

EMERGING LEADER FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY, 2023-2025

Centering the Voices of Firearm Survivors in Media



Host Organization:	Philadelphia Center for Gun Violence Reporting
Location:	Philadelphia, PA
Dates:	October 15, 2023 – October 14, 2025
Salary:	\$60,000 / year, plus benefits

Stoneleigh Emerging Leader Fellowship

The [Stoneleigh Emerging Leader Fellowship](#) is a two-year, full-time, hands-on position for early career professionals. Fellows work collaboratively with a host organization and the [Stoneleigh Foundation](#) to execute a project that advances the missions of these organizations and enhances Fellows' professional skills and leadership development. Fellows are also supported by a cohort of peer Emerging Leaders who participate in Foundation programming.

The Project: *Centering the Voices of Firearm Survivors in Media*

Nearly 11,000 people have survived gunshot injuries in Philadelphia since 2015. Yet research indicates that half of all shooting victims go completely unreported in the news. Even fewer have the opportunity to engage with journalists and speak for themselves. At the same time, journalists have frequently reported difficulty in finding survivors to interview.

To address the disconnect between firearm survivors and journalists, the Fellow will work with the [Philadelphia Center for Gun Violence Reporting](#) to identify, recruit, and support survivors of firearm violence, who will be made available to local journalists via a secure, digital directory. The directory will provide reporters with swift access to credible sources and enable them to incorporate survivors' ideas and stories in coverage of Philadelphia's gun violence crisis. Specifically, the Fellow will:

- **Design a participant recruitment and onboarding process**, including the development of an online participant registration process; a data-gathering plan; and a curriculum focused on media training, public health, and trauma.
- **Recruit survivors of firearm violence** to participate in The Philadelphia Gun Violence Survivor Connection, leveraging digital platforms, organizational partners, and extensive staff and survivor networks.
 - *Establish a review committee* to evaluate participant applications.
 - *Contact applicants* to verify their lived experience and explain project goals and processes.
 - *Update the participant directory* on a monthly basis and host monthly meetings to provide trauma-informed media training and communications skills development to survivors.
- **Invite local journalists to access The Philadelphia Gun Violence Survivor Connection** and hold quarterly meetings with reporters and survivors to foster learning and relationship-building.

Candidate Qualifications

Candidates should have significant knowledge and experience related to gun violence in Philadelphia, great personal integrity, a respected voice within their community, and a deep passion for this project. In addition, experience in project management, communications, and journalistic practices would be beneficial.

We strongly encourage a diverse pool of candidates to apply, including women, people of color, people who identify as LGBTQ, people with disabilities, and people who have lived experienced of firearm violence and/or system involvement. We invite candidates to include in their cover letters a statement about how their unique backgrounds and experiences might contribute to their perspectives on and execution of the Fellowship Project.

Application Process

Please submit the materials below to info@ibgvr.org by June 2, 2023. Please contact Center director Jim MacMillan via jim@ibgvr.org with any questions.

- A resume or CV
- Two written references preferred
- A cover letter articulating why you would like to participate in the Fellowship, how it will advance your professional goals, why this project interests you, and what prior experience and training you bring that prepares you to lead this Fellowship project

Candidates chosen for an interview will be contacted directly by the Philadelphia Center for Gun Violence Reporting. One final candidate will be recommended to and interviewed by the Stoneleigh Foundation in July 2023. In September 2023, Stoneleigh staff will present recommended candidates and projects to its Board of Directors for their final determination. The approved candidate will begin the Fellowship on **October 15, 2023**.

About the Philadelphia Center for Gun Violence Reporting

The [Philadelphia Center for Gun Violence Reporting](#) was launched to explore the hypothesis that changing the practice of news reporting can prevent gun violence. Since then, the Center's research has refined this focus by identifying harmful reporting practices, articulating best practices, and pursuing opportunities for implementation.