

PSN TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Monthly Newsletter



Thank you for following our monthly Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) Bulletin. The monthly bulletin highlights TTA and resources provided to PSN taskforces and local law enforcement agencies. TTA requests can be made online [here](#). If you have questions regarding TTA, please contact your regional TTA liaison or the TTA team at psnttateam@psntta.org.

Inside this Issue (events on pg. 2)

STRATEGY BRIEF

A study of a comprehensive community initiative in Worcester, MA demonstrates the value of research partnerships and problem-solving.
See below.

CASE STUDY: TAMPA PSN EVALUATION

This study presents an evaluation of a PSN initiative on violence and gun crime in Tampa, Florida over a 6-year period.
See p. 02

TTA SPOTLIGHT

Learn about new TTA requests resulting from some of our recent engagements! *See p. 03*

Apply now to join the National Public Safety Partnership program! *See p. 04*

STRATEGY BRIEF: CRIMINAL JUSTICE INNOVATION EVALUATION

By: Robyn Carter, Michigan State University, PSN TTA Team

The Worcester, MA Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation ([BCJI](#)) included a research partner team working with the police department and other partners involved in a comprehensive community initiative. The research team provided ongoing spatial analysis of violent and social disorder crimes. Although trend data indicated a decline in crime in the target area, spatial analysis reflected a persistent hotspot. Further analysis at the hotspot level indicated an opioid-related hotspot.

The research findings supported a transition in the project focus to address the opioid crisis. Furthermore, findings support the value of the practitioner-researcher partnership and the ongoing problem-solving model.

For more detail see, Ross et al., 2019. "[The Use of Geographic Information Systems for Real-Time Monitoring of Comprehensive Community Initiatives](#)" in *Justice Research and Policy* . If you have trouble accessing the journal article, please contact rcarter@msu.edu





CASE STUDY SPOTLIGHT: PSN TAMPA EVALUATION

This study presents an evaluation of a cutting-edge PSN initiative on violence and gun crime in *Tampa, Florida* over a 6-year period.

Results indicate that PSN was associated with a 24.4% reduction in violence and a 24.0% reduction in gun crime rates for the treatment agency, while the control groups saw much smaller decreases in violence and gun crime over the same time period.

There are several policy implications:

- The study suggests that the use of evidence-based risk factors to identify the prolific offenders subject to the PSN intervention yields a notable effect on violence and gun crime reduction.
- This approach was associated with substantial decreases in violence and gun crime over the 3-year follow-up period, but importantly, total arrests in the treatment jurisdiction also decreased. This has potential positive effects for police-community relations, and perceptions of police legitimacy and effectiveness.
- The crime reductions in this evaluation were estimated to prevent more than 250 victims of violence and gun crime, and provide support for a new approach for PSN initiatives to replicate in research and practice.

For more detail see, Fox et al., 2021. “[Evaluating the impact of Project Safe Neighborhoods \(PSN\) initiative on violence and gun crime in Tampa: does it work and does it last?](#)” in Journal of Experimental Criminology.

WEBINARS OPPORTUNITIES

BJA Webinars Recordings
Application Mechanics--Submitting an Application
Dates: March 29, April 1, April 8, April 12
[Recording link \(click\)](#)

Using Web-Based Tools to Improve Police and Community Responses to People with Behavioral Health Needs
Recording Date: April 7
[Recording link \(click\)](#)

Upcoming Webinar
Addressing Post-Pandemic Case Backlogs
Date: April 27, 2021, 2pm ET
[Registration link \(click\)](#)

Follow [@PSNTTA](#) on Twitter to get regular updates, learn about resources, or to ask questions



TTA SPOTLIGHT: REQUESTING FOLLOW-UP TTA

By: Ben Carleton, CNA, PSN Team

Requesting follow-up TTA is a great way to build off of prior TTA engagements and/or implement recommendations from an assessment. A local prosecutor's office recently participated in a [Prosecution Assessment](#) that resulted in 14 recommendations. One of the recommendations encouraged the office to "seek funding for another victim advocate to focus on victims of family violence." To help implement this recommendation, the office has requested follow-up PSN TTA from subject matter expert (SME) Joan Brody, who will assist them in identifying and applying for funding opportunities.

One district recently completed the [Five-Part Grants Webinar Series – From Grants 101 through Grant Implementation](#). This series was provided to local agencies across the district. Following the completion of the series, one of the attending agencies, a local District Attorney's Office, [requested targeted TTA](#) to help the office seek and apply for funding opportunities. SME Joan Brody will be assisting the office with this follow-up request.

[Strategic Planning and Problem Solving](#)



[Law Enforcement and Prosecution Strategies](#)



[Victim Assistance](#)





National Public Safety PARTNERSHIP

APPLY NOW: NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) is pleased to announce that it is *accepting applications for the National Public Safety Partnership* (PSP). PSP serves as a U.S. DOJ-wide initiative that enables cities experiencing high rates of violent crime to partner with DOJ and to receive intensive, coordinated training and technical assistance (TTA) from DOJ to support and enhance public safety and community violence intervention (CVI) strategies.

DOJ is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights, increases access to justice, supports crime victims, protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community. The PSP initiative supports and advances DOJ's principles in all of its activities. PSP offers cities the opportunity to take advantage of:

- Three years of formal engagement, coordinated through the Bureau of Justice Assistance, to support DOJ's commitment to and partnerships with jurisdictions on building capacity, increasing collaboration, and sharing promising practices in a variety of public safety areas
- Needs-based strategic assessments to support your city's violent crime prevention and community engagement efforts
- Access to subject-matter expert consultation and customized TTA

PSP promotes intra- and inter-agency coordination by leveraging specialized law enforcement expertise with dedicated prosecutorial resources to promote public and community safety. PSP sites are formally engaged in the program for three years, with PSP support tailored to meet the unique needs of each site.

PSP provides various types of assistance that empower cities and counties to improve their crime-fighting capacities and CVI efforts. Assistance is centered on the following core focus areas: criminal justice collaboration, community engagement, gun violence, crime analysis, constitutional policing, federal partnerships, investigations, and technology.

*Is your site interested in participating in PSP? Please contact the [Bureau of Justice Assistance National Training and Technical Assistance Center](#) to apply. The application period is open from **April 21, 2021, through June 7, 2021**. [Click here to apply](#).*