



Office of Terrorism Prevention Partnerships

Quarterly Update on Programmatic Performance

FY16 Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Grant Program

Quarter 1-2 August 1 to December 31, 2017

Introduction

Through the first 5 months of performance on the CVE Grant Program, OTPP has seen observed significant early accomplishments and several trends that may develop into promising or best practices.¹ As expected, most recipients largely undertook administrative activities in Q1 and while some had a longer than expected ramp up period given the delay in making awards and other factors, all but one have removed all major administrative hurdles and began substantive work toward their project goals by the close of Q2. Several grantees were well positioned to begin work quickly or had significant project activities front-loaded in their project plans relative to others.

Trends

Several trends have emerged during this period:

1. There has been great enthusiasm for law enforcement training in the area of terrorism prevention. For example, one project aimed to conduct law enforcement training for just three communities in New Jersey. However, their partnership with state-level law enforcement has led several agencies to partner to train all law enforcement officers in the state over the next several years. Another example is the Denver Police Department, who was able to serve as a pilot site for DHS's Law Enforcement Awareness Briefing (LAB) as part of their project to train their police trainers to train their entire force during their period of performance.
2. Funded projects under this program are teaming up with other new or existing terrorism prevention activities to bring cost savings, depth, scale, or sustainability to their projects. In some cases this was planned in their proposal, and we are seeing that it is beginning to work as planned. For example, Peace Catalyst intended to train and create a network for paired leaders of different faiths to create resiliency frameworks in multiple cities which will be sustainable far after the period of performance. In other cases this was not planned, such as in the aforementioned case of NJ law enforcement training or in Las Vegas, where community intervention coalition members have indicated they would like to volunteer their time rather than be paid a stipend.

¹ The period of performance began on August 1, which was one month in to the quarterly reporting period established in the Notice of Funding Opportunity in order to line up with FEMA's systems and other programs. As such, the first two rounds of quarterly reporting cover only 5 months.

- Unfunded applications to the program have found other sources of funding to bring their projects to fruition. OTPP has learned of at least five such projects or portions of projects. Life after Hate has raised funds to conduct one of the three projects they proposed to DHS in their applications; LAHC has indicated they will continue to conduct their activities they proposed to DHS out of their existing funding streams; Bayan Claremont School of Theology utilized an online crowd funding platform to raise nearly all of the funds they had requested; Alliance for an Indivisible America has launched web ads similar to what was proposed in their application; and Coptic Orthodox Charities indicated that they had started to execute some of the projects they proposed in their application.

Performance Measurement

As part of their quarterly reporting, in addition to narrative descriptions of the work accomplished and quantitative measures specific to their project outcomes, recipients also submit standardized data elements to OTPP on activities that contribute to the outputs of the overall program. Outcome level data began to be reported in Q2, but it is not significant enough for meaningful analysis. In conversations with grantees, it is anticipated that reporting of outcome level data will increase in Q3 reporting. Through Q2, projects have engaged in approximately 100 activities delivering on project outputs involving over 3100 participants in person.² These include Education/Training events, Conferences, and Community Outreach or Engagement events. Virtually, on websites and in social media, grantee messages were displayed or interacted with nearly **600,000** times through the end of Q2. Traditional media coverage of grantee projects, including online articles of print publications, likely has reached well over 1 million people.³

Participants include the following:

General Community Audience	607
Young Adult/Student	565
Police/Law Enforcement	548
Parent of Youth or Young Adult (Ages 12-26)	251
Social Service Providers	237
Individuals Impacted by Terrorism	167
Government Representatives (Local, State, Federal, Tribal)	137
Mental/Behavioral Health Providers	97
Faith Leaders/ Religious leaders	88
Other Participants	86
Teachers/ School Staff / Educators	76
Business Owners/Entrepreneurs	61

² Note: these are not necessarily all unique individuals. OTPP provided reporting guidance to avoid intentionally counting the same participants twice, such capturing a series of events with the same known audience in one line (e.g. a training course held weekly with the same students each week). Nevertheless there may be some overlap if the same participants attended more than one event, not covered by that guidance.

³ Traditional media reach statistics are harder to determine, use of monthly readership, ratings, etc. suggest significant coverage.

Other Service providers	50
Youth Workers	42
Public Health Professionals	42
Community Organization Representative	24
Volunteers	21
Other Front Line Workers (non-government)	18
Activists/Advocates	14
Other Front Line Workers (government)	2
Total	3133

Highlights from Reported Activities

- America Abroad Media’s October Hackathon in LA featured a closing event with 131 community members in attendance.
- Global Peace Foundation’s Presentation to a State Psychology Association with 50 Mental/Behavioral Health Providers.
- National Consortium for Advanced Policing presented at the Leadership in Counter Terrorism Conference reaching a large Law Enforcement audience to discuss options for intervention with mental/behavioral health, or social services, when there is concern, but not evidence of a crime.
- Crisis Intervention of Houston launched their ACTNOW Hotline at the very end of the reporting period, but did get 17 calls seeking crisis intervention services despite their outreach activities being largely conducted after the reporting period closed.
- Alameda County Sheriff’s Office began in December meeting with 28 businesses, to develop post release job opportunities for their incarcerated participants.
- Counter Extremism Project’s Partner MuslimWorldToday.org, has begun to build out its online presence and has had interactions or impressions totaling nearly 400,000 across its social media brand and website.
- Grantees have completed twelve training curricula for use in furthering their projects.

Partnerships

OTPP has requested information on recipients’ partnerships they are utilizing in completing their project, and to continue to report new partnerships as they develop them each quarter. The following is a breakdown of the number and type of partnerships they have reported:

Non-governmental Service Providers	147
Local Police/Law Enforcement Agencies	117
Faith/Religious Leaders	80
Charities, Private Foundations	47
Institutes of Higher Education	45
Activists/ Advocates	41
Local Government Service Providers	37

Key Influencers	33
Schools	30
International Organizations/Foreign Governments	30
Federal Agencies/Representatives - Non-Law Enforcement	22
Large Businesses/Corporations	18
Cultural Organizations	17
Other CVE Grant Program Recipients	16
Federal Law Enforcement Agencies	14
Small Businesses	13
State Government Service Providers	10
Social Media/Marketing/Tech Companies	9
Other (Please Specify)	8
State Police/Law Enforcement Agencies	6
Total	740

Individual Project Descriptions and Progress

Below are descriptions for all CVEGP grant recipients, and includes selected discussions of progress from the most recent quarterly performance reports.

Focus Area 1: Developing Resilience

Police Foundation (Washington, D.C.) \$484,835: The recipient is creating mentoring programs between Boston Police Department 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 ISIS, Al-Shabaab and other Islamist terrorist movements most often targeting Somali-American youth. Since its inception, Police Foundation has finalized its data collection methodology, executed its sub awards to its community partners, and launched the first YPIP cohort.

Tuesday's Children (New York, NY) \$386,670: 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. Since its inception,

Tuesday's Children has provided training and other resources to over 100 social and mental/behavioral health providers and has reached hundreds of thousands of people via social media and television and print interviews describing their project and their available resources.

Heartland Democracy Center (Minneapolis, MN) \$423,340: 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. In the second quarter, Heartland Democracy greatly expanded its outreach to develop trusted relationships with key community partners like school districts, civic leaders, and New American communities in rural Minnesota.

Peace Catalyst International (Greenwood Village, CO) \$95,000: 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. In the second quarter, Peace Catalyst developed the agenda for its first Faith Leaders' Network Conference, to be held in April at Duke University, which will spearhead the development of community resilience plans in numerous communities.

Seattle Police Department (Seattle, WA) \$409,390: 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 of an existing program that guides police resource investments at the neighborhood level in concert with community representatives. The project has the capacity to address all forms of violent extremist threats identified in the community assessments. In the second quarter, Seattle PD formalized plans for more intensive outreach to immigrant families, and completed a survey of immigrant communities that resulted in over five thousand respondents.

Nashville International Center for Empowerment (Nashville, TN) \$445,110: 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 both Islamist terrorism and domestic terrorism. Nashville International Center for Empowerment expanded its outreach activities in the second quarter, adding 93 organizations and generating 98 attendees at events they supported during the quarter.

Focus Area 2: Training & Engagement

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

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. This grantee encountered delays attributable to the impacts of Hurricane Harvey, but in the second quarter had secured vendors to implement its programs.

Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (Chicago, IL) \$187,877: 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. In the second quarter, the grantee engaged with five different localities to establish future focus groups that will support the training programs in specific communities.

Global Peace Foundation (Lanham, MD) \$453,497: The recipient is developing and 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 NJ Attorney General's Office and other law enforcement entities, to bring this training to all law enforcement officers in NJ by 2020, to include local police, state police, corrections officers, prosecutors, etc.

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (Lincoln, NE) \$300,000: The recipient conducts community engagement that identifies and addresses barriers to reporting in rural and small/mid-sized communities, facilitating the reporting of concerns, enhancing resilience of local communities to all forms of violent extremism and increased awareness of observable behaviors associated with the process of radicalization. The recipient addresses all forms of violent extremism and will document their process for ease of replication in other locales. In the second quarter, Nebraska held a webinar with numerous state agencies, held a breakout session at a national conference of emergency response professionals to solicit input on their approach, and began work to pilot its approach in different sites in the state.

City of Dearborn Police Department (Dearborn, MI) \$51,521: 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/awareness briefings will be 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. Dearborn has completed their training

curriculum and held a train-the-trainer event for their officers who will be delivering the curriculum in their community.

National Consortium for Advanced Policing (Los Angeles, CA) \$200,000: The recipient is delivering a community resiliency training program across the 66 largest metro areas in the country that will provide an understanding of (a) all forms of violent extremism and how they manifest themselves in local communities; (b) how community policing strategies can be used to develop a safety net of relationships that can lead to early detection and prevention; and (c) 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.

Hennepin County Sheriff's Office (Minneapolis, MN) \$347,600: The recipient is implementing multiple instances of a two-day community engagement workshop and expand the recipient's Community Engagement Team. As an agency, it has invested and prioritized resources to engage new residents in order to monitor trends, learn from cultural communities, and work daily to grow outreach to meet the demand for prevention and education initiatives among new Americans. The project will focus on ISIS, Al-Shabaab and other Islamist terrorist movements most often targeting Somali youth. In the second quarter, the recipient made good progress building the infrastructure required to complete the project, such as identifying personnel for community liaison activities and hosting a citizen's academy to identify non-profit community organizations to perform services.

City of Arlington Police Department (Arlington, TX) \$47,497: The recipient is developing and delivering an engagement program to strengthen partnerships between the recipient and the Muslim community in Arlington. The recipient has long been creating and sustaining engagement programming 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. The project will focus on ISIS, Al-Shabaab and other Islamist terrorist movements most often targeting American Muslim youth. In the second quarter, the Arlington PD began cultural sensitivity training for sworn officers and secured agreements with a half-dozen community partners to host events supporting the project.

National Governors Association (NGA) Center for Best Practices (Washington, D.C.) \$500,000: The grantee is founding and launching a "State Approaches to Violent Extremism (S.A.V.E.) Policy Academy" program through governors' offices across the US. 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. In the second quarter, the NGA held its first roundtable to produce the aforementioned roadmap, and also held elicitation sessions with 46 experts.

Denver Police Department \$481,313: 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. The recipient has now conducted extensive training for Denver police instructors and will soon begin training its line officers.

Focus Area 3: Interventions

City of Los Angeles Mayor's Office of Public Safety (Los Angeles, CA) \$425,000: The recipient is expanding the reach and accessibility of CVE programming across the approximately 10 million people in the LA region. It will complement other CVE prevention, resilience and mental health services ongoing in the LA Area. The recipient will deploy a comprehensive training program to elevate knowledge and access to resources for interventions in coordination with CVE professionals and Community Based Organizations. The recipient held public meetings during the first two quarters to formally approve projects.

Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (MA EOPSS) (Boston, MA) \$500,000: 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 and cultural identity, good communication skills, pro-social connections/social support/family ties, success and commitment to education and employment goals, and positive community engagement. The project will focus on addressing the drivers of violent extremism and is able to address all forms of violent extremism. In the second quarter, the recipient added clinicians to the project staff, identified its project participants, assessed needs, and began providing services to participants.

Crisis Intervention of Houston, Inc. (Houston, TX) \$500,000: The recipient is addressing all forms of violent extremism by 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. As of the second quarter, Crisis Intervention of Houston has launched its marketing materials, trained call center staff and local law enforcement personnel, and have begun referring callers to services on the basis of vulnerability to recruitment or radicalization.

Alameda County Sheriff's Office (Oakland, CA) \$499,125: Through a number of integrated efforts, this project supports the successful reentry of Alameda County residents in the criminal justice system who may be susceptible to radicalization and violent extremism. The recipient works with Criminal Justice Mental Health, Probation, and Case Managers to identify individuals susceptible to radicalization and violent extremism. 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 will focus on all forms of violent extremism. In the second quarter, the recipient finalized its evaluation plans as well as the referral network design, and submitted plans to the County Board of Supervisors for approval.

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (Las Vegas, NV) \$500,000: 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 all forms of 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 that have led to a community-based demand for an intervention program. The project will focus on all forms of violent extremism. As of the second quarter, the grantee has completed most of its administrative and program infrastructure requirements, in spite of delays incurred in the aftermath of the October 2017 mass casualty shooting.

Focus Area 4: Challenging the Narrative

America Abroad Media (Washington, D.C.) \$647,546: 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 ISIL propaganda. This recipient has already held one of three hackathons which developed significant content for their portal.

Rochester Institute of Technology (Rochester, NY) \$149,955: 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 ISIS propaganda.

Masjid Muhammad, Inc. (Washington, D.C.) \$531,195: 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 ISIS, Al-Shabaab and other Islamist terrorist movements most often targeting American Muslims. In the second quarter, the grantee launched the American Muslims Against Terrorism and Extremism campaign, based on a website located at www.amateinitiative.com and the #enoughisenough campaign.

Focus Area 5: Building Capacity

University of San Diego (San Diego, CA) \$634,769: 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. Over the course of the second quarter, the project team conducted five individual capacity building sessions with subawardees on topics ranging from organizational structure to conducting effective community outreach, and one joint session on effective facilitation with young adults.

Green Light Project Inc. DBA The Counter Extremism Project (New York, NY)

\$298,760: The recipient will establish 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 ISIS, Al-Shabaab and other Islamist terrorist movements most often targeting American Muslim youth. This portal launched and is engaged with its audience through its website and social media brand. There were nearly 400,000 online contacts and impressions through Dec. 31, 2017.