



savir

Society for Advancement of
Violence and Injury Research

BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATE PROFILE

Silvia Villarreal, MPP

Candidate background

I am affiliated to the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions in Baltimore Maryland. I have a master's degree in public policy and 10 years of experience working on violence prevention.

My leadership experience is anchored in serving as the Director of Research Translation at the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions in Baltimore, Maryland, where I lead efforts to transform rigorous research into actionable, equity-informed policy strategies to prevent gun violence. I also serve as Managing Director of the Consortium for Risk-Based Firearm Policy, a national collaborative of experts developing innovative, risk-based approaches to firearm policy.



My leadership is defined by my ability to bridge disciplines and translate complex evidence into meaningful change. I have spearheaded several influential reports, including The Racial Equity Impact Assessment Framework for Gun Violence Prevention and Alcohol Misuse and Gun Violence: An Evidence-Based Approach for State Policy.

I hold a master's degree in public policy and a bachelor's degree in international relations from the Monterrey Institute of Technology in Mexico.

A defining element of my professional growth has been my commitment to service—advancing the field by empowering others, fostering collaboration, and ensuring that research drives impact for communities most affected by violence.

SAVIR experience

I was co-chair of the Antiracism Interest Group committee until it was imbedded as part of all committees.

Vision

Silvia Villarreal envisions SAVIR as a leading force in connecting rigorous research with real-world impact—an organization that not only advances the science of violence and injury prevention but also ensures that evidence meaningfully informs policy and practice. She believes the future of SAVIR lies in strengthening the bridge between researchers, practitioners, and policymakers, and in cultivating the next generation of leaders committed to equity and public health.

Silvia would bring to the board deep expertise in research translation and multi-sector collaboration. Her experience leading national experts at the Consortium for Risk-based Firearm Policy and developing evidence-based frameworks equips her to help SAVIR amplify its influence, expand its reach, and elevate the visibility of science in public discourse.

Guided by the belief that leadership is service, Silvia's goal is to contribute to a more connected and action-oriented SAVIR—one that empowers researchers to see their work implemented and shaping better and healthier communities.