



Community Violence Intervention Leadership Academy

Empowering Leaders to Close America's Safety Gap



CVILA students and instructors in Chicago, IL for an Immersive Lab with UCAN.

CHALLENGE

American cities are facing a public safety crisis, and the urgent day-to-day work of saving lives falls primarily to two sectors—community violence intervention organizations and police departments—that have historically lacked investment in human capital that has transformed other sectors. The CVI sector, in particular, is facing a resource shortfall, limiting its capacity to develop leadership skills.

OPPORTUNITY

To address this challenge, the Crime Lab established the **Community Safety Leadership Academies (CSLA)**, an initiative focused on bringing the leadership and management practices of CVI and policing into the 21st century.



Thanks to CVILA's leadership education, our graduates are primed to roll out sustainable CVI solutions, paving the way for more healthy, thriving communities."

— **Dr. Chico Tillmon**
 Executive Director of the CVILA

Composed of the **Community Violence Intervention Leadership Academy** and the **Policing Leadership Academy**, CSLA brings together emerging CVI and police leaders for a rigorous education program on data-driven management, violence reduction, and community engagement. CSLA is the most ambitious and robustly evaluated public safety leadership and management training ever offered in the United States.



BACKGROUND ON IMMERSIVE LEARNING LABS

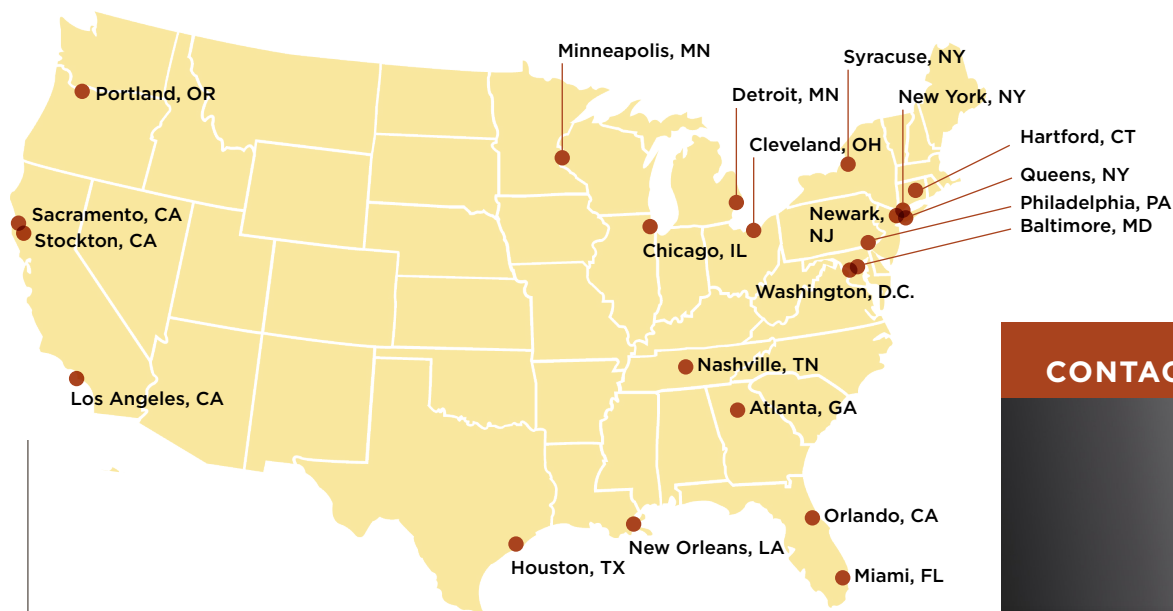
The CVI Leadership Academy curriculum schedule is a sequence of six modules, each month structured to engage students for one week of in-person training and instruction. Within that structure, students also participate in three immersive learning labs that integrate and couple their classroom experiences with community-based and community-driven experiences in three different cities.

The three cities chosen for the 2023-2024 inaugural cohort were Queens, NY; Chicago, IL; and Oakland, CA. The immersive labs are planned and coordinated by a hosting organization in the city where the lab will occur. The New York Immersive Lab took place in November 2023, was hosted by LIFE Camp, and focused on Building Healthy Communities. The Chicago Immersive Lab took place in December 2023, was hosted by UCAN, and focused on CVI Strategies. The Oakland Immersive Lab took place in January 2024, was hosted by Live Free, and focused on Community Engagement.

CVILA FOUNDING STEERING COMMITTEE

A team of key community violence intervention leaders from across the country serve on the CVILA Steering Committee. These leaders helped craft a curriculum and aided in the academy's development to provide participants with transferable skills that they can leverage to support other organizations and groups, fostering well-rounded and skilled leaders within their communities and strengthening public safety, public trust, and equal justice.

- **Shani Buggs**, Ph.D., M.P.H., Assistant Professor, Violence Prevention Research Program, University of California Davis
- **Dr. Antonio Cediel**, Managing Director of Live Free USA
- **Erica Ford**, CEO and Founder of LIFE Camp
- **Marcus McAllister**, a national violence prevention expert
- **Pastor Michael McBride**, Executive Director of Live Free USA
- **Oresa Napper-Williams**, Executive Director of Not Another Child
- **Anthony Smith**, Executive Director of Cities United
- **Dr. Chico Tillmon**, Executive Director of the CVILA



MODULES

The Community Violence Intervention Leadership Academy (CVILA) was established to develop the CVI sector by providing aspiring CVI leaders with the skills necessary to tackle leadership obstacles throughout their careers.

- ✔ Personal & Organizational Leadership
- ✔ Strategic Decision Making
- ✔ Building Healthy Communities
- ✔ Community Violence Intervention Strategies
- ✔ Community Engagement
- ✔ Operations & Management + Capstone Presentations

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