Violence and Trauma Among Black Men
Episode Guide

Focus: The impact of violence and trauma among young Black men

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Key Findings

- Services are not looking at the holistic contextual factors within the lives of young Black men who have experienced violence and trauma
  - Impact of structural violence
  - Impact of poverty
  - Impact of race
  - Support the needs of caregivers
- These men have undiagnosed/untreated trauma and do not have resources to help them cope
  - Self medication
  - Childhood trauma, adverse childhood experiences - one of the other more significant risk factors for violent injury
  - Social workers and other caregivers in their lives are also experiencing untreated and undiagnosed vicarious trauma
- Studies lead back to the criminal justice system
  - Previous incarceration is the number one risk factor for men being violently injured
  - Black men are disenfranchised due to the criminal justice system policies, which leads to
    - Exclusion from affordable housing
    - Exclusion from employment
    - Increased substance use
    - Violent injury
    - Trauma

Key Recommendations

- Caregivers need support
- There needs to be more teaching of the ways to do self-care in schools of social work
- Structural violence (criminal justice system and in our neighborhoods) needs to be discussed as a cause for other violence
- Awareness regarding the experiences of these men who are experiencing violent injuries as well as the people in their lives caring for and working with them
  - Integrate more of a family support component
- Reduce trauma recidivism
  - Using M-TREM (evidence based treatment) with the men who are coming in with violent injuries
  - Work with probation officers to make sure they are not violating parole and ensure that the individuals are involved in the intervention program
- Focus on credentialing, not job trainings
  - Find ways for young men to have sustainable careers
- Violence intervention programs need a research component that is continually informing the program

**Resources**


