

Terrorism Violence and Terrorism Prevention Grant Program

Closeout Report

FY 2020 (EMW-2020-GR-00038)

Hawaii Department of Defense
Office of Homeland Security

December 2022

1. PROJECT OVERVIEW: PROVIDE A NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT'S KEY GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIVITIES.

Goals:

The Hawaii Office of Homeland Security (HIOHS)¹ will develop a statewide program to prevent human-made threats. Threat Team Oahu (TTO)² will expand statewide and develop more Level 2 teams.³ Individual organizations will form Level 1 teams. The Level 2 teams will help train Level 1 teams. HIOHS will raise stakeholder awareness of violent extremism. HIOHS will develop a threat reporting system.⁴

Objectives:

HIOHS will provide TTO general stakeholders with training on threat assessment topics. HIOHS will expand TTO to Maui. A network of threat assessment teams that collaborate with each other will begin to form. Community members will be encouraged to use the system of threat assessment teams. TTO general stakeholders will receive assistance to develop Level 1 teams. Level 1 teams will bring, consider, and resolve more cases to the TTO Level 2 consultation group. Trainees will train members of their own organizations and incorporate knowledge of violent extremism. HIOHS will provide lecture-style training in subtopics of violent extremism to stakeholders. HIOHS will develop and operate a threat reporting system.

Activities:

HIOHS will expand TTO to Maui by engaging stakeholders in outreach, education, and training events. HIOHS will provide trainings and workshops to TTH general stakeholders on threat assessment-related topics and skills. HIOHS will support the improved functioning of TTO and provide assistance to Level 1 teams. HIOHS will give presentations to law-enforcement and non-law enforcement audiences on violent extremism.

See portions of Q8 report dealing with trainings, workshops and civic engagement.

2. KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND OUTCOMES

Expanding TTO:

Threat Team Oahu expanded statewide to Threat Team Hawaii (which would include Maui), adding representation from 3 islands to the general stakeholder group, which includes over 300 individuals. TTH general stakeholders meet quarterly. TTH added representatives from 8

¹ Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order 15-05, HIOHS is the governor-designated state fusion center. HIOHS employs an executive director to manage fusion center operations. The executive director reports to the HIOHS administrator.

² Threat Team Oahu expanded to become Threat Team Hawaii in March 2021. Later in this report, "TTH" refers to the newly-expanded TTO that HIOHS originally said it would support in the FY2020 TVTP grant application.

³ After applying for the FY2020 TVTP grant but prior to receiving it, HIOHS co-founded a statewide multi-tiered, multidisciplinary Level 2 threat assessment team called Threat Team EDU (TTE). Many of the goals, objectives, and activities supported both TTH and TTE, thereby making efficient use of resources. For that reason, HSFC includes TTE in this report.

⁴ This reporting mechanism goal was not specific to the FY2020 TVTP grant program but was stated in the application as an overall HIOHS long-term goal to support HIOHS's general targeted violence prevention efforts.

government agencies to the consultation group, which tentatively schedules bi-weekly meetings but only meets as needed. The TTH consultation group has included over 40 individuals who served at various times since inception and as of November 2022, includes 22 members.

HIOHS expanded the Level 2 team concept to co-found a statewide multi-tiered multidisciplinary threat assessment team focused on the subject matter of education. TTE included at least 63 stakeholders from 4 islands and 12 educational institutions, spanning public, private, and charter K-12 and post-secondary institutions, plus individuals with professional training and experience in threat assessment. The TTE general group initially met monthly and now meets quarterly; TTE established a consultation group which has included over 23 members at various times during the period of performance and now the consultation group meets monthly.

HIOHS established a statewide campus security group with representation from 13 institutions that meets quarterly. Late in the period of performance, HIOHS partnered with a private healthcare provider to begin developing a statewide healthcare threat team.

Violence prevention network building:

HIOHS sponsored 4 community resources panels with panelists from 25 different food, housing, mental wellness, healthcare, and social service providers with approximately 120 total attendees.⁵ HIOHS organized and facilitated a panel of threat assessment teams from 5 states and the U.S. Secret Service to present to the National Governors Association Homeland Security Advisors Committee with approximately 100 attendees. HIOHS brings national level programming to Hawaii through the National Threat Evaluation and Reporting Master Trainer program (2 courses delivered during the period of performance to 30 attendees).

Cross-invitations and mesh network building: As part of the TVTP program, HIOHS regularly attends meetings of 4 community-based and/or multidisciplinary groups.⁶ HIOHS has also attended single meetings or events as an invited guest for 3 additional community-based groups. After attending outside events, HIOHS invites representatives of the community groups, plus the community resource providers from the community resource panels, to future HIOHS events and disseminates TVTP-related products to those groups. As a result HIOHS developed a distribution list for TVTP-related events and products that has included over 160 individuals, including professionals from social work, education, mental wellness, and other violence prevention practitioners who otherwise would not likely receive information and invitations to events from a fusion center.

HIOHS led the Hawaii team for the National Governors Association 2021 Policy Academy on Preventing Targeted Violence (NGAPA). More information is available under Additional grant-related activities but for purposes of this subsection, the NGAPA Core Team helped create a foundation for this mesh network. The network serves as a conduit for HIOHS to disseminate

⁵ HIOHS is sensitive to the fact that some community stakeholders do not want HIOHS to record attendance by name. These figures represent the minimum number of attendees known to HIOHS and/or recorded by third parties whose events HIOHS participates in.

⁶ HIOHS also maintains other community partnerships related to but existing independently of the TVTP program as part of fusion center operations. One example is the state's critical infrastructure security working group.

information on topics like violent extremism, offer training on TVTP-related skills, refer community members to threat assessment teams and refer threat assessment teams to community resources, and encourage community stakeholders to collaborate among themselves.

HIOHS collaborated with other TVTP grant recipients. HIOHS joined the McCain Institute Violence Prevention Practitioners Network (PPN) and serves on the Programs Committee. HIOHS participated on 2 PPN panels with approximately 150 people total attending. HIOHS helped organize 2 PPN symposia (one of which was held after the period of performance, but HIOHS contributed to the event planning efforts before the period of performance ended), and sponsored a stakeholder from the state's social services agency to attend the Summer 2022 symposium. HIOHS personnel met with Hawaii Pacific University's Invent2Prevent team during the period of performance and planned collaborative events that have begun since November 2022.

Improving Level 2 teams:

TTH: HIOHS participated in 3 revisions of the TTH handbook and assisted with revising the FBI BAU pre-consultation guide.⁷ HIOHS acted as training coordinator for 2022 and also provided training to the TTH general stakeholders in 2020 and 2021, with a total of 6 training events with 140 participants at TTH general stakeholder meetings. HIOHS acted as the consultation group facilitator for the quarter beginning April 2022, facilitating 2 cases with 25 attendees, and facilitated another TTH consultation in December 2020 with 13 attendees as a substitute for the regular facilitator. Overall, during the period of performance, TTH consulted on 17 cases.

TTE: HIOHS acted as the general group facilitator and consultation group facilitator. HIOHS drafted two versions of the TTE handbook. HIOHS facilitated 20 TTE general group meetings and 8 consultation case meetings, plus 3 meetings that did not involve an individual case but discussed generalized threats to the education community.

Developing and improving Level 1 teams:

Since co-founding TTE, HIOHS leveraged TTE partnerships to let HIOHS concentrate on Level 2 team development while still giving general support to stakeholders in their efforts to build Level 1 teams. Specifically, one of the TTE co-founders who has specialized training and expertise in developing Level 1 teams in higher education began developing a Level 1 team-building platform for educational organizations. Notwithstanding HIOHS's shift in focus to Level 2 team development, HIOHS still provided assistance to Level 1 teams within and without the education community.

HIOHS sponsored and hosted a statewide train-the-trainer Level 1 workshop that included 40 participants and resulted in a recording of the training for HIOHS future use. The Hawaii department of education (HIDOE) later used the same trainer for HIDOE's statewide threat assessment training in summer 2022. HIOHS wrote multiple drafts of portions of proposed

⁷ One version of the pre-consultation guide is marked For Official Use Only.

emergency operations plans that included threat assessment as part of HODOE's response to threats of targeted violence. That plan is still under consideration and HIOHS does not speak on behalf of HODOE for their decision on the eventual promulgation of their plan.

HIOHS also sponsored skill-based sessions on de-escalation. A Hawaii-based consultant provided 2 in-person trainings to higher education institutions on different islands, and HIOHS sponsored attendance at a virtual training for 6 participants.

HIOHS outreach, training, and resources under FY2020 TVTP thus supported TTH and TTE Level 2 teams and various Level 1 teams.

Violent extremism:

HIOHS gave briefings and disseminated information and products to diverse stakeholders on violent extremism-related topics. Those resources went out to stakeholders via TTH and TTE meetings facilitated by HIOHS, during special events sponsored or hosted by HIOHS, as information disseminated on HIOHS's private dissemination platform for its school safety working group, as information shared during community meetings to which HIOHS was invited, and via dissemination lists. Some of those briefings and products were law enforcement sensitive (LES) or for official use only (FOUO). Some of the FOUO briefings and products were specifically created for and/or disseminated to non-traditional fusion partners by HIOHS.

For example, HIOHS gave two briefings on violent Incel extremism with prosecutors and adult/juvenile client service providers at the Hawaii state judiciary, for a combined total of 40 participants. HIOHS briefed 10 members of ESF-6 on threats to pediatric vaccine clinics and after further assessment, briefed TTE and the statewide campus security leaders group. HIOHS briefed the TTE general group on AAPI violence. There was a briefing to the TTE consultation group on possible disinformation concerning LGBTQ+ individuals on the topic of grooming in child sex assault cases. This briefing resulted in ongoing HIOHS efforts that leverage the expertise of TTE members (e.g. counselling, education, and social work professionals who have training and experience in the dynamics of child sexual abuse) to provide the community with accurate information so as to mitigate the risk of targeted violence. The disinformation mitigation effort has led to meetings or discussions with community resource providers on 3 islands.

Other briefings and products were appropriate for a wider audience. Of the briefings and products suitable for wider dissemination, HIOHS-created items include a briefing on the Buffalo, NY shooting, which had 20 people in attendance. HIOHS briefed 100 members of the Pacific Egg and Poultry Association and 50 members of the Pacific Seed Foundation on general violent extremist topics. HIOHS also sponsored, hosted, or disseminated products from other organizations to its network of community resources and threat assessment stakeholders. HIOHS hosted a presentation by the U.S. Secret Service on their case study of the Hot Yoga Tallahassee shooting, attended by 40 people. HIOHS also hosted community awareness briefings given by U.S. Department of Homeland Security personnel to Hawaii stakeholders on Maui and Oahu, which drew more than 40 combined participants.

At the beginning of HIOHS's 4 community resources panels, HIOHS gave a short briefing to panel participants and audience members about the dynamics of lone offender targeted violence and terrorism incidents and why community resource providers and other non-traditional fusion partners play an important role in violence prevention above and beyond reporting threats.

Other grant related activities:

HIOHS participated in the National Governors Association 2021 Targeted Violence Prevention Policy Academy (NGAPA). HIOHS recruited a Core Team of representatives from four state agencies and the governor's office, plus four additional individuals with relevant training and/or experience, consisting of 17 participants from 8 state or island agencies plus 1 individual retired from government service with particular training and experience and 1 individual from a non-profit organization. HIOHS also maintained a list of 14 community stakeholders who were invited to participate in relevant NGAPA events and who also received fusion center invitations and products intended for wide distribution. HIOHS hosted an introductory meeting for the NGAPA Core Team and community stakeholders, after which the NGAPA Core Team met for check-ins, an in-person visit by NGA personnel to the state, two multi-state convenings, a listening session with TTH stakeholders, and 2 strategy convening consisting mainly of education stakeholders plus some NGAPA Core Team participants. The NGAPA Core Team considered legislation, executive or administrative orders, and internal state agency guidance. At the multistate convening on 6 April 2022, the NGAPA Core Team presented its plan to NGA to the NGAPA Core Team to continue working with the incoming administration. HIOHS drafted a statewide targeted violence prevention strategy and published it in August 2022.

HIOHS has collaborated with stakeholders nationally and internationally via presentations at conferences, agency-to-agency meetings, and individual communications. HIOHS gave input to other agencies' TVTP efforts, briefed federal and state government agencies on HIOHS's programming, participated in the Hawaii Attorney General's team for the Divided Community Project, the state Act 46 Task Force on the safety of judiciary personnel, and the state's Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Temporary Housing, and Human Services Emergency Support Function (ESF-6). HIOHS personnel assigned to the project maintains professional ties with organizations in the Hawaii legal community and the DHS Analyst Exchange Program.

Stories:

Stakeholders contacted HIOHS about concerns of increased violence against the AAPI community. HIOHS received an intelligence product from another jurisdiction on the issue. HIOHS contacted the outside jurisdiction and eventually was able to forward an unclassified product to the network of community resource providers and threat assessment stakeholders who HIOHS had developed contacts with via TVTP program to help answer their questions about violence targeting AAPI individuals.

An educational institution brought a case to the TTE consultation group. HIOHS invited members of the NGAPA Core Team to serve in an ad hoc capacity due to their specialized expertise in issues related to the case. The result was a consultation that included perspectives from regular TTE participants and individuals outside TTE who had experience in social work and state resources.

A stakeholder contacted HIOHS with an intelligence question about TikTok challenges being a generalized threat to the education community. HIOHS drafted an intelligence product on the topic of TikTok threats and brought the issue to the TTE consultation group. TTE engaged in group discussion and analysis, which as a result helped inform decision making by education leadership.

Visuals:

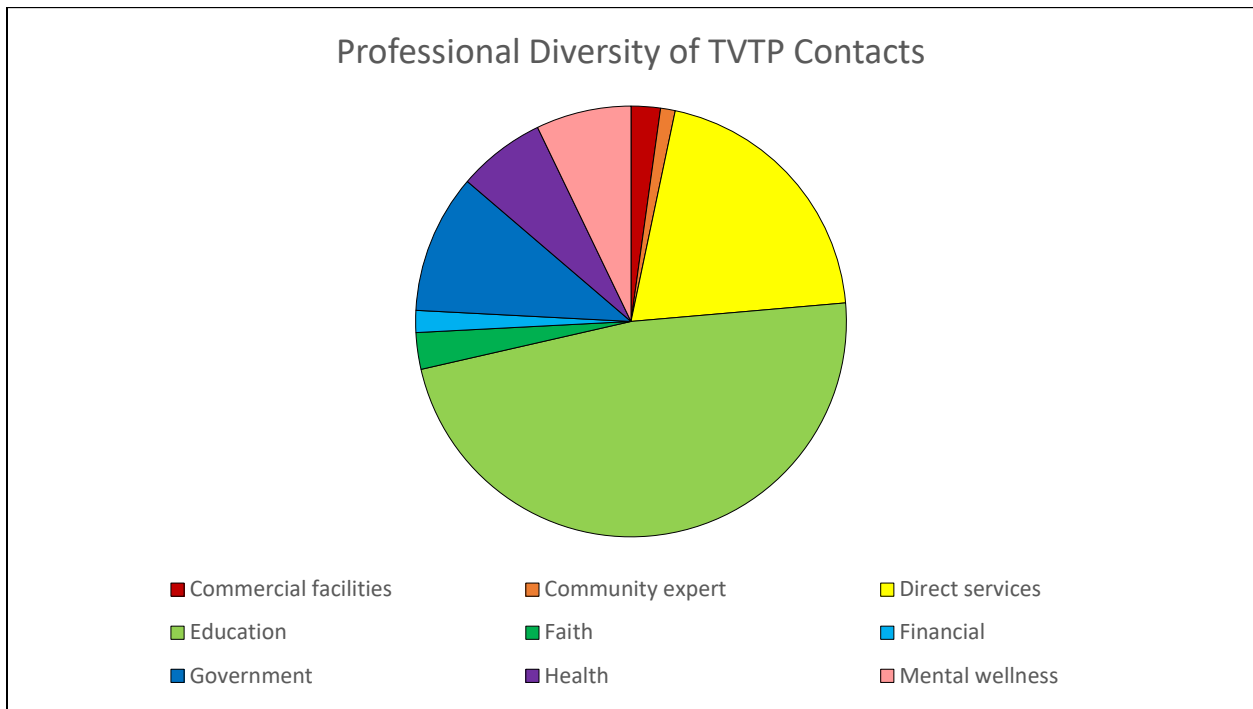


Chart 1 – Professional diversity of TVTP contacts. Some contacts fall under multiple categories.

Deliverables:

- Contact lists (contain PII – please see above Chart 1 for summary)
 - Community resource providers
 - Community resource leaders who may receive and forward TVTP-related products and invitations to events to professionals in their area of subject matter expertise
 - Threat assessment team members
 - State agency representatives who receive TVTP-related products
- Briefing materials created by HIOHS suitable for various audiences of TVTP stakeholders (some materials are part of broader meetings with stakeholders) (portions provided to DHS)
 - Buffalo, NY shooting
 - Drug trends specific to dabbing, vaping, and fentanyl
 - General information on the war in Ukraine
 - Grooming disinformation and risk to LGBTQ+ community

- Introduction to lone offender dynamics
- Overview of threat assessment in K-12 schools
- Overview of TTE and TTH
- School Threats for SY 2021-2022
- Threats to pediatric vaccine clinics
- Violent Incel Extremism
- HIOHS products created specifically for TVTP stakeholders (provided to DHS via HSIN and/or HIOHS's school safety working group website, which is only open to vetted individuals) (HIOHS also forwards products from other agencies as appropriate according to level of classification and need-to-know)
 - (U) TikTok Challenges Encouraging School Vandalism and Assaults on Teachers May Create Safety Risk to Hawai'i Schools
 - (U) School Safety Bulletins
 - (U//FOUO) Threatening Communications to the Hawaii Department of Education
- Hypothetical scenarios for TTE in-meeting exercises (provided to DHS)
 - Domestic violence (also shared with agencies from other jurisdictions)
 - Violent Incel extremism
 - Enhancers and mitigators
- Portion of emergency operations plan for HODOE that includes threat assessment (draft plan under internal agency consideration)
- Draft legislation (2 introduced, 1 draft)
 - 2022 HB1415
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session/archives/measure_indiv_Archives.aspx?billtype=HB&billnumber=1415&year=2022
 - 2022 draft proposing targeted violence prevention-related programs – internal agency and NGAPA discussions)
 - 2021 HB539
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session/archives/measure_indiv_Archives.aspx?billtype=HB&billnumber=539&year=2022
- Recordings
 - Level 1 train-the-trainer (per agreement with consultant, HIOHS limits viewership)
 - Prevention Practitioners Network Spring Symposium 2022 Keynote Panel
<https://www.mccaininstitute.org/programs/preventing-targeted-violence/prevention-practitioners-network/?playlist=44b039e&video=79cb33e>
- Statewide Targeted Violence Prevention Strategy https://dod.hawaii.gov/ohs/files/2022-HAWAII-TARGETED-VIOLENCE-PREVENTION-STRATEGY_FINAL.pdf
- TTE handbook (2 revisions for internal use)
- TTH handbook (multiple revisions for internal use)
- Title IX emergency removal process (draft guidance under internal agency consideration)
- Draft disinformation mitigation presentation on the topic of grooming (under development)
- HIOHS webpage with TVTP program information
<https://hawaiiifusioncenter.org/default.aspx?MenuItemID=245&MenuSubID=47&MenuGroup=HSFC+Public>

Challenges and lessons learned:

For those government agencies who might have trouble gaining community trust, HIOHS has found two things to be helpful: (1) transparency; and (2) respecting stakeholders as partners in terrorism prevention. One example is inviting diverse stakeholders to the same briefings as appropriate – for example, invitations to HIOHS’s briefing on the Buffalo, NY shooting went out to both traditional fusion partners and newer contacts established under the TVTP program.

HIOHS was cautious about protecting privacy and ensuring community stakeholders felt no pressure to collaborate with our agency, to the point that we hesitated to keep detailed attendance records at events. HIOHS needed contact information for people who registered or were interested in receiving HIOHS invitations or products, but sometimes was too cautious about recording attendance. A better practice would be to keep attendance with information on the subject matter expertise of the attendees and agencies.

The competitive nature of the grant sometimes makes collaboration awkward. One suggestion is that grant applications include a score for historical collaboration with other stakeholders. The two-year performance period makes it hard to hire personnel, which in turn makes program expansion difficult. One suggestion is to hire part-time help rather than full time positions.

It is difficult to measure one of HIOHS’s major successes - the cross-invitation and mesh network-building among stakeholders. Data on how often stakeholders collaborated with each other before and after HIOHS interacted with them under the TVTP program would help demonstrate the expansion and strengthening of the network, but HIOHS does not want to intrude or even give the appearance of intruding into operations of stakeholders. In the future we could ask our stakeholders for ideas on how to measure this success.

Sustainability:

The TVTP program will continue now that the FY2020 grant cycle has ended, albeit the level of resources will determine how extensive our community outreach, training, and education efforts can be and how thoroughly we can support threat assessment teams. HIOHS will continue to incorporate violent extremism information into HIOHS events, disseminate TVTP products as appropriate, participate in TTE and TTH, and further develop a network of threat assessment teams (Level 1 and Level 2) and community resources. HIOHS received a FY2022 TVTP grant to focus on the healthcare sector and civil engagement; those activities are a natural extension of HIOHS’s work under the FY2020 TVTP grant.

HIOHS drafted three legislative bills, rough drafts of emergency operations plans for the Hawaii department of education, a TTH handbook, a TTE handbook, and a statewide targeted violence prevention strategy. HIOHS TVTP personnel supported three investments by TVTP stakeholders and one investment for HIOHS’s own TVTP program, to be funded by the port security (PS) and/or homeland security grant programs (HSGP) that HIOHS administers. These efforts are in addition to pre- and post-performance period attempts at legislation and policy. Results were mixed – HIOHS supported three out of four of the investment proposals for the

PS/HS GP, promulgated the statewide targeted violence prevention strategy, and supported the TTH and TTE handbooks. One investment proposal was declined, one bill was not submitted, and two bills did not pass. The department of education EOP is in progress.

3. OPTIONAL

Contributions to the field and next steps:

HIOHS expanded the Level 2 concept beyond geography, to subject matter.

HIOHS also leveraged the threat assessment network to serve as a conduit for disseminating information and inviting a wide variety of stakeholders to join the TVTP effort.

The HIOHS TVTP program has demonstrated that it is possible for a fusion center to collaborate with non-traditional fusion partners so long as the fusion center is transparent, respects the professional capabilities and expertise of direct service providers, and promotes the concept that direct service interventions may prevent terrorism.

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Appendices:

N/A