

# RESOURCES FOR PARENTS & CAREGIVERS

## GENERAL FIREARM SAFETY

How to navigate conversations with your child

- Tips for talking to your child about firearm safety (<https://bit.ly/talkingtoyourkidsaboutguns>)
- Guns in the home - Firearm Safety for Families (<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/at-home/Pages/Handguns-in-the-Home.aspx>)
- Videos to demonstrate how to model responsible behavior around guns (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4cT6bj5DEGk>)
- Videos for educators and others on how to talk to children about gun safety (<https://projectchildsafe.org/educators/>)

How to navigate firearm conversations with adults

- Sample scripts for emailing or talking to other adults to ask about the presence of guns in their home and their safe storage practices (<https://bit.ly/askingaboutsecuregunstorage>)
- ASK campaign provides additional guidance on asking family, friends, and members of your community about unlocked or loaded guns in the home to prevent family fire (<https://www.bradyunited.org/program/end-family-fire/asking-saves-kids>)

Firearm Restraining Order

- If you are concerned for the safety of a loved one who has access to or owns a firearm and may be a danger to themselves or others, contact the Circuit Court of Cook County at 312-603-4357 (or your local courthouse) to learn more about obtaining a firearm restraining order (extreme risk order of protection)
- For more on the Firearm Restraining order, visit the [Cook County Sheriff's website](http://www.cookcountysheriff.org/firearm-restraining-order/) (<http://www.cookcountysheriff.org/firearm-restraining-order/>)

Domestic violence

- The National Domestic Violence Hotline provides 24/7, free and confidential tools and support to help survivors of domestic violence. Call 1-800-799-SAFE (<https://www.thehotline.org/>)
- Illinois Department of Human Services Domestic Helpline 877-TO END DV (<https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=30275>)

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## GENERAL FIREARM SAFETY



### High risk for suicide

- The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals. Call 1-800-273-8255 (<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>)
- Facts and resources on identifying signs of concern related to child suicide with a firearm (<https://bit.ly/factsandresourceschildfirearmsuicide>)
- End Family Fire provides suicide prevention resources to reduce access to firearms when someone is in crisis. Delaying and reducing access to firearms can save a life for those in crisis (<https://endfamilyfire.org/#gunSuicides>)

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## SAFE STORAGE OPTIONS

### Mechanisms for Use in the Home Fact Sheets & Information



There are a variety of gun locking and storage mechanisms that can be obtained for use in the home

- Project Child Safe's fact sheet provides a list of safe storage options, include average costs of gun locks, lock boxes, cable locks, and storage lockers (<https://bit.ly/gunstorageforyourlifestyle>).
- Be SMART for Kids (<https://besmartforkids.org/>) provides steps for secure firearm storage, including how to unload, lock, and separate a firearm. It also and reviews the advantages and disadvantages of the different types of firearm locking devices (<https://bit.ly/securestoragefactsheet>)
- End Family Fire (<https://www.endfamilyfire.org/>): Step-by-step resource for gun safety in the home, including safe storage
- Parents can test their knowledge on safe gun storage by taking this Project ChildSafe quiz (<https://projectchildsafes.org/firearm-storage-safety-quiz/>).

*\*Locking devices can be purchased wherever guns and firearm accessories are sold.*

# RESOURCES FOR PARENTS & CAREGIVERS

## FIREARMS DISPOSAL

If a gun owner decides they no longer want to own their firearm, there are different options to safely part with their firearm.

1

Contact your local law enforcement agency or visit their website to find out if they have a gun buy back/take back program. Also check their events calendar to see if they host gun buy back events.

- The City of Naperville has a Firearm Take Back Program for residents. (<https://www.naperville.il.us/services/naperville-police-department/programs-and-services/firearm-take-back-program/>)
- The Chicago Police Department (CPD) regularly hosts firearm buy back programs. Visit CPD's Community Events Calendar for upcoming event dates. (<https://home.chicagopolice.org/community-policing-group/community-event-calendars/>)
  - Note: Gun buy back events are typically a "no questions asked," so guns can be turned in anonymously in exchange for monetary compensation.
  - Inquire with your local law enforcement agency about their gun take back program and the information they are required to collect from the surrenderer. Firearm buy back and take back programs may have different criteria and protocols.

2

The National Center for Unwanted Firearms safely disposes or repurposes unwanted firearms. Firearms may be donated or sold and the organization will send a shipping label and box to securely mail the firearm in.

(<https://www.unwantedfirearms.org/>)

3

Contact a licensed gun dealer to learn about options to sell or discard your firearm.

*\*Lurie Children's has not independently confirmed the details of or assessed these entities. Individuals are urged to contact them directly for the most up to date and accurate information.*

# RESOURCES FOR PARENTS & CAREGIVERS

## FIREARM STORAGE FACILITIES IN CHICAGOLAND

There are different venues which offer safe and legal options to store firearms outside of the home. Below, is a list of facilities in Chicagoland.

**MAXON SHOOTER'S SUPPLIES AND INDOOR RANGE**  
75 E. Bradrock Dr  
Des Plaines, IL 60018  
Cook County  
847-298-4867

### GUN STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

- User can store as many firearms as will fit in the locker
- All firearms MUST be unloaded, and in a case for transportation to and from the storage room
- User MUST have a valid FOID card

### RENTAL COSTS

- Handgun only locker (12" x 12" x 16" )
  - \$15/month
- Long gun locker (Upper: 12" x 8" x 16" + Lower: 6" x 52" x 16")
  - \$25/month

<https://www.maxonshooters.com/services/gun-storage>

**MIDWEST GUNS AND RANGE**  
8565 Plainfield Rd  
Lyons, IL 60534  
Cook County  
708-447-4848 x8

### RENTAL COSTS

- Monthly Storage Charge (16" x 11" x 11")
  - \$20/month
  - Must leave a credit card on file to be charged by the 5th of each month
- Annual Storage Charge (16" x 11" x 11")
  - \$180/year (\$15/month)
  - Must be paid up front for yearly discount

<https://www.midwestguns.com/firearm-locker-rental/>

**SHORE GALLERIES**  
3318 W Devon Ave  
Lincolnwood, IL  
60712  
Cook County  
847-676-2900

### RENTAL COSTS

- Call for pricing

<https://www.shoregalleries.com/services>

## OTHER POSSIBLE FIREARM STORAGE FACILITIES

- **Campus Police:** If you are a college/university student, contact campus police to see if they will store your firearm
- **Bank Safe Deposit Boxes:** Contact your bank to see if they allow the storage of unloaded or dismantled firearms in safety boxes they rent out at their facility

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# WAYS TO ADVOCATE FOR STRONGER FIREARM SAFETY LAWS

Illinois can continue to strengthen its firearm response by enacting policies that limit illegal guns in our communities, strengthen existing child access prevention laws, promote gun violence prevention research, and fund programs that are proven to reduce violence in the state's most impacted communities.



## STRATEGIES TO STRENGTHEN FIREARM LAWS

- Enhance Illinois' CHILD ACCESS PREVENTION LAWS to promote safe storage of firearms when children are present
- Require FIREARM REGISTRATION
- Require SAFE STORAGE for all types of firearms
- BAN ASSAULT WEAPONS and high-capacity magazines
- RESTRICT PURCHASE of multiple firearms
- GIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT DISCRETION to deny concealed carry permits
- Allow LOCAL REGULATION OF FIREARMS
- Promote and fund state-level GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION RESEARCH

## RESOURCES TO LEARN ABOUT ADVOCATING FOR GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION

- The Illinois Gun Violence Prevention Coalition (<https://www.ichv.org/ilgvp-coalition/>) provides regular advocacy updates on pending legislation and other efforts to prevent gun violence in Illinois. Follow ILGVP on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ilgvpcoalition/>).
- The Illinois General Assembly (<https://ilga.gov/>) website has a bill and keyword search function for pending legislation as well as information on committee hearings and how to contact your legislator (search by name under Senate (<https://ilga.gov/senate/>) and House (<https://ilga.gov/house/>) links). Find your elected officials at the Illinois State Board of Elections website (<https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/DistrictLocator/AddressFinder.aspx>).
- Strengthening Chicago's Youth provides legislative updates on pending legislation, including information on how to support gun violence prevention legislation (<https://bit.ly/scynewsletterandpolicyupdate>).
- Doctors For America has resources and trainings for doctors to learn more about patient advocacy, including gun violence prevention advocacy at the federal and state level (<https://www.dr sforamerica.org/about-us/>)

# WAYS TO ADVOCATE FOR STRONGER FIREARM SAFETY LAWS

## Weak Firearm Laws in Neighboring States Drive Firearm Violence and Injury in Illinois

Giffords Gun Law Scorecard



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### PRIORITY EVIDENCE-BASED POLICY OPPORTUNITIES IN THE ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY



	Child Access Prevention (CAP) & Incentivizing Safe Storage	Firearm Safety Screening & Education
DESCRIPTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Require safe storage measures to restrict access to guns by children</li> <li>Address penalties for negligently storing a firearm unlocked and accessible to a child</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote pediatrician screening for firearms in the home</li> <li>Make gun locks and other firearm safety tools and information more accessible</li> </ul>
IMPORTANCE & RELATED RESEARCH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People who safely store their firearms are less likely to die by firearm suicide</li> <li>States with CAP laws may help increase compliance with safe storage behaviors and have been shown to have reduced rates of gun suicides</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Screening and education related to firearm safety for children is an important injury prevention strategy similar to promoting child product safety (e.g. car seats, bike helmets) and safety on playgrounds and in pools</li> </ul>
RECOMMENDED ACTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Child Access Prevention law in Illinois needs to be strengthened to incentivize gun owners to securely store firearms locked and unloaded regardless of whether a child accesses and uses a gun</li> <li>Call, write or visit with your state representative and ask them to support passage of stronger child access prevention laws</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase public awareness of firearm safety effectiveness</li> <li>Improve policies to address the disproportionate impact of gun violence on children and youth of color</li> <li>Call, write or visit with your state representative and ask them to support passage</li> </ul>

# CITATIONS

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<https://giffords.org/wpcontent/uploads/2020/01/Giffords-Law-Center-State-of-Gun-Violence-in-Illinois-2020.pdf>
- [2] Philip J. Cook et al., "Some Sources of Crime Guns in Chicago: Dirty Dealers, Straw Purchasers, and Traffickers," *J. Crim. L. & Criminology* 104 (2015): 717–759.
- [3] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. WONDER Online Database, Underlying Cause of Death. Ages 0-19, 2015-2019; and Everytown for Gun Safety, <https://everystat.org/#illinois>
- [4] Edmond D. Shenassa, Michelle L. Rogers, Kirsten L. Spalding, and Mary B. Roberts, "Safer Storage of Firearms at Home and Risk of Suicide: a Study of Protective Factors in a Nationally Representative Sample," *Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health* 58, no. 10 (2004): 841–848.
- [5] Michael D. Anestis and Joye C. Anestis, "Suicide Rates and State Laws Regulating Access and Exposure to Handguns," *American Journal of Public Health* 105, no. 10 (2015): 2049–2058.
- [6] Effectiveness of gun-safety counseling and a gun lock giveaway in a Hispanic Community. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/16275796/#:~:text=Among%20the%20families%20who%20received,safety%20practice%20in%20some%20way.&text=More%20specifically%2C%2025.0%25%20in%20the,003>; and Grossman, David C. Gun Storage Practices and Risk of Youth Suicide and Unintentional Firearm Injuries, *Journal of American Medical Association*, February 9, 2005, Vol 293, No. 6.
- [7] Davis MM, Heffernan ME, Smith TL, Bendelow A, Bhatti PK, Menker C, Helmcamp L, Attridge M, Sheehan KM. Firearm safety in Chicago families, *Voices of Child Health in Chicago Report*. Vol 3, Number 6. July 2021. Available at [luriechildrens.org/voices](http://luriechildrens.org/voices).