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07/12/2013 11:11 PM

**Father Of Harlem Teen Shot Dead To Work With Mother Of Her Killer To Guide Community's At-Risk Kids**

By: Polly Kreisman



Families torn apart by gun violence on the city streets are coming together to heal and try to prevent others from feeling the same pain. NY1's Polly Kreisman filed the following report.

Taylorn Murphy is desperate to end the type of gun violence that took the life of his daughter, 18-year-old Tayshana Murphy, fondly known as "Chicken." The rising basketball star was gunned down on a Sunday in September of 2011 at the Grant Houses in Harlem.

"We are the ones that really has taken the brunt of the pain," Taylorn Murphy said.

He met Friday with Amita Brockington, the mother of his daughter's killer, Tyshawn Brockington, at a former hair salon in the neighborhood.

"I was always open, too, but I didn't know how to approach the situation," Amita Brockington said.

Murphy decided to sit down with Amita Brockington and Garnet Collins, mother of a man who was present at the shooting. Collins' son was charged in connection with the gun that was used in the shooting, but was acquitted.

They decided to work together to convince local organizations to provide services such as job training and recreational sports to kids in the community.

They realize their coming together is the last thing anyone would expect.

"This is probably the hardest thing that I've ever done in my life, but if people open up their hearts and minds, they will understand that we have to save our children that are still here," Taylorn Murphy said.

The parents will be working with the National Action Network and the West Harlem Development Corporation.

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