### First Annual Guns to Gardens National Campaign

Safe Surrender Event





# Guns to Gardens Safe Surrender Event

A transformative effort to reduce gun violence as part of the National Guns to Gardens Movement

## Saturday, June 11 10 am - Noon

First Community North 3777 Dublin Rd, Columbus, OH

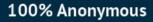
Disabled guns to be transformed into art piece by local artist Stephen Canneto



### **Instructions**

Bring firearms, unloaded, and in the trunk of the vehicle. No ammunition will be accepted. Remain in the vehicle until weapons have been removed from the trunk.





Thank You Gift Cards Presented to Those Who Donate Guns

www.gunstogardens.org

FCchurch.com/community-justice

Columbus, Ohio May 30, 2022 (<u>Issuewire.com</u>) - First Community Church, Columbus will host a Gun Safe Surrender Event from 10 am-12 pm on June 11, 2022. Guns will be dismantled on site and then subsequently used to create an art piece by local artist Stephen Canneto. Those surrendering guns (which is 100% anonymous) will receive a "thank you" gift card and are welcome to stay to share experiences and witness the dismantling of the weapon. fd

- 2020 saw a 15% increase in firearm deaths
- 45,222 were killed
- On average 124 people died every day to gun violence
- Firearm homicide increased by 35%
- Gun safe surrender events are an effective way to remove unwanted guns from homes and neighborhoods.
- Reducing the availability of guns in communities makes everyone safer.
- The national Guns to Gardens campaign will provide an opportunity for the safe disposal of unwanted and working firearms while raising awareness on gun safety.

- Gun safe surrender events are just one part of a multifaceted approach to end the gun violence public health crisis in our nation.
- These events will help to elevate the conversation on the dangers of having a gun in the home and in our communities and promote safe storage practices.
- Gun safe surrender events are 100% voluntary and anonymous.

Safe Surrender and gun buybacks have become an effective tool to make our communities safer by removing unwanted guns, gun violence prevention organizations and faith-based groups are banding together for the first annual **Guns to Gardens National Campaign** on June 11, 2022. Participating states include California (Oakland and Stockton), Colorado (Aurora), Connecticut (New Haven), New Mexico (Albuquerque), Ohio (Cleveland, Columbus and Euclid), Wisconsin (Madison), and several others.

"By adding a "sword to plowshare" layer to buybacks, we are able to bring the process of transforming something that harms communities into something that brings life to communities. Having artists and communities as a part of this process allows us to more meaningfully engage in the trauma of gun violence and the opportunity to heal from its harm." -Mike Martin, Executive Director of RAWtools-partner organization of Guns to Gardens.

#### **Media Contact**

First Community Church

tvansant@FCchurch.com

6144880681

3777 Dublin Rd.

Source: First Community Church

See on IssueWire