Domestic Terrorism Prevention Webinar Series
Welcoming Remarks
Executive Order 18: Implementation Efforts In New York State
Executive Order 18

- Signed on May 18th, 2022 by Governor Kathy Hochul

- Requires every County & New York City ("Jurisdictions") to develop and maintain a domestic terrorism prevention plan, which must include input from: law enforcement, mental health professionals, school officials, and other key stakeholders.
  - The plan must be submitted to DHSES’ Office of Counter Terrorism (OCT) by December 31st, 2022.

- DHSES OCT to establish a unit dedicated to preventing domestic terrorism:
  - Share best practices to prevent targeted violence, domestic violent extremism (DVE), and homegrown violent extremism (HVE).
  - Develop training to address DVE and the radicalization process.
  - Develop a Threat Assessment & Management (TAM) Program to disperse grant funds and help Jurisdictions develop TAM teams.
Domestic Terrorism Prevention Plan

- Released Guidance and TAM Team Primer on August 5th, 2022, to Jurisdictions’ representatives.

Domestic Terrorism Prevention Plan Guidance:
- What are you currently doing?
- What are you going to do moving forward?
- Where you see gaps?
- How are serious risks escalated (i.e., SAFENYS Tip line)?

Threat Assessment & Management Team Primer:
- Developed to assist Jurisdictions’ in creating TAM teams.
- Based on experience and lessons learned from existing NYS TAM teams (ROCTAC, BUFTAC, & NITAG).
- Determined that TAM teams are a critical tool to address targeted violence and provide an off-ramp for individuals on the pathway to violence.
DHSES Initiatives Pursuant to this Directive

- **Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) Team Operations:**
  - Develop guidance on and review Jurisdictions’ domestic terrorism prevention plans (underway).
  - Provide training and support to local governments developing TAM teams.
  - Maintain a catalogue of active TAM teams, founding documents, and POCs.
  - Manage contracts associated with TAM training (vendors, SMEs, etc.).

- **Targeted Violence/Domestic Violent Extremism Education and Awareness Team Operations:**
  - Work with the State Preparedness Training Center and other partners to develop programs and training for specialized communities that may interact with radicalized/radicalizing persons (law enforcement, education, mental healthcare providers, social services, religious organizations etc.).
  - Deliver training to target audiences.
DHSES Initiatives Pursuant to this Directive

Distribute $10m in Grant Funding to Assist Jurisdictions with Domestic Terrorism Prevention Plans:

• Year 1 funding may be used to support plan development.

• TAM team development (and documentation) will go a long way towards satisfying the requirement.
Objectives of these Efforts

• Create off-ramps during the radicalization process and before mobilization to violence.

• Encourage TAM team development; remove administrative and financial road bumps.

• Over-the-horizon, proactive operational policy development.
FY2022 DHSES Domestic Terrorism Prevention (DTP) Grant Program: Funding Overview
Agenda

• Overview of the Program
• Program Objectives
• Funding Levels and Eligibility
• Allowable Costs, Funding Trends, and Unique Projects
• Application Process
• Contract Process and Requirements
• Timelines & Additional Outreach
Overview of the Program
FY2022 Domestic Terrorism Prevention Grant Program

Background

• Part of Governor’s Hochul’s Executive Order 18 in response to the May 14, 2022, racially motivated mass shooting that occurred in Buffalo, NY

• $10 Million in state grant funding devoted to building New York State’s capability to prevent targeted violence and domestic terrorism through the utilization of Threat Assessment Management (TAM) teams and the development of comprehensive Domestic Terrorism Plans
Program Objectives

- **Planning**: Developing plans, policies and protocols, inclusive of services and resources to help implement threat assessment management strategies

- **Access**: Ensuring members of the whole community have access to multi-disciplinary threat assessment and management teams

- **Awareness**: Raising awareness of the why and how individuals radicalize to violence through the education of whole community on the behavioral indicators of individuals on a pathway to violence and how to intervene and prevent acts of violence.
Program Objectives

• **Understanding:** Ensuring community members understand the role of domestic terrorism prevention plans and TAM teams and are aware of how to act on their awareness training by knowing how, who, and by what means to contact their resident TAM team.
Funding Levels and Eligibility
Eligibility: All New York State Counties and NYC are eligible to apply for funding through this grant program.

Funding Level: Each county and NYC received a noncompetitive award of $172,413 on August 17.
- Combining awards with other counties is permissible.
- Grant Guidance, Application Worksheet, E-Grants Tutorial, Technical Assistance Webinar and all relevant Planning Documents are available on our website at: https://www.dhsses.ny.gov/state-funded-programs

Performance Period: 2 years – Contract Period starts 9/1/2022
Funding Levels and Eligibility

• Condition of Funding: As a condition of the grant program, your county will be required to submit their County Domestic Terrorism Plan to DHSES by December 31, 2022

**Important Note:** This program funding can be used to support these efforts
Allowable Costs, Funding Trends, and Unique Projects
Allowable Costs

- Alignment to the federal Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention Grant Program through DHS Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships (CP3) Office

- Projects are limited to **Planning**, **Training**, **Organizational** and **Exercise** costs associated with your county’s domestic terrorism prevention efforts

- Equipment costs are **NOT** allowable under this grant program – program objectives are limited in scope and associated with building domestic terrorism prevention frameworks to include Threat Assessment Management (TAM) teams
## Project Examples

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<th>Examples</th>
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| **Planning Costs**  | • Consultant costs to conduct assessments and develop domestic terrorism prevention plans  
                      • Salary and fringe for the hiring of staff to develop and implement domestic terrorism plans and/or risk mitigation plans  
                      • Supply purchases to include brochures, marketing and outreach materials  
                      • Consultant costs associated with the management of social media campaigns and website development |
| **Training Costs**   | • Salary and fringe for hiring of personnel to conduct training  
                      • Consultant costs to develop and deliver training  
                      • Overtime and backfill expense for all personnel to participate in domestic terrorism prevention related training or behavioral threat assessment education  
                      • Registration fees, travel expenses, and training supplies  
                      • Awareness trainings for community stakeholders  
                      • Costs associated with conducting training events (lodging, travel, meals, space rental, etc.) |
## Project Examples

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| **Organizational Costs** | • Costs associated with hiring part or full-time staff and/or consultants to oversee the implementation and programmatic management of a Threat Assessment Management Team  
   • Salary and fringe for personnel that will be managing the implementation of their county’s domestic terrorism plan  
   • Costs associated with hiring part of full-time staff to handle case management and referrals |
| **Exercises**     | • Costs associated with the design, development, execution, and evaluation of exercises (regionally or locally) to test domestic terrorism plans and to assess the capabilities of a Threat Assessment Management team  
   • Overtime and backfill costs associated with attending the exercise – open  
   • Lodging, travel costs, facility rentals, exercise supplies and materials. |
Funding Trends

• Funding will be utilized to establish 34 new county Threat Assessment Management (TAM) Teams, enhance 3 existing and support 1 joint TAM Team.
  o Large portion of projects devoted to personnel costs associated programmatic management of TAM Teams

• Utilization of Consultants to aid in the development of county domestic terrorism prevention plans

• Investments in training activities that include the use of funding to support overtime/backfill costs and travel
Unique Projects and Best Practices

• Devote funding to county agency partners to support personnel costs associated with participation in the TAM team
• Development of a Public Safety APP that focusing on domestic terrorism prevention education and provides the public with a means to obtain community safety information
• Behavioral Threat Assessment training for law enforcement officers and school officials
• Utilizing consultant costs to assess potential vulnerabilities within the county as it relates to domestic terrorism and to develop a risk mitigation plan
Application Process
Application Process

• Applications were due to DHSES on **September 16, 2022**
  - We appreciated all those that submitted!

• Application submissions will be required through the DHSES E-Grants system
  - Comprehensive E-Grants Tutorial posted on the website
  - Application Worksheet and Attestation Form must be attached to the E-Grants Application

• Only **one** Application per County
  - This application requires coordination within your county to develop projects
  - Counties may combine awards and develop regional projects
Contract Process and Requirements
Contracting Process

- Reimbursement-Based Contract – Contracts are expected to be issued in the coming weeks

- Contract Administration will be conducted through DHSES E-Grants System
  - Assigned Contract Representative will be your Point of Contact
  - Programmatic and Fiscal Monitoring of Contracts

- Fiscal and Progress Reporting Required Quarterly
  - **Quarter 1:** January 1 – March 31 is due no later than April 30th
  - **Quarter 2:** April 1 – June 30 is due no later than July 30th
  - **Quarter 3:** July 1 – September 30 is due no later than October 30th
  - **Quarter 4:** October 1 – December 31 is due no later January 30th
Contract Requirements

• **MWBE Requirement:** Program funds will be subject to the Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Requirement (MWBE) of 30%

• **Pre-Approval of Training Requests:** DHSES will require prior approval of any training requests that this funding will be used to support (similar form to what you are accustomed to)
THANK YOU!

DHSES Grants Program Administration (GPA)

Grants Hotline: 866-837-9133

E-Mail: Grant.Info@dhses.ny.gov

Website: http://www.dhses.ny.gov/grants/
Guidance on Developing Domestic Terrorism Prevention Plans
Agenda

• Overview
  • Purpose
  • Scope
  • Key Dates and Contact Information
• Role of the Lead Agency
  • Responsibilities
  • Documentation
• Walk-through of Domestic Terrorism Prevention Plan Guidance
Overview
Purpose

• Part of Governor’s Hochul’s Executive Order 18 requires every New York State county and the City of New York (referred to Jurisdictions) **must** develop and maintain a domestic terrorism prevention plan to identify and confront threats of domestic terrorism.
Scope

- Targeted violence includes all types of terrorism (both foreign and domestic), hate crimes, mass killings, and other violent acts against a specific individual, group, or organization based on an ideological or grievance-based motivation.

- It generally excludes acts of interpersonal violence, street or gang-related crimes, violent crimes perpetrated by organized crime syndicates or similar organizations, and financially motivated crimes.
  - However, some of the strategies used to address these challenges are similar and can also be leveraged to prevent targeted violence.
Scope Cont’d

• Each Jurisdiction’s chief executive officer must identify a lead agency to coordinate planning efforts.

• The plan must have a list of key stakeholders and a multi-disciplinary planning group to coordinate efforts. DHSES strongly encourages all Jurisdictions to considering creating a Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) team to fulfill the requirements set forth by EO 18.

• The plan must explain what actions the Jurisdiction is taking or intends to take in preventing and/or mitigating acts of domestic terrorism or targeted violence.

• Lastly, the plan must explain how individual(s) who are radicalizing or mobilizing to violence are addressed.
Scope Cont’d

Action items your Jurisdiction should consider while developing your plan:

1. Current Threat Environment
2. Intelligence & Information Sharing Networks
3. Outreach and Education Efforts
4. Consider Establishing a Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) team
5. Threat Reporting Processes
6. Consider Establishing a Threat Management Process
7. Participate in and Promote Training
8. Understand Target Hardening and Security Measures
9. Review and Formalize Active Shooter Plans
10. Support School Safety Planning
11. Leverage Grant Funding
12. Share Unique Domestic Terrorism and Targeted Violence Prevention Plans and Activities
Key Dates and Contact Information

• Plans **must** be submitted as a Word document to the DHSES Office of Counter Terrorism on, or before, December 31st, 2022.

• To submit your plan, please work with your jurisdiction’s emergency manager to securely submit documentation through NY Responds (NYR), the State’s emergency management system.
Role of the Lead Agency
Responsibilities

- Each Jurisdiction’s chief executive officer can appoint any representative as the lead agency. (e.g., Sheriff’s Office, Emergency Management, Health Department, Planning Department)

- Your jurisdiction’s lead agency is responsible for the development and maintenance of the domestic terrorism prevention plan and sharing that plan with DHSES through NY Responds.

- Further, the lead agency must identify key stakeholders and leverage or convene a multi-disciplinary group, which must include participation and input from law enforcement, mental health professionals, schools (e.g., K-12, higher education), social services, and relevant private sector and community partners.

  - Jurisdictions may be able to leverage similar planning groups that have been established for other public safety issues that require a multi-disciplinary response (e.g., opioid task forces).
Documentation Steps

• Lead agencies have been instructed to work with their emergency managers to upload their Jurisdiction’s domestic terrorism prevention plans and any supporting documentation to NY Responds.

1. Sign into NY Responds: https://nyr.dhses.ny.gov/
2. After you sign-in, choose any incident or role.

Note: It does not make a difference as to what incident you sign into; the folder system will still be accessible.
3. Click ‘Documentation’ on the top banner, and then select ‘Reference Library.’
4. Double click on ‘County DT Plan’ to open the folder.

5. Next, scroll through the list of counties and double click on your Jurisdiction.

6. Upload your Jurisdiction’s plan(s) using the ‘Add’ button at the top and select ‘File(s)’ as the upload option.

Note: Use the ‘Up’ button to go back and forth between folders. If you use the back button on your browser, you will be sent back to the home screen of NY Responds.
What Should be Included in my Jurisdiction’s Plan?
Domestic Terrorism Plan Outline

The following items represent actions your planning team should consider when developing the Plan:

1. Current Threat Environment
2. Intelligence & Information Sharing Networks
3. Outreach and Education Efforts
4. Consider Establishing a Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) team
5. Threat Reporting Processes
6. Consider Establishing a Threat Management Process
7. Participate in and Promote Training
8. Understand Target Hardening and Security Measures
9. Review and Formalize Active Shooter Plans
10. Support School Safety Planning
11. Leverage Grant Funding
12. Share Unique Domestic Terrorism and Targeted Violence Prevention Plans and Activities
Action Item 1: Review Current Threat Environment
Review Current Threat Environment

- Jurisdictions should review the current threat environment to determine organizations, groups, and/or types of individuals that could potentially pose a domestic terrorism threat, or that exist within the Jurisdiction.

- The FBI and DHS continue to assess that racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists (REMVEs), primarily white supremacist organizations, will continue to be the most lethal domestic terrorism threat to the United States. The plan must address, but not be limited to, the potential threat from REMVEs.

- A review of previous incidents, arrests, hate crime data, and other intelligence and information sources should be conducted as part of this planning effort.
  - Identifying potential target locations should also be considered as part of the threat environment review.

- These efforts can be supplemented by the New York State Intelligence Center (NYSIC), which will help provide information to augment each Jurisdiction’s effort in understanding their threat environment.
Review Current Threat Environment

Questions the Plan Must Address:

☐ What are the highest risk terrorism threats facing your jurisdiction and what measures are required to mitigate those specific risks?

☐ Which locations within your jurisdiction may be potential targets of violent acts (e.g., schools, places of work, places of worship)?

☐ How can people at those locations report suspicious behavior?

☐ Consider any unique critical infrastructure or other areas of interest within your jurisdiction (e.g., military installations, mass transit stations, culturally or religiously significant locations, vulnerable populations).
Action Item 2: Review Intelligence and Information Sharing Networks
Review Intelligence and Information Sharing Networks

- Review current intelligence and information sharing networks to ensure relevant parties within and outside of the Jurisdiction can receive and share intelligence related to domestic terrorism. These established networks may include, but should not be limited to:
  - New York State Intelligence Center (NYSIC)
  - Regional New York State Police (NYSP) Troop
  - Local Crime Analysis Centers (CACs)
  - Regional Counter Terrorism Zone (CTZ) meetings
  - FBI and/or Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF)
  - Intelligence Liaison Officer (ILO), Field Intelligence Officer (FIO), and Jail Intelligence Officer (JIO) programs
  - Other dedicated information sharing networks or taskforces at the local level

- The Jurisdiction must have a process to share and receive information with non-law enforcement agencies (e.g., schools, mental health, social services, probation).
Review Intelligence and Information Sharing Networks

Questions the Plan Must Address:

☐ Which agencies or organizations are in your jurisdiction’s intelligence and information sharing network?

☐ What mechanism exists to facilitate information sharing between relevant intelligence and information networks and non-law enforcement agencies?

☐ What is the strategy to address gaps in this network, if any exist?
Action Item 3:
Examine Outreach and Education Efforts
Examine Outreach and Education Efforts

• Examine mechanisms to **conduct outreach and educate the public about the threat of domestic terrorism and radicalization**, to include how to recognize potential warning signs or concerning behaviors indicating possible future violence.

• Consider efforts that include educating teachers, school officials, parents, and the youth on how to spot online conspiracies, protect against the radicalization process, counter extremism, and report concerning behavior.

• Law enforcement within the Jurisdiction should actively participate in DHSES’ Red Team Exercises and other programs to promote the “See Something, Say Something” campaign.

• Consider using social media to help promote public outreach and education, in addition to traditional media outreach pathways (e.g., radio, broadcast television, cable and satellite, print, and billboards).
Examine Outreach and Education Efforts

Questions the Plan Must Address:

☐ What mechanisms will your jurisdiction use to promote public outreach and education related to domestic terrorism prevention?

☐ If those mechanisms are not currently in place, how does your jurisdiction intend to put them in place?
Action Item 4:

Consider Establishing a Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) Team
Consider Establishing a Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) Team

• Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) teams are multi-disciplinary groups that help identify, assess, and mitigate potential threats, to include threats of domestic terrorism and/or other acts of targeted violence.

• Jurisdictions should consider creating a TAM team. Jurisdictions may choose to work together to develop regional TAM teams or TAM teams in partnership with one another. Planning groups and TAM teams can be one in the same,
  o TAM teams must include representation from law enforcement, mental health organizations, schools, and relevant government, private sector, and community partners.

• DHSES will provide additional guidance, training, technical assistance, and grant funding to help establish these teams.
Consider Establishing a Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) Team

Questions the Plan Must Address:

- Does your jurisdiction have a TAM team and, if so, how is the team structured and who are the lead and supporting agencies?

  Note: The coordinating agency does not have to be a law enforcement agency, but law enforcement, mental health professionals, school officials, community stakeholders, along with other key stakeholders must be engaged.

- If your jurisdiction does not have a TAM team, does the Plan outline how threats are received and managed?
Action Item 5: Examine Threat Reporting Processes
Examine Threat Reporting Processes

• The Plan should describe how threat reports are received and relayed to a TAM team, or other entity.
  • This may include member organizations or agencies referring threats to be discussed and/or the use of 911, 988, 211, or other hotlines for collection.

• Special considerations should be given to large employers and educational institutions, to ensure they have a process to elevate threats and know how to engage a TAM Team, or other entity.

• Consider leveraging social media and/or other online communications to identify and assess threats, as these sites are conduits for “leakage” and indicators of radicalization.
Examine Threat Reporting Processes

Questions the Plan Must Address:

- What type of threat reporting systems or processes exist, or will be used, related to domestic terrorism and targeted violence prevention?

- How will stakeholders be informed of reporting steps to the TAM team, or other official channels, for action?
Action Item 6: Establishing a Threat Management Process
Establishing a Threat Management Process

• The Plan should articulate how the jurisdiction currently tracks and manages threats, or how they intend to, and associated intervention strategies for individuals deemed to be a threat, at risk of becoming a threat, and/or in need of assistance.

• The plan should also explain how the TAM team, or other entity, will ensure follow up actions are taken, and progress tracked.
Examine Threat Reporting Process

Questions the Plan Must Address:

☐ Does your jurisdiction have connections with appropriate mental health entities, social services, and other community entities?

☐ Has your jurisdiction or TAM team identified paths for referrals, interventions, rehabilitation, and reintegration?

☐ Is there a process for sharing information on threats with the State and other Jurisdictions (if applicable), when appropriate?

☐ What is the process for reporting, assessing, referring, and following up on reported threats?
Action Item 7:

Participate in and Promote Training
Participate in and Promote Training

- Training programs are available to Jurisdictions to prevent and mitigate the threat of domestic terrorism and targeted violence. This training includes, but is not limited to:
  - Awareness training on domestic terrorism and targeted violence
  - Threat Assessment and Management for TAM team members and other professionals
  - Red Flag Law
  - Active shooter response (e.g., Run, Hide, Fight)
  - Bystander reporting
  - Stop the Bleed
  - Call center operators
  - HIPPA/FERPA

- Note: DHSES can provide and/or facilitate the delivery of these training courses.
Participate in and Promote Training

Questions the Plan Must Address:

☐ What type of training has your jurisdiction completed, and, by who?

☐ How often is such training provided?

☐ What type of additional training, if any, is needed within your jurisdiction?
Action Item 8:
Understand Target Hardening and Security Measures
Understand Target Hardening and Security Measures

• Your jurisdiction should ensure open lines of communication with the following entities in your community to understand what target hardening and other security measures are in place
  • Educational institutions
  • Religious institutions
  • Civic organizations
  • Healthcare facilities
  • Government buildings (offices, courts, jail)
  • Mass gathering sites
  • Other key locations

• Jurisdictions should also ensure tailored security measures exist and are used for large-scale mass gathering events.
Understand Target Hardening and Security Measures

Questions the Plan Must Address:

- What actions have, or will be, taken to support target hardening of potential targets of violence within your jurisdiction?

- The Plan should ensure a process is in place to assess what target hardening measures are required and whether those in place are sufficient, as well as a review cycle to ensure they are current.
Action Item 9:

Review and Formalize Active Shooter Plans
Review and Formalize Active Shooter Plans

• Review and formalize Active Shooter response plans. These plans outline agency roles, responsibilities, associated response actions, and capabilities as well as the timeline on which these plans will be exercised.

  • Note: DHSES provides Active Shooter trainings for law enforcement officers and can help to identify and/or facilitate other types of training as well.
Review and Formalize Active Shooter Plans

Questions the Plan Must Address:

☐ Does your jurisdiction have an Active Shooter response plan? If yes, when was the plan last exercised and who participated?

☐ If your jurisdiction does not have an Active Shooter response plan, please document the steps that will be taken to adopt and finalize a plan.
Action Item 10: Support School Safety Planning
Support School Safety Planning

• New York State school districts are required to develop, review, and regularly update school safety plans at the district and building level.

• These plans outline how school districts will respond to acts of violence and other disasters through prevention, intervention, and emergency response and management.

• Law enforcement and other relevant community entities must be an active participant in the planning process.
Support School Safety Planning

Questions the Plan Must Address:

☐ Which agencies are involved in the school safety planning process in your jurisdiction?

☐ How does the school safety plan fit into the overall Domestic Terrorism Prevention Plan?
Action Item 11: Leverage Grant Funding
Leverage Grant Funding

- The Domestic Terrorism Prevention Grant Program is available to provide funding to jurisdictions to prevent targeted violence and domestic terrorism through the utilization of Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) teams and the development of comprehensive Domestic Terrorism Plans.

- In addition to this funding, DHSES and other state agencies, including the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), administer grants that can be used to support targeted violence prevention efforts. These programs include:
  - New York State’s Securing Communities Against Hate Crimes (SCAHC) Grant Program
  - The federal Non-Profit Security Grant Program (NSGP)
Leverage Grant Funding

Questions the Plan Must Address:

☐ Which grant(s) is your jurisdiction currently using?

☐ How has your jurisdiction used grant funds (or other resources) to support domestic terrorism and targeted violence prevention efforts?

☐ Has your jurisdiction supported any organizations that have received funding from the Securing Communities Against Hate Crimes Program (SCAHC) or Non-Profit Security Grant Program (NSGP)?
Action Item 12:

Share Unique Domestic Terrorism and Targeted Violence Prevention Plans and Activities
Share Unique Domestic Terrorism and Targeted Violence Prevention Plans and Activities

• The activities previously outlined represent a baseline of efforts needed to advance domestic terrorism and targeted violence prevention.

• Each Jurisdiction is likely engaged in other relevant efforts. As such, NYS encourages each Jurisdiction to share information on these unique programs as they may represent new best practices that can be shared across the State.
Share Unique Domestic Terrorism and Targeted Violence Prevention Plans and Activities

Questions the Plan Must Address:

☐ Please highlight any other relevant plans, trainings, outreach, programs, processes, and initiatives addressing targeted violence in your jurisdiction that you believe is a best practice or model program.
Final Thoughts

- The Domestic Terrorism Prevention Plan Guidance document was built with flexibility in mind – the resources, stakeholders, and processes will look different jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

- All the information in this presentation is also available within the DT Prevention Plan Guidance.

- If you are unsure about something, ask for assistance.
Thank You.
Guidance on Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) Teams

Training for Jurisdictions

October 14, 2022
Agenda

• Overview
  • TAM Teams in New York State
  • What are they?
  • How do we know they work?

• Ten Steps to Build Community-Wide TAM Teams

• Creating TAM Teams in New York State: Five Lessons Learned

• Conversation with a TAM Team Leader
Overview
Overview

• The creation of Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) teams will be a critical pillar of operationalizing the local domestic terrorism prevention plans.

• If a Jurisdiction chooses to build a TAM team, the Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) Team Primer provides useful information including lessons learned, best practices, and example documents from established TAM teams in the State.
TAM Teams in New York State

- The Rochester Threat Advisory Committee (ROCTAC) was the State’s first TAM team created by Monroe County in 2019.

- In 2020, DHSES received a Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention (TVTP) Grant, and funding was used to replicate their success and conduct TAM-related training for:
  - The City of Buffalo’s Threat Advisory Committee (BUFTAC)
  - Niagara County’s Threat Advisory Group (NITAG)

- The collective experiences of ROCTAC, BUFTAC, and NITAG informed the development of the *Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) Team Primer.*
TAM Teams: What Are They?

• TAM teams are multi-disciplinary groups that bring law enforcement, mental health professionals, school officials, and other community stakeholders together to identify, assess, and manage threats of targeted violence.

• These teams receive reports of concerning behavior from various stakeholders, investigate threats, and then develop intervention and management strategies to mitigate the risk of violence.

• TAM teams engage in a “public health” approach by working with a broad group of stakeholders. These teams operate with restorative models and seek to intervene before law enforcement involvement is required.

• The focus is always on the behavior, not the underlying ideology, to not infringe on anyone’s rights or civil liberties.
TAM Teams: Do We Know They Work?

- Secret Service, FBI, DHS, and numerous researchers and academics recommend the use of TAM teams – many schools have adopted the approach after high-profile school shootings (e.g., Columbine, Parkland, Virginia Tech) or passed laws mandating student threat assessments in public schools (e.g., Virginia).

- The use of TAM teams in addressing targeted violence is supported by research, as most individuals who commit these acts do not “snap.” Instead, they generally follow a pathway to violence and display warning signs along the way that TAM teams can identify and monitor.

- Studies show that when TAM teams are implemented according to best practices, “students on which a threat assessment has been conducted are more likely to receive counseling services (about 4x more likely) and a parent conference (about 3x more likely) and are less likely to receive long-term suspension (about 1/3 as likely) or an alternative placement (about 1/8 as likely).”
TAM Teams: Do We Know They Work?

- On average, TAM teams opened 5 cases per quarter.
- Referrals to external agencies were made 5 times on average per quarter.
- 3 cases are referred to law enforcement on average per quarter.

Source: ROCTAC, BUFTAC, and NITAG Quarterly Reporting for FY2020 TVTP Funding
TAM Teams: How Do We Know They Work?

Summary of Actions Taken by TAM Teams:

Case A:
“.. An employee of global company was presenting concerning actions and behaviors including looking to purchase a rifle. They had grievances against their employer and there were family issues and mental health aggravators.

The TAM team assisted the company by outlining a strategy and connecting them with local resources via private sector, law enforcement, colleges, and mental health.”

Case B:
“.. There were discussions surrounding an individual who made concerning statements to members of a church about ”killing gods people”.

The TAM team connected with housing providers, and they were able to identify this individual. They verified his aversion to the church and his status of homelessness.

Sharing this information amongst the group also provided everyone with updates on his mental health status, known triggers and whether a mental health evaluation was conducted. Through the TAM team, they were able to identify the individual’s last known address and make contact with family members.”
Ten Steps to Build a Community-Wide TAM Team
Ten Key Steps to Developing TAM Teams

DHSES has identified ten key steps to developing TAM Teams based on our experience supporting these teams and their efforts.

1. Identify a Lead Agency
2. Obtain Executive-Level Support
3. Identify Core Agencies
4. Engage with Core Agencies
5. Conduct Initial Overview Meeting
6. Participate in Initial Program Analysis
7. Create MOUs/Legal Agreement
8. Conduct TAM Training
9. Engage in Broad Stakeholder Outreach
10. Participate in Regular TAM Team Meetings
Creating TAM Teams in New York State: Five Lessons Learned
Creating TAM Teams in New York State: Five Lessons Learned

SUCCESSFUL TAM TEAMS IN NYS

1. Executive support is critical
2. Leverage existing TAM Team models
3. Identify a strong Lead Agency to coordinate efforts
4. Ongoing TAM Team training is crucial
5. TAM Team evolution is a continual process
Conversation with a TAM Team Leader
Conversation with a TAM Team Leader

• Brief background on your TAM team

• Tips for a jurisdiction forming their own TAM team

• Any resources/trainings that you’ve found to be useful?
Final Thoughts

• TAM teams have a proven track record across the country and in New York State and are heavily recommended by federal agencies.

• DHSES strongly encourages developing a TAM team to assist in fulfilling the requirements set forth by EO 18.

• The *Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) Primer* provides useful information on building these teams, and DHSES will provide additional guidance, training, technical assistance, and grant funding to help establish TAM teams.

• If you are unsure about something, ask for guidance!
Closing Remarks & Upcoming Training Opportunities
Upcoming Training Opportunities

Threat Evaluation and Reporting Course (TERC)

- **Date:** October 18-20, 2022
- **Location:** SPTC
- **Course Provider:** Master Trainers identified by DHS Intelligence & Analysis National Threat Evaluation and Reporting (NTER) Office

Recognizing and Identifying Domestic and Homegrown Violent Extremism (AWR-409)

- **Date:** October 26, 2022
- **Location:** SPTC

- **Course Provider:** Louisiana State University’s National Center for Biomedical Research and Training (NCBRT)

- **Date:** November 15, 2022
- **Location:** Brentwood, Suffolk County

If you have any questions regarding these training opportunities or need registration assistance, please contact Robert DellaRocco at robert.dellarocco@dhses.ny.gov
Thank You

If you have any questions, please contact us:

Domestic Terrorism Prevention Plan or Threat Assessment Management (TAM) Teams: PreventDT@dhses.ny.gov

Domestic Terrorism Grants Program: Grant.Info@dhses.ny.gov

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