Ruthie Charendoff Erikson Institute - Master of Science in Child Development, Concentration in Child Life - first year student



The CGVRC fellowship taught me about gun violence through direct project learning in my project *Examining the Landscape of* 

Gun Violence Resources in Brighton Park as well as large group meetings and lectures. Through my project I was able to speak with community leaders and learn what is happening on the ground in their community. Our cohort meetings then provided a broader view, where I learned about gun violence through lectures, poetry, videos, and discussion. I was particularly interested in learning about how systemic gun violence is in Chicago as a result of racist policies in the city's past (and present) including redlining, the war on drugs, intensified policing, and more. While the city now recognizes gun violence as a problem, there are still not enough resources to scratch the surface of the problem let alone get to the root - providing access to opportunities, resources, and services across the city. I am hoping that our research will lead to change in the city and I look forward to continuing to research and advocate for increased resources for gun violence prevention.