



Education to Action: It's About Saving Lives

Education to Action “Ed2Ac” is a workshop and toolkit offered at no cost to participants by the Educational Fund to Stop Gun Violence. Hosted by community leaders and advocates, Ed2Ac is designed for people whose families and communities are impacted by gun violence and want to take action but may not yet have the tools to advocate for change to prevent gun violence at the local, state, and federal levels. These tools are not limited to gun violence prevention; they can be applied in any area where an individual wants to advocate for change.

Ed2Ac invites participants to join the movement in learning about and advocating for responsible and effective gun policy. We believe that it is a moral imperative to reduce death and injury from gunfire and endorse comprehensive and evidence-based policy measures to prevent gun violence. Through Ed2Ac’s three-step process, *Educate, Engage, Act*, anyone can help make this change happen.

Teaching Three Powerful Steps



1: EDUCATE Learn about effective gun violence prevention strategies and policy approaches, as well as government structures and processes.

2: ENGAGE Connect with lawmakers, advocacy communities, and the media. Collaborate for change and for gun violence prevention.

3: ACT Take action with your community and legislators through effective advocacy. Use the power of people to create change in your community.

Reaching And Empowering Impacted Communities

In 2016, 11 *Ed2Ac* workshops reached over 120 people in 8 cities. Participants are primarily African American and range in age from teens to 85+. Held at churches, community centers, and even stadiums, participants rate their workshop experiences highly and value the straightforward information and practical tools the workshop provides to empower participants. In describing what was most valuable about their workshop, one participant wrote, *“I didn’t know I had so much control.”*

Participants left the workshops with concrete plans for action, including to: stay engaged, contact legislators, attend rallies, and share what they learned with other members of their communities.

Growing Into The Future

Ed2Ac workshops are currently available across Virginia, with growth to other states underway in 2017. Eventually, we hope to share this innovative curriculum nationwide.

