Hello everyone,

Happy Friday!

Due to the fact that two members of the review committee will be unable to attend the Friday, September 16th meeting, we have cancelled this particular meeting.

On another note, I sent a calendar invite yesterday, for Wednesday, September 14th at 4pm for a 30 minute Kick off meeting with our legal staff. This is an important meeting as our legal staff will go over the procurement and proposal evaluation process. Although it would be ideal for everyone to attend in person, if you are unable to do so, we are happy to make a conference line available. Thank you!

Anny

Hello all,

I hope this email finds you well!

Just a reminder that we will be meeting to review and discuss the PEACE Project proposals in two weeks (starting Friday, September 16th). Please note that the schedule below is the same schedule that I sent out on August 9th. Thank you and have a wonderful Labor Day weekend!

Grant Application Review Committee Schedule

Friday, September 16th: 2-5pm
Hello all,

Please be advised that we posted the Massachusetts Promoting Engagement, Acceptance and Community Empowerment (MA PEACE) Project yesterday afternoon (080816). I have embedded the link below. That said, since we adjusted our Grant Application release date, we revised the proposal review schedule by a couple of days. Please find the revised timeline and schedule below:

Revised Timeline (subject to change)

Grant Application Release Date: August 8, 2016
Responses Due: September 12, 2016, by 12:00 p.m.
Anticipated Date for Selection Announcement: mid-October
Anticipated Grant Start Date: October 31st

We will hand deliver the proposals to you by the afternoon of September 13th. We will provide guidance as to which 2-4 proposals we will review/discuss each day. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you so much for your continued support and flexibility. Have a great day!

Revised schedule

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Monday, September 26th: 12-5pm
Anny Domercant
Senior Program Manager,
Office of Children, Youth and Families
MA Executive Office of Health and Human Services
One Ashburton Place, 11th Floor
Boston, MA 02108
Phone: 617-573-1606
I am unavailable on Friday the 16th, and the 26th. I have a hold on the 21st for a possible conference in D.C.

Thank you for your email Anne. Can you please let me know what days you will be available?
Thanks a mil!

Hi Anny,

As I stated in a previous email, my availability on those dates is limited. Do you still need me to read for you?

Anne

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Anny Domercant
Senior Program Manager,
Office of Children, Youth and Families
FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION:

Please see the below-referenced information related to the DHS Grant on Countering Violent Extremism.

From: Community Engagement [mailto:communityengagement@HQ.DHS.GOV]
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2016 11:32 AM
To: Community Engagement
Subject: Invitation: Webinar on DHS Grant Program

Dear Community Partners,

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Community Engagement section would like to share the following invitation with you:


Last year, Secretary Johnson and the DHS Office for Community Partnerships identified the need to make direct awards to non-governmental organizations for community-based countering violent extremism programs. Congress has also been supportive of this effort by appropriating $10 million specifically to support local CVE efforts.

On July 6, 2016, DHS announced the FY 2016 CVE Grant Program. For the first time, non-governmental organizations will be eligible for DHS funding to promote community resilience against the threat of violent extremism.

A series of webinars have been scheduled to assist non-governmental organizations and institutions of higher education to understand the grant program’s goals, core elements, review process, and timeline and have an opportunity to ask questions about the information presented. For your convenience, we are offering the same webinar on two different dates.

The FY 2016 CVE Grant Program is funded by DHS and administered by FEMA.

WHAT: Webinar on the DHS FY 2016 CVE Grant Program
WHO: The DHS Office for Community Partnerships and FEMA Grant Program Directorate
WHEN: Wed., July 20, 2016 – 2 to 3 p.m. (EST)  
Mon., July 25, 2016 – 2 to 3 p.m. (EST)  
WHERE: Via Adobe Connect
Web Link for July 20 webinar:
https://icpd.adobeconnect.com/grantsiga1/event/registration.html
The link will prompt you to register. Register by completing the following fields and clicking “submit.”

- Email Address
- First Name
- Last Name
- Password

Web Link for July 25 webinar:
https://icpd.adobeconnect.com/grantsiga21/event/registration.html
The link will prompt you to register. Register by completing the following fields and clicking “submit”

- Email Address
- First Name
- Last Name
- Password

(It is highly recommended that you turn up the volume on your computer speakers to listen through your computer. Also be sure to test your Adobe Connect prior to the webinar by clicking here.)

Via Phone – 800-320-4330, pin: 265976# (both webinars)
(If you choose to call in, please know that you’ll hear audio only and will have no visibility to the Adobe Connect slide deck presentation.)

For more information on the CVE Grant Program go to: https://www.dhs.gov/cvegrants.

If you have any questions, please contact FEMA’s Intergovernmental Affairs Division at (202) 646-3444 or at FEMA-IGA@fema.dhs.gov.
I am a little late sending this along. Last Wednesday, the Department of Homeland Security announced a new funding opportunity. For more information on how to apply please go to www.dhs.gov/cvegrants. The application period is open until September 6, 2016.

Although not required, please let me know if your organization plans to apply. I’m trying to track the number of applicants from Massachusetts.

Thanks. Hope all is well.

Brandy

***********

Brandy Donini-Melanson
Strategic Engagement & Law Enforcement Coordinator
U.S. Attorney’s Office
1 Courthouse Way, Ste. 9200
Boston, MA 02210
617-748-3256

Dear Community Partners,

Last year, Secretary Johnson and the DHS Office for Community Partnerships identified the need to make direct awards to non-governmental organizations for community-based countering violent extremism (CVE) programs. Congress has also been supportive of this effort by appropriating $10 million specifically to support local CVE efforts.

Today, DHS announced the FY 2016 CVE grant program. For the first time, non-governmental organizations will be eligible for DHS funding to promote community resilience against the threat of violent extremism.

The DHS Office for Community Partnerships is working closely with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to ensure funding is awarded to community-based
programs that draw from a range of local partners—for example, educators, social service and mental health providers, faith leaders and public safety officials.

The notice of funding opportunity and application process is now open. For more information on how to apply please go here: www.dhs.gov/cvegrants.

For programmatic questions about the funding opportunity please reach out to: CommunityPartnerships@hq.dhs.gov.

Thank you.

THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY ANNOUNCES THE COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM GRANT PROGRAM

WASHINGTON—On Wednesday, July 6, 2016, Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson announced the Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Grant Program, with $10 million in available funds. This is the first federal assistance program devoted exclusively to providing local communities with the resources to counter violent extremism in the homeland.

“As I have said before, given the nature of the evolving terrorist threat, building bridges to local communities is as important as any of our other homeland security missions,” said Secretary Johnson. “This new grant program is an important step forward in these efforts and reflects the Department’s continued commitment to protect the homeland and uphold our values.”

In addition to state, local and tribal governments, non-profit organizations and institutions of higher education are eligible to apply. These grants will help scale community-led initiatives across the country to address the evolving terrorist threat, including international and domestic terrorism. Specifically, funding will support training, community engagements, and activities that challenge violent extremist narratives used to recruit and radicalize individuals to violence.

The Department’s efforts to partner with local communities are a central part of its CVE mission. These grants will empower local communities to provide resources to friends, families and peers who may know someone on the path toward violent extremism, encouraging community-based solutions to deter an individual well before criminal or terrorist action, which would require the attention of law enforcement.

This grant program was developed by the DHS Office for Community Partnerships in conjunction with the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The Office for Community Partnerships builds relationships with local communities and leads the Department’s CVE mission, focusing efforts to find innovative ways to discourage violent extremism and undercut terrorist narratives.

For more information on the FY16 CVE Grant Program, visit www.dhs.gov and www.grants.gov.
Community Engagement Section
Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL)
Office of the Secretary
US Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
CommunityEngagement@hq.dhs.gov (Email)
http://www.dhs.gov/crcl
Hello everyone,

I hope this email finds you well! The Grant Application is currently under review. Please find our revised timeline below.

Our revised timeline is (subject to change):

Grant Application Release Date: July 15, 2016
Grant Application Responses Due: August 26, 2016, by 2:00 p.m.
Anticipated Date for Selection Announcement: mid-October
Anticipated Grant Start Date: October 30th

We will hand deliver the proposals to you by August 30th whereby you will have about 2 weeks to read the proposals. We would like to schedule the proposal reviews for the following dates/times at One Ashburton Place, exact location, TBD:

Proposal Reviews

**Tuesday, September 13: 2-5pm**
**Wednesday, September 14th: 2-5pm**
**Friday, September 16th: 2-5pm**
**Tuesday, September 20th: 2-5pm**
**Wednesday, September 21st: 2-5pm**
**Friday, September 23rd: 2-5pm**

Please let me know by Wednesday, **(07/06/16)** if you will be available during these dates/times.

Thank you for your efforts on this. It is very much appreciated! Have a wonderful and safe 4th of July weekend!

Anny
Hi all,

I hope all is well!

We are still in the process of reviewing the Draft ‘Enhancing Resilience to Violent Extremism’ RFR. We have had to (slightly) adjust our schedule since the last email.

Our revised timeline is (subject to change):

- Grant Application Release Date: July 11, 2016
- Grant Application Responses Due: August 8, 2016, by 2:00 p.m.
- Anticipated Date for Selection Announcement: TBD
- Anticipated Grant Start Date: September 23, 2016

We will need at least two weeks to process a final draft which will include feedback/approval from legal and the Secretary's Office.

That said, we are planning to hand deliver the proposals to you by August 10th whereby you will have about 2 weeks to read the proposals. We would like to schedule the proposal reviews from **August 23rd through August 26th from 12-5pm**. Please let me know by tomorrow (06/30/16) if you will be available during these dates/times. Thank you for your efforts on this. It is very much appreciated!

Anny
As you may know, EOHHS is in the process of developing the RFR for the Enhancing Resilience to Violent Extremism grant. The RFR will take into account information received through the RFI and in accordance with the requirements of the Cooperative Agreement that we signed with the U.S. Attorney’s Office on September 30th. **We are reaching out to you for two requests:**

- **Can you please assist us in reviewing and commenting on the final draft of the RFR?** We anticipate this will take approximately 6 hours between now and 6/20.

- **Can you please serve as a member of a review committee for the Enhancing Resilience to Violent proposals which will anticipate will be due to EOHHS on August 1, 2016?** We are planning to review the proposals between August 2nd and August 12th.

Please let us know (by Friday, June 3rd) if you are able to participate. Thank you for your attention to this email and we look forward to your response!

Anny Domercant  
Senior Program Manager, Office of Children, Youth and Families  
MA Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
One Ashburton Place, 11th floor  
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Phone: 617-573-1606  
Email: anny.domercant@state.ma.us
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MA Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
One Ashburton Place, 11th floor  
Boston, MA 02108  
Phone: 617-573-1606  
Email: anny.domercant@state.ma.us
Hello everyone,

I hope this email finds you well!

Please find the attached revised Draft RFR, for your confidential review and comment. This draft incorporates your feedback from Monday’s conference call. We are asking you to please review this draft and feel free to send your comments (in track changes) to me by 2pm on this Friday. Please note that we anticipate another round of reviews, so you will have the opportunity to provide more feedback next week. Thank you so much for your continued support on this initiative! Have a great afternoon.

Anny Domercant
Senior Program Manager, Office of Children, Youth and Families
MA Executive Office of Health and Human Services
One Ashburton Place, 11th floor
Boston, MA 02108
Phone: 617-573-1606
Email: anny.domercant@state.ma.us
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Grant Application
For Enhancing Resilience to
Violent Extremism in Massachusetts

ISSUED: June 30, 2016

RESPONSES DUE: August 1, 2016, 2:00 p.m.
Grant Application - Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION
Section 1.1 Purpose of Procurement

Section 2. DEFINITIONS

Section 3. BACKGROUND
  Section 3.1 Data related to Hate Crimes and Terrorism-related events in Massachusetts
  Section 3.2 Frameworks
    A. Youth Development/Five Promises Framework
    B. System of Care Framework
    C. Public Health Framework
  Section 3.3 Implementation Challenges

Section 4. ELIGIBLE RESPONDENTS/RESPONDENT QUALIFICATIONS

Section 5. RESPONSE REQUIREMENTS

Section 5.1 Response to Questions
  [All Respondents must pick one or more Strategic Goal(s) and develop a program that is designed to achieve the identified Strategic Goal(s)]
  Strategic Goals:
  1. Primary prevention strategies, collaborations, convenings and trainings that foster: prosocial behavior, tolerance, generalized programs of education against violence, informed and inclusive communities, cross-cultural learning, empowerment, and/or resilience across broad populations
  2. Opportunities for, regular, trusting, mutually-beneficial communication and engagement between government and non-government members of the community
  3. Counter-messaging strategies to challenge the messaging of organizations that promote, plan or engage in violence, and
  4. Assistance to spouses, parents, guardians or caretakers who are concerned that a child in their care or custody, or adult, may be recruited by organizations that promote, plan or engage in violence.

Section 5.2 Cost Response Requirements
Section 5.3 Business Response Requirements
Section 5.4 Training requirements

Section 6. PROCUREMENT TIMETABLE

Section 7. RESPONSE SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Section 8. PROPOSAL REVIEW PROCESS/RESPONSE EVALUATION
  A. Response Review Process, Evaluation Criteria and Selection

Section 9. NUMBER OF GRANT AGREEMENTS AND GRANT TERM

Section 10. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
Addendum A:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Application Name/Title</th>
<th>Grant Application for Enhancing Resilience to Violent Extremism in Massachusetts</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grant Application Number</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchasing Department</td>
<td>Executive Office of Health and Human Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>One Ashburton Place, McCormack Building 11th Floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City, State Zip Code</td>
<td>Boston, MA 02108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procurement Contact Person</td>
<td>Melissa Morrison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-Mail Address</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Melissa.Morrison@state.ma.us">Melissa.Morrison@state.ma.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax Number</td>
<td>617-573-1893</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grant Application for Enhancing Resilience to Violent Extremism in Massachusetts

Section 1. PURPOSE OF PROCUREMENT

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) has been awarded $216,667 in grant funds from the US Attorney to operate an “Enhancing Resilience to Violent Extremism Initiative in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Initiative). Pursuant to §15 CMR 2.00, EOHHS is issuing this Grant Application (Grant Application) to solicit Responses from registered non-profit organizations, municipalities or school departments to operate an Enhancing Resilience to Violent Extremism Initiative within the community.

The overall goal of this Initiative Grant Application is to prevent violence. The term “violence,” for the purposes of this Grant Application, is defined specifically as an act that violates state or federal law and causes physical harm to a person, or property, and:

- is motivated, at least in part, by prejudice related to race, religion, ethnicity, handicap, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation, and/or
- appears to be intended to intimidate or coerce a civilian population, influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion, or to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination or kidnapping

The terms “violence” and “violent extremism,” are used interchangeably in this Grant Application.

EOHHS is seeking to support Programs that help to prevent violence, and that help to prevent people from joining organizations that promote, plan or engage in violence.

Through this Grant Application, EOHHS is seeking to promote community resilience by strengthening community protective factors1, including:

- Social support
- Social cohesion
- Social capital and trust in institutions
- Feeling of safety and security in neighborhood
- Integrated cultural identity
- Employment success
- Access to democratic means for negotiating needs and opinions
- Access to critical religious leadership that can moderate and inform on legitimate religious perspectives

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1 Bhui et al A Public Health Approach to Understanding and Preventing Violent Radicalization, February 2012
Strategic Goals for this grant include development of:

1. Primary prevention strategies, collaborations, convenings, and trainings that foster: prosocial behavior, tolerance, generalized programs of education against violence, informed and inclusive communities, cross-cultural learning, empowerment, and/or resilience across broad populations

2. Opportunities for, regular, trusting, mutually-beneficial communication and engagement between government and non-government members of the community

3. Counter-messaging strategies to challenge the messaging of organizations that promote, plan or engage in violence, and

4. Assistance to spouses, parents, guardians or caretakers who are concerned that a child in their care or custody, or adult, may be recruited by organizations that promote, plan or engage in violence.

Grants funds may not be used for:

- Prohibiting protected speech
- Suppression of political dissent
- Profiling based on race, national origin, religious affiliation, ethnicity and/or ideology
- Eroding confidentiality protections established by law

Current state or federal laws notwithstanding, this grant may not be used to support law enforcement activities related to the detection or investigation of a crime, apprehension of criminals, development of “watchlists,” surveillance, use of informants, or suppression.

Section 2. DEFINITIONS

**Collaborative:** The Collaborative is a group of 51 non-governmental, governmental, academic stakeholders from the Greater Boston region that developed the locally-driven Framework related to enhancing resilience to violent extremism. This group also included a few representatives from Washington, D.C.

**Community:** Entities, including but not limited to: government agencies, non-government agencies, schools, colleges, universities, non-profit agencies, for-profit agencies, businesses, private foundations, religious institutions, civic and cultural organizations, arts organizations, the media, and the public.

**Cooperative Agreement:** The Cooperative Agreement is the agreement signed in September 2015, between the Massachusetts United States Attorney’s Office and the
Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services for the implementation of strategies to prevent violence extremism.

**Countering Violent Extremism (CVE):** For the purposes of the Grant Application, CVE is defined as: collaborative efforts to reduce the number of terrorist group supporters through non-coercive means.2

CVE is commonly associated with prior and current, national and international activities intended to prevent violent extremism. EOHHS is informed, but not bound, by prior national and international CVE efforts. We hope this Grant Application will support a shared goal of preventing violence and that our activities and services will be evaluated and contribute to better understanding of best practices related to CVE.

**Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS):**
Established in 1971, EOHHS is the largest executive office in the Governor’s cabinet. EOHHS is responsible for coordinating the service delivery and policy development in the Commonwealth’s 15 health and human service agencies. Agencies and programs under EOHHS include: MassHealth (Medicaid), the Department of Children and Families (child protection), the Department of Youth Services (juvenile justice), the Department of Transitional Assistance (welfare), the Department of Mental Health (mental health), the Department of Developmental Services (developmental disabilities), the Department of Public Health (public health), other disability agencies, soldiers homes, veteran’s services and elder services. EOHHS is actively engaging in efforts to improve integration of services, both within and across agencies, to ensure that individual clients and families receive comprehensive, effective and efficient services.

**Framework:** The “Framework” is a document entitled “A Framework for Prevention and Intervention Strategies, Incorporating Violent Extremism Into Violence Prevention Strategies” developed in February 2015 by the Collaborative in the Greater Boston region.

**Grant Agreement:** An agreement that determines funding and other requirements, between EOHHS and a vendor who has been selected by EOHHS to implement a Program.

**Grant Application:** A Grant Application is a solicitation to potential vendors to submit business proposals, often made through a bidding process, by an agency or company interested in obtaining through grants a commodity, service or valuable asset.

**Ideology:** For the purposes of this Grant Application, “ideology” is defined as the set of ideas and beliefs of a group or political party.

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**Law Enforcement**: For the purposes of this Grant Application, “law enforcement” is defined as the generic name for the activities of the agencies responsible for maintaining public order and enforcing the law, particularly the activities of prevention, detection, and investigation of crime and the apprehension of criminals.

**Mobilization**: For the purposes of this Grant Application, “mobilization” is defined as the act of connecting, communicating or collaborating with one or more violent extremists, or violent extremist organizations, to plan or engage in an act of violence. There is currently limited, if any, definitive evidence related to predicting “mobilization.” Actions related to mobilization are most likely to be illegal.

**Program**: A Grantee’s implementation of the activities specified in this Grant Application: Enhancing Resilience to Violent Extremism in Massachusetts.

**Proposal**: Complete response to the Grant Application, including description of proposed Program

**Radicalization**: For the purposes of this Grant Application, “radicalization” is defined as actions taken by an individual prior to promoting, planning or engaging in an act of violent extremism. There is currently limited, if any, definitive evidence related to predicting “radicalization.” Actions related to the term “radicalization” may or may not be illegal.

**Resilience**: “Resilience” is the ability of a community to use its assets to strengthen public health and healthcare systems and to improve the community’s physical, behavioral, and social health to withstand, adapt to, and recover from adversity.

**Respondent**: An eligible applicant to this Grant Application who has submitted a Proposal.

**Social Capital**: “Social capital” is promoting the dissemination and adoption of healthy behaviors, promoting greater access to health services, raising awareness of human rights and promoting self-esteem and mutual respect.

**Social cohesion**: “Social cohesion” is the ability of a society to be inclusive of all cultural and social groups, so that they work co-operatively.

**Social support**: “Social support” is the perception and actuality that one is cared for, has assistance available from other people, and that one is part of a supportive social network. These supportive resources can be emotional (e.g., nurturance), tangible (e.g., financial assistance), informational (e.g., advice), or companionship (e.g., sense of belonging) and intangible (e.g. personal advice).

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3 US Department of Health and Human Services
**Terrorism:** According to 18 U.S. Code § 2331: Terrorism involves violent acts or acts dangerous to human life that are a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any State, or [related to international acts] that would be a criminal violation if committed within the jurisdiction of the United States or of any State; appear to be intended to intimidate or coerce a civilian population; to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping; and [related to international acts] occur primarily outside the territorial jurisdiction of the United States, or transcend national boundaries in terms of the means by which they are accomplished, the persons they appear intended to intimidate or coerce, or the locale in which their perpetrators operate or seek asylum; or [related to domestic acts] occur primarily within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States.

**Violence:** For the purposes of this Grant Application, violence is defined as an act that violates state or federal law and causes physical harm to a person, or property, and:
- is motivated, at least in part, by prejudice related to race, religion, ethnicity, handicap, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation, and/or
- appears to be intended to intimidate or coerce a civilian population, influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion, or to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination or kidnapping

**Violent Extremism:** See definition for “violence.” The terms “violence” and “violent extremism” are used interchangeably in this Grant Application.

**Violent Extremist:** For the purposes of this Grant Application, a “violent extremist” is an individual, or group of individuals, that promotes, plans or engages in “violence” as defined by this Grant Application.

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**Section 3. BACKGROUND**

**Section 3.1 Efforts related to Enhancing Resilience to Violent Extremism in Massachusetts**

In spring of 2014, the Boston, Los Angeles, and Minneapolis regions were chosen by the White House National Security Council to pilot the development of a locally-driven comprehensive framework that promotes multidisciplinary solutions to countering violent extremism. Since the fall of 2014, stakeholders in the Greater Boston area (known as “the Collaborative”) began to develop a locally-driven framework, (“the Framework”), (please see Addendum A: “A Framework for Prevention and Intervention Strategies”). The Collaborative consists of over 50 members from non-governmental and governmental agencies and organizations, and academic advisors. The Collaborative is supported by the Massachusetts United States Attorney’s Office (USAO), Department of Justice, Federal...
On September 30, 2015, EOHHS and the USAO signed a Cooperative Agreement in order to explore ways to help prevent violent extremism in Massachusetts using a public health approach. The Cooperative Agreement builds from efforts related to Countering Violent Extremism (CVE). CVE focuses on using prevention and intervention approaches as a way to prevent individuals from being recruited by violent extremist groups. Through the Cooperative Agreement, EOHHS was awarded $216,667 to support violence prevention and intervention efforts in Massachusetts.

Over the past year, EOHHS initiated and participated in several one-to-one and group meetings with stakeholders related to the Collaborative. EOHHS met with faith-based and religious leaders, community organizations, state agency staff, law enforcement representatives, legal advocacy groups and community partners. These meetings served to increase dialogue and transparency among EOHHS, members of the Collaborative and other related stakeholders. The meetings also allowed EOHHS the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the Collaborative’s activities occurring prior to EOHHS’ involvement, and develop ideas for next steps.

In March 2016, EOHHS issued a Request for Information (RFI) to collect written information from organizations and individuals regarding development of a collaborative program to help prevent violent extremism by using a public health approach. The RFI process gave any interested members of the public an opportunity to provide input. Through the RFI, EOHHS sought community feedback related to: 1.) program design, 2.) eligible applicants, 3.) the communities, populations and geographies that will be served by the grant, 4.) recommended violence prevention and intervention strategies, and 5.) resource requirements. Additionally, the RFI promoted a context for Programming that supports: collaboration among stakeholders, consensus among stakeholders, inclusiveness including a reasonable representation of relevant and affected parties for deliberations and decision making, and transparency, including the open sharing of public information among stakeholders and the community.

EOHHS received 12 responses from organizations within and outside of Massachusetts. Some Respondents to the RFI shared ideas for implementing innovative and culturally responsive programming. Some Respondents shared concerns related to protection of confidentiality and civil liberties. All responses were reviewed and each response informed the development of this Grant Application.

Section 3.2 Data related to Hate Crimes and Terrorism-related events in Massachusetts

The definition of “violence” and “violent extremism” used in this Grant Application is derived from Massachusetts hate crime legislation, and from the federal statute related to terrorism. Massachusetts reports regularly regarding the prevalence of hate crimes.
Publically available data related to terrorism is more difficult to obtain. The following is a brief snapshot of publically available data related to hate crimes and terrorism-related events.

From 2000 through 2013, there was an average of 425 hate crimes reported each year in Massachusetts. Incidents of bias by type, as reported to police (from 2000-2013) are outlined in the chart below, (source: Massachusetts State Police, Commonwealth Fusion Center, Crime Reporting Unit, September 2014).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bias Types as Reported to Police (Numbers of Incidents), 2000 - 2013</th>
<th>00</th>
<th>01</th>
<th>02</th>
<th>03</th>
<th>04</th>
<th>05</th>
<th>06</th>
<th>07</th>
<th>08</th>
<th>09</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>11</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
<th>Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anti-Black</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>109</td>
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<td>109</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>1624</td>
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<td>116</td>
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<td>Anti-gay</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>795</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-Semitic</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>785</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-White</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anti-Hispanic</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>398</td>
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<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-Asian</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>246</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-Lesbian</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>14</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-Arab</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7195</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-Islamic</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-other race/ethnicity</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-Catholic</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>71</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-mental handicap</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Anti-other sexual</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-physical handicap</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-Female</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Anti-other religion</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>22</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-AIDS</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-Male</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-physical handicap</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>507</td>
<td>523</td>
<td>497</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>341</td>
<td>357</td>
<td>383</td>
<td>364</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>334</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>371</td>
<td>353</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>5521</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The University of Maryland’s Global Terrorism Database (GTD) identifies 58 incidents of terrorism related to Massachusetts from 1970 through 2013. These incidents involved 2775 fatalities and 301 injuries. Most of the fatalities (n=2764) were related to the September 11, 2001 (9/11) attacks. Most, if not all of these fatalities from the 9/11 attacks did not occur in Massachusetts, although 206 victims had ties to Massachusetts. The

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5 Massachusetts 9/11 Fund

EOHHS – Enhancing Resilience to Violent Extremism in Massachusetts Grant Application
Boston Marathon bombings, in addition to three deaths, resulted in the highest number of injuries, \( n=264 \).

According to the GTD, perpetrators related to the 58 attacks in Massachusetts include: Al-Qa’ida, Animal Liberation Front (ALF), Comrades in Arms, Fred Hampton Unit of the People's Forces, Jewish Defense League (JDL), Justice Commandos for the Armenian Genocide, Sons of Liberty, Weather Underground/Weathermen, and United Freedom Front (UFF), anti-abortion activists, black nationalists, Jewish extremists, left-wing militants, student radicals, Welsh extremists, white extremists. Of the 58 incidents reported, 12 (20%) reference that the perpetrator is “Unknown”; “Individual” is listed as perpetrator for 2 incidents.

At the time of this Grant Application, there is limited publically available data related to the extent of recruitment activities in Massachusetts by violent extremist organizations. Among the publicly available information, there have been at least six federal prosecutions related to recruitment by organizations that promote violent extremism.

While these incidents may be small in number as compared to other public health issues, the impact of events related to violent extremism remains a significant concern. Hate crimes, in addition to suffering of the victim, put whole populations in fear. Acts of terror have resulted in multiple deaths and injuries. Other direct effects include bereavements, loss of employment, economic damage, trauma, fear and distress. Indirect effects include diversion of public resources, social divisions within communities—particularly along religious lines, restrictive counter-terrorism actions and inconvenience, discrimination against those perceived to be associated with terrorism, and the death or injury of soldiers sent oversees to fight in international conflicts.\(^6\)

### Section 3.3 Frameworks

In addition to the Framework published by the Collaborative (please see Addendum A), EOHHS is informed by, but not limited to, the following frameworks to help guide our work.

#### A. Youth Development/Five Promises Framework

The Five Promises Framework is used by EOHHS to inform program development, service delivery and service outcomes. This framework, developed by America’s Promise\(^7\) and modified by EOHHS, outlines five key supports and goals that promote positive youth development outcomes:

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\(^6\) A Public Health Approach to Understanding and Preventing Violent Radicalization, February 2012, Bhui et al

\(^7\) http://www.americaspromise.org/
1. **Health** (physical and behavioral): Youth and their families have access to adequate physical and behavioral health supports;

2. **Safety**: Youth and their families are safe from violence;

3. **Connection to a Caring Adult**: Youth and their families are connected to caring adults;

4. **Education and Employment**: Youth are prepared for and successful in school; youth and their families are prepared for the workforce and employed to their fullest potential; and

5. **Civic Engagement**: Youth and their families are engaged in decision-making and are an active part of the civic and cultural opportunities that their communities have to offer.

**B. System of Care Framework**

The **System of Care Framework**\(^8\): A “system of care” is an organizational philosophy and framework that is designed to create a network of effective community-based services and supports to improve the lives of children and youth with or at risk of serious mental health conditions and their families. Systems of care build meaningful partnerships with families and youth, address cultural and linguistic needs, and use evidence-based practices to help children, youth and families function better at home, in school, in the community and throughout life. (See [www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)). The core values include:

1. Family driven and youth guided strategies, with the strengths and needs of the child and family determining the types and mix of services and supports provided.
2. Community-based approach, with the locus of services as well as system management resting within a supportive, adaptive infrastructure of structures, processes, and relationships at the community level.
3. Culturally and linguistically competent programs and services, with agencies, programs, and services that reflect the cultural, racial, ethnic, and linguistic differences of the populations they serve to facilitate access to and utilization of appropriate services and supports and to eliminate disparities in care.

**C. Public Health Framework**

There is no exclusive definition of a “public health model.” Some entities refer to the model as “Promotion, Prevention, and Intervention.” Some refer to it as a “tiered” approach, or “Primary, Secondary and Tertiary prevention.” Others refer to it as a “Pyramid” model. Common among these definitions is a focus that starts as universal, \(^8\) For more information, see: [http://www.tapartnership.org/SOC/SOCvalues.php](http://www.tapartnership.org/SOC/SOCvalues.php) and [www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)
and then narrows based on the level of risk. Interventions include a focus on “protective factors” or “assets” as well as a focus on risk. Interventions are evidence based, or evidenced informed where possible.

According to the World Health Organization’s (WHO) *World Report on Violence and Health*, 2002: “…By definition, public health is not about individual patients. Its focus is on dealing with diseases and with conditions and problems affecting health and it aims to provide the maximum benefit for the largest number of people. This does not mean that public health ignores the care of individuals. Rather, the concern is to prevent health problems and to extend better care and safety to entire populations.”

The WHO report states the public health approach is interdisciplinary and based in science, informed by medicine, epidemiology, sociology, psychology, criminology, education and economics. The approach emphasizes collaboration among diverse sectors including health, education, social services, justice and policy. The report further states that public health is “above all characterized by its emphasis on prevention. Rather than simply accepting or reacting to violence, its starting point is the strong conviction that violent behavior and its consequences can be prevented.”

The US Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control outlines four key steps in implementing a public health approach:

- **Step one: Define the problem** which involves systematically collecting data to determine the “who”, “what”, “when”, and “how.”
- **Step two: Identify risk and protective factors** which involves scientific research methods used to identify the factors that increase the risk for violence (risk factors) and factors that decrease the likelihood of violence in the face of risk (protective factors).
- **Step three: Develop and test prevention strategies**, prevention strategies that are developed to test to see if they prevent violence.
- **Step four: Assure widespread adoption**, training and/or technical assistance often offered to practitioners when implementing effective strategies or programs to ensure that the strategies are implemented as they were intended.

### Section 3.4 Implementation Challenges

EOHHS faces challenges in implementing this Program Grant Application. We have a relatively small amount of funding to address an issue of national and international scope. There is a lack of consensus regarding definitions of the problem, and of key CVE-related terms such as “violent extremism,” “radicalization,” and “mobilization.” We are operating in an environment where there is limited publically available data related to evaluation of prior CVE efforts. There is a lack of research regarding predictors or risk factors for violent extremism. There may be more consensus related to protective factors, however much work needs to be done across multiple sectors to understand and integrate risk and protective factors into CVE efforts.
Despite challenges, EOHHS has chosen to move forward in support of collaborative community efforts to prevent violence. We hope our efforts, including both challenges and successes, will inform future collaborative efforts here in Massachusetts and beyond.

Section 4. ELIGIBLE RESPONDENTS/RESPONDENT QUALIFICATIONS

To be considered for a Grant Agreement pursuant to this Grant Application, the Respondent, in addition to all other requirements specified herein, must:

1. Have the capability and willingness to perform all responsibilities set forth in this Grant Application

2. Be registered to do business in the Commonwealth, or be a school district, academic institution, or municipality. The Eligible Respondent may subcontract, or otherwise partner with other entities; however, the selected Eligible Respondent (i.e. the Grantee) shall be solely responsible for meeting all obligations under the Grant Agreement.

3. Law enforcement agencies are not an Eligible Respondent. However, law enforcement agencies may partner with an Eligible Respondent.

Section 5. RESPONSE REQUIREMENTS

Section 5.1 Response to Questions

All Respondents must answer all of the following questions. Your Proposal may not exceed 12 pages, and must be provided in a Microsoft Word format, 12 point Times/New Roman font, single spaced, standard margins.

A. Select which of the following Strategic Goals (below) that will be addressed by your proposed program. You may select more than one Goal; Proposals that integrate more than one Goal are welcome, but not required.

Strategic Goals:
1. Primary prevention strategies, collaborations, convenings and trainings that foster: prosocial behavior, tolerance, generalized programs of education against violence, informed and inclusive communities, cross-cultural learning, empowerment, and/or resilience across broad populations

2. Opportunities for, regular, trusting, mutually-beneficial communication and engagement between government and non-government members of the community
3. Counter-messaging strategies to challenge the messaging of organizations that promote, plan or engage in violence, and

4. Assistance to spouses, parents, guardians or caretakers who are concerned that a child in their care or custody, or adult, may be recruited by organizations that promote, plan or engage in violence.

B. Describe your proposed activity or services. In addition to the general Strategic Goals outlined above, what are your specific goals for the activity or service? Explain who will participate in the proposed activity or services. Describe how you will identify and engage Program participants and community stakeholders in the proposed Program. Discuss how you will leverage your current relationships to implement the proposed Program. Explain the referral/outreach process you will follow, if applicable, to connect people with the proposed Program. (60 points)

C. Explain why you think the activity or services will be effective, and how you would define or measure success. Discuss the evidence base (if any) for the proposed activity or service. (20 points)

D. Identify potential issues related to safety, confidentiality and other challenges related to your proposed Program. Describe the steps you will take to mitigate the identified issues, including steps to ensure the safety of program participants, and protection of client confidentiality to the maximum extent allowable by law. (15 points)

E. Provide a brief overview of your organization to include: formation date, size (employees, annual budget), current collaborations and service areas, qualifications and experience providing similar services in the community. (5 points)

F. If the proposal involves collaboration between multiple entities/organizations, please provide a letter of support from the participating entity/organization, on the letterhead of the collaborating entity/organization. Any Letter of Support should be included as an attachment to the Respondent’s Proposal.

Section 5.2 Cost Response Requirements

The Respondent shall provide a Cost Response as follows:

Attach a completed Budget and attach a budget narrative to support its proposed budget. Describe each line item and include supporting calculations as appropriate. Provide a breakdown of all costs, including salaries and fringe benefits. Payroll expenses should specify staff titles and staff role related to the Program, and time allocations (FTEs).
Matching funds (actual cash contribution or in-kind) are welcome but not required. If match is being provided, please identify the source and amount of any matching funds, and whether or not the matching funds are actual cash contribution or in-kind.

Section 5.3 Business Response Requirements

The Respondent shall meet all standards and must comply with all business submission requirements in this section.

A. Organizational Overview

The Respondent shall provide the following information:

1. The Respondent’s legal name, trade name(s), and any other name(s) under which the Respondent does, or has done, business;
2. The Respondent’s Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN);
3. The Respondent’s principal address and telephone number;
4. The Respondent’s Massachusetts address and telephone number (if different);
5. A listing of the Board of Directors, if any, of the Respondent’s organization and of the Respondent’s parent organization, if any; and
6. The type of legal entity (for example, corporation [profit or not for profit], limited partnership, general partnership, or trust), and the state or foreign country where the entity is organized, including any parent organization.

B. Interests

Neither the Respondent nor any subcontractors may have any interest that will conflict, as determined by EOHHS, with the performance of services required under this RFR. To demonstrate freedom from conflicting interests, the Respondent must submit the following:

1. A statement that no Respondent interest will conflict with the performance of services required under the Contract. This statement must be supported by a description of any and all of the financial, legal, contractual, and other business interests of the Respondent, its affiliates, partners, parent(s), subsidiaries, and related organizations, if any, that may affect or impact its performance with the requirements of the Contract;
2. The names and addresses of any parent organization, any partially or wholly owned subsidiaries, and any other related organizations and a description of the exact nature of each such relationship;
3. A list of any other contracts or agreements that the Respondent has entered into with the Commonwealth that will be in effect at the same time as a Contract that may result from this RFR; and
4. Any other information requested by EOHHS that, in EOHHS’ judgment, is relevant to the Respondent’s financial, legal, contractual, or other business interests.

If EOHHS determines that a Respondent possesses a conflicting interest, EOHHS reserves the right to propose or consider any proposal of the Respondent of any measures that would eliminate or mitigate such conflicting interest to EOHHS’ satisfaction.

C. Subcontractors

1. The Respondent shall state whether subcontractors will be used to perform any services under the Contract, and if so, shall identify each such subcontractor by corporate or other legal entity name, address, telephone number and status as a minority or women’s business enterprise;

2. The Respondent shall describe generally in this section, and in detail wherever applicable throughout its response, the respective responsibilities and functions that each subcontracting entity would perform if the Respondent were awarded the Contract, and how the Contractor will manage each subcontracting entity;

3. The Respondent must submit a statement that guarantees that all subcontracts and other agreements or arrangements for reimbursement will be in writing and will contain terms consistent with all terms and conditions of the Contract; and

4. Proposals to use subcontractors for a specific service(s) must not cause any additional administrative burden on EOHHS as a result of the use of multiple entities, and shall not relieve the Respondent of any legal obligations under the Contract.

D. Contract Officer

The Respondent shall state the name and title of the individual(s) within the organization who will execute the Contract and who will be responsible for amendments to the Contract as needed.

E. Required Forms and Certifications

The Respondent shall complete, sign and submit the following Commonwealth-required forms. All of the forms may be downloaded from the “File Attachments” section of this solicitation on the COMMBUYS website.

1. Commonwealth of Massachusetts Standard Contract Form and Instructions;

2. Commonwealth of Massachusetts Terms and Conditions;
3. Massachusetts Substitute W-9 form – Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification;
4. Contractor Authorized Signatory Listing;
5. Supplier Diversity Program (SDP) Plan; and

Section 5.4 Training requirements
EOHHS may offer training related to safety, confidentiality and civil rights, among other topics. Grantees are required to participate in EOHHS sponsored trainings.

Section 6. PROCUREMENT TIMETABLE
The anticipated timeline for this Grant Application, which is subject to change at the discretion of EOHHS, is as follows: [Inset our timetable]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grant Application Release Date</td>
<td>July 5, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respondents’ Conference</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written Questions Due</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Application Responses Due</td>
<td>August 8, 2016, by 2:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anticipated Date for Selection Announcement</td>
<td>August 29, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anticipated Grant Start Date</td>
<td>September 23, 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EOHHS will post a separate announcement on COMMBUYS with details of the Respondents’ Conference.

Section 7. RESPONSE SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Section 7.1 Response Submission Instructions
Complete Grant Application Responses must be received by August 8, 2016, 2:00 p.m., see Section 6. The Response includes all required sections the Respondent must complete and lists all attachments the Respondent must provide to respond to this Grant Application. All Responses must be submitted in accordance with the submission instructions in this section.

1. Respondents shall deliver to EOHHS:
a. **One original** and **six (6) hard copies** of the Respondent’s complete Response; and

b. **One (1) flash drive** containing a copy of the Respondent’s complete Response.

The original, hard copies and flash drive shall be delivered to the following individual and address by **August 8, 2016 (2:00pm)** as specified in **Section 1.7**:

Melissa Morrison, Procurement Coordinator  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
One Ashburton Place, 11th Floor  
Boston, MA 02108  
Attention: Enhancing Resilience Grant Application Response

1. A complete Grant Application Response shall consist of:
   
a. A **Cover Letter** from the head of the organization applying for the grant that briefly summarizes the proposal.
   
b. Completed answers to questions asked in **Section 5** and
   
c. All required attachments including a budget and budget narrative.

Each document and document section submitted shall include only information specific to the topic of that document and section. Superfluous information may be disregarded.

EOHHS, in its discretion, may choose to not consider any material that is not presented in accordance with EOHHS’s instructions in evaluating the Respondent’s Response.

The Respondent shall adhere to character and page limits where specified. Respondents are strongly encouraged to not include attachments that are extraneous, duplicative, or do not apply directly to the content requested. The Evaluation Committee will not consider attachments that are not required or narrative that exceeds text responses noted in the Response Form.

2. Each paper document submitted in accordance with **Section 3.1.27.1**, must be **unbound**, **printed on recycled paper**, **reproducible**, and submitted in a loose-leaf binder. Each binder must be clearly labeled and must state on the cover:
   
a. The title of the Grant Application;
   
b. The Respondent’s name; and
   
c. Whether the Response is an original or a copy.
3. The flash drive submitted in accordance with Section 3.1.7.1 must be clearly labeled with the Respondent’s name, and shall contain all documents specified in Section 7.1, as follows:

   a. The cover letter shall be submitted in Word, Excel or PDF formats only

   b. The response to Grant Application questions must be in Word format only

   c. All required attachments shall be in Word or Excel formats only. Respondents shall follow any other instructions regarding form and format that may be specified in Section 5.1.

   d. The file name of the Response Form shall include the character strings [excluding the brackets] below, in the following order:

      I. \[Name of Organization\] Grant Application Response
      II. \[Name of Organization\] Budget
      III. \[Name of Organization\] Budget Narrative
      IV. \[Name of Organization\] Attachment [1-2 word description]

Electronic media submissions, other than the required electronic copies on flash drive, such as videotapes, audiotapes, and diskettes will not be accepted. Facsimile and e-mailed responses will not be accepted.

a. Open Enrollment Process

Additional qualified Respondents may submit Responses in accordance with the open enrollment process whenever this Grant Application is re-opened for Response submission during the term of the Grant Agreement.

EOHHS will determine when and if the Grant Application will be re-opened. Information regarding re-opening will be posted on the same COMMBUYS site where this Grant Application is posted.

Re-opening of this Grant Application may occur for any reason including but not limited to those reasons set forth in Sections 1.4.4 and 1.4.5. Additional qualified Responses may be selected upon completion of the Response submission and selection process outlined in Sections 3 and 4 of this Grant Application, including any subsequent amendments thereto.
Section 8. PROPOSAL REVIEW PROCESS/RESPONSE EVALUATION

Responses to this Grant Application shall be evaluated by an Evaluation Committee appointed by EOHHS (Committee).

A. Qualifying Responses

1. The Committee will evaluate all Responses of qualified Respondents that comply with the requirements of Section 37.1.

2. Any Response may be rejected at any time during the evaluation process if the Respondent:
   a. Fails to demonstrate to EOHHS’ satisfaction that it meets the Respondent qualifications set forth in Section 1.54.
   b. Fails to demonstrate to EOHHS’s satisfaction that it meets all other Grant Application requirements;
   c. Fails to satisfy all Response Submission Instructions in Section 3.1; to submit a response organized in accordance with all instructions, or to submit a response that is complete in all respects;
   d. Fails to submit all required information.
   e. Receives a rating of “Fair”, “Poor”, or “Non-Responsive” in the evaluation of one or more items in the Respondent’s Response;
   f. Has any interest that may, in EOHHS’ sole determination, conflict with performance of services for the Commonwealth or is otherwise anti-competitive;
   g. Fails to agree to a date and time for an oral presentation, if invited by the Committee, or fails to make an oral presentation;
   h. Rejects or qualifies its agreement to any of the mandatory provisions of the Grant Application;
   i. Fails to reach agreement with EOHHS on all Grant Agreement terms.

B. Response Review Process, Evaluation Criteria and Selection

1. The Committee will evaluate all Responses of qualified Respondents that comply with the requirements of Section 47.1.

2. Evaluation Criteria
   a. The Committee will determine whether the Respondent satisfied all Business Response requirements in Section XYZ5.3, and will evaluate each element of the Respondent’s Programmatic Response for comprehensiveness, appropriateness, feasibility, clarity, effectiveness, and responsiveness to the needs of EOHHS and the goals of the Program. In addition, EOHHS may consider any relevant information about the Respondent known to EOHHS.
EOHHS may also consider the Respondent’s understanding of the nature and scope of the services requested, and history providing services to similar program participants.

b. Each Cost Response will be reviewed by the Committee for its reasonableness, competitiveness and value to EOHHS. Cost will be one factor, but not the sole factor, in the Committee’s consideration. EOHHS is not required to choose the Respondent that proposes the lowest cost. Should a Respondent be selected, EOHHS may fully or partially fund the request submitted by the Respondent.

3. Response Rating

a. The Committee will (1) evaluate Programmatic Responses in accordance with the criteria described in Section 4.2.2; (2) give a rating of “Excellent”, “Very Good”, “Good”, “Fair”, or “Poor” for each section evaluated; (3) assign each of the Responses an overall rating; and (4) compare the Responses to one another.

b. In evaluating the Response, each section of the Response has been assigned a weight, as set forth in Attachment B. The Committee shall use these weights in determining the overall rating for the Respondent’s Response. The Respondent’s score will be one factor, but not the sole factor, considered in the Committee’s evaluation.

c. The Respondent’s proposed Cost Response will be one factor, but not the sole factor, considered in the Committee’s evaluation.

4. Actions for Non-Compliance with Grant Application

EOHHS, in its sole discretion, may determine that non-compliance with any Grant Application requirement is insubstantial. In such cases, the Committee may:

a. Seek clarification from a Respondent;

b. Allow the Respondent to make technical corrections;

c. Apply appropriate adjustments in the scoring of the evaluation; or

d. Utilize other remedial action EOHHS deems appropriate, such as applying a combination of all three remedies.

5. Oral Presentation/Finalist Interviews

The Committee may, in its sole discretion, invite those Respondents whose Responses have been judged competitive and responsive in the course of the evaluation to participate in an oral presentation/finalist interview. At that time, the Respondents’ Responses may be discussed and clarified, but not changed in any way. The Committee reserves the right to apply restrictions to the structure and content of the oral presentations, and to instruct the Respondents regarding attendees and the presentation/interview process.
Oral presentations /finalist interviews shall not be open to the public nor to any competitors. Failure of a Respondent to agree to a date and time for a presentation/interview or to make a presentation/interview may result in rejection of the Respondent’s Response.

6. Site Visits

The Committee may, in its sole discretion and at its convenience, elect to inspect any of the Respondent’s (or subcontractors) offices, facilities or resources prior to executing a Contract under this Grant Application. A site visit could include a detailed introduction to the Respondent’s (or subcontractors) operations that are relevant to this Grant Application. Failure to agree to such a site visit may result in rejection of the Respondent’s Response.

7. Past Performance

The Committee, in its sole discretion, may consider in its review process EOHHS evaluations of a contractor or grantee’s performance in programs or grants administered by EOHHS, and any corrective actions or restrictions imposed by EOHHS or other Commonwealth agencies. The Committee may also consider any information that may have previously been provided by the Respondent or is otherwise available or known to EOHHS.

8. References

EOHHS, in its sole discretion, may request the Respondent provide references, and may verify or contact any references provided at any time during the evaluation process. In addition, EOHHS reserves the right to request, verify, and contact additional references from any Respondent at any time prior to executing a Contract under this Grant Application.

9. Best and Final Offer

EOHHS reserves the right to request a best and final offer (BAFO) from any Respondent.

10. Recommendation to Enter into Grant Agreement Negotiations

After the Evaluation Committee completes its evaluation, comparison, and rating of Responses, (and, if applicable, finalist interviews/oral presentations, site visits, reference checks, and BAFO), the Committee will recommend to the Secretary of Health and Human Services, or her designee, the Respondents with whom to begin Grant Agreement negotiations. The Secretary or her designee will make a decision based on the Committee’s recommendations and the best interests of the Commonwealth. EOHHS is under no obligation to award any Grant Agreements pursuant to this Grant Application.
11. Best Value Selection and Negotiation

EOHHS will select the response(s) which, in its sole discretion, it determines demonstrate(s) the best value overall to EOHHS and the Commonwealth. EOHHS, in its sole discretion, may negotiate with any selected Respondent prior to executing a Grant Agreement. A recommendation for Grant award will be contingent upon successful negotiation of Grant Agreement terms, including budgets. Should EOHHS fail to reach an agreement on Grant Agreement terms with any selected Respondent, EOHHS, in its sole discretion, may negotiate with, and award a Grant to, any other Respondent it selects, or reopen the Grant Application, as set forth in Sections 1.4.4 and 1.4.5.

12. Grant Awards

The award of any Grant Agreements under this Grant Application shall be subject to sufficient appropriation, availability of state and federal funds, all necessary state and federal approvals, and successful negotiation of Grant Agreement terms.

Section 9. NUMBER OF GRANT AGREEMENTS AND GRANT TERM

A. EOHHS will determine the number of Grant Agreements in accordance with the criteria set forth in Section 4.2.2. EOHHS intends to allocate up to $210,000 in State Fiscal Year 2016 and Fiscal Year 2017, subject to appropriation, for the Grant awards resulting from this Grant Application.

B. A Respondent may submit no more than one Response.

C. The Grant Agreements awarded under this Grant Application shall commence upon execution by the parties and end on June 30, 2017, subject to (1) appropriation (2) the Grantee’s satisfactory performance, as determined by EOHHS, of all duties and obligations under this Grant Agreement, and (3) any termination provisions set forth in the Grant Agreement. This is an open enrollment procurement. EOHHS will accept Grant Application Responses from qualified Respondents during any open-enrollment period or periods specified by EOHHS throughout the term of the Grant Agreement.

1. If EOHHS, after the initial deadline for Responses has passed, has not received a sufficient number of Responses, as determined by EOHHS, EOHHS may immediately reopen the Grant Application to accept additional Responses.

2. If EOHHS terminates any Grant Agreement under this Grant Application for any reason, EOHHS, in its sole discretion, may reopen the Grant Application to accept additional Responses.
D. EOHHS may reopen this Grant Application for any other reason. If EOHHS terminates any Grant Agreement under this Grant Application for any reason, EOHHS, in its sole discretion, may negotiate with and award a Grant Agreement to any other Respondent.

Section 10. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

a. Issuing Office

Executive Office of Health and Human Services
One Ashburton Place, 11th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

b. COMMBUYS Market Center

COMMBUYS is the official source of information for this procurement (known as a Bid in COMMBUYS terminology) and is publicly accessible at no charge at www.commbuys.com. Information contained in this Grant Application document and in COMMBUYS, including file attachments, announcements, modifications and information contained in the related Questions and Answers (Q&A), if any, are all components of the procurement.

Respondents are solely responsible for obtaining all information distributed for this procurement via COMMBUYS.

It is each Respondent’s responsibility to check COMMBUYS for:

- Any amendments, addenda, announcements or modifications to this procurement, and
- Any Q&A records related to this procurement.

The Commonwealth accepts no responsibility and will provide no accommodation to Respondents who submit a Response to this Grant Application (known as a Quote in COMMBUYS terminology) based on out-of-date information received from a source other than COMMBUYS.

COMMBUYS Subscription. Respondents may elect to obtain a free COMMBUYS Seller subscription which provides value-added features, including automated email notification associated with postings and modifications to COMMBUYS records. In order to submit a Response, Respondents must register and maintain an active COMMBUYS Seller subscription account.

All Respondents agree that, if awarded a Grant Agreement: (1) they will maintain an active seller account in COMMBUYS; (2) they will comply with all requests by the procuring entity to utilize COMMBUYS for the purposes of conducting all aspects of purchasing and invoicing with the Commonwealth, as added functionality for the COMMBUYS system is activated; and (3) in the event the Commonwealth adopts an
alternate market center system, successful Respondents will be required to utilize such system, as directed by the procuring entity.

The COMMBUYS system introduces terminology, which Respondents must be familiar with in order to conduct business with the Commonwealth. To view this terminology and to learn more about the COMMBUYS system, visit the COMMBUYS Resource Center. Questions specific to COMMBUYS should be made to the COMMBUYS Help Desk at commbuys@state.ma.us.

c. **Respondent Communications**

1. **Grant Application Contact**
   
   Respondents are prohibited from communicating directly with any employee of EOHHS concerning this Grant Application, and no other individual Commonwealth employee or representative is authorized to provide any information or respond to any question or inquiry concerning this Grant Application except as specified below. Respondents may contact the contact person for this Grant Application in the event the Respondent is having trouble accessing the complete Grant Application or obtaining any required attachments electronically through COMMBUYS.
   
   **Grant Application Contact:**
   
   Melissa Morrison, Procurement Coordinator
   Executive Office of Health & Human Services, Legal Unit
   One Ashburton Place, 11th Floor
   Boston, MA 02108
   Email: Melissa.Morrison@state.ma.us
   Fax: 617-573-1893

2. **Reasonable Accommodation**
   
   Respondents with disabilities or hardships that seek reasonable accommodation, which may include the receipt of Grant Application information in an alternative format, must submit a written statement to the Grant Application contact person describing the Respondent’s disability and the requested accommodation to the contact person for the Grant Application. The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject unreasonable requests.

3. **Grant Application Copies**

   Respondents should download all Grant Application documents from COMMBUYS. If necessary, Respondents may request a copy of the Grant Application, or any of its components, by contacting the Grant Application contact person through any of the methods described in Section 5.3.1.

4. **Electronic Communication/Update of Respondent’s/Grantee’s Contact Information**

   It is the responsibility of the prospective Respondent and awarded Grantee to keep current the e-mail address of the Respondent’s contact person and prospective Grant
manager, if awarded a grant, and to monitor that e-mail inbox for communications from the Committee, including requests for clarification. The Committee and the Commonwealth assume no responsibility if a prospective Respondent’s/awarded Grantee’s designated e-mail address is not current, or if technical problems, including those with the prospective Respondent’s/awarded Grantee’s computer, network or internet service provider (ISP) cause e-mail communications sent to/from the prospective Respondent/awarded Grantee and EOHHS to be lost or rejected by any means, including e-mail or spam filtering.

d. **Respondents’ Conference**

Potential Respondents and interested parties are invited to attend a non-mandatory Respondents’ Conference. EOHHS will post a separate announcement on COMMBUYS with details of the Respondents’ Conference.

EOHHS will address questions pertaining to this Grant Application during the conference. Oral answers will be given if the information is then available but shall be non-binding. Written answers may be prepared for certain questions of general interest and made available to prospective Respondents after the date of the conference.

e. **Grant Application Questions**

Respondents may submit written questions concerning this Grant Application until no later than the date and time specified in the timetable in Section 1.7 of this Grant Application. Written questions must be sent to the Grant Application contact person at the e-mail address listed in Section 5.3.1. The Bid Q&A functionality in COMMBUYS will **not** be used for this Grant Application.

Questions received after the deadline may be disregarded. EOHHS will review questions received by the deadline and at its discretion prepare written responses to questions which EOHHS determines to be of general interest. The written answers will be posted on COMMBUYS. Only written answers are binding on EOHHS. Respondents should check COMMBUYS for updates.

f. **Closing Date**

Responses received after the Response due date and time specified in the Timetable in Section 1.7 will be rejected. Individual requests for extension of the time for submitting Responses will be denied.

g. **Amendment or Withdrawal of Grant Application**

If EOHHS decides to amend or clarify any part of this Grant Application, an announcement and a written amendment will be posted on COMMBUYS. EOHHS reserves the right to amend the Grant Application at any time prior to the deadline for submission of Responses and to terminate this procurement in whole or in part at any time.
h. Grant Application Errors

This Grant Application may contain errors that may be corrected by EOHHS at any time prior to Grant Agreement execution. Corrections to this Grant Application will be posted on COMMBUYS.

i. Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

All Respondents responding to this Grant Application must agree to participate in the Commonwealth Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) program for receiving payments, unless the Respondent can provide compelling proof that it would be unduly burdensome. EFT is a benefit to both Grantees and the Commonwealth because it ensures fast, safe and reliable payment directly to Grantees and saves both parties the cost of processing checks. Grantees are able to track and verify payments made electronically through the Comptroller’s VendorWeb application. The Electronic Funds Transfer Sign-Up Form is available here: https://massfinance.state.ma.us/VendorWeb/eftRegisterfrm.asp. Additional information about EFT and VendorWeb is available on the VendorWeb site.

Any successful Respondent must enroll in EFT. The Electronic Funds Transfer Sign-Up Form, along with the voided check, submitted within the Grant Application Response will be reviewed, approved, and forwarded to the Office of the Comptroller. If the Respondent is already enrolled in the program, it may so indicate in its Response.

Because the Electronic Funds Transfer Sign-Up Form contains banking information, this form, and all information contained on this form, shall not be considered a public record and shall not be subject to public disclosure through a public records request.

j. Commonwealth of Massachusetts Standard Contract Form and Commonwealth Terms and Conditions

Respondents selected as Grantees agree to abide by the terms of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Standard Contract Form and Commonwealth Terms and Conditions. EOHHS is prohibited from amending these documents or agreeing to any change in the language. Any Respondent’s suggestion or requirement altering these documents will be disregarded.

k. Acceptance of Response Content

The entire contents of the Respondent’s Response shall be binding. This Grant Application and all response documents submitted in response to it by a selected Respondent will, at EOHHS’s discretion, be incorporated by reference into any Grant Agreement awarded as a result of this Grant Application.

l. Alterations

Respondents may not alter (manually or electronically) the Grant Application language or any procurement component files, except as directed in the Grant Application. Modifications to the body of the Grant Application, specifications, terms and conditions, or which change the intent of this Grant Application are prohibited and may disqualify a Response.
m. **Authorizations and Appropriations**

Any Grant awarded under this Grant Application is subject to all necessary federal and state approvals, as applicable, including from the Office of the Comptroller, and is subject to appropriation of sufficient funding, as determined by EOHHS.

n. **Confidentiality**

Selected Respondents shall comply with all confidentiality requirements set forth in Section 5.6. The selected Respondents shall be required to comply with all state and federal laws and regulations applicable to the privacy and security of personal and other confidential information, including the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and the privacy and security regulations promulgated thereunder (45 CFR Parts 160 and 164) (the Privacy and Security Rules), and the additional terms, conditions and obligations relating to the privacy, security and management of personal and other confidential information set forth in Section. Further, EOHHS reserves the right to add any requirement during the course of the contract that it determines it must include in the contract in order for EOHHS to comply with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations relating to privacy and security, including but not limited to the Privacy and Security Rules.

o. **Conflict of Interest**

Neither the Respondent nor any subgrantee it proposes to use may have any interest that will conflict with the performance of services required under any Grant resulting from this Grant Application, or that may be otherwise anti-competitive, as determined by EOHHS, for the duration of the Grant. In order to so demonstrate, a Respondent may be required to submit any additional relevant information requested by EOHHS regarding its or its subgrantees’ financial, legal, contractual or other interests. If EOHHS, in its sole judgment, determines that a Respondent or its subgrantee possesses a conflicting interest, EOHHS may propose or consider any measures which would eliminate or mitigate such conflicting interest to EOHHS’ satisfaction.

p. **Grant Expansion**

If additional funds become available during the Grant duration period, EOHHS reserves the right to increase funding to some or all grants executed as a result of this Grant Application or to execute grants with Respondents not funded in the initial selection process, subject to available funding, satisfactory grant performance, and need.

q. **Costs**

The Commonwealth will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by Respondents in responding to this Grant Application.

r. **Debriefing**

EOHHS – Enhancing Resilience to Violent Extremism in Massachusetts Grant Application
Upon notification of the award decision, any non-selected Respondent may make a written request for debriefing. A debriefing meeting provides the Respondent an opportunity to discuss the evaluation of its Response. A request for debriefing must be received by the Grant Application contact specified under Section 5.3.1 within 14 calendar days after the postmark of the award decision notification to the Respondent. Debriefing meetings shall be held at the discretion of EOHHS.

s. Ownership of Submitted Responses
EOHHS shall be under no obligation to return any Responses or materials submitted by a Respondent in response to this Grant Application. All materials submitted by Respondents become the property of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and will not be returned to the Respondent.

t. Public Records
All Responses and related documents submitted in response to this Grant Application are public records and are subject to the Massachusetts Public Records Law, M.G.L. c. 66, § 10 and M.G.L. c. 4, § 7 subsection 26. Any statements in submitted Responses that are inconsistent with these statutes will be disregarded.

u. Response Duration
The Respondent’s Response shall remain in effect until a Grant Agreement resulting from this Grant Application is executed.

v. Restriction on the Use of the Commonwealth Seal
Respondents and grantee are not allowed to display the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Seal in their bid package or subsequent marketing materials if they are awarded a Grant Agreement, because use of the coat of arms and the Great Seal of the Commonwealth for advertising or commercial purposes are prohibited by law.

w. Subawards
Prior approval by EOHHS is required for any subawards under the Grant Agreement. Grantees are responsible for the satisfactory performance and adequate oversight of their subgrantees. Subgrantees are required to meet the same state and federal requirements as Grantees.

x. Program Modifications and New Initiatives
1. EOHHS shall have the option at its sole discretion to modify, increase, reduce or terminate any activity related to this Grant Agreement whenever, in the judgment of EOHHS, the goals of the program have been modified or altered in a way that necessitates such changes. In the event that the scope of work or portion thereof must be changed, EOHHS shall provide written notice of such action to the Grantee and
the parties shall negotiate in good faith to implement any such changes proposed by EOHHS.

2. EOHHS additionally reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to amend the Grant Agreement to implement state or federal statutory or regulatory requirements, judicial orders, settlement agreements, or any state or federal initiatives or changes affecting EOHHS or the Grant Agreement.

3. Notwithstanding the generality of the foregoing, EOHHS reserves the right to amend the Grant Agreement to implement new initiatives or to modify initiatives related to:
   a. New EOHHS programs or information technology systems;
   b. Expansion of, or changes to, existing EOHHS programs or information technology systems;
   c. Other programs, including training related conf as specified by EOHHS; and
   d. Programs or information technology systems resulting from state or federal legislation, regulations, initiatives, or judicial decisions that may affect in whole or in part EOHHS or the Grant Agreement.

4. The parties shall negotiate in good faith to implement any such changes proposed by EOHHS. The Grantee’s responsibilities are subject to change due to implementation of such initiatives. EOHHS reserves the right to modify the Grant Agreement due to program modifications. In addition, the Grantee may request an opportunity to enter into negotiations with EOHHS over amendments to the Grant Agreement related to new initiatives or modified initiatives as described in this section. EOHHS may grant such a request in its sole discretion.

5. Any changes to the Grant Agreement under this section shall be subject to appropriate approvals.
Excellent. Thanks!!

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 3, 2016, at 5:11 PM, Gilligan, Anne L (ESE)
<AGilligan@doe.mass.edu<mailto:AGilligan@doe.mass.edu>> wrote:

Hi Brandy,

You are really good. That is a great list.
I would include the Mass Department of Higher Education.
I would also add Massachusetts Association of School Committees as they would have a large stake in this work.

I am around on Monday, will be available from 2 pm.

Have a great weekend,

Anne

From: Donini-Melanson, Brandy (USAMA) [mailto:Brandy.Donini-Melanson@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2016 5:04 PM
To: Gilligan, Anne L (ESE)
Subject: Meeting Assistance/Preventing Violent Extremism

Sorry I didn't have a chance to connect with you yesterday. I hope you are well.

I wanted to circle back with you on trying to convene a meeting with the Secretary and various key representatives to discuss appropriate and effective ways that schools can engage in the effort to prevent violent extremism. As we both know, this is a very nuanced issue. The U.S. Attorney plans to reach out directly to Secretary Peyser to schedule a meeting later this month (perhaps June 22nd). We are looking for recommendations on who should be included in the meeting.

Here is who I was thinking of, but you would know better than I as I don't have a good sense of the landscape.

* Massachusetts Department of Education (multiple reps)
* FBI
* National Counter Terrorism Center
* School Superintendent’s Association
* School Principal’s Association
* Massachusetts School Counselors Association
* Massachusetts School Psychologists Association
* Massachusetts Juvenile Police Officer Association
* Massachusetts Elementary School Principal’s Association
* Massachusetts Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators
* American College Counseling Association (Massachusetts arm if there is one)

Are you around on Monday to talk?

Have a great weekend!

Brandy
Hello all,

I hope this email finds you well!

As you may know, EOHHS is in the process of developing the RFR for the Enhancing Resilience to Violent Extremism grant. The RFR will take into account information received through the RFI and in accordance with the requirements of the Cooperative Agreement that we signed with the U.S. Attorney's Office on September 30th. **We are reaching out to you for two requests:**

- **Can you please assist us in reviewing and commenting on the final draft of the RFR? We anticipate this will take approximately 6 hours between now and 6/20.**

- **Can you please serve as a member of a review committee for the Enhancing Resilience to Violent proposals which will anticipate will be due to EOHHS on August 1, 2016?** We are planning to review the proposals between August 2nd and August 12th.

Please let us know (by Friday, June 3rd) if you are able to participate. Thank you for your attention to this email and we look forward to your response!

Anny Domercant  
Senior Program Manager, Office of Children, Youth and Families  
MA Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
One Ashburton Place, 11th floor  
Boston, MA 02108  
Phone: 617-573-1606  
Email: anny.domercant@state.ma.us
All - I wanted you to be aware of a national effort to confront backlash against Muslim, Arab, Sikh and South Asian Americans following the tragic terrorist attacks in Brussels, Paris and San Bernardino, California. Feel free to share this announcement with others. The event information for Massachusetts can be found in the attachment, but I have also listed it below:

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On April 15, 2016, U. S. Attorney Carmen Ortiz will join members of the Muslim community, leaders from other communities and local, state and federal government officials responsible for enforcing civil rights laws to express support for each other during this time of increasing apprehensions, to share community concerns related to this culture and to discuss potential resources that can provide security and legal options to those impacted by it. 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., 126 Boston Post Road, Wayland, MA. Open to press.

Note: The list of events is attached as a PDF file.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON – U.S. Attorneys are joining forces with local law enforcement and community leaders for a series of events around the country to address backlash against Muslim, Arab, Sikh and South Asian Americans following the tragic terrorist attacks in Brussels, Paris and San Bernardino, California. The 14 events in 11 districts will build on both
the Justice Department’s prosecutorial work in countering post-September 11th backlash, as well as its outreach efforts, including the new interagency initiative to combat religious discrimination throughout the country.

From April 12 through May 6, U.S. Attorneys in California, Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, Ohio and Utah will work with community leaders and law enforcement to address discrimination, violence and harassment targeting people because of what they look like, which country they come from or where they worship. The aim is to reaffirm the Department of Justice’s commitment to protecting civil rights and preventing and prosecuting hate crimes.

“The Department of Justice is determined to uphold the fundamental principle that all Americans should be free from violence and protected from hatred no matter who they are, what they look like, or where they're from,” said Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch. “These events underscore our ongoing commitment to safeguard the civil rights of every American – including Muslim, Arab, Sikh and South Asian Americans, who are so often the targets of threats on the basis of their appearance or religion. There is no place for intolerance in our country. In the weeks and months ahead, the Department of Justice will continue to work with local law enforcement partners and community leaders to defend the safety and the dignity of all our people.”

During the last several months, individuals who are, or who are perceived to be, Muslim, Arab, Sikh and South Asian have been targeted for harassment and violence around the country.

A Connecticut man pleaded guilty to firing a high-powered rifle at a mosque; a Florida man pleaded guilty to threatening to firebomb two mosques and shoot their congregants; a former Missouri man pleaded guilty to violating the civil rights of others by leading a conspiracy to deface a local Islamic center with graffiti and burn two copies of the Qur’an; and a New York man was sentenced to 13 months in prison for emailing death threats to the executive director of an Islamic advocacy group.

Places of worship also face discrimination through unlawful barriers to construction in many communities around the country. In the last year, the Justice Department filed suit against Des Plaines, Illinois, over the city’s denial of rezoning to allow a Muslim congregation to use a vacant office building as a mosque. The complaint alleged that the city treated the mosque less favorably than it has treated nonreligious assemblies, discriminated against the mosque based on religion and imposed a substantial burden on the mosque members’ religious exercise without justification. The Justice Department also closed its investigation into Norwalk, Connecticut, after the city made changes to treat religious assemblies equally with nonreligious assemblies in five of its zoning districts. The department had opened an investigation of Norwalk’s zoning practices in 2012 in response to the city’s denial of a special use permit to the Al Madany Islamic Center to build a mosque on land it had bought in a residential zoning district.

Backlash against Muslim, Arab, Sikh and South Asian Americans can have a particularly harmful impact on education, employment and housing. In March, the Civil Rights Division announced that the Educational Opportunities Section launched a new enforcement initiative with the U.S. Attorneys’ Offices to strengthen our efforts to combat religious discrimination in schools and other educational settings. The new initiative, together with Justice Department’s recent work in Bakersfield, California; Lewisville, Texas; Pine
Bush, New York; Dearborn Heights, Michigan; DeKalb County, Georgia; and many more cities and counties through the nation, will help ensure that schools remain free from discrimination, harassment and violence for all students.

This effort is a reflection of the Department of Justice’s long-standing commitment to working to protect Muslim, Sikh, Arab and South Asian Americans from threats and violence directed at them because of their religion or ethnicity, and to prevent acts of discrimination against them in the workplace, schools or elsewhere. Since September 11th, the Department of Justice has investigated over 1,000 incidents involving acts of violence, threats, assaults, vandalisms and arsons targeting Arab, Muslim, Sikh and South Asians, and those perceived to be members of these groups. The Civil Rights Division and U.S Attorneys’ offices have brought prosecutions against more than 60 defendants in such cases, with 57 convictions to date.

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APRIL 12, 2016
Eastern District of Louisiana
On April 12, 2016, U.S. Attorney Kenneth Allen Polite Jr. delivered remarks at a “Muslims for Peace” event hosted by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Center at Loyola University.

APRIL 13, 2016
Southern District of California
On April 13, 2016, U.S. Attorney Laura Duffy, in collaboration with District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis, San Diego Police Chief Shelley Zimmerman, San Diego County Sheriff William Gore and other local law enforcement leaders, will hold a listening session with local Muslim students on the campus of San Diego State University. The event will be held in the SDSU Student Union at 4:30 p.m. and will be open to the press.

Eastern District of Michigan
On April 13, 2016, U.S. Attorney Barbara McQuade will convene a dialogue of local law enforcement officials and interfaith student leaders on the campus of the University of Michigan to discuss acts of violence motivated by race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, and disability, the importance of free speech in the marketplace of ideas, and the consequences of divisive attacks against values of inclusion. This event follows recent graffiti on campus stating "Stop Islam." Press briefing at 5:15 pm is open to the press. Location: Jeffries Lounge, South Hall, University of Michigan Law School, 701 S. State Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan. Press contact Gina Balaya 313-226-9758.

District of Minnesota
On April 13, 2016, U.S. Attorney Andrew M. Luger held an event to highlight the issues of Islamophobia and hate speech in Minnesota. The event took place from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. at Dorsey & Whitney, 50 South 6th Street, Suite 1500, Minneapolis, MN. Speakers included Vice President Walter Mondale, U.S. District Court Chief Judge John Tunheim, U.S. Attorney Andrew Luger, North American Somali Bar Association - MN Vice Chair Amran Farah. Speakers will be followed by a panel discussion with Minnesotans who have recently experienced hate speech and Islamophobia in public spaces. Esme Murphy, reporter and Sunday morning anchor for WCCO, will moderate the panel. Was open to press.

APRIL 14, 2016
Eastern District of California
On April 14, 2016, U.S. Attorney Ben Wagner will hold a round table event in his office at 10 a.m. The event will bring together about a dozen or so leaders in the greater Sacramento area, split between Muslim community leaders and senior law enforcement, to discuss community concerns over bias incidents and hate crimes, the need for reporting by victims of those incidents, and the need to build solid relationships between the community and law enforcement.
The group will also discuss how law enforcement can assist in building resilient communities that can resist radicalization to violence. Press is invited to talk with participants at the end of the meeting, but the meeting is closed to reporters.

**District of Idaho:**
On April 14, 2016, U.S. Attorney Wendy Olson and others from her office will meet with Muslim, Arab and other international students at Idaho State University in Pocatello to discuss federal civil rights laws. There will be a press event prior to the meeting, to which we have invited leadership from the local mosque. Earlier in the month, on the ISU campus, someone put anti-Muslim and anti-religious DVDs on various cars.

**APRIL 15, 2016**

**District of Massachusetts**
On April 15, 2016, U.S. Attorney Carmen Ortiz will join members of the Muslim community, leaders from other communities and local, state and federal government officials responsible for enforcing civil rights laws to express support for each other during this time of increasing apprehensions, to share community concerns related to this culture and to discuss potential resources that can provide security and legal options to those impacted by it. 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., 126 Boston Post Road, Wayland, MA. Open to press.

**District of Minnesota**
On Friday, April 15, 2016, U.S. Attorney Andrew Lugar will participate in an interfaith, intercultural event a being held by the Somali American Taskforce & Temple Israel. The event is designed to create connections, build relationships and enhance discussion about religion and culture in a fun, informative and uplifting way. The event is being held at Temple Israel, 2324 Emerson Ave South, Minneapolis, MN 55405 from 5:30-7:00 p.m.

**District of Utah**
On April 15, 2016, U.S. Attorney John Huber and the Salt Lake City Police Chief will visit Utah’s largest mosque.

**Eastern District of California**
On April 14, 2016, U.S. Attorney Ben Wagner will visit the Masjid Umar Farooq mosque, in Stockton, California, and will hold a town hall-style discussion with the congregation between 2 and 3 pm, relating to hate crimes and building community resilience. The meeting is not open to the press.

**APRIL 16, 2016**

**District of Colorado**
On April 16, 2016, U.S. Attorney John Walsh will speak at an event with local Muslim leaders called “Understanding Islam in Modern Society” hosted by a local non-profit Calico Culture. The event is aimed towards those who find themselves caught between compassion and fear regarding the refugee crisis and extremism in the Middle East. Our hope is to combat the negative rhetoric that is prolific in society today regarding the Muslim community through understanding & education. The event will include several brief TED talk style presentations by Qusair Mohamedbhai, J.D.; Iman Abdur Rahim Ali of the Northeast Denver Islamic Center and U.S. Attorney Walsh. The event will be held at 1400 Williams Street, Denver, from 12 - 2:30 p.m. Open to the press.

APRIL 19, 2016
Southern District of Ohio
On April 19 or 20, 2016, Acting U.S. Attorney Benjamin C. Glassman plans to meet with members of the board of directors at the Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati and to tour the center.

APRIL 20, 2016
District of Connecticut
On April 20, 2016, U.S. Attorney Deirdre Daly will launch a Multi-Cultural Advisory Council at the U.S. Attorney’s Office in New Haven from 3-4:30 pm. The Council, which will include Muslim and Sikh community leaders and members of the United States Attorney’s Office and the local FBI, is convening to discuss issues of concern to AMS communities. The meeting will involve a presentation about federal civil rights laws and small group discussions between community members, the U.S. Attorney, civil rights prosecutors and outreach staff. Following the launch, Council members will meet with USAO staff on a regularly scheduled basis to discuss programming and other needs.

MAY 6, 2016
District of Connecticut
On May 6, 2016, U.S. Attorney Deirdre Daly will make “Protecting Houses of Worship” remarks at a newly built mosque in Waterbury, Connecticut, before meeting with congregation leaders, and taking a tour of the new facilities.
All - If you aren’t already aware of this, I wanted to make you aware of a press release issued by the Muslim Justice League who requests that the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) disengage from efforts to prevent violent extremism. This is very concerning, particularly since EOHHS’s engagement is key so that this can be framed as a public health issue.

**It is critical that we counter this message directly.** I regret having to ask you this, but your assistance in speaking to the media about this would be very much appreciated so that this does not snowball into something much more problematic. **Please let me know ASAP if you are available and willing to speak to the media.** It sounds as though the reporter from the Associated Press plans to cover the story. Perhaps some have already received inquiries.

Thanks.

Brandy

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**Brandy Donini-Melanson**
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617-748-3256

**PRESS ADVISORY**
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Press contacts:**
Shannon Erwin, Muslim Justice League: 585-750-9693, serwin@muslimjusticeleague.org
Alex Mathewes, Restore the Fourth - Boston: 781-258-2936, alextwarrantless.org

April 4, 2016

1000 Massachusetts Residents Call on Health and Human Services to Reject Federal Prosecutors’ “Violent Extremism” Campaign

Boston — On Tuesday, April 5, social justice, civil rights and privacy advocates will deliver a petition signed by over 1000 Massachusetts residents urging the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) to end its collaboration with a federal law enforcement campaign known as “Countering Violent Extremism” (CVE). The petition is co-sponsored (in alphabetical order) by the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, Bill of Rights Defense Committee/Defending Dissent Foundation, Council on American-Islamic Relations Massachusetts Chapter, Jewish Voice for Peace Boston, Muslim Justice League, and Restore the Fourth - Boston.

Boston, along with Minneapolis and Los Angeles, was named a pilot site for a federal CVE campaign in 2014. Ostensibly aimed at identifying potential “extremists,” CVE initiatives have been shown by sound research to be based on discredited theories about ideology.
leading to violence. In practice, such programs have resulted, where they have operated such as in the U.K., in racial and religious profiling, the extension of invasive surveillance into the health and education sectors, erosion of confidentiality norms, increased stigmatization of the use of mental health services, and policing of dissent.

In addition to CVE’s harms on Muslims and People of Color, the petition’s sponsors noted EOHHS collaboration with federal prosecutors in counterterrorism initiatives could undermine agencies’ credibility and effectiveness of outreach to marginalized communities.

"As an HIV social worker, it's my job to build trust with my clients to support their physical, emotional, and psychological health," said Asher Ruskin MSW LCSW of Jewish Voice for Peace-Boston. "I'm concerned that Countering Violent Extremism would encourage me to police my clients based on race, religion, and political beliefs."

"Massachusetts has long been a leader in such areas as health care access. But EOHHS collaboration in a counterterrorism campaign with a track record of profiling and stigmatizing disfavored communities threatens to breed mistrust and chill use of health and social services," noted Shannon Erwin, co-founder and executive director of the Muslim Justice League.

"We're worried that CVE would lead to greater police intrusion in people's lives, without there being any reasonable suspicion of their involvement in an actual crime. The Constitution forbids the government from monitoring ‘communities at risk of radicalization’ just in case they commit a crime," explained Alex Marthews, President, Restore the Fourth - Boston.

"We urge Massachusetts to reject this unconstitutional program, which focuses on the political and religious beliefs of young people to decide if they are security risks," stated Sue Udry, executive director, Bill of Rights Defense Committee/Defending Dissent Foundation.

The petition delivery coincides with a deadline to submit input to EOHHS regarding its plans to re-grant $217,000 it received from the United States Attorney’s Office for deployment of the CVE campaign. Co-sponsoring organizations found the formal process to submit input to be fairly cumbersome for under-resourced organizations and created the petition to provide an accessible means for residents with concerns about CVE to contribute their voice.

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