



# IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

A MOVEMENTFORWARD, INC., INITIATIVE

# Table of Contents

03 Welcome letter

04 program overview

05 how to get started

06 STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

08 IMPLEMENTATION EXAMPLES

10 event samples

14 event planning

15 partnership commitment form

# Welcome to OneCOP

Dear Community Leaders,

Thank you for your interest in participating in the One Congregation One Precinct (OneCOP) initiative, the signature program of MovementForward, Inc.

The United States is truly a unique nation with diversity spanning ethnicities, races, national ancestries, identity, and every form of political and social affiliation. From suburbs to small towns to large cities, faith plays a crucial role in uniting us across this diversity. OneCOP recognizes that faith-based institutions are places of hope, mass gatherings and collective action, and together they engage tens of millions of people weekly in communities of every kind. They are, therefore, unrivaled resources for strengthening police-community relations.

Today's political and social climates have been muddled by bleak relations between many Americans. With partnerships formed through OneCOP, we will collectively build strong foundations that bridge community gaps and assist law enforcement efforts to fight crime and improve public safety overall.

MovementForward, Inc.'s ultimate goal is to enable healing, reconciliation and justice that transcend the particularities of race, class, gender and other such demographics. Thank you for your commitment to being an active part in building safer and more inclusive communities.

In Service, The OneCOP Team

# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The One Congregation One Precinct (OneCOP) initiative is a proactive rather than reactive approach to addressing crime in local communities. OneCOP, an initiative of MovementForward, Inc., has several objectives that incorporate the pillars outlined by the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing:

- O1. Improving public safety through collaboration and information sharing to prevent, combat and solve crimes by tapping into the varied resources of faith-based institutions.
- O2. Increasing community engagement with patrol-level police officers, via congregations, resulting in decreased bias, increased familiarity, mutual respect and trust.
- O3. Proactively creating a direct link between law enforcement executives and community leaders in an effort to prevent destructive responses to an officer-involved crises while also giving voice to growing public concerns relative to policing.

Leaders in every relevant sector must work cooperatively to improve and strengthen relationships between officers and communities BEFORE a negative scenario occurs in their local communities. The purpose of this innovative effort is to reduce tensions by building partnerships that create mutual understanding. Nearly every major national law enforcement membership organization has partnered with MovementForward, Inc.



# HOW TO GET STARTED

## STEP 01

The house of worship should select its congregational coordinator (e.g. staff person, ministerial associate, layperson) - This person will serve as the congregation's primary point of contact with OneCOP and the local law enforcement agency. The law enforcement agency should do the same, with one officer assigned to no more than three faith-based organizations.

# STEP 02

Hold a meeting with the partner officer and congregational coordinator to exchange contact information - The initial meeting should include the congregation's religious leaders as well, if possible.

# STEP 03

#### Schedule congregational meet and greet -

This should take place during the primary weekly worship service and include an introduction by the faith leader or congregational coordinator and partner officer.

# STEP 04

**Schedule a ride-along -** This provides more clarity on the responsibilities and daily operations of local law enforcement and equips congregational leaders with a law enforcement perspective. It is recommended that both the faith/community leader and congregational coordinator participate in the ride along.

# STEP 05

#### Conduct a ride-along debriefing -

The congregational coordinator and partner officer should meet after the ride-along to discuss the experience.

## STEP 06

Plan and schedule one briefing or seminar (followed by quarterly activities) - Led by the partner officer(s), this briefing or seminar should cover public safety (local crime trends and patterns) and/or self-defense. This event should be advertised in weekly bulletins, newsletters, and on all social media platforms using **#OneCOP**. This event should be followed up by another activity of some kind every three months.

# STEP 07

**Get the law enforcement officer involved -** To solidify the officer and congregation relationship, invite the partner officer to participate in large-scale congregational events/services and even smaller gatherings at least once a quarter.

# STEP 08

**<u>Stay in contact</u>** - Congregational coordinators should maintain frequent and direct communication with both the senior congregational leadership team and partner officer. Notify all of scheduled events and activities and share any potential opportunities for further collaboration and engagement.

# STEP 09

**<u>Report progress</u>** - Send quarterly updates including pictures to the OneCOP administrative team at **info@onecop.net**.

# STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

- O1. The partner officer and congregational coordinator should have ample time to fully commit to the role. This is NOT the head/leader of the law enforcement agency or faith-based organization (unless the congregation is under 100 members).
- O2. Communicate to the house of worship through the congregational coordinator: Be sure your congregation's questions, comments, and requests are directed through the coordinator.
- O.Z.Assign responsibilities: Clearly outline responsibilities for all involved.<br/>Understanding expectations will help minimize miscommunication.
- O4. Create or tailor your goals: Present your unique needs to your counterpart for review and feedback.
- 05. Keep on task: Use time together to tackle planned and prepared topics.
- C6. Log meetings and conversations:
  Keep track of communications and include agreed-upon deliverables and deadlines.

## 01. PLAN AHEAD

Provide all parties involved with plenty of time for scheduling, events, and multiple meetings. Identify topics in advance.

## 02. BE PREPARED

Review meeting topic(s) prior to discussion. Outline meeting needs in advance and share with all involved.

## 03. FOCUS ON MUTUAL GOALS

Strive to achieve agreed-upon goals before creating additional or new goals.

## 04. ESTABLISH A TIMELINE AND DELIVERABLES

Give goals, meetings, and plans specific dates for completion. Be realistic with these dates.

## **05. HAVE CONSISTENT COMMUNICATION**

Be sure to maintain consistent and open communication between all points of contact.

# IMPLEMENTATION EXAMPLES

Partners should be certain to structure events, activities and programs to address the specific and particular needs of the surrounding community where the house of worship is located. Creativity and ingenuity are strongly encouraged – you understand the unique needs of your area! The OneCOP congregational coordinator and houses of worship should work with officers to plan and execute all events and activities. Below are some examples of the types of efforts partners can do jointly. On the subsequent pages are four sample activities in more detail that can be a roadmap for any of these activities.

### **BUILDING TRUST & LEGITIMACY**

- Ride-Along(s)
- Neighborhood Block Party
- Cops vs. Youth Athletic Contest
- Create Community/Congregation Advisory Group
- Outing to Major Sporting or Music Event
- Barbecue or Ice Cream Social
- "Coffee with a Cop" at Coffee/Donut Shop
- "Law Enforcement Day"
- Congregational Service for Senior Citizens
- Youth Rap Session
- Alternative Sentencing Program for Misdemeanors
- School Supply Drive

### **COMMUNITY POLICING & CRIME REDUCTION**

- Public Safety Briefings
- Safety & Self-Defense Classes
- Neighborhood Canvass with Literature about Area Criminal Activity
- Community Cleanup in Crime-Infected Area
- Midnight Peace Walk/March Against Crime in Gang-Impacted Area
- Gun Buy-Back Program
- Community Policing Panel Discussion
- National Night Out Event
- Congregation on Patrol (COP) Force
- Link to Crime Tips Technology (i.e., CrimeReports.com)
- Organize National Faith & Blue Weekend Activities

### **OFFICER WELLNESS & SAFETY**

- Insurance Policy for Officers
- Suicide Prevention Program/Hotline
- Holiday Giveaways
- Stress Management, Emotional and Grief Counseling as Needed
- Public Safety Career Fair
- Encourage Officer Days at Local Businesses
- Policing in Action
- Positive Photo Contest
- Advocate Officer Pay Raises
- Offer Emergency Aid When Needed
- "Adopt-a-Cop"
- Offer Officers Complimentary Access to the Congregation's Gym or Fitness Facility

#### **TRAINING & EDUCATION**

- Cultural Sensitivity Training
- "Know Your Rights & Responsibilities" Seminar
- Risk Management and Situational Awareness Workshop
- Criminal Record Expungement Forum
- Active Shooter Training
- Tour of the Police Academy
- Tour Youth Detention Facility
- Technology Safety & Security Workshop
- Fraud and Scam Detection Forum
- Mock Role Reversal Event

# EVENT SAMPLES

You can be creative in developing an activity that matches your community's interests and those of your agency and partners. The following are four sample activities that can help you think through the different components of organizing an event. Below the activities are the steps in advance of, during, and after each event.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

#### Introduction:

This activity involves providing joint volunteers in support of a service project. Examples can include a Habitat for Humanity build, organizing items at a food bank, or participating in a river cleanup.

#### **Details:**

The materials and location will usually be provided by the volunteer organization. The event will vary, but typically is about two hours. Make sure to have name tags and markers. Also identify the organizer for the volunteer initiative.

#### **Role for Faith-Based Organization:**

To recruit participants and offer welcoming and closing prayers.

#### **Role for Law Enforcement Agency:**

To recruit participants. To have a leader offer welcoming and closing remarks.

#### How to Create Connections:

Participants should be mixed to ensure that law enforcement officers and congregants are working side by side. The heart of this activity is the informal conversation between officers and residents that occur during the service. To encourage dialogue, the event organizer could ask participants to speak to three people they don't know, set up a receiving line, or create a game with prizes, such as a \$25 local restaurant gift card for those who discover three fun facts they learned.



#### **OPEN HOUSE**

#### Introduction:

This is an informal family-oriented activity. Children and adults will have the opportunity to look at, and if possible, interact with officer equipment such as turning on and off the lights of a cruiser. Adults can also have a meaningful conversation with officers to better understand how and why equipment is utilized. Demonstrations can also be held on safety equipment, such as bomb devices or police dogs (this is a favorite). It's also a great opportunity to put up posters that spotlight officers from the station, such as who they are, how long they have been officers, their connections to the community, and hobbies, etc.

#### **Details:**

The event can be held at a parking lot of the faith-based organization or at the law enforcement station. If there is a strong relationship with law enforcement, residents are likely to come to a public safety facility. If the relationship is less strong, it might be advisable to hold the event in the community. The activity will take about two hours, and light food, coffee, and drinks should be provided. They can often be secured through donations from a local supermarket or restaurant. Make sure to have name tags and markers.

#### **Role for Faith-Based Organization:**

To host the event and invite its membership.

#### **Role for Law Enforcement Agency:**

To send officers and equipment to the activity.

#### How to Create Connections:

Informal connections will be created but can also be encouraged with a game and rewards for every child who shares three facts they learned or completes a bingo card about interacting with different equipment. A question-and-answer period can also be held in which officers share how they make decisions about utilizing equipment.

# EVENT SAMPLES

## PICNIC/BARBEQUE

#### Introduction:

This is an open-air activity with an indoor backup option and is based on informal engagement. The activity will include time for attendees to eat and mingle and the delivery of remarks by law enforcement, representatives of community organizations, and local influencers.

#### **Details:**

The event should be held at a local park or on the grounds of the faith-based organization. A fellowship hall or gym can be used as a rain backup. The event will take about two hours, and another hour for setup and break-down. Materials needed include: tables, chairs, tablecloths, plates, napkins, food warming (or cooling) stations, cutlery, and cups for food and beverages. Ideally a microphone and speaker will be used for the delivery of remarks; there are portable amplifiers that can be utilized. Food can be sought through donations from local businesses or as a potluck. Make sure to have name tags and markers.

#### **Role for Law Enforcement Agency:**

To send staff, to designate one or two members of leadership to deliver remarks, and to designate members of the force to serve as volunteers for event set up, food distribution, and wrap-up.

#### **Role for Faith-Based Organization:**

To reach out to members to attend and coordinate volunteers.

#### How to Create Connections:

The heart of this activity is the informal conversation and social gathering opportunity between law enforcement officers and residents; however, many people may be unsure about how to start the exchange/conversation. Therefore, we suggest you encourage dialogue by asking that each community member and officer speak to three people they don't know, set up a receiving line, or create a game with prizes, such as a \$25 local restaurant gift card for those who discover three fun facts they learned from a law enforcement officer.

### COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

#### Introduction:

This is a conversation on how law enforcement, community/business members, and faith leaders can work together to ensure safe neighborhoods and ensure justice and rights. The conversation will involve a small panel with representatives from the law enforcement agency, a faith-based organization, a resident with some expertise in criminal justice (such as a local professor or prominent attorney), and a representative of a community organization.

#### **Details:**

The event will take an hour to 75 minutes. Materials needed are table cards, microphones and audio equipment, name tags for attendees, chairs, and water for the panel. The setting can be outdoors or indoors; community gyms or a fellowship hall will serve well. A moderator and facilitators for breakout sessions will need to be recruited and a particular topic or question confirmed. Volunteers will need to work on setup. A panel table at the front and a microphone in the audience should be utilized.

#### **Role for Law Enforcement Agency:**

To designate a member of office/department leadership to speak on the panel, to encourage members from the agency to attend as audience members and volunteers.

#### **Role for Faith-Based Organization:**

To designate a member of leadership to speak, to encourage members/ parishioners to attend, and to provide a meeting space and volunteers.

#### How to Create Connections:

Through the use of a breakout session that divides the audience into smaller groups to discuss particular challenges and opportunities in public safety. This session is also about sharing information as a means of connections, and the panelists can each be allowed to give a three-minute introduction and then respond to pre-selected questions by the moderator, followed by an open question-and-answer with the audience. At the end, closing remarks should be delivered by the moderator to sum up ideas shared and how they will be acted upon.

# EVENT PLANNING

# BEFORE

STEP 01 Identify and confirm all details.

## STEP 02

Form a small promotion committee to get out the word via social media, email, announcements, and bulletin boards.

### **STEP 03**

Create a planning timeline and agenda for the day of the activity.

# STEP 04

Recruit volunteers.

## DAY OF

## STEP 01

Set up a check-in table or have 2-4 volunteers with clipboards checking in attendees.

## STEP 02

Ensure photographers are in place.

### **STEP 03**

Have opening remarks delivered by a faith leader and leader of the law enforcement agency.

### STEP 04

Activity, with photographs taken.

### STEP 05

Closing remarks delivered by a faith leader and representative of the law enforcement agency with a summary of the event's success and a thank-you to partners and attendees.

STEP 06 Group photo.

STEP 07 Break-down.

# FOLLOW UP

## STEP 01

Hold a debrief and transcribe best practices and improvements for future events.

## **STEP 02**

Send photos with descriptions to partners, including community organizations and any local sponsors.

## **STEP 03**

Send thank-you notes to the host site and volunteers.

## STEP 04

Within three months, reach out to partners to discuss holding a new event and to gauge longterm feedback.

# PARTNERSHIP FORM

#### FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATION AND COORDINATOR'S NAME:

#### LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY AND OFFICER(S') NAME(S):

- O1. What lasting changes or goals do we want to achieve (e.g., build trust between congregation and local law enforcement)?
- O2. Main MEASUREment(S) for this achievement (i.e., What I will see, hear, or feel when I have achieved the desired outcome above) (e.g., the congregation will know and have regular interaction with our partner officers.)
- O3. Check if it is S.M.A.R.T (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Time Bound)

**NOTICE:** This implementation guide will be periodically updated. Please make sure you are using the latest version, available at www.OneCOP.net. For information, comments, or questions, please email info@onecop.net. OneCOP is an initiative of MovementForward, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.





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