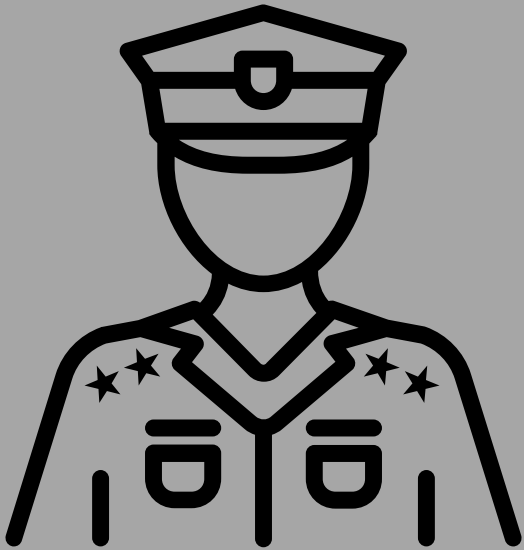


# DEFUNDING THE POLICE

*By Nicholas San Andres, Verena Guirguis, and  
Gabby Rodrigues*



## HOW MANY CITIES HAVE DEFUNDED POLICE?

"MORE THAN 20 MAJOR CITIES HAVE  
REDUCED THEIR POLICE BUDGETS IN SOME  
FORM, AN UNPRECEDENTED TREND,  
THOUGH THE SCALE AND CIRCUMSTANCES  
VARY DRAMATICALLY"

- SAM LEVIN

"THE SAFEST COMMUNITIES DON'T  
HAVE THE MOST COPS, THEY HAVE THE  
MOST RESOURCES"

- JILLIAN JOHNSON



"HOPEFULLY THROUGH DEFUNDING THE  
POLICE AND REINVESTING BACK INTO  
THE COMMUNITY THIS COULD BE THE  
BEGINNING OF THE REPAIRING THE  
CENTURIES-LONG SUFFERING THIS  
COUNTRY HAS CAUSED."

- KRISTEN LUNDY



**Crowing up as a woman of color in America I didn't feel safe to have police around all the time like some other people. I didn't feel like if I was wronged, that the police could actually help me. What got me interested in the topic of defunding the police was the BLM protests after the killing of George Floyd. It was an interesting topic to research but we barely skimmed the surface of it. There is much more to dive into but for now, this is what we chose to share!**

**Last summer I had the opportunity to partake in the Black Lives Matter movement. The phrase "defund the police" filled up the air and at the time I had no idea what it had meant, and even after a little bit of research I still remained confused. I am glad to say this research has both educated and shocked me in numerous ways. Hopefully, through these next few slides, we can enlighten you on the subject as well!**



**Crowing up on the line between a rich community and a very poor community it has exposed the priorities we as a country have. Budgeting money to fund mental health and low income communities is something to fight for. I've seen it effect my friends as well as my family. Defunding the police in areas they don't need as much police presence is the step in the right direction. Through these slides I hope you understand the problem at hand.**



# **HISTORY OF POLICING IN THE SOUTH**

**In Southern states of the US policing organizations started as the “Slave Patrol.” Slave patrols had three main goals:**

- to chase down, apprehend, and return to their owners, runaway slaves;**
- to provide a form of organized terror to deter slave revolts.**
- and to maintain a form of discipline for slave-workers who were subject to summary justice, outside of the law, if they violated any plantation rules.**

**Other issues the police evolved to deal with over time:**

- Enforcing public order laws against gambling and drunkenness**
- Surveilling immigrants and freed slaves**
- Harassing labor organizers**

**Following the Civil War, these vigilante-style groups emerged in modern Southern police forces largely as a way of policing freed slaves who were now farmers in an agricultural caste system**

**They implemented “Jim Crow” segregation laws, which denied freed slaves equal rights and access to the political system.**

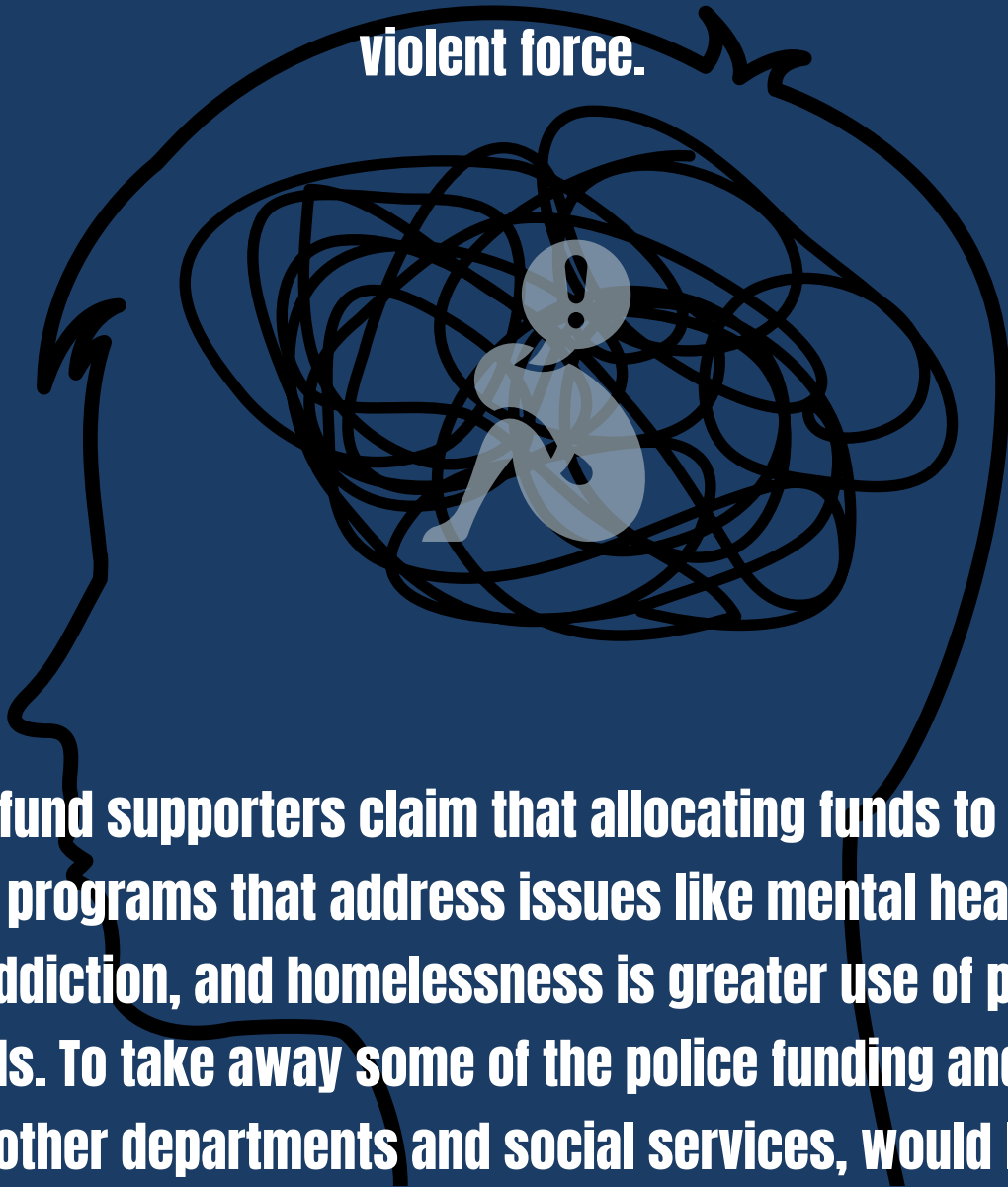
**Typically, black and minority communities remain impoverished and overpoliced. Even today the police are here to protect affluent members of society, while minority communities continue to struggle.**

***What Does  
"Defunding  
the Police"  
Really  
Mean?***



# ***Using Allocated Funds***

**According to statistics, 9 out of 10 service requests are for nonviolent encounters, but to eliminate potential threats, police officers are often trained in use-of-force techniques and worst-case scenarios, which leads to the escalation of violent force.**

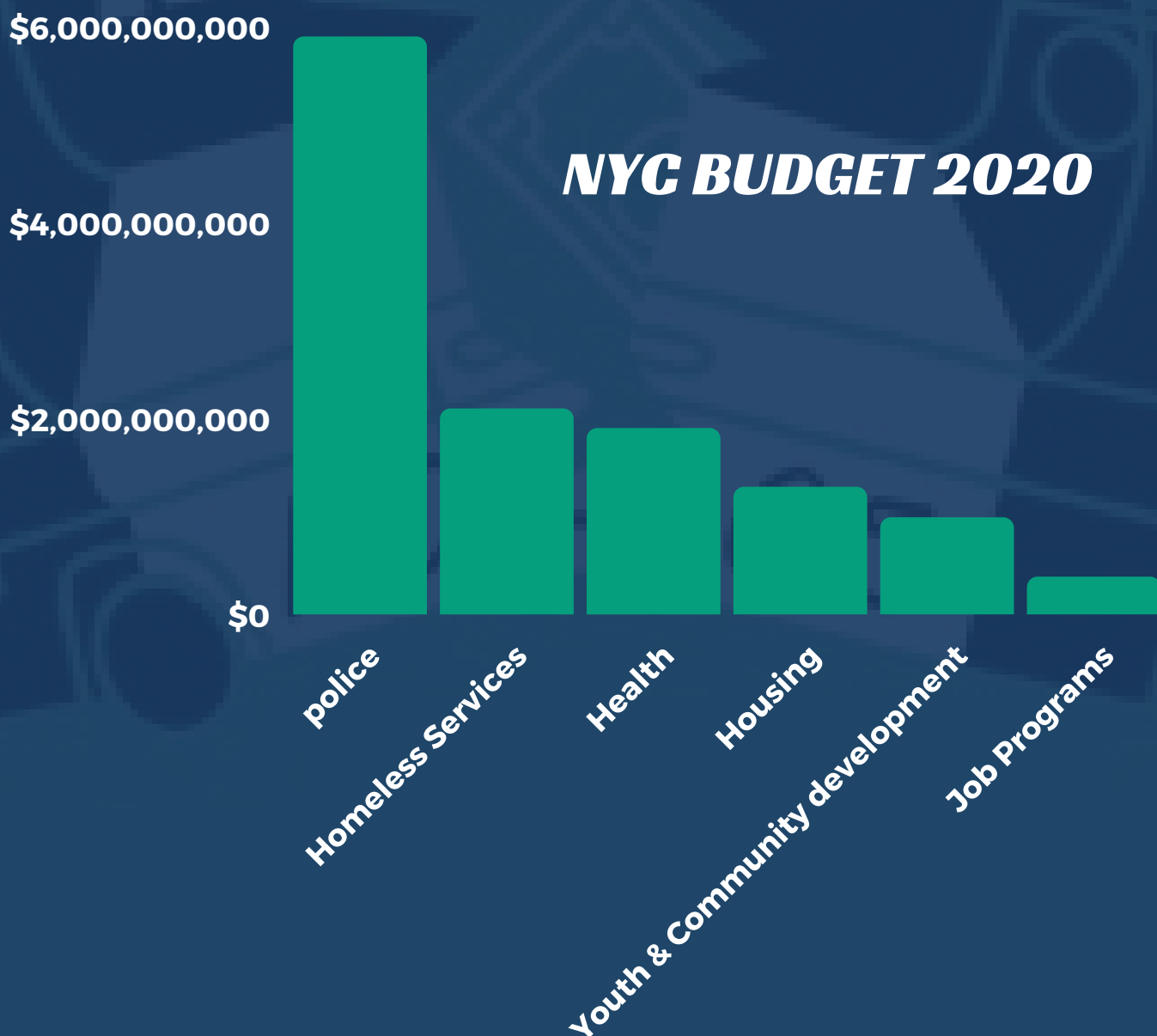


**Defund supporters claim that allocating funds to social programs that address issues like mental health, addiction, and homelessness is greater use of public funds. To take away some of the police funding and give it to other departments and social services, would lessen the work of the police and therefore lead to less violent escalation for nonviolent crimes/service calls.**



**ACCORDING TO DICTIONARY.COM, THE WORD “DEFUND” INDICATES THE “[WITHDRAWAL] OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM, ESPECIALLY AS AN INSTRUMENT OF LEGISLATIVE CONTROL.”**

**UNLIKE MANY INDIVIDUALS WHO BELIEVE THAT DEFUNDING THE POLICE SUGGESTS THE ABOLISHMENT OF THE POLICE FORCE, “DEFUNDING THE POLICE” ACTUALLY REFERS TO TAKING A PORTION OF THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT ADMINISTERED TO POLICE DEPARTMENTS AND REDISTRIBUTING IT TO SOCIAL SERVICES IN**  
**NEED.**





# ***Using Allocated Funds***



## ***Examples***

**In Nevada, there is a statute that allows judges to suspend the imposition of a felony conviction and place individuals on probation if they have no prior convictions relating to drugs or narcotics.**

**EACH ADDITIONAL PREVIOUS CRIMINAL CONVICTION RAISES AN OFFENDER'S CHANCES OF BEING INCARCERATED BY**

**34.21%**

**ACCORDING TO A NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS REPORT**

**As a result, initiatives aimed at preventing the first offense from becoming a felony can benefit individuals and society in ways that far outweigh the costs of initial incarceration.**

**As well some Nevada counties have recognized the necessity of designating funds and having trained professionals respond to mental-health-based calls. Washoe County, for example, has formed a Mobile Outreach Safety Team, which aims to (1) eliminate the need for law enforcement to answer calls requiring mental-health skills, and (2) provide crisis intervention and access to mental health services, thus keeping those people out of the criminal justice system.**



# Effects of Defunding



**22 major cities in the US have or are considering defunding the police. Police population is higher in cities especially NYC and Los Angeles. Defunding cities and areas that are fighting gang violence, gun control, and drugs is a terrible idea. Instead we should be defunding towns that don't need that much police presence. We should determine defunding based on how much crime is happening in certain areas. Because of defunding in the NYPD New York City has seen an increase of about everything to do with crime.**

- **From Jan. 1 through May 23 of this year, there were 531 shootings, up from 295 during the same period last year**
- **New York City recorded an increase of murders by 45% from 2019**
- **Shooting incidents overall exploded 97% last year**
- **Grand larcenies were up 66%**
- **Felony assaults grew by 35.6%**
- **Robberies increased by 28.6%**





The history behind the police is a dark one. The only way to grow as a country is to learn from our mistakes. We call to a cause to **defund** the police not to **abolish** them. We need the police, but some funds we find best in other places. To do this we need to be smart about it. Criminals are methodical and can take advantage of areas with low police population.

Defunding the police to put money towards low income communities is a problem worth fighting for but it needs to be solved the right way. A way that doesn't put people into more danger than there already is on the streets. Today we stand for a better world and a better country.

