



**INTERNATIONAL UPDATE**  
**December, 2014**

**Latin America & the Caribbean:**

- **San Pedro Sula, Honduras:** Our local partners have been implementing an adapted version of the model since April, 2013 and currently have a staff of 10 interrupters. In addition to interrupting over 1,000 potentially lethal conflicts, local partners initiated ongoing monthly community activities, launched a public education campaign and created partnerships with other community groups to address the violence. This year Cure Violence staff led 3 training visits, 4 distance trainings (via Skype) and weekly technical assistance calls to assist the partners with the complex issues related to implementing the model in the world's most violent city. Funding for the program is provided by USAID/OTI.
- **Juarez, Mexico:** Our partners in Juarez officially began phase one of implementation in November of 2014. Full staffing will include 30 interrupters to cover three main "hot spots" in Juarez. Cure Violence staff were in Juarez in 2014 for a two week assessment and planning visit and hosted a two week training and site visit in Chicago for the partner site leadership team. In addition, Cure Violence trainers conducted distance training (via Skype), weekly technical assistance calls, and will return to Juarez in January for the second training of program partner staff. Funding for the program is provided by the City of Juarez and private donors through a public/private partnership.
- **Mexico Adapted Prison Program:** The Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) has committed funds to adapt and implement the Cure Violence model in a prison outside of Mexico City. Cure Violence will work with local partner *Cauce Ciudadano* to adapt and implement the program. Program design meetings in Mexico and Chicago are scheduled for January and February, 2015.
- **Colombia:** Since 2013, several assessment and planning visits from Cure Violence training staff have occurred in Barranquilla and Medellin. The next assessment visit is scheduled for January, 2015 in Cali; the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) has committed funds to the project.
- **Recife, Brazil:** In partnership with the Bernard van Leer Foundation (BvLF) two assessment and planning visits have occurred in Recife. There appear to be interest and local capacity to implement the Cure Violence model, and the next steps are currently under discussion.
- **Jamaica:** Funded by the World Bank, Cure Violence staff completed two assessment visits in 2014 to meet with key stakeholders and provide recommendations for implementing the national interruption framework in Jamaica. The Government of Jamaica – through the Ministry of National Security (MNS) intends to implement a comprehensive program of violence interruption nationally. To assist in the planning process the World Bank commissioned Cure Violence to work in partnership with the Ministry to provide recommendations on (1) Defining an interruption framework, (2)

Roles required for an interruption framework, (3) Manning model to implement the framework, (4) Training outcomes and characteristics of the individual participants, (5) Measurable outcomes and monitoring mechanisms for implementing the interruption framework, and (6) Recommendations for any systems required to support the implementation.

- **Trinidad and Tobago:** The National Government approved the Cure Violence program in July 2012 and the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) has approved its funding. The program, which has a four year funding commitment that includes an independent evaluation, will officially begin in January, 2015.

### **Middle East:**

- **Iraq, which lasted from 2008-2013, trained over 65 interrupters** resulted in close to 1000 interruptions and over 14,000 people reached through outreach activities. Data collection was a problem through the life of the project. Funding for the program was provided by the U.S. Department of State.
- **Syria:** From August-October 2013, Cure Violence worked with American Islamic Congress (AIC) and FREE Syria to train 133 Syrians on our general approach as well as some key skills (conflict mediation, behavior norm change, mapping violence). Seventy percent of respondents to the post-training survey indicated that they had already had the opportunity to use the training to interrupt violence in their home towns inside Syria within three months of the training. Funding for the program was provided by the US Department of State Conflict Stabilization Office.
- **Israel/Palestine:** Cure Violence has hired a full-time Atlas Fellow from Ramallah who will begin work in January, 2015. Gary Slutkin will lead a Cure Violence team in December, 2014/January, 2015 doing an assessment of immediate/longer term needs in Israel and the West Bank. Funding has been provided through private sources.

### **Africa:**

- **Cape Town (Hanover Park), South Africa:** With funding provided by the local city council, Cure Violence's local partner, Violence Prevention through Urban Upgrades (VPUU), opened its first program site in January, 2013. The site currently has 12 staff working in the target area; the program has been extremely successful in reducing shootings and killings and will double in program size to cover an additional target area in January, 2015. To date, the staff has interrupted more than 400 conflicts, worked on over 30 "group level" interventions, launched a number public education campaigns, and continues to hold community events addressed at community norm change. Cure Violence staff conducted one on-site training visit in 2014 and plans to return in Q1/Q2, 2015 to conduct additional training for new program staff as well as provide "a train the trainer session."

## Canada:

- **Halifax:** With funding provided by the Government of Canada, Halifax CeaseFire, the local program partner, began operating in April 2014. Cure Violence trainers conducted two staff-trainings, hosted Halifax staff for a week-long program site visit in Chicago, continues bi-weekly technical assistance phone calls and is scheduled to return to Halifax to provide additional training in Q1/Q2, 2015. The program will be independently evaluated by Dalhousie University.
- **Maskwacis Reservation in Alberta:** After six years of discussions, the program finally received funding and has begun the first phase of implementation. Cure Violence trainers hosted a three day site visit, performed an assessment, and provided training for the first seven program site workers. Full site implementation and additional training will begin in Q1, 2015.