



Office for Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention

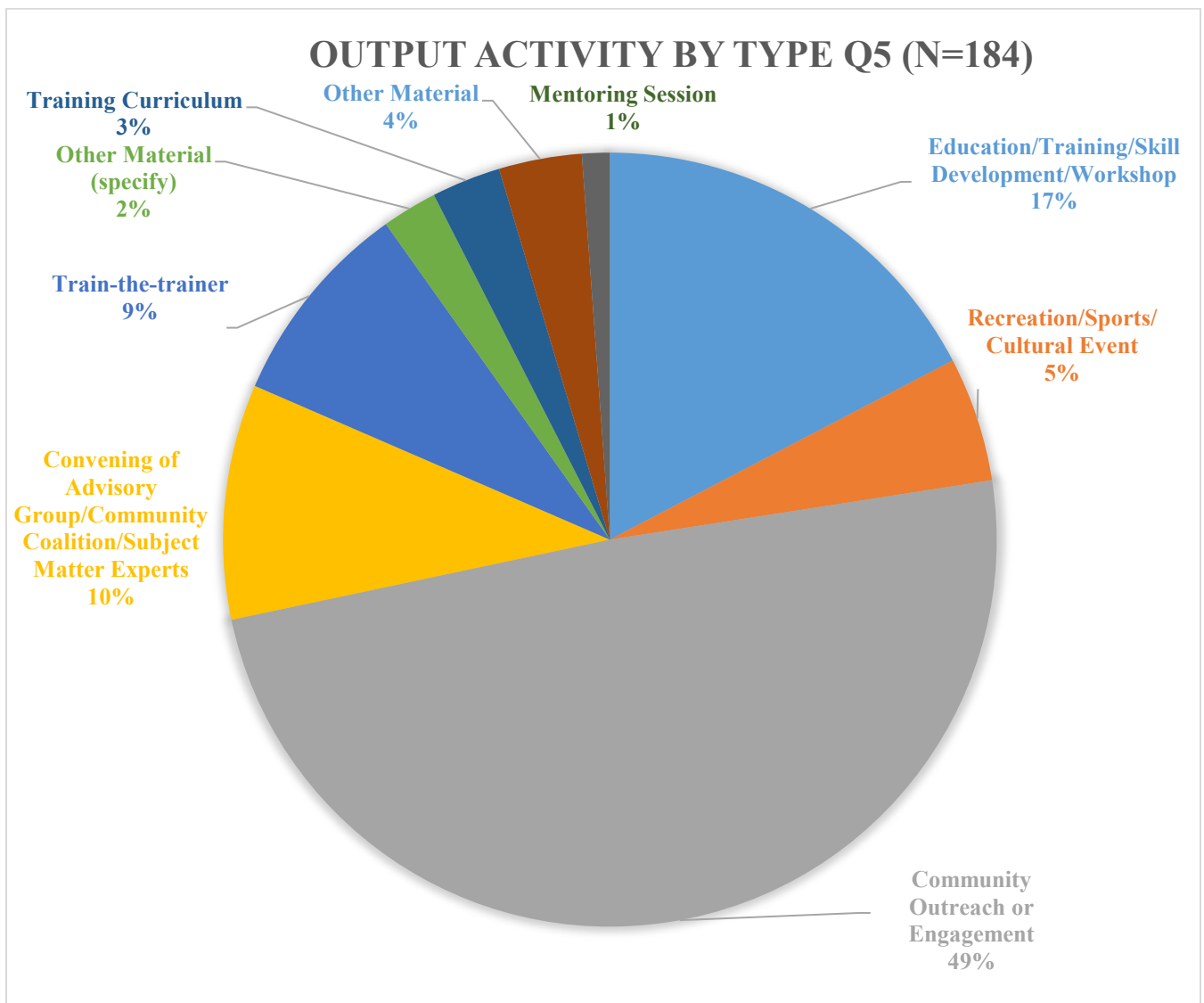
Quarterly Update on Programmatic Performance

FY16 Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Grant Program

Quarter 5: July 1 to September 30, 2018

Performance Measurement

The fifth quarter (Q5) of the grant program ran from July 1 – September 30, 2018. Grantees reported a similar total number of activities from Q4 to Q5, but the distribution between types of events differed somewhat. The breakdown of Q5 activity by type is below.



Q5 took place largely during the summer of 2018, as such, many programs providing services to communities had slightly less participation than Q4. However, some projects that interacted with

students took the opportunity of school breaks to engage with youth. From Q4 to Q5, projects increased the total number and share of participation with key professionals, such as *Police/Law Enforcement, Social Service Providers, and Mental/Behavioral Health Providers*. Grantees reported in-person activities with participation from approximately 7200 individuals. The total number of participants in grantee activities over the entire program is approximately 32,000.

Examples from Reported Activities

- A police department project hosted a Back to School Event as part of their enhanced outreach to their East-African immigrant community. Eight police officers hosted the event with attendance by approximately 100 parents and 200 students. The sustained involvement of officers in community events benefiting this community is creating a more cohesive community that will be more resilient to various pressures.
- One organization hosted three events over the summer with the goal of positively engaging youth in the areas of education, services, job skills, recreation, and civic engagement. Each event had an average of approximately 190 youth. In total, other participants at the events included approximately 95 Parents, 25 Youth workers, 12 Law Enforcement Officers, 22 Faith Leader and 25 Social Service providers.

Digital Activity¹

Several projects with the highest levels of digital activity in previous quarters ended their active campaigns prior to or during this Q5 as originally planned. As such, overall impressions for content controlled by grant projects decreased to approximately 200,000 in Q5 with approximately 15,000 instances of engagement.

- The Counter Extremism Project used a hashtag campaign, #refugeevoices, which resulted in over 500 posts/tweets, 3000 likes and over 100,000 impressions.
- Masjid Muhammad's content on Twitter had over 30,000 impressions.

Lessons Learned/Promising Practices

Surveying Stakeholders: In addition to surveying as a means of evaluation of effectiveness of services provided, several grantees have undertaken surveys or focus groups with stakeholders to determine any gaps in knowledge or capability. In one case a grantee administered a survey to mental health and social service providers on their knowledge of risk factors for violence, their willingness to work with individuals with risk factors for targeted violence, and their knowledge of professional responsibilities including their duty to warn and obligation to maintain confidentiality.

Scheduling Community Activities: Several grantees have noted that there is a seasonal nature to how they engage with their intended audiences. Most noted that school/holiday schedules impacted their scheduling of grant related activities. In some cases summer programming for youth was intended and in other cases trying to find a large audience of general community members was easier in the spring and fall when families were on a

¹ This section has been updated to reflect a correction to the social media data. An earlier version of this document, originally published on July 12, 2019, contained inaccurate information in this section due to an error in the way the social media data was calculated.

more regular schedule. In other instances grantees noted the importance to consider law enforcement training schedules or professional development cycles for their audiences.

Individual Project Descriptions and Progress

Below are brief project descriptions for all CVEGP awards, and updates based on the most recent quarterly performance progress reports.

Focus Area 1: Developing Resilience

Police Foundation (Washington, D.C.) \$484,835

Description: The recipient is creating mentoring programs between Boston Police Department (BPD) and Somali-American youth to enhance the resiliency of the Somali-American community in Boston. The project, named Youth Police Initiative Plus (YPIP), is building off of previously conducted Youth Police Initiatives (YPI) conducted in over 25 jurisdictions, including Boston, since 2003 for the purposes of lowering general youth crime and violence by creating stronger connections between youth and police. Research has shown promising results in some aspects of the YPI, which YPIP is implementing. The project focuses on international terrorist organizations most often targeting Somali-American youth.

Quarterly Update: Police Foundation's project held two YPIP sessions each with 12 youth and 12 Boston Police Officers. Additionally their partner held a summer program for 30 youth that were matched with 24 teen mentors. That program focused on academic tutoring; religious, cultural and ethnic awareness; and sports programs. The youth organized and hosted a basketball tournament in which 16 teams played and over 200 community members gathered to watch.

Tuesday's Children (New York, NY) \$386,670

Description: The recipient is delivering culturally competent mental health and support services through an evidence-based Long-Term Healing Model for building resilience in communities impacted by terrorism and mass tragedies. The project supports an existing peace building and conflict resolution initiative titled Project Common Bond. The project's goal is to enhance critical thinking and civic engagement among communities at risk for, and recovering from, terrorism, war, and mass shootings. The project focuses on all forms of violent extremism.

Quarterly Update: Tuesday's Children hosted their summer Project COMMON Bond Session, with 102 participants from 13 countries. These participants all lost a family member to terrorism and work together to enhance their resiliency. Tuesday's Children is finalizing the launch of their Long-Term Healing Model online toolkit. The site has been active in draft form for several months for user testing and content review by partners and external experts in traumatic stress, disaster recovery, and mental health specialists; corporate analysts; nonprofit partners; foundation and philanthropy experts; and international experts on work with victims of terrorism. Additionally, Tuesday's Children continues to communicate and follow up with individual community leaders interested in long-term healing in multiple areas impacted by mass tragedies to provide information on best practices in disaster response and recovery.

Heartland Democracy Center (Minneapolis, MN) \$423,340

Description: The recipient is expanding their existing civic engagement and empowerment programs working with youth and parents, including participants from immigrant and refugee communities in Minnesota. This project also has training and outreach activities planned which aim to expand dialogue around a broad range of topics relating to youth, education, violence prevention, community resilience and civic response.

Quarterly Update: Heartland Democracy Center continued to provide educational services to youth and parents. Notably they have expanding their work with parents and are planning to branch out to neighboring and nearby geographic regions. Additionally this quarter they continued work to build capacity of partner organizations.

Peace Catalyst International (Greenwood Village, CO) \$95,000

Description: The recipient is building interfaith working groups in locations across the nation between Muslim and Christian groups to counter narratives propagated for radicalization to violence. The working groups will empower grassroots leaders to implement and evaluate countering violent extremism actions. The project focuses on preventing both violent Islamist extremism and domestic violent extremism against Muslims.

Quarterly Update: During this Quarter, Peace Catalyst International transitioned from their "Seek the Peace" consultation to supporting local working groups in their implementation of local project plans. The working groups in 12 cities met periodically during Q5.

Seattle Police Department (Seattle, WA) \$409,390

Description: The recipient employs a focused and localized community approach, on the micro-neighborhood level, to prevent recruitment and radicalization to violent extremism among refugee women, youth, and disenfranchised populations in ethnically and culturally diverse neighborhoods. The recipient builds off an existing program that engages with community representatives to guide police resource investments at the neighborhood level. The project has the capacity to address all forms of violent extremist threats identified in the community assessments.

Quarterly Update: Seattle Police Department began a new program for strengthening families that ran over the summer that incorporated feedback from the spring program. SPD also held an eight week session focused on integration in one neighborhood experiencing violence. Additionally, in conjunction with the police athletic league, SEAPAL, a mentoring project was launched with nine officers and 57 youth. It focused on maintaining enrollment/engagement in school, and community service, as well as developing resilience to violence.

Nashville International Center for Empowerment (Nashville, TN) \$445,110

Description: The grant recipient uses youth engagement, inter-cultural/-faith exchange, and community outreach activities to increase the resilience of communities to domestic terrorism and new American youth who may be considered "at risk" for radicalization and violent extremism. The project's goal is to build mutual respect and understanding among people of different faiths, cultures, and ethnicities. It focuses on all forms of violent extremism.

Quarterly Update: Nashville International Center for Empowerment (NICE) continued to provide educational, health, and recreational services to their community throughout Q5. NICE expanded its Youth Mentorship Program matching 15 more mentors with protégés. NICE

continued it's the Youth Empowered to Achieve (YEA!) curriculum through several summer camps and continued engagement and hosted cross-cultural events during Q5

Focus Area 2: Training & Engagement

City of Houston Office of Public Safety & Homeland Security (Houston, TX) \$500,000

Description: The recipient works with the Houston Regional CVE Steering Committee to host scenario-based workshops for parents and youth, interfaith engagements, as well as a train-the-trainer program to ensure sustainability of the program. The project addresses all forms of violent extremism.

Quarterly Update: City of Houston Office of Public Safety & Homeland Security held its first Steering Committee meeting and continued its research for training materials.

Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (Chicago, IL) \$187,877

Description: The recipient develops and delivers a bystander/gatekeeper training program to educate a broad cross-section of communities on how to intervene with individuals who exhibit warning signs of either radicalization to violence or planning an act of ideologically inspired violence. The project focuses on all forms of violent extremism and includes at least one site focused specifically on domestic terrorism.

Quarterly Update: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority continued to develop their curriculum and developed a survey instrument for mental health and social service providers, which will inform their ongoing violence prevention work.

Global Peace Foundation (Lanham, MD) \$453,497

Description: The recipient is providing training and fostering community engagement in New Jersey to counter violent extremist recruitment by 1) raising awareness of the frontline law enforcement workers and community leaders on indicators connected to violent extremism, including active shooters, through train-the-trainer programs; and 2) strengthening community and law enforcement partnerships to counter violent extremism through community engagement events. The recipient addresses all forms of violent extremism. The recipient secured a commitment from the New Jersey Attorney General's Office and other law enforcement entities to bring this training to all law enforcement officers in the state by 2020.

Quarterly Update: Global Peace Foundation utilized their training curriculum at two sessions for community leaders and four sessions for law enforcement. Portions of the law enforcement training included presentations by law enforcement on New Jersey specific cases that were particularly engaging to the training audience. They also held four community engagement events during the quarter.

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (Lincoln, NE) \$300,000

Description: The recipient conducts community engagement that identifies and addresses barriers to reporting in rural and small/mid-sized communities, facilitates the reporting of concerns, enhances the resilience of local communities to violent extremism, and increases awareness of observable behaviors associated with the process of radicalization. The recipient addresses all forms of violent extremism.

Quarterly Update: Nebraska Emergency Management Agency led stakeholder meetings at both of their sites as well as provided a training on helping individuals in a crisis at one site. They continued to develop their train-the-trainer curriculum and worked to identify a partner for threat assessments.

City of Dearborn Police Department (Dearborn, MI) \$51,521

Description: This project provides a means for the Dearborn Police Department to offer training open to all city residents – as well as neighboring community members. The training and awareness briefings are held at various venues spread geographically across the city throughout the two years of the grant. The recipient will address all forms of violent extremism.

Quarterly Update: City of Dearborn Police Department delivered three threat awareness briefings to the community this quarter, each of which was coupled with outreach activities to increase participation.

National Consortium for Advanced Policing (Los Angeles, CA) \$200,000

Description: The recipient is delivering a community resiliency training program across the 66 largest metro areas in the country that will provide an understanding of all forms of violent extremism, how they manifest themselves in local communities, how community policing strategies can be used to develop a safety net of relationships that can lead to early detection and prevention, and how each municipality plays a role. The recipient is now teamed with the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) and targets police executives, some of which have been involved in MCCA's committee on Preventing Terrorism and Targeted Violence which is reviewing promising practices already in place in MCCA member cities.

Quarterly Update: National Consortium for Advanced Policing planned for a meeting in conjunction with a conference of Major City Chiefs and Major County Sheriffs. They conducted research for baseline elements for inclusion in the implementation guide they continue to develop.

Hennepin County Sheriff's Office (Minneapolis, MN) \$347,600

Description: The recipient is implementing several two-day community engagement workshops and expanding their Community Engagement Team to engage new residents, learn from cultural communities, and meet the demand for prevention and education initiatives among new Americans. The project focuses on international terrorist organizations most often targeting Somali youth.

Quarterly Update: Hennepin County Sheriff's Office hosted another day-long Women for Peace Workshop with approximately 100 participants. Nine sworn officer liaisons logged approximately 120 overtime hours conducting community outreach activities.

City of Arlington Police Department (Arlington, TX) \$47,497

Description: The recipient is developing and delivering an engagement program to strengthen partnerships between the recipient and the Muslim community in Arlington. The recipient has previously created and sustained an engagement program that is responsive to the city's residents, and this effort will extend those efforts based on recommendations of a Duke University study on the role of community policing in CVE.

Quarterly Update: Arlington Police Department Staff conducted presentations with communities at three different sites. Officers tailored their presentations to audience interests including information on how to act during a traffic stop, protecting young family members on the internet, and preparedness for active shooters. In doing so they expect to develop trust between the community and the police department.

**National Governors Association (NGA) Center for Best Practices (Washington, D.C.)
\$500,000**

Description: The recipient has launched a “State Approaches to Violent Extremism (S.A.V.E.) Policy Academy” program through governors’ offices across the U.S. The NGA Center will provide state sub-grants to five competitively selected states and assist them with adopting and implementing a sustainable, flexible “Roadmap” to support statewide CVE efforts. This project will focus on all forms of violent extremism, including the drivers of extremism.

Quarterly Update: National Governors Association provided active technical assistance to the states that participated in their June Policy Academy (Colorado, Illinois, Michigan, and Virginia) and began planning for in-state workshops with each. They hosted three webinars with violence prevention experts for stakeholders in the four states.

Denver Police Department (DPD) \$481,313

Description: The recipient is focused on all forms of violent extremism, with a particular focus on domestic violent extremism (white supremacist VE, animal rights/eco-terrorism VE, sovereign citizen VE, etc.). DPD is working on officer training, civilian training, school-based mentoring, and outreach efforts to all of Denver’s residents to share information and open connections.

Quarterly Update: Denver Police Department continued its law enforcement training including providing training to 70 law enforcement professionals in Q5. DPD also conducted extensive community outreach and awareness raising and planned for the initiation of its youth mentoring program for the upcoming academic year.

Focus Area 3: Interventions

**Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (MA EOPSS) (Boston, MA)
\$500,000**

Description: The Massachusetts EOPSS is building resilience and preventing the escalation of violence and violent extremism among high-risk individuals. The MA EOPSS and its project partner, the Massachusetts Department of Corrections, will target 139 men being released from maximum security prison over two years with a high risk for violent extremism. The EOPSS proposal focuses on promoting resilience by strengthening protective factors including social and problem-solving skills, self-esteem, cultural identity, good communication skills, pro-social connections/social support/family ties, commitment to education and employment goals, and positive community engagement. The project focuses on addressing the drivers of violent extremism and is able to address all forms of violent extremism.

Quarterly Update: The Massachusetts EOPSS utilized its client centered treatment tools (the Outcome Rating Scale and Session Rating Scale) during weekly sessions this quarter to help improve the treatment provided. Contingency management strategies were employed to maintain engagement with community clients.

Crisis Intervention of Houston, Inc. (Houston, TX) \$500,000

Description: The recipient is training counselors in violent extremism risk factors and in protocols to steer callers to the appropriate resources for help, as well as marketing services through online public awareness campaigns, social media, community centers, and other means to reach young at-risk populations targeted by violent extremists. The project focuses on all forms of violent extremism.

Quarterly Update: Crisis Intervention of Houston continued marketing their active hotline through events, flyers, ads, training, and workshops with parents, faith leaders, law enforcement, and youth. Call volume remained roughly consistent in Q5. Counselors assess risk or threat of violence or self-harm for all calls and provide counselling over the phone and refer individuals for in person services as needed.

Alameda County Sheriff's Office (Oakland, CA) \$499,125

Description: Through a number of integrated efforts, this project supports the successful reentry of Alameda County residents into the community following release by working with the Criminal Justice Mental Health Program, the Probation Department, and case managers to identify individuals. They will also develop a referral network to work with individuals who may be susceptible to violent extremism as well as a trauma-informed, evidence-based curriculum for system-involved adults. The project focuses on all forms of violent extremism.

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (Las Vegas, NV) \$500,000

Description: The recipient is creating a community-led and interdisciplinary coalition to develop and administer an intervention program for community members at risk of recruitment to violent extremism. The recipient builds on existing terrorism prevention programs that have been in place since 2009, as well as a robust set of engagement activities that address the drivers of violent extremism and support the development of an intervention program. The project focuses on all forms of violent extremism.

Quarterly Update: The Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department community coalition worked on their charter, to include confidentiality agreements and protocols and piloted their private online portal for coalition members. They also continued to manage the limited number of cases they currently have.

Focus Area 4: Challenging the Narrative

America Abroad Media (Washington, D.C.) \$647,546

Description: The recipient is hosting hackathons that bring together diverse groups of Muslim and non-Muslim creative artists to develop communications campaigns and content that not only counter the influence of ISIL but also encourage and enable community members to develop and promote their own CVE content. The project will focus on countering ISIS propaganda.

Quarterly Update: America Abroad Media's *The Disrupters* team began working with the New York event teams to commence production on their proposed campaigns and continued to provide support to the active Los Angeles teams: A feature length film had a completely locked script and was beginning pre-production, one project; a Virtual Reality Concept had begun work on its pitch documents and attained some VR technical training; and a short film was working on funding opportunities needed for production.

Rochester Institute of Technology (Rochester, NY) \$149,955

Description: The recipient is developing an app that will put links to open source, high-quality video editing tools, basic media content creation tools, tips on social media marketing, and pithy, relevant research findings on radicalization and recruitment in the hands of thousands. This will help make the creation of counter messages a viral practice. The project will focus on countering all forms of violent extremist propaganda.

Quarterly Update: Rochester Institute of Technology completed procurement of their app developer and made scheduled progress on visual elements, brand development style guide, and content creation.

Masjid Muhammad, Inc. (Washington, D.C.) \$531,195

Description: The recipient is creating a robust, online multimedia platform that challenges online radicalization narratives with positive, inclusive narratives across a variety of digital media. The project will work with local law enforcement and introduce Muslim groups to them through dialogue and engagement. The project will focus on international terrorist organizations most often targeting American Muslims.

Quarterly Update Masjid Muhammad continued development of video content that included interviews with former extremists and planned a symposium taking place in early Q6. The video content can be found here: <http://www.amateinitiative.com/videos>

Focus Area 5: Building Capacity

University of San Diego (San Diego, CA) \$634,769

Description: The recipient will increase community resilience to violent extremism by implementing an initiative that will build the capacity of CBOs to constructively engage Somali and Iraqi youth in refugee communities in San Diego and El Cajon. The project will increase a sense of community and reduce social isolation among the youth, while building trust between the youth and other sectors of society including law enforcement, school officials, and the business community.

Quarterly Update: University of San Diego completed skill development courses with an additional three cohorts of youth at the three sites administered in conjunction with community partners. They applied lessons learned from previous cohorts to enhance their skill development activities as well as their assessment techniques. They continued to work with their community partners to build capacity of each partner during this quarter.

Green Light Project Inc. DBA The Counter Extremism Project (New York, NY) \$298,760

Description: Counter Extremism Project (CEP) is enhancing the capacity of its sub-recipient to better engage in challenging violent extremist narratives through a positive narrative-based website called MuslimWorldToday.org to provide social resources and to allow Southern/Central Asian persons a safe space online to discuss subjects relating to religion and integrating into the US. The project will focus on international terrorist organizations most often targeting American Muslim youth.

Quarterly Update: The sub-recipient continued to engage its audience with fresh content through its website MuslimWorldToday.org and social media, resulting in thousands of impressions each day with programmatic oversight skills enhanced by work and training provided by CEP.