

Nebraska Narrative Summary of Performance

CVE Grant Award Number: EMW-2016-CA-00129

Performance Period: Quarter 1 (August 1, 2017 to September 30, 2017)

This summary is supplemental to the progress reported in the Project Implementation and Evaluation Plan (PIEP). During the two months covered in this report several additional highlights are noted below:

- Two sub-award agreements were executed by the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency with the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center and Two Rivers Public Health Department.
- Two rural communities were chosen as sites for engagement activities – Lexington and Kearney Nebraska.
- State agencies were identified for inclusion in state level activities (Emergency Management, State Patrol, Health and Human Services, Administrative Services, Crime Commission, Education, Attorney General, Governor’s office)
- Existing CVE awareness materials have been identified and adapted for rural audiences. These materials will be sent to the DHS Office of Community Partnership for review prior to posting or distribution. Materials were drawn from a variety of sources including: the START Center CARVE course materials, FBI materials, Worde Model materials, other CVE grant sites such as Minnesota, Boston and Los Angeles, and Australia’s resilient communities project.
- Project partners have met several times to plan the rollout of the grant funded activities. We are on track to complete activities as outlined in the grant proposal.

Activities did not get started in communities right away because of the delay in getting sub-award contracts executed. We anticipate the quarter 2 report to be more extensive.

Nebraska Narrative Summary of Performance

CVE Grant Award Number: EMW-2016-CA-00129

Performance Period: Quarter 1 (October 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017)

This summary is supplemental to the progress reported in the Project Implementation and Evaluation Plan (PIEP). During the three months covered in this report several additional highlights are noted below:

- State agencies were invited to attend a webinar project orientation. Attendees included the Lt. Governor, Dept. of Education, Dept. of Health and Human Services, Emergency Management and Project Partners. The orientation will be repeated in January 2018. The Lt. Governor is very supportive of the project.
- Project partners meet regularly via conference call and we are on track to complete activities as outlined in the grant proposal.
- The project was spotlighted in a breakout session at the national conference for the Association of Healthcare Emergency Response Professionals. Input was solicited from session attendees about challenges/solutions for enhancing reporting of non-criminal concerning behaviors in rural areas and small communities. A written overview of the session was subsequently solicited by the association which will be featured in an upcoming nationally distributed newsletter. Presentation slides are posted here: <http://cve.unl.edu/past-training/>
- Two Rivers Public Health Department reports some adaptations have been required in discussing the project with stakeholders in Lexington Nebraska. This small community is quite diverse and sensitive to discussions about extremism. The adaptation most accepted by these stakeholders is framing the project as a disrupting the path toward violence rather than beginning with violent extremism. This adaptation has been carried through on our project website and other materials. Violent extremism is framed as a type of violence and radicalization as the process of going down a path toward violence.

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CVE Grant Award Number: EMW-2016-CA-00129

Performance Period: Quarter 3 (January 1, 2018 to March 31, 2018)

This summary is supplemental to the progress reported in the Project Implementation and Evaluation Plan (PIEP). During the three months covered in this report several additional highlights are noted below:

- Denise Bulling, University of Nebraska Public Policy Center, was invited to speak about the project at the Michigan Homeland Security Conference in May 2018 giving an overview of a public health approach to CVE.
- Survey results for Lexington's barriers to reporting were provided to community stakeholders who requested the survey be provided to more community members and translated into Spanish and Somalian. The goal was 100 respondents in each community.
- Threat assessment training was completed for Kearney schools, and Lexington schools and law enforcement. This training was sponsored by the Educational Service Unit serving both communities. CVE funds were used to sponsor attendance by law enforcement and school personnel from one of the communities. The other community school system attended without the aid of grant funds. Following the training the attendees participated in the Lexington stakeholder meeting and advocated for a community approach using this technology as proposed in our grant application. This was an organic adoption of threat assessment by the community. The Lexington Police Department and school system agreed to spearhead the effort in the community with faith community and cultural center partners.
- Public health engaged with Lexington's largest and most diverse employer to distribute materials and verbally give the survey to workers at lunch (with employer permission). The employer representative also attended the community stakeholder meeting.
- Stakeholder efforts in Kearney are underway and will ramp up in quarter 4 to match the Lexington efforts.

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CVE Grant Award Number: EMW-2016-CA-00129

Performance Period: Quarter 4 (April 1, 2018 to June 30, 2018)

This summary is supplemental to the progress reported in the Project Implementation and Evaluation Plan (PIEP). During the three months covered in this report several additional highlights are noted below:

- Community outreach in both Kearney and Lexington was primarily stakeholder focused in Q4. The two initial stakeholder group meetings in Kearney occurred in Q4. Much outreach work was done in Lexington in continuing the interest in the project, promoting and expanding the survey, and increasing connections in the community from the initial stakeholder meeting in Q3.
- Denise Bulling, University of Nebraska Public Policy Center, spoke about the project at the Michigan Homeland Security Conference in May 2018 giving an overview of a public health approach to CVE.
- Survey results for Kearney's barriers to reporting were provided to community stakeholders. These stakeholder's requested that more information on threat assessment teams be given to them at their next stakeholder meeting. Kearney's stakeholder group will reconvene in Q5. TRPHD and UNPPC were able to hold a more law enforcement specific stakeholder meeting with a Kearney Police Department representative near the end of Q4. The relationship with KPD will likely be invaluable going forward, as their community rated their trust in law enforcement much higher than Lexington.
- The survey measuring community barriers is now available in Spanish, Somali, and English. Two-hundred twenty community members from Lexington and Kearney have completed the survey.
- The train-the-trainer curriculum is under development. Input from community members has helped shape it. There is a strong desire for short presentation material with handouts that frame violent extremism as targeted violence. Stakeholders requested the training be marketed as a violence prevention presentation rather than using the phrase "countering violent extremism".

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Performance Period: Quarter 5 (July 1, 2018 – September 30, 2018)

- A training on Helping Individuals in a Crisis was held on July 3rd for Lexington area stakeholders. The intention of the meeting was to engage a new audience in violence prevention, and also increase engagement in a potential Threat Assessment Team. This was the first stakeholder meeting that representatives from the Somali Community attended.
- Lexington Stakeholders met again on July 9 and participants discussed the need for a 'safe space for reporting.' and the need for more Public Service Announcements, flyers, and brochures on violence prevention.
- A meeting with representatives from the faith community in Lexington was held on August 14, 2018.
- The Kearney Stakeholder meeting was held on September 4, 2018 and a representative from the Lincoln Threat Assessment presented on the formation and success of their team. The stakeholders said they had an interest in forming a Threat Assessment Team.
- The Nebraska Crime Commission was identified as the lead state agency for threat assessment. We are currently working with them to identify dates for state team training that will include the Lt. Governor and state agency representatives.
- The train the trainer material for CVE is in development.

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Performance Period: Quarter 6 (October 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018)

- Kearney Police Department Officer Rob Taillon and TRPHD staff members Laura Steele and Cody Samuelson attended the Great Plains Threat Assessment Training. Samuelson was able to collect information on the successful methods of forming threat assessment teams and which community stakeholders typically make up teams to bring back to the Kearney community.
- A stakeholder meeting was held at the opportunity center in Lexington on November 9, 2018. During the meeting, the stakeholders present expressed interest in forming a threat assessment team of Lexington community stakeholders. This was the first instance in which Lexington stakeholders had collectively been in favor of forming a threat assessment team. TRPHD staff members would be contacting members of the Lexington community in regard to interest and capacity to be a part of the threat assessment team.
- A stakeholder meeting took place at the Kearney Public Library on December 3, 2018. Samuelson presented on information from the Great Plains Threat Assessment Training to the Kearney stakeholder group that included how other threat assessment teams have formed and which community members have served on those teams. There is currently a Kearney Public Schools threat assessment team in place, it was also discussed at the training that communities were having success with multiple threat assessment teams working together (i.e. schools/business having dedicated threat assessment teams that work with the larger community threat assessment team). It is likely that the Kearney community will have various small teams that communicate with a larger community threat assessment team.

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CVE Grant Award Number: EMW-2016-CA-00129

Performance Period: Quarter 7 (Jan 1, 2019 – March 31, 2019)

This summary is supplemental to the progress reported in the Project Implementation and Evaluation Plan (PIEP). During the three months covered in this report, several additional highlights are noted below:

- The Lexington Nebraska community threat assessment team was formed and trained. They have made decisions about how their team will function and are now ready to process cases.
- Kearney Public Schools brought in a member of the Lincoln Public Schools to mentor their school and community threat assessment team. The school threat assessment team is now poised to lead the community effort.
- A set of materials to train-the-trainer in what to look for and report was created and released to Two Rivers Public Health. They are using these materials to equip community leaders and groups to present to their own constituents. The training materials will be part of the toolkit we are developing as a deliverable for this grant.
- State-level threat assessment and CVE awareness activities have not progressed due to a massive flood across the state that has demanded the attention of state level policy makers. One more meeting will be held with state stakeholders in Quarter 8. Lessons learned will be captured and included in the toolkit deliverable.
- The Nebraska team has been accepted as a presentation at the National Homeland Security Conference in June (Phoenix). The title of our presentation is Targeted Violence Prevention: Panel Discussion “Addressing Barriers to Reporting Signs of Radicalization in Rural Areas using a Public Health Approach”, with Dr. Mario Scalora, Denise Bulling, Laura Steele, and Nikki Weber. We are presenting at 11:15 am Wednesday June 19, 2019.