



State of Illinois  
Illinois Emergency Management Agency



# IEEMA

## Illinois Targeted Violence Prevention Strategy K-12 and Higher Education



**Approved by ITTF  
September 14, 2022**

Approved by Governor's Homeland Security Advisor:

  /s/ Alicia Tate Nadeau  

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- Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA)
- Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF)
- Illinois Department of Human Service
- Illinois Department of Public Health
- Illinois State Board of Education
- Illinois Attorney General's Office
- Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA)
- Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System
- Illinois Board of Higher Education
- State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC)
- Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal
- Western Illinois University
- University of Illinois, Chicago
- Safe2Help Illinois
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
- Cook County Department of Emergency Management & Regional Security
- Illinois State Police
- Illini Bluffs Unit District #327/ The Illinois Association of School Administrators
- DePaul University

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# Executive Summary

Illinois faces the increasing challenge of addressing targeted violence, which occurs in schools, workplaces, community centers, houses of worship, and other public places. In response to this evolving threat environment, the State of Illinois participated in the National Governor’s Association (NGA) Policy Academy on Preventing Targeted Violence to develop a statewide prevention strategy. This Targeted Violence Prevention Strategy coordinates information and resources, builds partnerships, and empowers local communities to prevent targeted violence.

This effort brought together a diverse group of subject matter experts from across Illinois in mental health, education, and other community programs in collaboration with public safety, state and federal agencies. Among the topics discussed were how to deliver training, education, and referral services to individuals potentially at risk of engaging in targeted violence and what are the current limitations of these services.

Unlike other forms of crime, targeted violence involves highly individualized and unique motivations. Motives for targeted violence are often multifaceted. The most common themes identified include grievances, mental health issues, ideological or racial biases, fame, and political beliefs. Most perpetrators follow a discernible pathway to violence, which allows for intervention, where most incidents have identifiable precursors.

In Illinois, there are a variety of organizations that have resources, capabilities, and goals aimed at reducing violence. However, no centralized effort is currently underway to connect these resources and capabilities at the community level, where targeted violence prevention can have the greatest effect. Providing training, resources, and culturally tailored information to communities will provide an achievable direction without disrupting current initiatives by centralizing best practices and breaking down information silos.

Because violence is a broad and complex problem with many stakeholders, **this strategy will have a two-part approach. First, this document focuses on grassroots and community programs that will be at the frontline of the fight against targeted violence. Second, Illinois will provide an enhanced strategy for combating domestic terrorism/domestic violent extremism.**

As described, this strategy focuses on the act of targeted violence, which is a community-based program accomplished by:

- 1) Strengthening community-based targeted violence prevention resources for primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention.
  - a. Primary prevention involves reducing population-level risk factors (e.g. bullying, domestic violence, gang membership, drug and alcohol abuse) and strengthening population-level protective factors (e.g. linkage to mental health services).
  - b. Secondary prevention involves helping those individuals who are at risk for targeted violence with wrap-around services that enable them to diminish or cease their risk for potential violence.
  - c. Tertiary prevention involves helping those individuals who have been convicted of a crime related to targeted violence with wrap-around services that enable them to diminish their risk for further crimes related to targeted violence.
- 2) Strengthening higher education and K-12-based Behavioral Threat Assessment Management (BTAM) teams and establishing and maintaining the capabilities of regional community-based BTAM teams.

# Purpose

Under the direction of the Governor’s Homeland Security Advisor, the State of Illinois continues to adapt to meet current and future threat landscapes. This plan and subsequent methods and approaches are to coordinate and assist local communities in the prevention of targeted violence. This strategy recognizes that most interventions occur at the local or community level and will seek to identify existing programs and initiatives, break down silos of communication, build community trust and strengthen prevention and intervention partnerships and programs. Further, it is imperative to recognize the importance of implementing these partnerships and programs in ways that are protective of civil rights and civil liberties. This strategy will provide guidance for resource development, training, capacity building, and funding.

## Mission Statement

The State of Illinois will strategically coordinate prevention activities of targeted violence for all state agencies and stakeholders throughout Illinois, including the local, private sector, community, and grassroots partners. Regardless of ideology and with respect to civil liberties and civil rights, Illinois will provide a methodology for coordinating prevention programs and partnerships where communities can share prevention resources that address community needs before the act of violence.

## Issue

The U.S. has been a particularly fertile ground for violence. Research shows that homicide rates in the U.S. are approximately seven times higher than those of other high-income countries, driven by firearm homicide rates that are 25 times higher; 31% of public mass shootings in the world also occur in the U.S. According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), 103 people were killed and 140 were wounded in 61 active shooter incidents in 2021, defined as one or more individuals actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a populated area excluding incidents related to organized crime or drugs. The number of active shooter incidents has increased 53% from the previous year. Using a broader definition that disregards the motive, Gun Violence Archive documented 692 mass shootings in which four or more people were shot or killed in 2021.

The United States Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center (NTAC) has analyzed mass attacks in public spaces and made several key observations. The attacks impacted a variety of locations, including businesses/workplaces, schools, houses of worship, military bases, open spaces, and residential complexes. Most of the attacks (71%) used firearms, and many of those firearms were possessed illegally at the time of the attack. Other weapons used included bladed weapons such as folding knives, switchblades, and machetes, blunt objects such as hammers and metal, and vehicles. Many of the attackers experienced unemployment, substance use or abuse, mental health symptoms, or recent stressful events. The attackers often had a history of prior criminal charges, arrests, or domestic violence. Often attackers exhibited changes in behavior that were observable to others and elicited concerns in family members, friends, neighbors, classmates, and co-workers.

# Discussion

## What is Targeted Violence?

For this strategy, targeted violence will be defined as “any intentional act against a pre-identified target based on that target’s perceived identity or affiliation that is intended to intimidate or coerce or generate publicity about the perpetrator’s grievance.”

## Risk Factors for Targeted Violence

Targeted violence is a highly individualized crime based upon highly individualized and unique motivators. Motives for targeted violence are often multifaceted and sometimes remain undetermined. The most common themes identified include grievances, mental health issues, ideological or racial bias, fame, and political beliefs. Most perpetrators carrying out attacks of targeted violence are white males under the age of 35; however, no other race, age or sex grouping can be dismissed as not capable. (Note: For the purposes of the first approach, those within the educational system (K-12 and higher education), will be considered the most likely candidates of targeted violence. Those under 35 outside of the education system, will be covered with the second part focusing on domestic terrorism/domestic violent extremism.)

Perpetrators frequently have a history of illicit substance use, mental health issues such as psychosis and depression, prior criminal charges including both violent and non-violent offenses, and/or domestic violence. Approximately one-third of mass homicide perpetrators had suicidal thoughts/behaviors noted in the time leading up to the incident.

Identification, Fixation, and a desire to broadcast their grievances through infamy are common findings in acts of targeted violence. They may also show interest or obsess over past perpetrators of mass violence, showing admiration for the past attackers and spending time-consuming information about past attacks. Internet and social media allow individuals to connect across the globe and share ideas easily. Perpetrators may be influenced by content found online, join fringe or extremist communities, and make posts that promote their beliefs or propagate violence on social media platforms.

Perpetrators also may show behavioral changes before carrying out the attack, which provides a window of opportunity to engage with the individual and intervene. Social isolation, expressions of homicidal/suicidal thoughts, domestic violence, threatening statements toward others, harassing or stalking, and decreased involvement at school or work can be observed by others and may elicit concern.

In summary, common themes present in the behaviors and situational factors of the perpetrators of targeted violence include access to weapons, criminal history, mental health symptoms, threatening or concerning behavior, and stressors in various life domains. The presence of these diverse themes shows the need for a multidisciplinary threat assessment approach to violence prevention.

## Pathway to Violence

Typically, individuals engaging in targeted violence move along an identifiable pathway before initiating an attack (Figure 1).

The pathway often begins with a perceived grievance based on ideological or other factors such as biases or stereotypes. The Violent Ideation phase is when the individual determines violence is an acceptable means to address the grievance. From there, individuals will often begin the research and planning phase, including selecting possible targets. The Pre-attack preparation phase involves acquiring the equipment, skills, and/or resources necessary to carry out the attack. The probing and breach phase often include surveillance, “dry runs,” or other activities in advance of a formal “attack.”

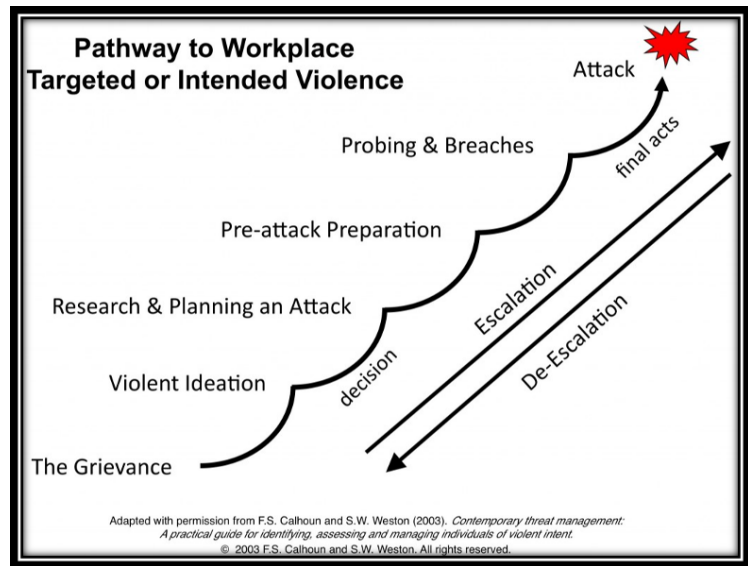


Figure 1: Pathway to Violence

## Current Initiatives

Notable initiatives on the prevention of targeted violence in Illinois include the establishment of Safe2Help Illinois, a state mandate for Threat Assessment Teams in K-12 Schools, communication tips for schools and response and investigative suggestions for school threats led by the Illinois Statewide Terrorism and Intelligence Center (STIC), and Stop the Bleed resources and training led by the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS). Additional programs funded by the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF) include the Active Threat Response Master Instructor certification program and end-user courses at the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board (ILETSB), Active Shooter Incident Management course and School Safety and Violent Event Incident Management reunification at the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI), and the Illinois School and Campus Safety Program. Below are highlighted the select programs.

### Safe2Help Illinois

In October 2021, Illinois launched a school safety program called Safe2Help Illinois to raise awareness of 21st-century threats facing school-aged children in Illinois. This program offers students free self-help resources on the program website and a safe, confidential way for sharing information that might help prevent suicides, bullying, school violence, or other threats to school safety. One key component of Safe2Help Illinois is a Mental Health Toolkit with resources for parents and educators, developed by the Illinois School Board of Education (ISBE), aimed at changing the culture in Illinois schools and removing the stigma associated with mental health issues. Currently, there are 114 school districts registered, and 85 percent of the Regional Offices of Education participating in the Safe2Help Illinois program. Future efforts include expanding the Safe2Help Illinois program into institutions of higher learning.

## Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management Teams (BTAMT)

Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management Teams is one known strategy for interrupting the pathway to violent events. Illinois law requires BTAMT in certain sectors such as K-12 school districts and institutions of higher education. BTAMT exists in other places within communities such as businesses, faith-based organizations, health care, and social service settings. Conceptually, behavioral threat assessment and management (BTAM) is a specialized discipline of investigation using operational tactics, techniques, and procedures applied proactively to identify, mitigate, and prevent targeted violence. Operationally, BTAM is a formal program that applies intelligence-led policing based on a structured, iterative, and interactive process. BTAM relies heavily on an integrated systems approach driven by collaborative, multi-disciplinary, and multi-jurisdictional partnerships focused on intervention and prevention.

## ISBE Social Emotional Learning HUBs

The State Board of Education has built seven social and emotional learning (SEL) HUBs across the state. Each of the six regional offices of education and the Chicago Public School District provides over thirty (30) coaches, offering professional development, training, and support to districts in their region to establish and expand SEL programs in Illinois schools. In addition, coaches, and a team from Lurie's Center for Childhood Resilience, engage districts and schools in the Resilience Education to Advance Community Healing (REACH) model utilizing the Trauma Responsive Schools Implementation Assessment (TRS-IA). The REACH model is meant to guide school leaders to create the environment and teach the skills needed to be resilient in the face of potentially traumatic experiences. The model helps build district and school capacity to recognize the signs and symptoms of trauma and to meet the social-emotional and mental wellness needs of students and staff via training. Together, the SEL HUBs and REACH are assisting community-leadership teams to implement data-driven strategies to address student trauma and mental health needs and build resilient communities.

## IDHS 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline launched statewide on July 16, 2022, and offers 24/7 call, text, and chat access to trained crisis counselors who can help people experiencing suicidal, substance use, and/or mental health crisis, or any other emotional distress.

## IDHS/DMH Mobile Crisis Response Teams

The Community Services and Supports Act (CESSA) required emergency response operators such as 911 call centers, to refer calls seeking mental and behavioral health support to a new service that can dispatch a team of mental health professionals instead of police. The Secretary of the Department of Human Services will work in concert with the 911 Administrator at the Illinois State Police, the EMS administrators under the authority of the Department of Public Health, and Statewide and Regional Advisory Committees to be established.

## ILETSEB Executive Institute at Western Illinois University

Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board (ILETSEB) Executive Institute is dedicated to developing leaders in the law enforcement community. Here, the state addresses the numerous challenges that today's law enforcement administrators face and those that will emerge as important issues during the next decade and beyond. The ILETSEB serves as the host agency for the ITTF Illinois School and Campus Safety Program.



## Illinois School and Campus Safety Program

The Illinois School and Campus Safety Program provides awareness and preparedness training to enhance organizational capacity to plan and exercise for, respond to, and recover from an emergency or disaster in both K-12 and Institutions of Higher Education. Additionally, the Illinois School and Campus Safety Program has expanded its capacity to also include training and technical assistance for site safety security assessment, digital threat assessment, behavioral threat assessment, planning and responding to school bomb incidents.

## Bureau of Justice Assistance STOP School Violence Threat Assessment and Technology Reporting Grant

This statewide grant initiative is implementing a comprehensive and strategic training plan based on K-12 needs and supports the future sustainability of BTAM teams. Key deliverables include:

- Develop and complete individual school threat assessment training to identify school violence, mitigate those risks, and enhanced case management;
- Leverage evidence-based strategies to establish or enhance threat assessment teams based on cooperative partnerships with local professional organizations, public safety agencies, and health and human services disciplines, to reduce school violence; and
- Gather and report data elements identified from completed individual threat assessments.

This will be accomplished through four components targeting public and non-public schools:

- Behavioral threat assessment train-the-trainer classes that will increase capacity to train locally and support new or expanding members of teams;
- Direct service behavioral threat assessment training utilizing instructor-led training to a multidisciplinary audience;
- Digital learning will provide behavioral threat assessment-related professionals a customized solution to educate and inform; and
- Web-based behavioral threat assessment resource center that bridges the knowledge gap for a community and statewide audience.

## University of Illinois Chicago

With funding from the Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships, Department of Homeland Security, the goal of this two-year project is to expand and enhance Illinois' Targeted Violence and Terrorism (TVT) prevention framework. Illinois has been building capacities in school-based helplines and behavioral threat assessment teams, but we continue to identify gaps and challenges through coordinated efforts and intelligence gathering.

The program focuses on reducing the risk for future violence for youth and young adults who are either convicted of crimes related to TVT, at-risk for involvement in TVT, or vulnerable to involvement due in part to life stressors, mental health or psychological problems through engaging mental health and psychosocial specialists, other frontline practitioners, and lay adult and youth gatekeepers.

- Project 1 expands the number of mental health specialists, frontline practitioners, and organizational leaders who can engage with and provide services to persons at-risk for violence or re-entering the community.
- Project 2 trains bystanders who are critical to safe and healthy communities, who often learn about concerning behaviors first, and who have the rapport to persuade others to seek help.
- Project 3 mobilizes youth and caregivers to strengthen protective factors in youth.

UIC is also conducting a project funded by IEMA entitled “Strengthening Targeted Violence Prevention in Illinois.” The purpose of this project is to improve the capacity of BTAMT in preventing targeted violence in Illinois. The researchers will work closely with a variety of stakeholders to ensure that the assessment and deliverables are relevant, evidence-based, and useful. This study is conducting a statewide assessment of community-based threat assessment and management teams (BTAMT) to examine how they are functioning, including team implementation, organization, processes, successes, and challenges. Based upon the findings, it will develop toolkits of existing and new curricular resources to support the establishment and capacity building of BTAMT in Illinois across multiple sectors.

## The Way Ahead

### Strategic State Goal

The State of Illinois’ goal is to provide governmental, non-governmental, law enforcement programs and stakeholders guidance to facilitate collaboration, network building, training, and capacity building, that enables community-based targeted violence prevention.

### Targeted Violence Prevention Strategy

The Illinois Strategy for Targeted Violence Prevention was developed based upon scientific evidence and best practices, while preserving current programs with the intent of adhering to the Illinois Homeland Security Strategy, Vision 2025, 5.0, specifically focusing on the prevention of targeted violence. The strategy is intentionally broad enough to include the prevention of violence by leveraging programs and building partnerships with programs that have similar violence strategies such as street or gang-related crimes, violent crimes, hate crimes, and financially motivated crimes in a holistic community approach.

The State of Illinois recognizes the need to gather additional evidence that is specific to the threats, risk factors, and protective resources in Illinois communities. For that reason, Illinois has partnered with academics at Illinois universities to sponsor research that better characterizes the needs, strengths, and challenges faced by a broad spectrum of community-based targeted violence prevention programs. Additionally, Illinois’ efforts will be informed by the growing body of ongoing program evaluations being conducted by the Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships (CP3) of the Department of Homeland Security, which is currently funding Illinois’ initiative to build a local prevention framework.

Utilizing current initiatives and resources the state of Illinois will use a phased approach to build out to meet the goals of the strategy (Table 1).

**Table 1: Phased Approach to Implementation**

Phase 1	The initial gathering of community stakeholders and subject matter experts to focus on K-12 risk, to develop methods to better communicate and share resources and information between already existing programs. The Development of the Illinois Targeted Violence Prevention Strategy. Establish trust among the current stakeholders, allow for the sharing of information and build on best practices, specifically at the community level where resources are most lacking.	August 2021- January 2023
Phase 2	Continue to build out prevention coalitions using a community approach bridging gaps between traditional law enforcement and public safety agencies and non-traditional stakeholders with other schools, colleges, universities, community groups, faith-based congregations, and congregate setting locations in each region based on regional threats.  Increase access and awareness of programs to students, educators, and citizens of Illinois who need help. Programs may be narrowly focused, for example, because they are geographically or demographically limited, that only address a group of audience thus missing the broader population who may be at risk.	January 2023- January 2024
Phase 3	Assess sustainability in the long term for feasibility. Identify programs that have generated valuable information or created high-impact solutions that can aid the prevention of targeted violence then can be modeled to lower impact programs. Provide counties the ability to direct resources to scale and realize greater efficiencies in developing and maintaining programs for Illinois citizens in their communities.  Core and committee review process implement research and make needed changes and recommendations according to Vision 2025, ITTF, and GHSA.	January 2024- January 2025

## Community Approach

The Strategy for Community Targeted Violence Prevention is focused on giving communities the guidance and support needed to build their local prevention capacities. This is consistent with the Illinois Homeland Security Strategy (2021-2025) which also emphasizes building community strengths in prevention, communication, and coordination. Regarding targeted violence prevention, communities need help in building prevention capacities in the primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention spaces. Success in these spaces is highly dependent upon community engagement and building community resilience.

Primary prevention involves reducing population-level risk factors (e.g. bullying, domestic violence, gang membership, drug, and alcohol abuse) and strengthening population-level protective factors (e.g. linkage to mental health services). To achieve this, communities need to leverage existing prevention assets and build new ones addressing the highest priority vulnerabilities so that vulnerable individuals get the help they need before considering violence as a solution.

Secondary prevention involves helping those individuals who are at risk of targeted violence with wrap-around services that enable them to diminish or cease their risk for potential violence. One key to successful secondary prevention is strengthening intimate bystander reporting of risks for violence, in a way that

enables early intervention before a crime is committed. Another key is to have fully functioning behavioral threat assessment and management teams, both in schools and in the community. Finally, it is necessary to have mental health professionals who are trained and capable of working with clients at risk for targeted violence.

Tertiary prevention involves helping those individuals who have been convicted of a crime related to targeted violence with wrap-around services that enable them to diminish or cease their risk for further crimes related to targeted violence. This requires the same elements as secondary prevention: behavioral threat assessment and management teams and mental health professionals.

The Illinois Strategy for Targeted Violence Prevention was designed to help Illinois communities achieve these capacities through several specific actions. One, we have designed and will disseminate brief hybrid training for community members, front-line practitioners, organizational leaders, and mental health specialists regarding targeted violence prevention. Two, we will facilitate information sharing (including on best practices) and networking regarding targeted violence prevention among practitioners. Three, we will evaluate prevention initiatives and related concerns to contribute to ongoing quality improvement.

## Community Approach Strategy Goals

Goal #1: Strengthen community-based targeted violence prevention resources for primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention.

Goal #2: Strengthen higher education and K-12 based BTAM teams and establish and maintain the capabilities of regional community-based BTAM teams.

**Table 2: Community Strategy Goal #1**

Objectives	2025 Vision Objective	Data Source	Benchmark
Conduct a landscape assessment, maintain a catalog of ongoing efforts, and promote existing best practices.	5.4	Illinois Homeland Security ISP Illinois School and Campus Safety at Western Illinois University University of Illinois Chicago Illinois State Board of Education Illinois Board of Higher Education NAMI ITTF	Research existing efforts in collaborative environments to identify best practices. Identify standards of information sharing capabilities of Law Enforcement, Terrorism Task Forces, Mental Health, and educational institutions in a collaborative environment.
Create a checklist of prevention best practices and help stakeholders navigate the practices and contribute to the larger targeted violence prevention mission	5.3	Illinois Homeland Security ISP Illinois School and Campus Safety at Western Illinois University NAMI University of Illinois Chicago	Coordinate with stakeholders to identify a prevention checklist. Research, design and establish the outline of the collaboration portal

Objectives	2025 Vision Objective	Data Source	Benchmark
Train frontline professionals and specialists in targeted violence prevention (e.g. supporting high-risk individuals in the community) and primary prevention (e.g. diminishing community level risk factors).	5.3	Illinois Homeland Security ISP (Advisory role) Illinois School and Campus Safety at Western Illinois University University of Illinois Chicago Illinois State Board of Education NAMI Illinois Board of Higher Education	Develop, create and execute a community-based training on targeted violence prevention, designed to inform the resources, contacts for reporting, and services available.
Educate the community on resources and points of contact for reporting, linkage to services, why to report early, and how the reporting process works. Include first responders.	5.3	Illinois Homeland Security ISP (Advisory role) Illinois School and Campus Safety at Western Illinois University University of Illinois Chicago Illinois State Board of Education NAMI Illinois Board of Higher Education	Develop, create and execute a community informational campaign, designed to inform the resources, contacts for reporting, and services available. Build a community outreach program involving stakeholder participation.
Facilitate information sharing and coordination between governmental and non governmental stakeholders in the prevention space	5.4	Illinois Homeland Security ISP ITTF Illinois School and Campus Safety at Western Illinois University University of Illinois Chicago Illinois State Board of Education Illinois Attorney General's Office Illinois Board of Higher Education	Capture requirements of stakeholders for a collaborative environment. Ensure requirements are established in the collaborative portal outline
Develop and implement survey/questionnaire and continue to gather data on programs, user experiences, and needs, to facilitate quality improvement of targeted violence prevention.	5.4	University of Illinois Chicago Illinois Department of Human Service Illinois Department of Public Health Illinois State Board of Education Illinois School and Campus Safety at Western Illinois University Safe2Help Illinois NAMI Illinois Board of Higher Education	Develop and conduct a survey/questionnaire focused on the user experience of targeted violence prevention programs and usability.

**Table 3: Community Strategy Goal #2**

Objectives	2025 Vision Objective	Data Source	Benchmark
Illinois Homeland Security will coordinate with local, state, and federal agencies, including the private sector, and non-profit organizations to establish a BTAM resource center and regional communitybased BTAM teams.	5.4	Illinois School and Campus Safety at Western Illinois University Illinois Homeland Security ISP Illinois Department of Human Service Illinois Department of Public Health Illinois State Board of Education Illinois Board of Higher Education	Review requirements of the resource center to determine if the collaborative portal will satisfy the requirement. Build out resource center according to requirements.
Provide ongoing training and technical assistance for establishing and strengthening <b>higher education, K-12, and regional community based</b> BTAM teams utilizing a leveled/triaged training module for diverse audiences from basic awareness to professional practice, across sectors	5.4	Illinois Homeland Security ISP (Advisory role) ITTF Illinois School and Campus Safety at Western Illinois University University of Illinois Chicago	Develop training schedules to ensure BTAM is equipped with the most up-to-date information and best practices. Conduct surveys to identify gaps in technical assistance to BTAM teams.
Develop a communications plan to provide culturally competent community awareness to encourage bystander reporting of indicators of targeted violence and why to report early.	5.4	Illinois Homeland Security Illinois Department of Human Services Illinois Department of Public Health Illinois School and Campus Safety at Western Illinois University Illinois State Board of Education ISP University of Illinois Chicago Safe2Help Illinois Board of Higher Education	Building on community information plan, develop informational campaigns targeted to communities of concern of reporting importance and contacts.  Conduct surveys and reviews to verify the effectiveness of the program  Safe2Help Illinois established in higher education for reporting.
Continue research and analysis of Illinois's BTAM teams to identify available resources, strengths, gaps, and needs	5.3	Illinois Homeland Security ITTF ISP Illinois School and Campus Safety at Western Illinois University University of Illinois Chicago Safe2Help	Conduct a review of the BTAM program to identify strengths and weaknesses Identify gaps in coverage and determine best practice approaches to fill requirements

Objectives	2025 Vision Objective	Data Source	Benchmark
Support efforts to develop best practices, guidance, and policy models to support BTAM teams	5.3	ISP (Advisory role) Illinois State Board of Education Illinois School and Campus Safety at Western Illinois University Illinois Department of Human Services Illinois Department of Public Health Illinois Homeland Security	Research, collect and identify best practices for behavioral threat assessments. Develop a training schedule for integrating best practices of assessments and evaluations.
Encourage information sharing regarding BTAM across sectors and jurisdictions, including reporting online threats.	5.4	ISP Illinois State Board of Education Illinois School and Campus Safety at Western Illinois University Safe2Help Illinois Illinois Homeland Security NAMI Illinois Board of Higher Education	Research existing efforts in collaborative environments to identify best practices. Identify standards of information sharing capabilities of Law Enforcement, Terrorism Task Forces, Mental Health, and educational institutions in a collaborative environment.
Provide schools, higher education, and other stakeholders with a map of what a BTAM approach looks like	5.4	Illinois Homeland Security Illinois Department of Human Services Illinois Department of Public Health Illinois School and Campus Safety at Western Illinois University Illinois State Board of Education University of Illinois Chicago Illinois Board of Higher Education	Building on community information plan, develop informational campaigns targeted to communities of concern of reporting importance and contacts. Conduct surveys and reviews to verify the effectiveness of the program
Promote coordination and collaboration of BTAMs and 911 PSAPs, 988 Help Line, and other first responders	5.4	ISP Illinois State Board of Education Illinois School and Campus Safety at Western Illinois University Safe2Help Illinois Illinois Homeland Security Illinois Board of Higher Education	Create a training program, specifically targeted at 911 PSAPs, 988 Help Line, and other first responders focused on key behavioral descriptors for potential indicators of targeted violence behaviors.
Convene an annual BTAM summit for the state	5.4	ISP Illinois State Board of Education Illinois School and Campus Safety at Western Illinois University Illinois Homeland Security Illinois Board of Higher Education	Provide feedback on best practices identified, gaps of service, resource shortfalls

## Funding and Overseeing

As the State Administrative Agency, IEMA will issue the federal Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) grants to applicants that are approved by the Grants Program Directorate of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). These competitive grants provide eligible 501c(3) organizations who are deemed at high risk of a potential terrorist attack with funding for target-hardening activities, which can be accomplished through the purchase or installation of security equipment on real property (including buildings and improvements) owned or leased by the non-profit organization.

Additionally, IEMA administers the Illinois Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP-IL) to support physical security enhancements and other security-related activities for nonprofit organizations that are at high risk of attack by a terrorist organization, network, or cell. SFY23 NSGP-IL seeks to integrate the preparedness activities of nonprofit organizations with broader state and local preparedness efforts.

The federal and the state grant are both competitive grants that will award up to \$150,000 each, to applicants that are approved for funding based upon a completed and approved application. Eligible non-profit organizations with one site may apply for up to \$150,000 for that site. Eligible non-profit organizations with multiple sites may apply for up to \$150,000 per site, for up to three sites, for a maximum of \$450,000 per applicant.

## Plan Maintenance and Evaluation

Measuring progress is a key component of successfully implementing the Targeted Violence Prevention Plan. The effective and efficient use of public dollars is a critical part of this plan and requires measurable progress toward meeting the goals of the plan. The Targeted Violence Prevention Plan will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis. Annual updates will inform the Illinois Homeland Security Strategy 2021 – 2025 annual update for goal 5 each year, before end of year reporting requirements. The following inputs will be used to support the evaluation of the plan.

1. Beginning January 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, Illinois Homeland Security will convene the Illinois Prevention of Targeted Violence Coalition to create an ad hoc plan to review the plan and make necessary changes. The group will consider, at minimum, the following inputs as part of their assessment of the relevance of current goals and objectives.
  - a. Review and evaluation of completed benchmarks
  - b. Performance metrics
  - c. Review and identify new/revise existing objectives and benchmarks
2. Upon initial adoption of the prevention plan and when asked to convene by the ITTF, the Illinois Prevention of Targeted Violence Coalition will assess opportunities to address the implementation of the goals and objectives. The coalition will report on their work to the ITTF.
3. Progress on the implementation of the Targeted Violence Prevention Plan will be articulated on an annual basis by Illinois Homeland security through their end-of-year reporting requirements.
4. The membership of the Illinois Terrorism Task Force will be responsible for providing to the Governor's Homeland Security Advisor an updated Vision 2025 Strategy before the development of program plans for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Homeland Security Grant Program application.



Illinois Homeland Security will coordinate the review process, continuously monitor feedback by stakeholders via ([Vision2025@illinois.gov](mailto:Vision2025@illinois.gov)), and document progression towards meeting benchmarks with supplementary funding and goals document. Necessary corrections, additions, or deletions will be memorialized in this document as part of an annual review. Record of the latest changes will be published as needed by the Illinois Homeland Security Advisor and will be the responsibility of recipients (users) of this Vision Document. It will be recorded on the last page, titled Record of Changes, of the document. After the Homeland Security Advisor and ITTF Chair reviews and approves the revisions, the draft will be emailed to the membership at least one (1) week before the meeting where the strategic review will be placed on the agenda for full committee comments and approval.

## Appendix

### Supporting Documentation

Although the below-listed documents are not specifically referenced in this document, they were utilized for research to inform the contributors in formulating this initiative.

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## Record of Changes

The following is a record of changes and contains a synopsis of revisions for that review period.

Revision Number	Revision Date	Pages Changed	Brief Description of Changes