IPPNW’s “Aiming for Prevention” Program
A Health Approach to Preventing Armed Violence

International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW), a federation of medical organizations in 63 countries dedicated to preventing nuclear war and armed violence.

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4 Key Program Areas

1. **Action-oriented research** – on violent injury to help define risk factors, inform intervention strategies, and illuminate the human dimensions of armed violence.

2. **Education** – of colleagues, the public, policy makers, and the media about how we can prevent violence, especially armed violence, via policy forums, professional meetings, conferences, publishing, and the internet.

3. **Policy Advocacy** – to policy-makers at forums on disarmament including the United Nations and at regional and national meetings, and to health authorities and medical practitioners at the local level.

4. **Care and Rehabilitation** – for survivors of violence, improving health systems.

**Examples:**

- **Medical Alert for a Strong Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)**
  IPPNW’s *Medical Alert for a Strong ATT* presented to U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, underscored that seeking “practical, internationally agreed responses to the global drug and arms trade” is one of 9 priority recommendations of the WHO World Report on Violence and Health.

- **Hospital-based Intentional Injury Research – Liberia**
  IPPNW conducted violent injury research in Liberia hospitals to help inform the Liberian Armed Violence Observatory to improve reporting by hospitals on intentional injuries. IPPNW has conducted similar research in other countries.

- **Austria/Zambia Victim Assistance Project**
  South/North partnership involving over 30 medical students from IPPNW Austria and Zambia. Goal to improve care for survivors of violence by increasing awareness of available services and enhancing social service agency networking. Builds on existing health infrastructure. Promising results published in journal *Injury Prevention*.

- **Human Target: Germany**
  IPPNW’s international meeting on the health effects of the global arms trade - attended by over 300 health professionals and activists held in the heart of Germany’s small arms’ manufacturing region.

**One Bullet Stories** - Ongoing project to document the human consequences of gun violence.