Real Change!

the children of God."
Matthew 5:9

# PEACE 4 GUN VIOLENCE

SAVING LIVES • RESTORING HOPE

BUILDING A SAFER TOMORROW

## My Mission Is My Purpose!

I am committed to stopping the cycle of violence in our communities by empowering, mentoring, and supporting our youth through education, faith, and real opportunities.

Together We Can Make A Difference!

## He's the WHY in my Cry

I lost my son to gun violence in 2014. My son had a zeal for children and always made sure the kids were included. His heart was full of love, laughter, and giving. Although he's no longer here, I'm turning my pain into purpose by continuing his legacy through Peace 4 Gun Violence.

I am committed to helping children and families in need by providing meals, gifts, clothing, and support.

## WHY THIS ORGANIZATION IS IMPORTANT TO ME

Our children are our future, and they need love, structure, and positive role models. Too many are being pulled into a life of crime, drugs, and violence. Peace 4 Gun Violence is about breaking that cycle and giving our youth hope, purpose, and a chance to thrive. We provide the tools, resources, and support they need to make better choices and build brighter futures.

Real Change Starts with our Children!

- MEAL SUPPORT
- CLOTHING ASSISTANCE
- GIFTS & SUPPLIES
- YOUTH MENTORSHIP
- COMMUNITY OUTREACH
- PRAYER & SUPPORT

## LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO STOP GUN VIOLENCE!

ROOTED IN SCRIPTURE

# Our Biblical Foundation

PEACE 4 GUN VIOLENCE | FAITH • PREVENTION • HEALING

## OUR CALLING

Peace 4 Gun Violence is a faith-rooted nonprofit guided by God's call to pursue peace, protect life, serve neighbors, and care for those who grieve. We put faith into action through practical prevention, mentorship, prayer, advocacy, and compassionate service.

## MATTHEW 5:9 — PEACEMAKERS

Jesus blesses those who make peace. We are committed to actively building peace in homes, schools, streets, and neighborhoods.

## PROVERBS 24:11 — PROTECTING LIFE

Scripture calls us to rescue those facing harm. We take this seriously by working to prevent violence and helping young people choose life-giving paths.

## PSALM 34:18 — HEALING FOR THE GRIEVING

The Lord is near to the brokenhearted. Our work includes walking alongside families affected by gun violence with compassion, prayer, and support.

## MICAH 6:8 — JUSTICE, MERCY, HUMILITY

We seek to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God in how we serve every person and community.

WHAT WE BELIEVE AND WHAT WE DO

# Our Faith-Led Mission

PEACE 4 GUN VIOLENCE | FAITH • PREVENTION • HEALING

## OFFICIAL MISSION STATEMENT

Peace 4 Gun Violence exists to honor God by protecting lives, preventing gun violence, uplifting young people, and offering hope and healing to families affected by loss. Through biblical principles, mentorship, education, community outreach, conflict resolution, advocacy, prayer, and compassionate service, we strive to turn pain into purpose and create safer communities.

## OUR VISION

We envision communities where peace is practiced, children are cherished, families are supported, and young people discover their God-given worth and purpose.

## OUR PURPOSE

To transform a mother's grief into a ministry of service and an enduring movement for peace—one young person, one family, and one neighborhood at a time.

## OUR COMMITMENT TO ALL

Our Christian faith guides our mission. We welcome and serve people of every background, whether or not they share our beliefs.

## JOHN 13:34–35

We seek to be known by our love—showing up through consistent action, mercy, and care.

WHAT WE ARE CALLED TO DO

# Our Mission

**Peace 4 Gun Violence is dedicated to preventing gun violence, protecting young lives, restoring hope to grieving families, and strengthening communities through education, mentorship, advocacy, outreach, and meaningful partnerships.**

Born from the heartbreak of losing a son to gun violence, our organization turns personal pain into purposeful action. We reach young people before the streets do, provide alternatives to drugs, gangs, and destructive choices, and help youth develop the life skills, support systems, and confidence to build a better future.

**Every child deserves a future. Every family deserves peace. Every community deserves to live without fear.**

THE FUTURE WE ARE BUILDING

# Vision & Purpose

## OUR VISION

We envision safer, stronger, and more united communities where children are surrounded by opportunity rather than violence; where families find healing and support; and where every young person is empowered to pursue purpose, education, leadership, and a meaningful future.

## OUR PURPOSE

To transform the pain caused by gun violence into lasting community action. We stand alongside survivors and grieving families, connect youth with mentors and resources, encourage conflict resolution, and unite neighbors, schools, churches, and local partners to save lives.

**Turning pain into purpose, grief into action, and hope into change.**

THE PRINCIPLES BEHIND OUR WORK

# Our Core Values

### PREVENTION

Reach youth early with positive choices and a clear path away from violence.

### MENTORSHIP

Build lasting relationships with role models who inspire and guide.

### EDUCATION

Teach life skills, conflict resolution, leadership, and accountability.

### HEALING

Offer compassion, connection, and practical support to families affected by loss.

### ADVOCACY

Lift the voices of victims, survivors, youth, and underserved communities.

### UNITY

Bring families, faith communities, schools, and neighbors together.

OUR FOUNDER'S STORY

# A Mother's Why

## "HE IS MY WHY FOR MY CRY."

The loss of my son to gun violence in 2014 changed my life forever. His life mattered. His dreams mattered. And his legacy continues to inspire my commitment to the children and families in our community.

I founded this work out of a mother's love and an unshakable desire to make a difference. I do not want another family to feel the pain of burying a child. I want our young people to know that their lives have value, that the streets do not define their future, and that they can choose a path filled with hope, opportunity, and purpose.

Through Peace 4 Gun Violence, I carry my son's memory forward by mentoring youth, supporting families, and bringing people together to help stop the cycle of violence. I cannot change what happened to my family, but I can work to change what happens next for another family.

**TARA M. PARKS**

Founder / President, Peace 4 Gun Violence

OUR COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

# How We Create Change

### YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Mentorship, positive role models, life skills, and leadership opportunities.

### VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Community awareness, prevention education, and conflict-resolution conversations.

### FAMILY SUPPORT

Encouragement and practical resources for grieving and underserved families.

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Neighborhood engagement, partnerships, prayer, and service initiatives.

### ESSENTIAL ASSISTANCE

Connections to food, clothing, school supplies, and other available support.

**EDUCATE | EMPOWER | MENTOR | PROTECT | SAVE LIVES**

FAITH IN ACTION

# A Prayer for Our Communities

PEACE 4 GUN VIOLENCE | FAITH • PREVENTION • HEALING

## A FOUNDER'S PRAYER

Heavenly Father, bring comfort to every family grieving a loved one. Protect our children, guide their decisions, and surround them with mentors who see their potential. Heal wounded hearts, interrupt cycles of violence, and give our communities courage to choose reconciliation over retaliation.

## FOR OUR WORK

Give Peace 4 Gun Violence wisdom, integrity, compassion, and resources to serve. Let every outreach effort, every conversation, and every act of kindness reflect Your love. Help us be peacemakers not only in words, but in deeds. In Jesus' name, amen.

## SCRIPTURES TO CARRY WITH US

Romans 12:18 — Live peaceably with others as far as it depends on you. | Isaiah 1:17 — Seek justice and defend the vulnerable. | Galatians 6:9 — Do not grow weary in doing good.

## OUR DECLARATION

We will not allow grief to silence us. By faith, we will transform sorrow into service, remembrance into action, and hope into a safer tomorrow.

## FOUNDER'S GUIDING WORDS

HE IS MY WHY FOR MY CRY.