

FOR FAITH
ORGANIZATIONS

OneCOP

A MovementForward, Inc. Initiative



What is OneCOP?

The One Congregation One Precinct (OneCOP) initiative is MovementForward, Inc.'s signature program that facilitates positive, ongoing partnerships between local law enforcement agencies and diverse congregations of every faith tradition.

The road so far...

The OneCOP initiative was conceptualized on July 7, 2016 after a rash of high-profile violent crimes in metro Atlanta created a need for community cooperation with law enforcement. Clergy leaders saw an urgent need to coalesce and act in unison with police to address crime, promote and foster a protracting culture of concern, cooperation, and reciprocal respect. Today, OneCOP is established in Portland, Ore.; Indianapolis, Ind. and Athens and Clarkston, Ga.

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your commitment to volunteer your time and efforts through the OneCOP initiative for your community. The OneCOP initiative is an innovative program that is geared towards improving community safety by creating strategic partnerships between beat and patrol officers and faith congregations. OneCOP partnerships allow for program-participating officers to personally know the people in their assigned communities by building relationships with congregations in the respective, local area. Communities become safer when there are regular engagements between law enforcement officers and the citizens they serve and protect. Community and law enforcement collaborating on public safety helps build relationships and reduce mutual biases.

*On behalf of Rev. Markel Hutchins,
the national lead organizer of the OneCOP Initiative,
welcome to the OneCOP community.*



STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

Step 1

Select your congregational coordinator

This person will serve as the point of contact for the OneCOP staff and your local law enforcement agency. They will be responsible for the OneCOP relationship between your house of worship and the partner OneCOP officer. Additionally, they will need to provide updates and coordinate events with the OneCOP team.

Step 2

Meet your partner officer

Once you receive the connection email from the OneCOP team, please reach out to your partner OneCOP officer and schedule an introduction meeting.

Step 3

Go on a ride-along

The ride-along provides clarity on the responsibilities and daily operations of your local law enforcement agency. This will allow you to not only see the unique challenges your community faces, but also give you an understanding of those challenges from an officer's perspective. Both the faith leader and the congregational coordinator should participate in the ride-along.

Step 4

Plan and schedule a debriefing and brainstorming session

Meet with your OneCOP officer and debrief on the challenges you observed during the Ride Along. This is a great opportunity to create catered outreach efforts with your OneCOP officer to address some of the challenges.

Step 5

Introduce your OneCOP officer to your congregation

Introduce your OneCOP officer during a service gathering. This will allow you to publicly endorse your officer and the OneCOP program. Share the initial joint goals and allow the officer to briefly address the congregation.

Step 6

Get your officer involved

Invite your officer to participate in congregational events/ services, gatherings, and outreaches. This will help solidify the partnership as well as create more avenues for your congregation to know your officer.

Step 7

Report progress

Share updates on your OneCOP partnership with the OneCOP team. Let us know how we can continue to assist you in growing your relationship with your OneCOP officer.

Step 8

Attend OneCOP Events

Periodically, we will be inviting all of our OneCOP partnerships to city wide and national events. Please connect with your OneCOP officer and participate in these trust and community building events.

We understand that officers change shifts, move to different precincts, and get promoted. If your officer is planning on moving, please request a replacement officer with the OneCOP staff. We will assist you in requesting a new officer.

For more information, email info@onecop.net or call 404-605-7000