



Colorado Faith Communities  
**United to End Gun Violence**

*Special Edition: Spring at CFCU*

***Celebrating our 10th Anniversary***

***Top 10 ways to Engage with CFCU to prepare for our 10th Anniversary!***

As you may recall, CFCU is highlighting our approaching **10th anniversary** with monthly special editions of The Digest to highlight specific actions you and your faith community can take to **increase the impact of**

**faith-based gun violence prevention work.**      [\(Click here to see last month's article.\)](#)

This month the **Top 10 Ways to Engage with CFCU!** activities focus on strengthening our organizational structure. CFCU will be most effective when each of our 58 member faith communities has an active Gun Violence Prevention team within their community as well as individuals who serve on one of CFCU's Action Teams.

***#8 Top Way to Engage with CFCU:***

***Activate your Congregation's Gun Violence Prevention Team!***

CFCU Gun Violence Prevention teams ideally consist of, at a minimum, the following members who meet regularly to discuss and direct focused congregational education and action to prevent gun violence:

- A representative who interfaces with CFCU

- A Rapid Response Network representative, who receives and share the legislative action alerts during the CO General Assembly's Session each year.
- At least one person who serves on a CFCU Action Team
- Supportive clergy from your congregation

While some communities have well-established GVP Teams, others may be just beginning to build one. Whatever your place in this process, CFCU wants to support your work so, as we enter our second decade, we are creating an infrastructure and developing programs to help guide you in creating and activating your GVP team.

To help inform this work, please take a minute to bring us up-to-speed on

what's happening in your congregation. Please [complete this GVP Team Survey](#) - we promise it won't take much time, yet the information we glean will be very valuable!

### #7 Top Way to Engage with CFCU:

***Invite members of your congregation to join one of CFCU's Five Action Teams! Or join yourself!***

The organizational structure of CFCU includes a Steering Committee which provides leadership and guidance for five **Action Teams** that carry out much of the work of our organization.

Volunteers are always encouraged to join one of the Action Teams described below. Please reach out to the Chairperson listed for more information or to offer your services. *This is an especially great way for "Friends of CFCU" to become more involved!*

**Public Health Strategies** - Alana Smart [alanaks@aol.com](mailto:alanaks@aol.com)

Promotes and develops strategies to address the gun violence epidemic.

**Advocacy** - Stephanie Greenberg [researchswgreenberg@gmail.com](mailto:researchswgreenberg@gmail.com)

Advocates for legislative action, promoting public policies that prevent gun violence.

**Communications** - Daryl Foelske [dfoelske@gmail.com](mailto:dfoelske@gmail.com)

Supports the CFCU Digest and other internal and external communication with members and the larger community.

**Fundraising** - Rita Niblack [raniblack@icloud.com](mailto:raniblack@icloud.com)

Initiates actions to raise funds to support the work of CFCU to end gun violence

**Outreach/Membership** - Cheryl Fleetwood [cherylrfleetwood@gmail.com](mailto:cherylrfleetwood@gmail.com) Invites new congregations and Friends to join CFCU and supports the involvement of all member congregations

CFCU Organizational Diagram



# TURN YOUR GUN INTO A GARDEN TOOL!



*As a thank you for your choice to surrender your firearm, you'll receive:*

**\$50\*** FOR YOUR  
LONG GUN/  
SHOTGUN

**\$150\*** FOR YOUR  
HANDGUN OR  
SEMI-AUTOMATIC

**\$250\*** FOR YOUR  
ASSAULT/  
TACTICAL GUN

*\*In the form of grocery store gift cards, while supplies last*



**SATURDAY  
APRIL 13, 2024**

**DRIVE  
THRU**

**AT MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

2200 S HARRISON STREET  
DENVER, CO 80210

**10AM  
TO  
12PM**

## HOW IT WORKS

- *No reservation needed; Just come to the parking lot to voluntarily surrender your unwanted firearm!*
- *Arrive with your UNLOADED firearms(s) in your trunk*
- *Remain in your vehicle*
- *Skilled personnel remove your gun(s)*
- *Volunteers destroy firearms in your presence*
- *Leftover scrap parts are transformed into garden tools, jewelry, or art*
- *You remain anonymous*
- *No ammunition accepted*
- *Homemade guns will be accepted and destroyed, but not compensated for*



Learn more at [www.gunstogardensdenver.org](http://www.gunstogardensdenver.org)

Help us spread the word about Guns to Gardens on April 13! Every gun

destroyed saves lives. You can print flyers to distribute using this link:

[Guns to Gardens April 13 Flyer](#)

## Safe Storage of Firearms...Another Way to Save Lives

In an article published on line on February 27, 2023, Ashbey Beasley, tells a story of tragedy, when a young child shot himself with an unsecured firearm. She advocates for safe storage of firearms in this article on **Armed with Reason's** website:

### [Safe Storage Saves Lives...but only if We Talk about It](#)

If you are interested in distributing gunlocks at your congregation, or need one yourself, please contact Rita Niblack (raniblack@icloud.com)

CFCU is a Project of the Colorado Nonprofit Development Center.

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