



ALLIANCE FOR GUN RESPONSIBILITY

2024 Annual Report



LETTER TO OUR SUPPORTERS

In 2024, the Alliance for Gun Responsibility faced an array of challenges. From the uncertainty that comes with a presidential election to the global economic inflation crisis, the past year saw the Alliance relying on our wisdom and determination in order to leave an indelible mark on the way preventable gun violence is addressed both nationally and here at home in Washington.

As always, it's impossible for me to reflect on the past year without expressing my profound gratitude to our dedicated supporters. We share the same values and vision of our families and communities free from the traumas associated with preventable gun violence. The unwavering commitment shown by our growing movement of resilience and determination has always been the 'Secret Sauce' to our success.

Nationally, in 2024, the White House held fast to their promise to address gun violence. Created in 2022, the Office of Gun Violence Prevention started yielding valuable data, expanding the scope of solutions, and investing the resources of the entire federal government to address our gun violence crisis. The adoption of a 'Zero Tolerance' policy from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms that held negligent gun

dealers accountable for violating federal law was further evidence of a working partnership with the Executive Branch. This newfound leadership in Washington was felt nationwide and inspired and energized supporters across the country.

It was definitely felt here in Washington, where our 2024 legislative session stood tall on the shoulders of a decade's worth of historic victories engineered by the Alliance. Combining strategic partnerships, grassroots mobilization, and tireless lobbying efforts, we helped enact seven life-saving gun violence prevention bills into law including legislation to strengthen dealer responsibility, modernize Washington's background check system, and to protect and advocate on behalf of victims. Outside of the legislative arena, the Alliance strengthened its strong partnership with system and community based partners to continue working on protection order implementation. At the grassroots, the Alliance reiterated our commitment to empowering young people and partnering with organizations that serve communities most impacted by gun violence.

For The Alliance for Gun Responsibility Victory Fund, 2024 was a year of major electoral changes with a cascade of open stateside offices, competitive legislative contests and local offices up for election. In total, the Alliance endorsed 105 candidates for office including gun violence prevention champions Governor Bob Ferguson, Attorney Nick Brown General, and State Insurance Commission Patty Kuderer. In addition to our Washington state influence, the Alliance also weighed in on the 2024 Presidential and Congressional elections.

In 2024, the Alliance continued its commitment to invest in state-based organizations - where history shows social movements start - and added a third partner state, Maine. Our state-partner work presents the opportunity to test our theory of change which is our belief that the fastest way to save lives is by investing in state-based organizing. The significant resources and the strategic and technical support the Alliance has provided contributed to the progress our state-partners in Oregon and Michigan achieved in increased funding, staff and grassroots support.

All of the victories our movement achieved in 2024 cannot be overshadowed by the reality of the November election. Over the course of a decade, all of our victories were the result of our amalgamation of supporters, who use diversity as a strength, and have the focus and determination needed to fight forward. As we navigate the road ahead, it will be the lessons absorbed over the years and the solidarity within our movement that will best prepare us to continue to achieve success despite what opposition the new administration will pose.

**THANK YOU FOR BEING
IN THIS FIGHT WITH US.**



**- Renée Hopkins | CEO,
Alliance for Gun Responsibility**

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ORGANIZATION & BOARD

ALLIANCE FOR GUN RESPONSIBILITY

501(c)(4) nonprofit organization:

Conducts legislative advocacy and has helped pass three ballot measures and more than 30 gun safety bills in Olympia.



ALLIANCE FOR GUN RESPONSIBILITY FOUNDATION

501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization:

Responsible for research, program and public education work, implementation of laws, summit education series, and grassroots advocacy.



ALLIANCE FOR GUN RESPONSIBILITY VICTORY FUND & ALLIANCE FOR GUN RESPONSIBILITY FEDERAL VICTORY FUND

Washington state and federal Political Action Committees:

Endorse municipal, state, and federal gun responsibility candidates.



501(c)(3) BOARD MEMBERS

Ben Carr
Cheryl Berenson
Matt Bellew
Niko Battle
Kevin Brannon
Sue Cary
Rory Graves
Shalisa Hayes

Linda Parrish
Zach Silk
Danny Weiner
Jane Weiss
Marcus Green
Alina Santillan
Carey Anderson

501(c)(4) BOARD MEMBERS

Leesa Manion
Zach Silk
David Frockt
Steve Kessel
Regina Malveaux

Caleb Weaver
Scott Wang
Drew Johnston



FINANCIALS

Our community is composed of partners, volunteers, faith and community leaders, public health advocates, survivors, donors, and elected officials who all play a vital role in creating safer environments for everyone.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the numerous partner organizations that collaborate with us on a daily basis, and to the hundreds of devoted and passionate advocates who generously give their time and share their personal stories. We are also immensely grateful to the thousands of volunteers who show up day in and day out, as well as to our many donors who make our work possible. By working together, we will continue to advance lifesaving legislation and support initiatives that aim to reduce gun violence in our communities.

The Alliance is built on a foundation of supporters from across the state and country who financially support our work every year. We are proud that in 2024 we had more than 4,002 donations with a median donation of \$25 and an average donation of \$327. Every donation, of every size, is critical to our work.

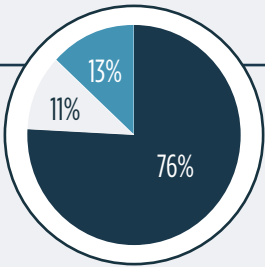
Thank you for giving your time and treasure.

EXPENSES

76%: PROGRAMS

11%: FUNDRAISING

13%: MANAGEMENT

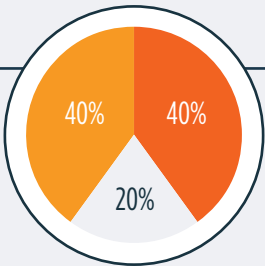


INCOME TOTAL

40%: MAJOR DONORS, \$1,393,086

20%: INDIVIDUALS, \$716,624

40%: GRANTS, \$1,417,256



Total: \$3,526,967



STATE PARTNERS

Our theory of change from the beginning has been that the fastest way to save lives from preventable gun violence is to invest in state-based organizing. This isn't just a theory- it's a long-held American tradition. Many social movements, from suffrage to marriage equality, have followed the same course- local action pushing up to federal action.

At this moment in our country's history this approach is even more important.

For the last 5 years we have invested significant resources, strategic and technical support to state-based gun safety organizations across the country to test our theory of change and grow our movement.

In 2024 we added our third state partner and have matured our own organizational capacity to support this work.

Only a few years into this effort, we are already seeing the multiplier effect in the movement and our state partners have made unprecedented gains to improve safety in their states and save lives.



Major highlights from 2024:

ALLIANCE FOR A SAFE OREGON

- Grew from a staff of 2 to a team of 6 and expanded C3 funding by 40% over previous year including securing several new foundation grants.
- Created a GVP equity table that led a coalition to re-focus the city of Portland's attention to address gun homicide in unhoused communities, preserve \$4 million dollars in community violence intervention funding, and improve transparency.
- Researched and published a comprehensive analysis of crime guns in Oregon.
- Created a comprehensive plan to train rural health care doctors in lethal means & suicide prevention.
- Built and now leading a Veteran Health Coalition that includes 30+ Veterans and Service members, as well as VA and other organizational representatives.
- Piloted Safe Schools Youth Leadership Academy with students presenting their recommendations to the Portland Public Schools board.
- Continued to lead and coordinate the legal defense and plan the future implementation of Measure 114- the historic universal licensing ballot measure won in 2022.
- Legislatively helped create a Firearm Suicide Taskforce, which was bi-partisan and is elevating the need to address Oregon's high Veteran suicide rate.
- Preserved funding for the Office of Violence Prevention which prior to organizing had been on the list for budget cuts.
- Established first-ever PAC and endorsement committee and gave over \$45K in contributions to gun safety champions running for office.
- Supported and helped win several statewide candidates, who are now fully champions for gun violence prevention (AG, Sec of State, and Treasurer).
- Four new gun violence prevention champions were added to the Oregon legislature and one historical Republican seat was flipped including the election of an Alliance Board member whose top priority is gun safety. In total, 35 of 37 of endorsed candidates won.
- Trained over 100 city, county and state leaders in the efficacy of Gun violence prevention.

ALLIANCE FOR A
SAFE OREGON. 

Major highlights from 2024: **END GUN VIOLENCE MICHIGAN**

- Established independent 501c(3) status and 501c(4) status as an organization.
- Quadrupled annual budget.
- Grew from a staff of 1 to a team of 3 with two new organizing hires.
- Created legislatively the state gun violence implementation task force.
- Secured \$1.8 million in funds for grassroots organizations to do violence prevention.
- Won multiple policy victories including laws that:
 - Ban open carry of firearms at polling places and clerks' offices.
 - Require every school in MI to inform all parents each October about safe storage.
 - Codify the full destruction of seized firearms by the state patrol.
 - Authorize Medicaid payments for hospital-based CVI.
- Created a PAC and endorsed political candidates for the first time focusing on key legislative and congressional races.
- In electoral organizing the End Gun Violence Michigan PAC:
 - Sent 120,000 friend-to-friend relational texts
 - Knocked 1,000 doors
 - Sent 150,000 pieces of mail
 - Made 30,000 GOTV phone calls
- Hosted 1100-person implementation summit that included speeches by the Lt. Governor and Attorney General.
- Held 53 movement-building public events (rallies, marches, press conferences, webinars & trainings)



Major highlights from 2024: **MAINE GUN SAFETY COALITION**

- Won historic policy victories after years of legislative inaction including laws that:
 - Mandate background checks for sales of firearms
 - Require a 72-hour gun purchase waiting period
 - Passed a bill to ban bump stocks (later vetoed by the Governor)
- Created a partnership network of 70 organizations that support gun safety, called Community Partners.
- Issued a legislative candidate questionnaire, and a legislator gun safety report card.
- Formed a PAC, which made significant independent expenditures in support of Maine legislative candidates who supported gun safety legislation, helping Democrats to maintain majorities in the State House and State Senate.
- Formed a Ballot Committee (Safe Schools, Safe Communities) to lead and organize a citizen-initiated referendum to put an Extreme Risk Protection Order policy on the 2025 ballot after legislative inaction.
- Between November 2024, and mid-January, 2025, Safe Schools Safe Communities organized 600 Maine volunteers to obtain 80,000 citizen signatures (from every Maine county and surpassing by a wide margin the 68,000 signature minimum) that will now put the ERPO initiative on the November 2025 ballot.
- Worked in partnership with Maine pediatricians and psychologists organizations to distribute safe storage information to patients and families, and to distribute free cable locks.
- Worked with an expanding number of police departments in Maine's municipalities, to sponsor and organize a "gun-giveback" day in 2024 (a bi-annual event), and contracted for the returned firearms to be disassembled and melted (into artwork, etc.).
- Developed and provided to law enforcement (at the initial request of the Lewiston, Maine police department) for distribution, hand-outs on gun safety practices, and an outline of Maine's gun safety laws.
- Provided MGSC Foundation speakers to local high schools, churches, political committees, etc., on gun safety, aided by an MGSC powerpoint and hand-outs.
- Formed a Legal Research Committee and retention of pro bono counsel to defend against legal challenges, as amicus curiae, to Maine's gun safety laws.
- Hired administrative and development support staff to support the Executive Director.



LEGISLATIVE WINS

The 2024 session built on more than a decade of historic victories. Showing that Washingtonians remain committed to ending gun violence. With powerful testimony, strategic advocacy, and a strong presence in Olympia, the Alliance team and our community of volunteers and advocates helped pass SEVEN more life-saving gun violence prevention bills into law.

HB 2118 – Strengthens Dealer Responsibility

This bill adds new safeguards for licensed firearm dealers, requiring anti-theft measures, standardized record-keeping, and mandatory reporting of lost or stolen guns. These common-sense policies help prevent gun trafficking and straw purchases, keeping firearms out of the hands of people who shouldn't have them.

HB 1903 – Requires Reporting of Lost and Stolen Firearms

HB 1903 requires gun owners to report lost or stolen firearms to law enforcement within 24 hours, helping prevent these weapons from entering the illegal market. With over four thousand firearms stolen from Washingtonians each year, this law is a crucial step toward reducing gun crime and improving accountability.

HB 2021 – Destruction of Crime Guns

This bill gives Washington State Patrol the authority to destroy confiscated firearms instead of being forced to sell them, ensuring crime guns don't re-enter communities.

It also requires that all firearms collected during buyback programs be destroyed, reinforcing the goal of permanently removing unwanted guns from circulation.

SB 5444 – Restricts Firearms in Sensitive Places

SB 5444 prohibits firearms in public spaces where children and families gather like libraries, transit centers, aquariums, and zoos. These protections build on existing restrictions and reflect a growing consensus that public safety is best served when firearms are kept out of sensitive areas.

SB 5985 – Background Check System Updates

This bill modernizes and centralizes Washington's background check system, streamlining data-sharing and expanding definitions of prohibited weapons. It strengthens coordination among agencies and ensures more thorough, efficient checks to prevent firearms from falling into dangerous hands.

SB 6246 – Information Relating to Firearm Prohibitions

SB 6246 improves how Washington reports individuals prohibited from owning firearms due to mental health rulings, ensuring timely updates to the national background check system. It also creates a clear path for individuals to petition for restoration of rights once they're no longer a risk.

ADVOCACY

In 2024, the Alliance for Gun Responsibility once again demonstrated the power of community-led advocacy. During Washington's legislative session, seven life-saving gun violence prevention bills were signed into law. These measures strengthened accountability, enhanced safety, and protected families across the state. This progress was made possible by the tireless efforts of our staff, legislative champions, coalition partners, and hundreds of engaged advocates.

During the 2024 session, our network of advocates played a critical role in moving our agenda forward. We empowered 168 volunteers, supported 57 individuals who testified in Olympia, and mobilized grassroots supporters to send more than 10,000 messages to state legislators. We also held 33 interim meetings with lawmakers and participated in 17 legislative committee hearings.

Our work didn't stop at the Capitol. Throughout the year, we deepened our presence on the ground in communities across Washington. From community events to year-round organizing, we continued to ensure that gun violence prevention remains a priority for policymakers and the public alike.

SESSION 2024

Interim Meetings With Legislators: **33**

Volunteers Engaged: **168**

Advocate Legislative Sign-Ins: **10,490**

People Testified In Olympia: **57**

Hearings: **17**

Gun Violence Prevention Bills Passed
And Signed Into Law: **7**





In Pierce County, our ongoing organizing efforts helped lay the foundation for a key electoral win: the successful election of Ryan Mello as County Executive. We partnered with the Institute for Black Justice (IBJ), an organization dedicated to advancing equity and justice, to support local events, train young leaders through the Aces program, and show up as visible allies at community celebrations like Tacoma's Juneteenth. This local engagement is a critical part of our long-term strategy to build sustained, community-driven support for gun violence prevention across Washington.

Every year, our advocacy becomes stronger, more strategic, and more rooted in community partnerships. Together, we are building a movement capable of delivering real change and saving lives.



IMPLEMENTATION

Since 2016 the Alliance has taken a proactive approach to ensure that the laws we pass are implemented per their intent. This entails working with state and local systems and advocacy representatives across our state. It also includes identifying areas in law that need revision in order to work as planned. Here is a brief overview of our implementation work in 2024-25.

Quarterly Implementation Roundtable

Throughout 2024, the Alliance continued hosting a quarterly roundtable dedicated to the implementation of Extreme Risk Protection Orders and Orders to Surrender Weapons across the state. These laws are essential to keeping firearms out of dangerous hands, and this roundtable provides an opportunity for law enforcement, direct service providers, and system partners to focus on identifying best practices and addressing challenges to ensure firearms are removed. The Roundtable serves as a valuable space for collaboration, learning, and resource sharing, while also helping participants identify legislative gaps that need to be addressed.

Statewide Protection Order Portal

In 2023, the Alliance was awarded a grant from the Office of Firearm Safety and Violence Prevention to build out a Statewide Protection Order Portal for the State of Washington. After conducting a gap analysis to understand what resources and information are lacking for those involved in the protection order process to better support the protection order process, the Alliance spent past year building out the website. Its design and content is reflective of the gaps identified over the past two years. This website will be launched in 2025, and will provide essential information for anyone involved in the protection order process.



Protection Order Landscape Analysis

Through grants distributed through Johns Hopkins University, the Alliance secured funding to complete a statewide analysis of how firearms are relinquished as part of the protection order process. This analysis involves reviewing court records for specific information related to essential components of firearm surrender such as timely service and documented compliance. Once the records have been analyzed, they will be turned into reports which will highlight where and how firearm relinquishment is occurring. With this information, the Alliance will be able to more strategically devote resources and provide technical assistance to help ensure that these life-saving interventions are effectively implemented.

Permit to Purchase Virtual Summit

In September of 2024, the Alliance for Gun Responsibility and the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions co-hosted a virtual information session for Permit to Purchase, designed for legislators to better understand the policy's life-saving benefits, and address any questions that legislators had as they looked toward the 2025 session. This meeting gathered both state and national experts, including Delaware Attorney General Kathy Jennings and researchers from Johns Hopkins, who shared insights and research on how Permit-to-Purchase will help reduce gun violence.

Safety is a topic that pulls us out of our trenches and onto common ground. Volunteering for the Alliance is how I give voice to normalizing gun safety and protecting my children.



- Joanna Briesse

INTERN & FELLOW PROGRAM

Throughout my fellowship with the Alliance I have been exposed to the hard work and dedication it takes to pass comprehensive policy and hold our legislators accountable. This experience has given me invaluable skills and knowledge that I will take with me to work in communities around the world. As AGR conducts a variety of activities related to gun violence prevention I have spent time canvassing, researching policy implementation, and advocating for bills at the state Capitol.

I am very grateful to the Alliance for helping build my skills in community advocacy and allowing me to work with such thoughtful and kind people.



- Jessica Warner

The Alliance for Gun Responsibility has shown me how, when communities come together, grief can turn into transformative action. Working with dedicated volunteers, community members, and the amazing staff at the Alliance, I have learned valuable lessons in community engagement along with public policy. The time spent helping youth lobby on the Capitol, supporting mothers in bill hearing rooms, and with the community at local events have all left impactful impressions onto the way I view the path towards genuine political change.

For all of these experiences and the lessons it has taught me, I am incredibly grateful to the Alliance for Gun Responsibility.



- Jacob Caddali



INTERNS & FELLOWS IN ACTION



PUBLIC EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In 2024, the Alliance for Gun Responsibility expanded its public education and community outreach efforts across Washington. Through meaningful partnerships and on-the-ground engagement, we brought life-saving resources and firearm safety information directly to communities.

We partnered with UNIDOS to host an educational forum focused on reimagining police culture by building community trust and saving lives. In Spokane, we sponsored the End the Violence Conference, which equipped domestic violence advocates, law enforcement, and prosecutors with strategies to prevent and interrupt domestic violence. We also supported the NAMI Washington State Conference in Yakima to highlight the connection between mental health and gun violence prevention.

Our field team participated in more than 20 community education events throughout central and southern Washington. At each stop, we shared information about safe firearm storage, Extreme Risk Protection Orders, and how individuals can advocate for stronger gun laws. We also educated voters on our endorsed candidates and encouraged civic engagement.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Total Volunteer Actions: **431**

GVP Volunteer Events: **84**

Total Community Partner Gun Lock Boxes Distributed: **5,400**

Together We End Gun Violence Conference Attendees: **300**



In partnership with Seattle Children's Hospital, King County Public Health, the Yakima Health District, and the Office of Firearm Safety and Violence Prevention, we distributed more than 5,400 free firearm safes across the state. Giveaways were held in communities including Yakima, White Swan, Tacoma, Skyway, White Center, and Rainier Beach. Our chapter teams—Safe and Sane Skagit and Thurston Gun Sense—contributed to this effort by distributing safes through King County's Lock It Up program and sharing educational materials at public events such as the Skagit Tulip Festival and Tenino Oregon Trail Days.

In June, we co-hosted the Together We End Gun Violence Conference at Lumen Field in Seattle. This two-day convening brought together more than 300 attendees and 48 speakers from across Washington, including public health experts, elected officials, survivors, researchers, law enforcement, and community leaders. Co-hosted with the Seattle Seahawks, King County, the City of Tacoma, Community Passageways, and other partners, the conference focused on solutions to end the gun violence crisis and highlighted the power of cross-sector collaboration.

These public education and engagement efforts are vital to our mission. By building trust, deepening understanding, and equipping people with the tools they need, we are helping communities throughout Washington create safer futures.

I was too used to being frozen-paralyzed by violent news articles and the inevitable that a shooting drill becomes an active shooter threat in AP Lit. The Agency in sharing my hope and story is why I'll continue to champion legislation with The Alliance on behalf of youth across WA. I am and we are refusing to silently stand still.



- Mahiki Malldi

VICTORY FUND

The Victory Fund seeks to build power through the identification and support of gun violence prevention champions. On gun violence prevention, leadership matters. We use our process to educate new candidates and incumbents on our work and priorities as well as the value of running on gun violence prevention in their elections. We use our endorsements and financial support to help our preferred candidates win.

2024 was a year of major electoral changes with a cascade of open stateside offices, competitive legislative contests and local offices up for election that touch our work very closely. Of course there was also the presidential election and congressional races which the Alliance weighed in on too.

In total we endorsed 105 candidates for office including critical legislative contests and three races where GVP champions were elected to higher office including:

- **AG Bob Ferguson elected Governor**
- **Alliance legal counsel, Nick Brown, elected Attorney General**
- **Legislative champion Senator Patty Kuderer elected State Insurance Commissioner**

Many candidates ran on their gun violence prevention bona fides and history as champions of our cause. We also helped flip two seats in swing districts that have further strengthened our gun violence prevention majorities in the state house and senate. Many new candidates also emerged in open-seats across the state, all of whom sought our endorsement and support.

At the local level we played a major role in helping to elect a gun violence prevention ally on the Pierce County Council to the position of Pierce County Executive and fought tirelessly to secure an ally in the Pierce County Sheriff's Office, but fell just short of victory. We also helped bring a new ally into office on the Seattle city council.

We gave over \$65,000 in hard-dollar contributions to candidate committees and participated in IE work with a table of allies in Pierce County including a robust field program with our organizing and fellows team, texting and mail. We also used our field team and worked with new allies in legislative races in Yakima and Island County. Every year we also look for opportunities to support other state organizations in growing their power and influence politically.

In 2024 we trained dozens of state leaders from across the country on the operating principles of our PAC work and made available all of the materials we use to manage and organize our political programming.

Ultimately, doing PAC or electoral work is about building POWER to be able to more effectively and efficiently achieve our policy and programmatic goals. We trained on the rules we follow to build power in a way that is ethical, equitable, and aligned with our moral purpose- to save as many lives from preventable gun violence as fast as possible. Many states, including all of our state partners in Oregon, Michigan and Maine ran their first-ever political programs aimed at educating candidates and growing their movements in 2024.



GET OUT THE VOTE/ELECTION UPDATE

(JUNE 20-NOV 5)

Voters Contacted: **120,838**

Voters contacted via postcard: **2,900**

Voters Texted: **98,569**

Voters Door-Canvassed: **2,396**

Voters Called: **19,873**



Governor Bob Ferguson

LEGAL

The Alliance for Gun Responsibility had another successful and productive year defending gun violence prevention laws against legal challenges. The Alliance remains undefeated in these lawsuits.

The Alliance's legal team continued to defend Washington's and Oregon's restrictions on large-capacity magazines (LCMs). Joined by the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence, the Alliance filed an amicus brief in the Washington Supreme Court explaining that the LCM restrictions comply with Washington's constitution and are essential for public safety (*State of Washington v. Gator's Custom Guns*). A decision by the Washington Supreme Court is expected later this year. In addition, both the Alliance and the Alliance for a Safe Oregon ("Oregon Alliance") submitted an amicus brief in the Oregon Court of Appeals defending Oregon Measure 114 (*Arnold v. Koteck*), a ballot initiative adopted by the voters in 2023 to both restrict LCMs and require a permit to purchase any firearm. In March 2025, the Oregon Court of Appeals held that Measure 114 was constitutional under the state constitution's right to bear arms, reversing the trial court's injunction.

In federal courts, most of the cases in which the Alliance has intervened to defend laws restricting LCMs and assault weapons were

stayed for over a year pending a decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in *Duncan v. Bonta*, an important case challenging California's ban on large-capacity magazines ("LCMs"), which are almost always chosen by mass shooters. On March 20, 2025, the Ninth Circuit upheld the law, concluding that the LCM restrictions are constitutional under the Second Amendment. The ruling is a significant win for the gun violence prevention movement, particularly for the 13 other states that restrict LCMs, including Washington and Oregon. With *Duncan* now decided, the four cases in which the Alliance and the Oregon Alliance are defending LCM restrictions will move forward.

The Alliance also joined with several national gun safety partners in submitting an amicus brief to the Washington Supreme Court in *Arends v. State of Washington*, a case challenging a Washington law that restricts firearm access for individuals with a history of violent behavior, including domestic abuse. The Alliance's brief detailed the evidence-based research and policy considerations that guided the adoption of this life-saving law. A decision in *Arends* is expected this year.



**Renee Hopkins And Pacifica Legal Team
Members At The Alliance's 2024 Luncheon**

The Alliance continues to work closely with its partners in the domestic/intimate partner violence prevention, law enforcement, and gun violence prevention communities to ensure our laws keep firearms out of the hands of those most at risk of using them to injure themselves and others.

In addition to defending commonsense gun safety laws in court, the Alliance also advocated for the passage of new laws to improve public safety and advance responsible gun ownership. In addition to its advocacy work, the Alliance's legal team provided advice and analysis on HB 1163, which if enacted will require a permit to purchase any firearm in Washington.

The Alliance and the Oregon Alliance are represented by the attorneys at Pacifica Law Group in Seattle in all of the matters mentioned above.



STAFF STORIES

As someone who has the honor of returning to this organization and now serving on our Development team, I often say that I don't just work in fundraising—I work in power building. Because at the Alliance, every dollar, every volunteer hour, every conversation, and every act of courage is part of something bigger than a campaign or a bill. It's part of a transformational movement that is shifting what's possible in Washington State and beyond.

Together, we've helped make Washington a national leader in gun responsibility. In 2023, we passed a ban on high-capacity magazines, making us the 10th state to do so. And this year,, we joined other states in passing a Permit-to-Purchase law—strengthening our communities by ensuring that those who own firearms are doing so responsibly and with accountability.

But this work is not only about policy—it's about people. It's about refusing to accept that the leading cause of death for American youth is gun violence. It's about saying that we will not accept federal inaction to protect our communities—we will act, and we will lead.

We are proud to do this work in partnership with a bold, growing community of supporters who understand that change doesn't happen

by accident. It happens because people—people like you—choose to fight forward.

This year's luncheon reminds us that we are not only advocates, organizers, and donors—we are artists, storytellers, and builders of a future where safety is a reality for all. You are more than a supporter—you are a change maker. You are a lifesaver. And we are endlessly grateful for your partnership. I look forward to the year ahead where my goal is to reach out and connect with you and learn your why in the work we do together.

As we reflect on the milestones of this past year, we do so with gratitude and a renewed commitment to the fight ahead. Because the Alliance for Gun Responsibility doesn't back down from challenges— we beat them.

Thank you for standing with us—and for continuing to fight forward.



- Tremayne Edwards
Development Director

STAFF STORIES

In 2024, Ryan accepted the Chief of Staff role at the Alliance for Gun Responsibility. The Chief of Staff role is a first for AGR and a huge milestone in our growth. Ryan started at AGR in October of 2023 as the Community Engagement Director assisting in leading the Alliance's efforts in deepening engagement and coalition building in Yakima County, Pierce County, Spokane, and South Seattle. Before the Alliance, Ryan received his Master's in Social Work at the University of Washington and focused his concentration on crisis intervention with families and children.

In his professional career, Ryan worked directly with children experiencing violence through Seattle Children's Hospital and their Child Protection Program, representing the hospital on King County's Child Death Review Board and the SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) program. After serving as a forensic social worker at SCH, Ryan transitioned into leading an innovative homelessness intervention program at Mary's Place, working to interrupt and prevent unsheltered homelessness among King County's families.

Through that program Ryan worked to advocate for creation of the Regional Homelessness Authority in King County and served on the advisory board for the South King County Housing and Homelessness Partners.

With his experience in strengthening coalitions and building out successful program development, Ryan hopes to secure and grow AGR's reputation as an innovative leader in state focused gun violence prevention.



- Ryan Disch-Guzman
Chief of Staff



I want to express my sincere gratitude to the Alliance for Gun Responsibility for answering my call for support in May 2024, as I prepared to honor the one-year anniversary of my son, Prince Darrell “DJ” Carroll, who was tragically taken by gun violence on June 16, 2023.

Now, nearly a year later, I stand not only as a grieving mother, but as an advocate for change and self-published author. Together with the Alliance for Gun Responsibility, we are building coordinated efforts throughout Washington to speak out, support survivors, and prevent further loss. Thank you for standing with me, with DJ, and with every family touched by this crisis.



- Zhalena Mathis

Turn The Page To Learn About The Alliance For Gun Responsibility's Hallmark Victories



2014

- I-594 passes with nearly 60% of votes statewide.

The Alliance founds a state-based PAC to endorse and help elect gun safety advocates.

2013

- The Alliance for Gun Responsibility is founded in the wake of the Sandy Hook tragedy, bringing together advocates concerned with public safety.



2024

- The Alliance helps pass seven firearm and public safety bills that strengthen background checks, restrict firearms in sensitive places, protect victims, and more.

2023

- The Alliance helps pass eight gun responsibility and public safety bills. The most significant bill passed bans the sale of semi-automatic assault weapons.

2015

- With the vital help of the Alliance, the City of Seattle imposes on tax on gun and ammunition sales to fund gun violence research.

2016

- I-1491 passes with over 70% of the votes statewide.



2021

- The WA Legislature passes 10 significant public safety bills, one of which restricts open carry in public demonstrations and at the state capitol to deter armed intimidation.

2022

- Six gun responsibility bills were passed by the State Legislature, including limiting the sale of high-capacity magazines - a victory 6 years in the making.

2017

- The WA State Legislature passes three gun violence prevention bills to strengthen protections around background checks.

2018

- The Alliance helps elect 67 candidates at every level of Washington State Government.

2020

- 85 gun responsibility candidates are elected, and the Alliance endorses its first presidential candidate.
The WA Legislature passes five firearm safety bills and invests over \$14 million into GVP programs.

2019

- Ten gun safety bills, the most of any legislative session since the Alliance was founded, are passed.

ALLIANCE
FOR GUN RESPONSIBILITY