage  
them?



# USING DATA TO INFORM ACTION



# DATA TO ACTION APPROACH

Identifying questions  
to explore

Developing a  
plan for  
collecting and  
analyzing data

Interpreting  
and  
synthesizing  
results

Using findings  
to inform  
interventions  
and solutions



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RACIAL EQUITY LENS



# 5 Ws of Racial Equity in Research Framework



## WHO?

Who benefits? Who is harmed? Who is excluded? Who makes decisions? Who do systems prioritize? Who is made comfortable? Who is cited? Who is called an expert? Who can lead research?

## WHY?

Why is this project relevant? Why use this approach? Why should someone want to be involved? Why this research topic? Why this group of interest? Why you? Why not you?

## WHEN?

When did it become a priority? When do research activities occur? When is waiting acceptable, and for whom?



## WHAT?

What resources? What is the access? What values are prioritized? What languages are excluded? What are the accommodations? What variables are used or excluded?

## WHERE?

Where does power sit? Where do you have to go? Where are resources shared? Where are findings shared? Where is this research going? Where does the money go?





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RACIAL EQUITY LENS



# PRIMARY RESEARCH QUESTION

What are the drivers of  
community violence?



# ACTION RESEARCH

## Primary Question

- What are the drivers of community violence?

## How do we answer this question? Exploring more questions!

- What?
- Who?
- Where?
- When?
- Why?



# WHAT?

01

What kind of violence is occurring in the community?

02

How has the nature and prevalence of violence changed over time?

03

Do different groups experience different types of violence?

04

To what extent is it being reported and/or addressed by the system?



**CVIPI**

Community Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative

# WHO?

01

Who is involved in community violence?

02

Who is impacted by community violence and how?

03

Who are the stakeholders that can effect change?



# WHERE?

01

Where is community violence occurring geographically?

02

Do residents feel their community is as safe as other nearby communities?

03

How does the geographic distribution of violence relate to the level of policing in communities?



# WHEN?

01

When is community violence most likely to happen?

02

Have there been changes to the nature of community violence over time?

Seasonal

Time of day

Resource/  
program  
changes

Other factors  
(i.e. COVID)



# WHY?

## 01

What other factors are associated with community violence?

Housing

Employment

Health

Criminal legal responses

Police-  
community  
relations





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RACIAL EQUITY LENS



# HOW DO WE ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS?

## Qualitative

Policy and  
Practice  
Review

Observations

Interviews

Focus  
Groups

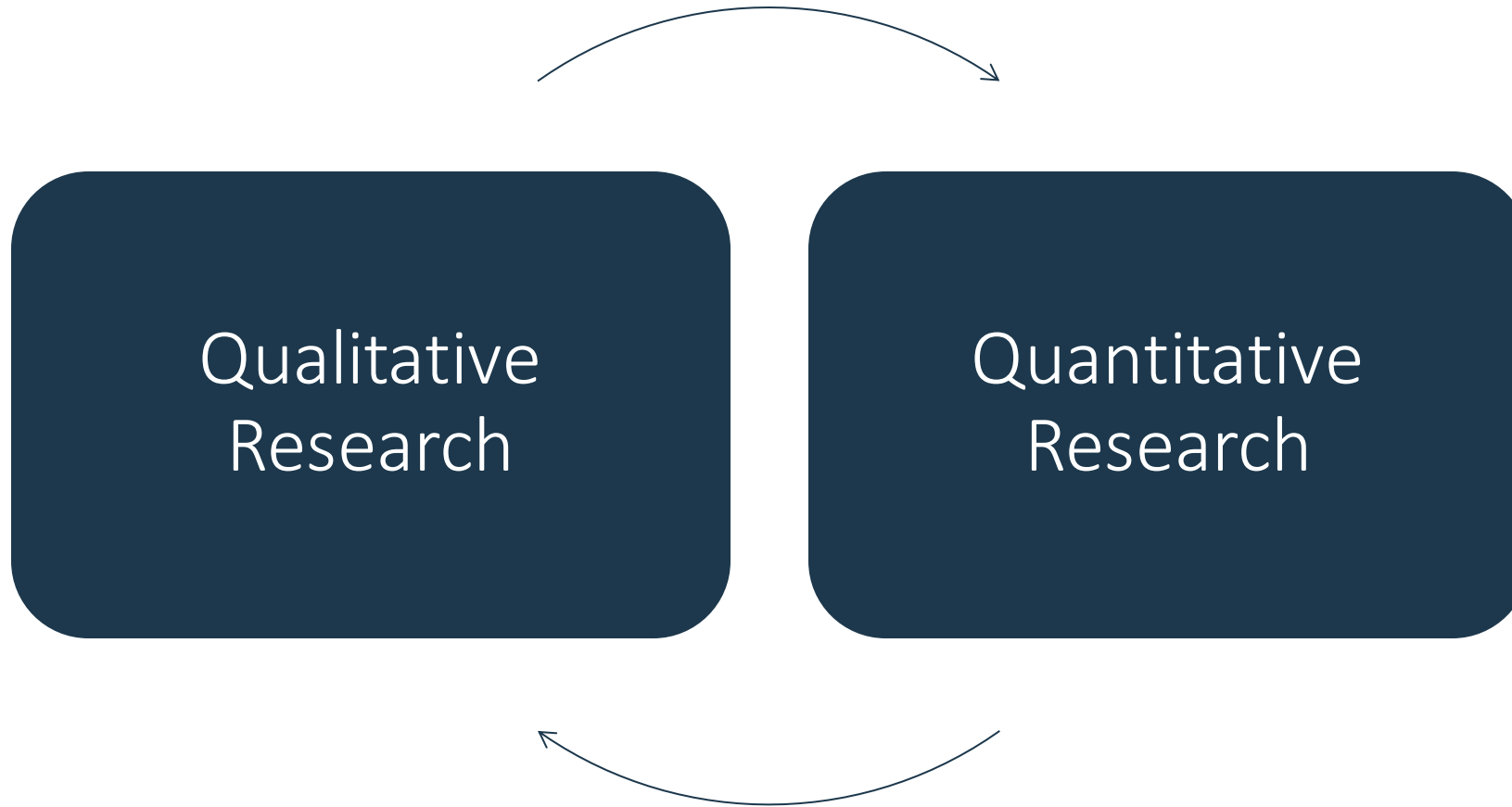
## Quantitative

Surveys

Crime and  
other  
administrative  
data



# ITERATIVE PROCESS



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CONTINUUM



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CONTINUUM



Closed door meetings and processes (e.g., rigid application processes)  
 Inaccessible language  
 Inaccessible communications  
 None/little notice given of events, process, etc.

Fact sheets  
 Open houses  
 Presentations  
 Information sessions  
 Billboards  
 Videos  
 Websites, social media posts  
 Email blasts, newsletters  
 Policy briefs  
 Public-facing evaluations

Public comment  
 Focus groups  
 Community forums  
 Surveys  
 Listening sessions

Interactive workshops  
 Polling  
 House meetings  
 Community forums  
 Feedback loops  
 Community experts

MOUs with CBOs  
 Hiring community leaders to act as conduits to other grassroots leaders, as an engagement strategy  
 Consensus building  
 Citizen advisory committees  
 Participatory Action Research

Community-driven planning  
 Community organizing  
 Open planning forums with citizen polling  
 Participatory budgeting  
 Participatory action research  
 Citizen juries  
 Citizen assemblies

# ADMINISTRATIVE DATA ANALYSIS

## Types of Data

**Crime Data:** complaints, date of event, level of offense, location, law enforcement codes, demographic data of those involved

**Arrest Data:** charges, date of event, location of event, demographic information on those arrested, etc.

**Census:** population estimate for census block, census tract, county, etc., employment, home ownership, race/ethnicity population estimates

**Health Data:** vital events such as deaths, electronic medical records for injuries, ER data for injuries

**School Data:** school demographics, rankings, safety measures

## What can it tell you?

- What types of violence are most prevalent in a community?
- What proportion of violent crime ends in an arrest, and who is being arrested?
- Is there variation in the nature and/or prevalence of violence among different groups?
- Where is violence concentrated, geographically?
- How has the nature and prevalence of violence changed over time?

## Considerations

1. Who is collecting the data and what are the limitations?
2. Is it publicly available?
3. Is it in a format that can be analyzed?
4. Unreported crime is not represented, and arrest data is reflective of enforcement practices.
5. May be difficult to connect crime and arrest data to other sources.

# SURVEYS

## Topic Areas

## What can it tell you?

## Considerations

**Crime Data:** experience with community violence, perceptions of safety, safety concerns

**Demographics:** race/ethnicity, age, education, income, neighborhood, household composition

**Health:** general physical health, mental health, exercise, diet

- What are community members' experiences with violence?
- What do they perceive to be drivers of the problem?
- What are their biggest concerns around public safety?

1. Does not provide a great deal of depth
2. Sample may not be representative of the community
3. Can be labor and time intensive
4. Can be expensive



# INTERVIEWS AND FOCUS GROUPS

Types of participants	What can it tell you?	Considerations
Community members Leadership and/or staff from community organizations Members of law enforcement Local businesses	More detailed and nuanced insights into: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How different groups experience and have been affected by violence</li><li>• What they see as the drivers of these problems</li><li>• What is needed to address and prevent violence</li><li>• Perspectives on police-community relations and how that relates to these issues</li></ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Recruitment strategy--how to connect with potential participants in meaningful ways that are responsive to their needs and concerns.</li><li>2. How to make community participants feel safe</li><li>3. How to ensure that participation is beneficial to participants</li><li>4. Is a one-on-one interview or focus group more appropriate?</li><li>5. Participants will likely not be representative of the community</li><li>6. Can be labor and time intensive</li><li>7. Can be expensive (but less expensive than surveys)</li><li>8. Can require highly trained staff (trauma informed interview training)</li><li>9. Special parameters for youth and/other groups</li></ol>





# OBSERVATIONS

## Locations for observations

Community meetings  
Neighborhood policing meetings  
PTA meetings  
Business associations  
Neighborhood associations

## What can it tell you?

See and hear firsthand the concerns of the community –

- Who is attending meetings?
- What are their concerns?
- Where in their community is violence occurring?
- When is community violence occurring?

## Considerations

1. Concerns raised may not be representative
2. May be limited to what is public



# POLICY AND PRACTICE REVIEW

## Types of policy and practices to review

## What can it tell you?

## Considerations

City policies

Policing practices and policies

School policies

Current and upcoming legislation

Other community violence intervention/organization policies and practices

- Awareness of local regulations and policies and existing programs to inform selection of a CVI program and strategic planning

1. May be limited to what is publicly available
2. May not include any contextual information



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# DATA TO ACTION APPROACH

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

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Developing a plan for collecting and analyzing data

Interpreting and synthesizing results

Using findings to inform interventions and solutions

RACIAL EQUITY LENS



# INTERPRETING RESULTS

What have we learned about drivers of community violence that need to be addressed through programmatic interventions?

Is there variation by racial/ethnic group, geography, or other factors?

Are some groups more heavily affected by community violence?

What are the biases in the data and have they been taken into consideration in interpreting findings?

Are there gaps or inconsistent findings that need further exploration?



# SYNTHESIZING RESULTS – AN EXAMPLE

## Research Questions

What are the drivers of community violence in young adults following budget cuts?

Has crime increased since budget cuts?

Who is involved in the community violence?

What is the unemployment rate for young adults most impacted by the budget cuts?

What programming is available for young adults?

## Activity

**Administrative Data Analysis** of crime and labor data

**Policy and Practice Review** of city budget

**Focus Groups** with young adults who are out of school and out of work, local employers, work development organizations, local government leaders, CBOs that provided programming to young adults

## Interpret and Synthesize Results

Identify crime patterns pre and post budget cuts

Identify population most at risk for community violence

Identify any changes in unemployment for young adults

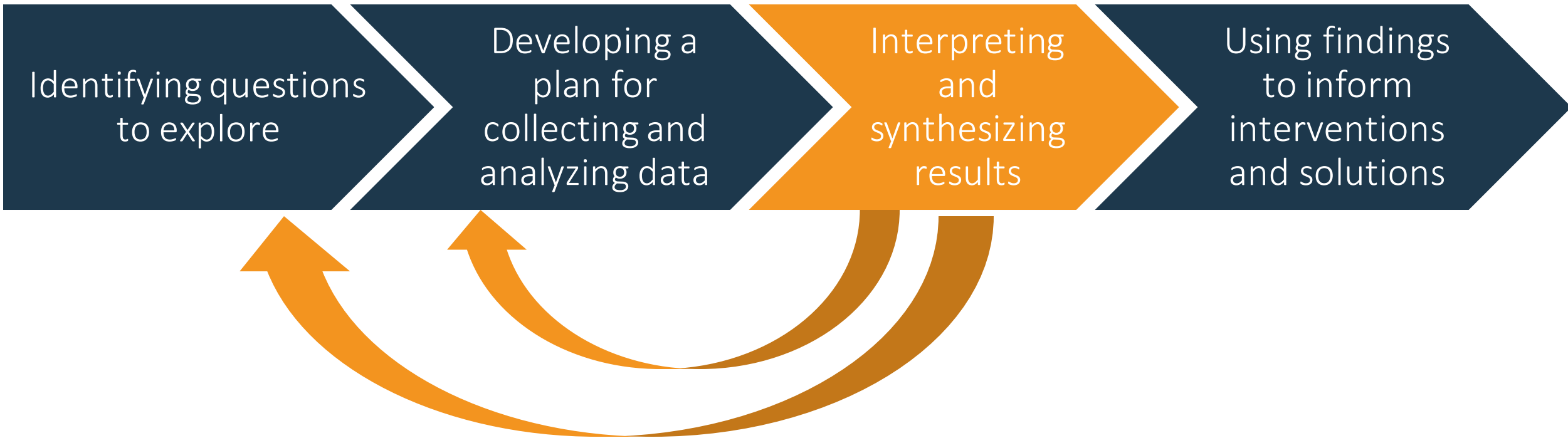
Identify other factors that might be related to community violence among young adults

Identify what programs have been eliminated

Identify areas of opportunity, such as existing or new programming that can replace services that have been cut



# DATA TO ACTION APPROACH



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RACIAL EQUITY LENS





# USING FINDINGS TO INFORM A STRATEGIC PLAN



# NEEDS ASSESSMENT: PROGRAMMATIC INTELLIGENCE

01

What is our current capacity to do data analysis to inform this work?

02

What are the services and programming currently available to address community violence?

03

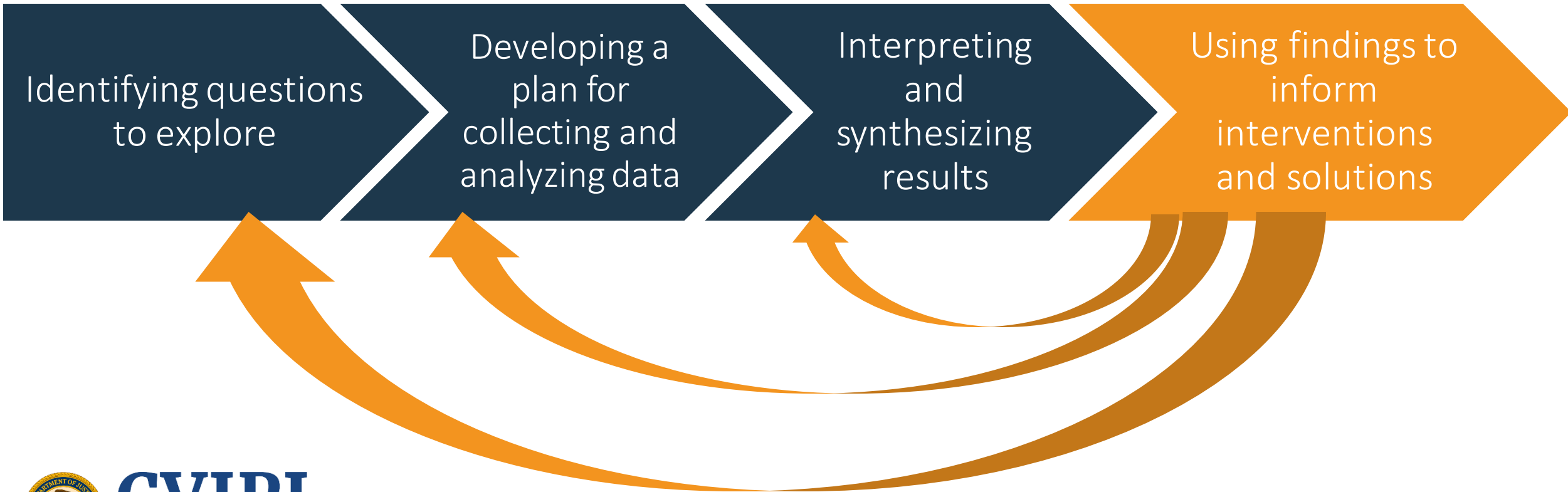
What are the gaps in available services and programming that address community violence?

04

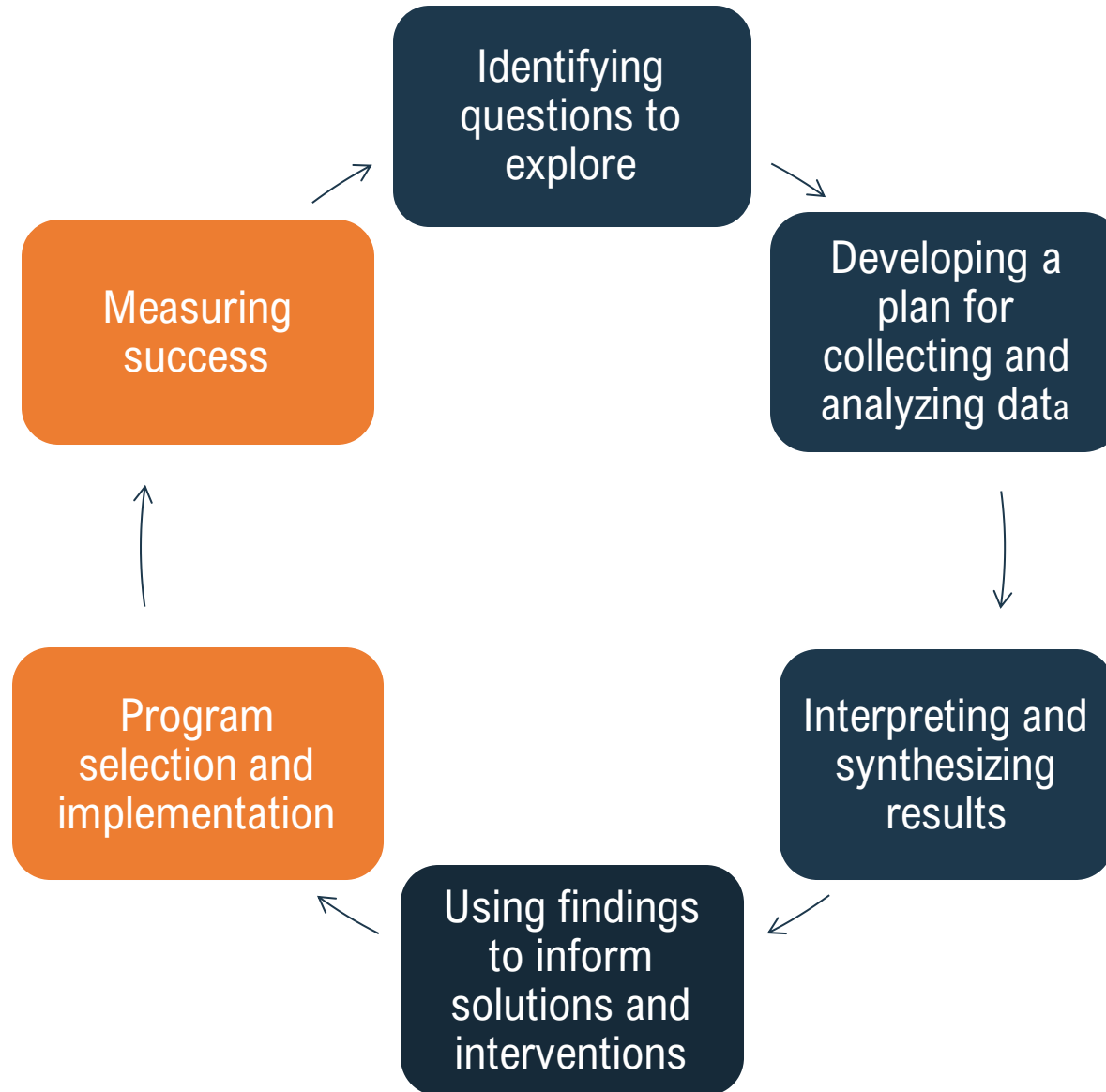
Has the community violence programming changed over time?



# DATA TO ACTION APPROACH



# DATA TO ACTION APPROACH



# NAVIGATING RESOURCE AND CAPACITY CONSTRAINTS

- Tailor the scope of the analysis to what is possible
  - Menu of options
- Local research partners as a source of support
  - Part of local community
  - Understand the context
  - Cost-effective
  - Potential for long-term support and sustainability



# KEY TAKEAWAYS



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# KEY TAKEAWAYS

- 1 Violent crime analysis is an iterative and ongoing process
- 2 The experiences of those most impacted by community violence are critical for informing solutions
- 3 Working with the community and partners is essential for sustainability



# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS





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To stay connected with us about our CVIPI TTA Collaborative, or express interest in joining our advisory group, please visit: [grco.de/CVIPI](http://grco.de/CVIPI)





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