



## Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships (CP3)

### Building Local Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention Frameworks

The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships (CP3) seeks to prevent acts of targeted violence and terrorism by working with the whole of society to establish and expand local prevention frameworks. Through technical, financial, and educational assistance, CP3 supports local efforts that **prevent** individuals from radicalizing to violence and **intervene** with individuals who may be radicalizing, or have radicalized, to violence.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships (CP3) seeks a resilient America where communities are united to help end targeted violence and terrorism.

#### Why *Local* Prevention?

Successful prevention frameworks are locally designed and implemented because each community is unique, with different needs, resources, infrastructure, population composition, laws, political climate, and relationship challenges. For example, rural areas may have regional infrastructure and a population that is less dense than more urban areas and may require a different type of prevention framework. Consideration of these local dynamics is critical to building a prevention framework that is both effective and supported by residents.

#### What is a Local Prevention Framework?

A local prevention framework is a flexible model that connects all segments of society to prevent targeted violence and terrorism by getting help to individuals who may be radicalizing, or have radicalized, to violence.

An effective local prevention framework convenes all parts of the local community to build and sustain trusted partnerships in order to promote:

- *Public Awareness and Education*— Ensuring all elements of society are informed of the threat and understand the radicalization to violence process. This includes the ability to recognize the risk factors for this process, and awareness of how to enhance the protective factors that serve as the earliest prevention against this process. Broad community awareness also ensures bystanders know about locally available resources and understand how to get help for individuals who may be radicalizing to violence.
- *Threat Assessment and Management*— Establishing and ensuring access to multi-disciplinary teams that can intervene with an individual radicalizing to violence at the earliest moment. Teams may include educators, psychologists, faith leaders, medical personnel, law enforcement, social workers, among others. [Learn more at CP3's Threat Assessment and Management Teams Publication.](#)
- *Support Services*—Developing a network of local social services and programs (e.g., service activities, career centers, after-school groups, mentoring, counseling, and others) that address risk factors while also providing services that support threat management.

**Radicalizing to violence** is the process wherein an individual comes to believe that the threat or use of unlawful violence is necessary or even justified to accomplish a goal.



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Local Prevention Frameworks are designed to ensure the good health and well-being of individuals and communities. The community's network of social support services is vital to achieving that goal. Achieving this framework also requires significant and continued stakeholder engagement at the state and local levels to build transparent and trusted connections among the whole of society. Such relationships reduce risk, enhance resilience, ensure information sharing, and fulfill requests for support services before concerns become a criminal justice matter. **Building and sustaining these relationships is therefore a core goal of all prevention frameworks.**

### First Steps for Building a Local Prevention Framework

Communities often already have many of the resources needed for an effective local prevention framework, but those resources are not always apparent or connected with each other. Consequently, a key recommendation will be that each community seeking to build a local prevention framework first undertake two activities:

- *Identify all stakeholders.* Stakeholders can be found throughout the community and may include public employees (state and local government officials; medical, mental health, and social service professionals; schools; emergency management; law enforcement, etc.), civic and non-profit organizations, faith-based organizations, and other credible voices (individuals respected by members of the community), among others.
- *Inventory of all existing resources.* This includes prevention programming and activities, social service programs, and other private or non-profit programming and activities. People are also "resources" and can bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the local prevention framework.

CP3 works to empower locally based government and community stakeholders to lead prevention and intervention programming in their region. CP3's Regional Prevention Coordinators work with partners who are building and sustaining local prevention frameworks. CP3's Headquarters elements engage with national-level associations, organizations, other federal agencies, and the policy community to encourage strategic support for local activities. For more information, visit <https://www.dhs.gov/CP3>