

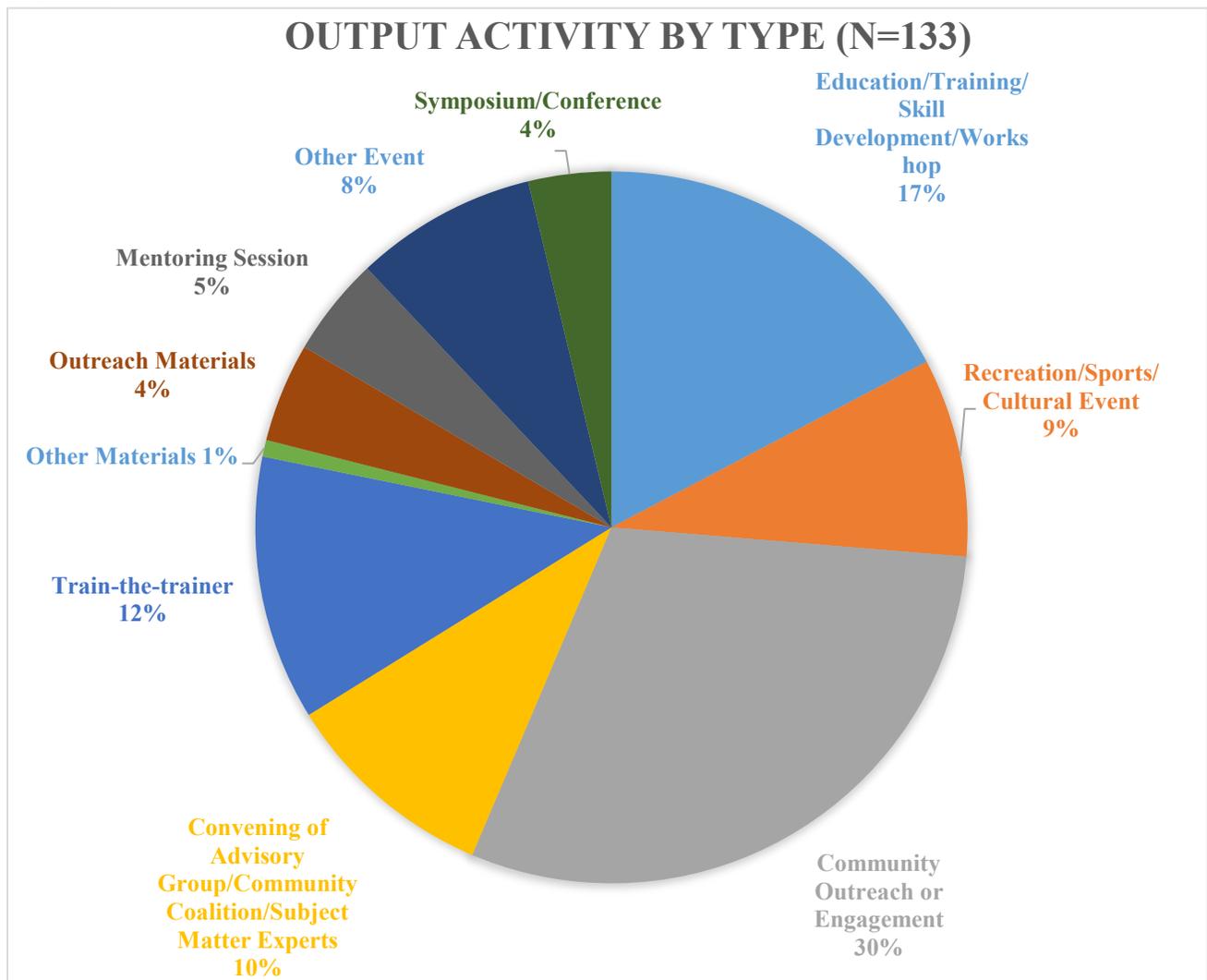


# Office for Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention

Quarterly Update on Programmatic Performance  
FY16 Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Grant Program  
Quarter 6: October 1 to December 31, 2018

## Performance Measurement

The sixth quarter (Q6) of the grant program ran from October 1 – December 31, 2018. Grantees reported an increase in the number of participants at fewer events despite a decrease in total number of activities from Q5 to Q6. The distribution between types of events differed, resulting in a higher number of actual participants in the programs. The breakdown of Q6 activity by type is below.



Activities during Q6 occurred during the fall and winter holidays of 2018, which resulted in a lower number of events held than prior quarters. However, the events were larger in scale, which led to an overall increase in the number of participants. Grantees reported in-person activities with participation from approximately 7,200 individuals, with a greater increase of *Education/Training/Skill Development/Workshop* programs than in previous quarters. The total number of participants in the grantee activities over the entire program is approximately 40,000.

### **Highlights from Reported Activities**

- Seattle Police Department held a series of events in December 2018 that combined elements of their police/youth athletic programming and The IF Project,<sup>1</sup> which aims to share stories of incarcerated individuals to help divert youth away from criminal activity. They had over 1,000 participants in these events, including youth and their parents and police officers.
- The University of San Diego Connected Youth-Resilient Communities program successfully completed all planned grant-funded community activities and will now focus on building capacity through data analysis and synthesis. The organization had a total of 131 youth participants go through the program and worked to increase belonging in the community as a way to decrease the sense of isolation. The program reported an increase in community engagement and trust between youth and law enforcement, school peers, and other communities.

### **Digital Activity**

Projects challenging violent recruitment and radicalization narratives had approximately 1 million impressions during the quarter. Of note was an event sponsored through America Abroad Media's grant. The project team hosted a dinner in Milwaukee for 30 influencers to promote a message challenging hate. Milwaukeeans Against Hate utilized the #CrossTheLine ("Crossed the line from hate to love") and had 400,000 impressions of their messages.

### **Lesson Learned/Promising Practices**

**Adaptability:** One organization, focusing on increasing resilience among young people and strengthening community-based organizations by connecting youth with law enforcement, has also seen demand from older refugee populations in the area to participate in the program. In seeing the need to provide integration programs for older populations, as well as the younger population they serve, the program allowed older participants the opportunity to observe and participate in the program. This has provided a way to institutionalize a program that will be able to reach refugee students of all ages.

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<sup>1</sup> The IF Project collects stories that are in response to the question "If there was something someone could have said or done that would have changed the path that led you here, what would it have been?"

## **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 one YPIP session with 14 youth and 4 Boston Police Officers. For the first time, parents of Somali youth observed the session, which focused on academic tutoring, religious and cultural awareness, and sports programs. Parental observation of the session indicates a further acceptance of BPD involvement and engagement with the Somali community. As a result, BPD intends to continue to work with United Somali Youth, a local Somali-American organization that has partnered with Police Foundation for program implementation..

#### **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 Project COMMON BOND Curriculum Director participated in a panel discussion at the Conference on Victims of Terrorism in Madrid, Spain, which saw hundreds of participants, mostly from European counties. Tuesday's Children continues to finalize 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 amongst mental health specialists; corporate analysts; nonprofit partners; foundation and philanthropy experts; and international experts whom 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, including domestic terrorism, to provide information on best practices in recovery. They immediately conducted outreach to community leaders in Pittsburgh, PA following the Synagogue attack in October 2018.

### **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 and have added four additional parent group programs in public schools, working with instructors to utilize evaluation tools to improve the projects on site. The youth programs were incorporated into in-school programs this quarter, and mold the curriculum according to cohort and timeframe. Two parent programs work with Somali- and Bhutanese-American women to incorporate curriculum on cultural identity, parenting, community engagement, violence prevention, and resilience. Heartland reports an increase of community integration amongst the parent group participants, and continued involvement with the program. Additionally, Heartland Democracy Center has created a development plan to carry the program beyond the conclusion of the grant.

### **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 Q6, Peace Catalyst International continued to support local projects via the implementation of local working groups to increase inclusivity between Muslim and Christian communities and assisted the groups in finalizing program plans. Peace Catalyst International also progressed with preparation for their 2019 Consultation conference, which will feature faith leaders participating in panels and discussion on increasing understanding of factors that contribute to vulnerabilities associated with violent extremism.

### **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 completed 4 workshops for the Immigrant Family Institute (IFI) and Strengthening Families program. The IF Project works with youth involved in the criminal justice system, and is part of a diversion program to give the youth an opportunity to make a change. SPD also hosted two Community History Institutes, which bring community and police officers together to discuss public safety issues and build trust.

**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 Q6. NICE continued it’s the Youth Empowered to Achieve (YEA!) curriculum through several engagements and hosted several cross-cultural events, including two cultural exchanges between different faith groups. Additionally, parents of YEA! participants requested a Thanksgiving event hosted by NICE, and 89 community members attended the event.

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:** The City of Houston Office of Public Safety & Homeland Security held 2 Steering Committee meetings and various focus group and interview sessions for project development. Two members of the project participated in CVE training in Denver, CO, in conjunction with other grant program participants.

**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 completed four community leaders training and nine law enforcement trainings, across eleven cities in New Jersey. Portions of the training included presentations by law enforcement on New Jersey-specific cases that were particularly engaging to the training audience. Feedback provided after the training sessions helped assess local concerns on threat reporting and mental health issues, and Global Peace Foundation was able to cater and adjust programming accordingly. Additionally, the grantee reported efforts were underway for the training program to be incorporated into the basic training for the vast majority of NJ law enforcement who are under the auspices of the New Jersey Police Training Commission.

#### **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 providing 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 continued to deliver threat awareness briefings to the community this quarter, and have increased their use of digital resources to increase awareness and participation. In addition to social media outreach to create interest in the awareness briefings, the Dearborn Police have also canvassed door-to-door with flyers advertising the briefings.

#### **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:** The recipient reported no activities this quarter.

**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:** The City of Arlington Police Department conducted three community engagement presentations across the city, interacting with approximately 90 individuals.

**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 hosted three in-state Policy Academy workshops in Colorado, Illinois, and Virginia. In addition to the workshops, they hosted two webinars to enhance state and other practitioners to inform their work: The Anti-Defamation League on Implicit Bias, Extremism, and Protecting Civil Rights; and The Strong Cities Network

**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 providing its law enforcement training to 70 new law enforcement officers and 15 new mentors in Q6. DPD also conducted several community awareness briefings with participation from 20+ city agencies and departments, and empowers community members to navigate city resources and services for themselves and their neighbors. DPD held 23 outreach programs this quarter, reaching a total of 319 community members.

### 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 to targeted individuals. 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 Q6. Counselors assessed risk or threat of violence or self-harm for all calls and provided counselling over the phone and referred individuals for in person services, as needed. Additionally, two hotline trainings were conducted and six additional counselors trained.

### **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 at high risk of violence/reoffending. 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.

**Quarterly Update:** The recipient reported no activities this quarter.

### **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 continued to meet during Q7.

## 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 continued to provide development guidance to the winners of "The Disruptors" hackathon in Los Angeles. One short-film project, which shares the experiences of a Muslim-American woman effecting positive change in the lives of the people around her, is in post-production and planning for film festival submissions. Additionally, the organization has also continued work with the winners of the New York City hackathon, which will feature concepts for digital campaigns to promote action of their followers. One campaign has focused on uniting against hate online, and launched the tagline, "All Love, No Hate," and #CrossTheLine, and has partnered with local businesses to display no hate posters.

### **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 continued working on the Brand development, Mobile application, Media Kit website and Media Kit visual asset development. They continued refining and adapting core interaction models for the media builder as well as expanding materials to various integrated online and offline visual assets that are downloadable and ready-to-use. During this quarter they began developing the media builder application framework with their technology service vendor.

#### **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 completed and unveiled four short films and a full-feature documentary on countering violent extremism tailored to the Washington, D.C. area and featured Islamic voices of scholars and notable speakers. Additionally, during this quarter, Masjid Muhammad conducted a large-scale Symposium at the United States Institute of Peace featuring researchers, CVE experts, government officials, and interfaith organizations. The Symposium consisted of panel discussions on creating sustainable strategies to counter extremism and featured a former extremist.

#### 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 Counter Extremism Project. MuslimWorldToday.org also executed their third Social Media outreach Campaign, which focused on the celebration of diverse communities during the holiday season.