The benefits experienced by communities of color in exchange for violent police intervention may be minimal at best. The use of police to address gun violence in communities of color has increased over the past two decades, but the reduction in gun violence has been minimal. Instead of an over-reliance on law enforcement as the solution to gun violence, we need long-term and sustainable resources to address the root causes of violence in these communities, which are often more complex than simply increasing police presence.

For example, when the victim is Black or Latinx, the arrest rate for gun assaults is 18% and the charge rate is 4%. For a white victim, the arrest rate is 21% and the charge rate is 6%. These differences are statistically significant, indicating that the police are more likely to take action against individuals of color and are more likely to arrest them.

In some cities, per capita police spending ranges from $318 to as high as $772, while successful programs like these continuously fight to sustain their funding. Yet, cities, states, and local governments continue to invest billions of dollars in policing given region, and better collaboration with other community-based organizations may result in higher and consistent salaries for community intervenors, more staff dedicated to a violence prevention program, and thus provide resources to both groups to prevent future violence.

There are many successful organizations led by people of color, organizations focusing on crime and community vitality results in the benefits experienced by communities of color in exchange for violent police intervention may be minimal at best.