

## FIREARMS INJURY PREVENTION

Millions of Americans own firearms. Research has shown that guns in homes are a serious risk to family safety. Handguns pose the most serious risks.

- A gun kept in the home is far more likely to kill someone known to the family than to kill in self-defense.
- A gun kept in the home dramatically increases the risk of homicide.
- A gun kept in the home dramatically increases the risk of suicide.

### Advice to Parents:

- The best way to keep your children safe from injury or death from guns is to NEVER have a gun in the home.
- Do not purchase a gun, especially a handgun.
- Talk to your children about the dangers of guns, and tell them to stay away from guns.
- Ask your children if any of their friends or acquaintances carry guns.
- Find out if there are guns in the homes where your children play or where they are cared for.
- Talk to adults in those homes about the dangers of guns to their families.

### If you know of the dangers of guns but still choose to keep a gun in your home:

- Always keep the gun unloaded and locked up.
- Store bullets in a separate locked location.
- Hide keys to locked storage areas.