



**ILLINOIS  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

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**Executive Summary of ICJIA's Homeland Security CVE Grant Proposal**

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority's Targeted Violence Prevention Program (ICJIA-TVPP) will develop and deliver a bystander-gatekeeper training program to educate a broad cross-section of communities on how to help off-ramp individuals who exhibit warning signs of radicalization to violence as well as those who exhibit behaviors signifying they may be in the early stages of planning an act of ideologically inspired targeted violence. The curriculum will be developed by a team of experts, community members, and ICJIA-TVPP staff. It will address all forms of ideologically inspired targeted violence promoted by domestic groups—such as violent white supremacists, sovereign citizen extremists, violent black nationalists, and eco-terrorists - and foreign organizations such as ISIS and Al Qaeda. The training curriculum will be informed by both bystander and gatekeeper research and evidence-based practices. Bystander and gatekeeper programs are widely used in the U.S. for sexual assault and suicide prevention, but they have never been deployed for preventing targeted violence. Training will be piloted in approximately two to four distinct communities in Illinois.

The goal of the “Engaged Bystander-Gatekeeper Training” is to build and foster community resilience to violent extremism radicalization and recruitment. This is accomplished by making Illinois residents in the pilot communities better informed about radicalization to violence and the various ways that recruitment takes place, and also by making Illinois residents better positioned to be active promoters of public safety. The training will make the communities in which it is delivered more resilient to radicalization to violence, because community members will be more alert to warning signs and will be equipped to be more proactive when these warning signs are observed. Trained communities will be better positioned to: (1) engage effectively with individuals who exhibit warning signs of radicalization to violence and/or to targeted violence, (2) help individuals get access to assessments and services within the community, and (3) prevent community members from adopting violent extremist ideologies and also prevent those who have adopted such ideologies from pursuing acts of targeted violence. One hundred fifty individuals from the pilot communities will be trained.

ICJIA's Research Department will help develop data collection on community opinions and feedback on the curriculum and training throughout the execution of the project using focus groups and surveys. ICJIA's Institutional Review Board will review and approve the research component to ensure confidentiality for those individuals participating in this project.