



## **Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services**

### **BYRNE/JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT SOLICITATION**

### **Virginia Response to Violent Extremism, Domestic Terrorism and Hate Crime**

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**BYRNE/JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT SOLICITATION**

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## **Law Enforcement and First Responder Cooperative Response Training**

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Cities and counties within the Commonwealth have or may experience large-scale demonstrations and protest marches, and in some cases, these events may escalate into rioting. It is important that law enforcement agencies make improving relationships with their local and state partners when responding to these demonstrations a top priority to maintain public safety.

Strong relationships of mutual trust between law enforcement agencies, first responders and the communities they serve are critical. In the wake of recent incidents involving large gatherings of diverse and divisive groups protesting controversial issues, this critical community trust can be irreparably harmed if citizens feel endangered or persons expressing their 1<sup>st</sup> amendment rights are injured in the process. Integral to building community trust are the relationships between local and state agencies responding to these disorderly events. First responders may include local law enforcement, including police agencies and Sheriff's offices, the Virginia State Police, emergency management personnel, Fire Fighters and Emergency Medical Services personnel and allied professional specific to the community. Each agency must know how and when to respond and work with surrounding localities and state agencies to ensure public safety for all involved.

While the Incident Command System is well understood and used by all law enforcement agencies, when multiple agencies are responding to an event, it is important that there is a previously developed, systematic, and sustainable plan for response in place which leverages intelligence, information sharing, and coordinated action plans.

Project proposals submitted in response to this grant solicitation will allow law enforcement agencies, along with first responders and other stakeholders to plan for, train and respond to identified regional gaps by implementing evidence-based policing programs and practices.

This funding will assist in the delivery of evidence based policing strategies and build long- term and sustainable collaboration with their law enforcement partners within the Commonwealth through stronger mutual aid agreements.

DCJS will make up to seven (7) awards- one in each state police region. Multijurisdictional projects are highly encouraged. Successful proposals will include a comprehensive program that includes regional planning meetings and training sessions to address the necessary components of mutual aid and problem solving, as well as addressing police legitimacy by developing a cohesive plan to address disorder while supporting community safety. Since demonstrations and protest marches can occur in communities of any size, it is incumbent that there is an integration of resources and manpower while adhering to a structured and balanced response plan.

Project proposals may include but are not limited to: training on smart policing and evidence-based practices addressing crime and disorder, review and table top exercises, and networking and practical exercises on how to coordinate and respond to potential issues which may arise within their area (hot spots). Intelligence development and information analysis and sharing may also be aspects of the project. The Smart Policing Initiative (SPI) represents a strategic approach that brings more “science” into criminal justice operations by leveraging innovative applications of analysis, technology, and evidence-based practices with the goal of improving performance, effectiveness, and responsiveness. Projects that include aspects of SPI or other evidence-based programs are highly encouraged.

Proposed projects may include contracts for consultants and facilitators to assist with planning activities and the provision of training. Equipment requests must be thoroughly justified and directly related to the project proposal. Requests for equipment should be limited to items needed for the purposes of planning and training personnel.

**Amount Available:**

DCJS anticipates making up to seven awards at up to \$150,000 each.

**DCJS Staff Contacts:**

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## **Development of training curricula for regional academies on countering violent extremism, domestic terrorism and hate crime.**

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The establishment and preservation of public trust continues to be an important element in effective law enforcement practices. The effective training of law enforcement officers is foundational to establishing community trust. Well trained and prepared officers not only enhance the safety of the community but also create a safer environment for themselves and other first responders.

The National Institute of Justice recently tasked the RAND corporation to host a panel of law enforcement experts to identify high-priority needs for innovation in law enforcement, covering advances in technology, policy, and practice. Among the top findings is a need to improve practitioners' knowledge of available research and technology, starting with a central knowledge repository and research on how to improve dissemination and training methods. The report also found a need for practices and technologies to improve police-community relations, both to improve encounters with the public and to improve community relations more broadly.

Recent national news reports and events here in Virginia have revealed a need for training officers to effectively deal with citizens who have domestic terroristic and violent extremist views. Because of this new reality, it is more important than ever that law enforcement leaders are given the tools they need to incorporate successful strategies to counter violent extremism.

The Commonwealth is committed to enhancing the safety of its constituents through continued training of law enforcement officers and development of curricula to assist regional and independent criminal justice training academies in providing cutting edge training in a sustainable and cost effective manner.

DCJS will award funds to one entity with the demonstrated capacity to develop curricula, lesson plans and other supportive material on the topics of countering violent extremism, domestic terrorism and hate crime that include the utilization of distance learning and that may be delivered at the local or regional level.

The successful applicant will provide multiple delivery modalities that include, but are not limited to; traditional classroom sessions, webinars and on-line training.

Project deliverables should include one or more train the trainer sessions for DCJS certified trainers and academy staff.

**Amount Available:**

DCJS anticipates making one award of up to \$100,000.

**DCJS Staff Contacts:**

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## **Implementation of Projects Which Increase Cultural Exposure to Promote Community Resilience in Youth**

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### **Introduction:**

In the wake of recent events by violent extremists and hate groups, DCJS is making funds available to implement programs or practices which prevent recruitment or radicalization to violence and promote community resilience in youth. Greater exposure to all cultures can have a meaningful impact on a youth's understanding of and attitudes toward others. Applicants may submit proposals to contract with consulting organizations to develop comprehensive programs for schools, detention centers, community programs, and other settings where youth congregate. The programs should be designed to create lasting change in the youth and in the culture of the environment.

There are existing state and national organizations which support inclusion and the breakdown of racial and ethnic barriers, while promoting acceptance of and appreciation for differences. While this should not be considered an endorsement of any one program or organization over any other, potential consulting organizations to explore include the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities; the Southern Poverty Law Center; the Simon Wiesenthal Center; the Virginia Holocaust Museum; and the United States Holocaust Museum. Applicants are encouraged to explore the various consultant organizations and determine which best meets their local needs. Proper justification for the organization is required in the grant application.

While not an exhaustive list, possible projects include:

- Sending delegations of students to summer leadership programs, then having the consultant organization work with the youth leaders to develop school-wide programs to implement the following academic year, after the grant funding ends;
- Incorporate school-wide awareness programs and assemblies into a larger program designed to promote increased cultural sensitivity and acceptance;
- Conduct an organizational assessment of the detention center, school, or other program and develop a plan to address any recommendations stemming from the assessment;
- Develop a curriculum tailored to the needs of the school, detention center, or community program.

### **Amount Available:**

Grants in amounts up to \$50,000 are available.

### **DCJS Staff Contacts:**

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## **Community Engagement to Reduce Radicalization, Domestic Extremism, and Youth and Young Adult Violence**

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The establishment and preservation of public trust continues to be an important element in effective law enforcement practices. Officers engaging in community events and activities can make an enormous contribution to building and maintaining community trust and long-lasting relationships. These events can serve as an opportunity to consistently communicate reliable information and obtain valuable feedback regarding community concerns. The events can also strengthen the ideal of the police and the citizen's relationship being more of a partnership, rather than opponents. This can be especially true for youth, young adults and for citizens in communities where violent crime is more prevalent.

Recent national news reports and events here in Virginia have revealed concerns associated with citizens who have domestic terroristic and violent extremist views. Research shows an increase in the recruitment of youth and young adults into lifestyles of radicalization and extremism. Recruitment can be driven by race, religious beliefs, political ideology and candidates or governmental systems as a whole. At the same time, violent street gangs employ a variety of seductive and coercive techniques to lure youth and young adults into criminal behaviors. Youth drawn into both groups can often lack supportive families and/or feel detached from the community.

Studies show that citizens, particularly youth, involved in community activities are significantly more likely to develop attitudes and habits that help to ensure success. Evidence-based law enforcement led athletic and mentoring programs for youth can provide youth with a sense of connections to the community, instill values, provide guidance and direction, and in some cases, hope for the future. Positive interactions with local law enforcement officers have proven to be an effective way to deter crime and could also inspire youth to pursue careers in the criminal justice system. These interactions could be particularly important for youth and young adults who may have previously felt that their gender, ethnicity or socio-economic status prevents them from entering such careers.

DCJS invites local units of government to submit grant applications supporting the implementation and/or enhancement of law enforcement led community, youth and young adult engagement programs and practices. Projects proposed under this solicitation should include well designed and innovative initiatives that seek to address the needs of the community. Proposals containing evidence-based practices and/or replicating an evidence-based program are preferred. Below are proposed projects that grantees may consider, but are not limited to:

- **Law Enforcement and Community Partnership Projects:**  
Projects that promote dialogue, collaboration, and transparency between law enforcement and community members including facilitated community discussions, support of community relations strategies, community events developed to support police/community relationships co-sponsored by law enforcement and community groups, and unity forums.



- **Police/Youth Projects**

Programs to enhance police/youth engagement in schools, and after-school programming such as: Police Athletic League (PAL) programs and youth and young adult sports programs (Midnight Basketball), Police Mentoring Programs, Law Enforcement Explorer Post, Youth Summer Camps and Young Adult Police Commissioner and Youth Advisory Boards programs.

**Amount Available:**

Grants in amounts up to \$25,000 per locality are available.

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## **Violence Focused Crime and Information Analysis**

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Data-driven and evidence-based programs use data, evidence, and innovation to create effective, economical strategies and interventions. This approach enables jurisdictions to understand the full nature and extent of the crime challenges they face and to target resources to the highest priorities. DCJS invites local units of government to submit Violence Focused Crime and Information Analysis grant applications supporting the implementation of programs based on models such as Smart Policing, Information Led Policing, Intelligence Led Policing and other similar programs and practices.

Applications may include information analysis software, computers and associated equipment, equipment, training and consultant services and may address the following:

- Establish and/or expand evidence-based practices to increase their ability to effectively and sustainably prevent and respond to crime.
- Foster effective and consistent collaborations within the applicant agencies themselves, with external agencies, and with the communities they serve to increase public safety.
- Use technology, intelligence, and data in innovative methods that enable law enforcement agencies to focus resources on the people and places associated with high concentrations of criminal behavior and crime.

Examples of innovative evidence-based and data driven programs and practices can be found at; *Crime Solutions* [www.crimesolutions.gov](http://www.crimesolutions.gov), the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse of the Education Institute of Sciences* <https://whatworks.csgjusticecenter.org>, and the *Blueprints for Healthy Youth Development website* [www.blueprintsprograms.com](http://www.blueprintsprograms.com).

### **Amount Available:**

Grants in amounts up to \$25,000 per locality are available.

### **DCJS Staff Contacts:**

Patrick Harris: 804-786-5367; [patrick.harris@dcjs.virginia.gov](mailto:patrick.harris@dcjs.virginia.gov)

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## **Application Guidelines and Forms**

### **Grant Period:**

Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis for a nine (9) month period beginning January 1, 2018 and ending September 30, 2018. Continuation funding may not be available. **Applicants may apply for grants in more than one category from this solicitation.**

### **Grant Match Requirement:**

**There will be no match requirement for this solicitation. However, future Byrne/JAG solicitations may have a match requirement.**

### **Unallowable Costs:**

Grant funds may not be used for: standard firearms, weapons, ammunition and related equipment normally and routinely provided by the locality to others in the same roles; standard clothing and uniforms normally and routinely provided by the locality to others in the same roles; basic training; construction or renovation; land acquisition; lobbying and political contributions; honoraria; bonuses; personal entertainment such as tickets to sporting events; personal calls; alcohol; or vehicles normally and routinely provided by the locality to others in the same roles.

### **Restrictions and Limitations:**

The following restrictions and limitations apply:

- Reimbursement will be based on paid invoices for *approved* expenditures;
- Changes to grant budget after award must be approved by DCJS prior to expending funds based on the changes;
- Transactions occurring outside of the grant period will not be eligible for reimbursement;
- Grant funds may not be used to supplant federal, state, or local funds that otherwise would be available for the same purposes.

### **Project Narrative:**

Each application must include a Project Narrative which may not exceed twenty (20) pages. The Project Narrative heading should include the official name of the submitting entity, and a Project Title. The Narrative must include the following sections: Need Statement, Project Description, and Budget Narrative.

**Need Statement:**

In the Need Statement section of your Project Narrative, provide: a description of your agency and community; a description of the unmet need or problem that the grant project will address; fully describing how the project will reach the stated goals of the funded project.

**Project Description:**

In the Project Description section, clearly explain how your proposal will address the identified need and impact the problem you propose to address. This should include a thorough discussion of the how the evidence-based practice or program was chosen and how it will address the unmet need or problem identified in the need statement. The project description must include a discussion of how the selected evidence-based practice or program will be replicated to ensure fidelity to the original model or is being used on a population for which national data demonstrates results.

**Budget Narrative:**

In addition to completing the Project Narrative, you must also provide a Budget Narrative that explains the reason for each requested budget item and provides the basis for its cost. All items requested in the Budget Narrative must be thoroughly justified and clearly related to the proposed project. Each item to be purchased must be separately listed with its unit cost. The *budget narrative* must thoroughly explain the relevance and importance of each item to the project.

**Performance Measures:**

Successful applicants will receive instructions on submitting performance measurement reports in compliance with federal grant requirements. Federal performance measures for Byrne/JAG are a tool used nationally to help determine the success of funded projects, and are also used to determine the success of the Byrne/JAG program overall. This is especially important to demonstrate the impact and importance of Byrne/JAG funds to the criminal justice system. Performance measures for the Byrne/JAG program are pre-determined and divided into grant purpose areas. Each project will need to meet performance measures based on the purpose area assigned to the project. DCJS staff will assist in determining the correct Byrne/JAG purpose area and the associated performance measures for successful grantees.

**How to Submit an Application:**

Applications must be submitted using the format and forms that are linked in these guidelines. Please do not alter the forms. The complete DCJS Grant Application must have an email time stamp of no later than 11:59pm Friday **November 6, 2017**. Applications received after the deadline **will not be considered**. Applications submitted by fax will not be accepted.

**Applications must be e-mailed to:**

[grantsmgmt@dcjs.virginia.gov](mailto:grantsmgmt@dcjs.virginia.gov)

Please put the name of your locality in the subject line of the email. Submissions prior to the deadline are appreciated. The Project Administrator (or designee with signatory authorization on file with DCJS) must be listed on the grant application face sheet. Please number all pages.

Please submit the application in the following order:

1. [Grant Application](#) form ([instructions](#)); [Itemized Budget](#) ([instructions](#)); [Project Goals and Objectives](#) form;
2. Project Narrative to include the Budget Narrative, all not to exceed 20 pages. The budget narrative should correspond with the Itemized Budget.
3. Signature page of the [Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment; Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements](#), signed by the city, county or town manager, state agency director, regional criminal justice academy director, etc.;
4. Signature page of the [General Grant Conditions and Assurances](#), signed by the city, county or town manager, state agency director, regional criminal justice academy director, etc.;

### **Review Process**

DCJS staff will review grant applications and forward recommendations to the Grants Committee of the Criminal Justice Services Board which will, in turn, make recommendations to the full Board. Final approval is at the discretion of the Criminal Justice Services Board.