

PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS--WHAT'S AVAILABLE?

By: Robert L. Thornton

In these times of budget constraints, our safety training can suffer. But, as discussed in the Summer 2009 issue of *Perspectives*, Volume 33, Number 3, *Spotlight on Safety* article, "No Training Money--No Excuse," agencies have a responsibility to provide safety training irrespective of budget constraints. A great resource for training and consultation resources is the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) program provided through funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice (BJA), and coordinated through the National Training and Technical Assistance Center (NTTAC).

The goal of the program is to "Provide expansive and comprehensive training for federal, state, and local law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and other PSN partners," which includes community corrections personnel. Assistance which is available includes:

- Training programs
- Curriculum development
- Distance learning training
- Provision of faculty
- Conferences/Meetings

The types of training and technical assistance include:

- Adjudication
- Corrections
- Crime prevention
- Information sharing
- Law enforcement
- Intervention/Prevention
- Mental health
- Substance abuse
- Counter-Terrorism

Training and/or technical assistance is provided by PSN "National Partners," who are subject matter experts in the areas listed. These partners include:

- American Probation & Parole Assoc.
- Fox Valley Technical College
- International Association of Chiefs of Police

- Michigan State University
- Community Corrections Institute
- Hobson & Associates
- Justice Center, The Council of State Governments
- National Crime Prevention Council
- National District Attorneys Assoc.
- National Gang Center
- National Sheriff's Association
- Regional Information Sharing Systems
- Winston-Salem State University, Center for Community Safety

Plus Federal partners such as the FBI, U.S. Marshals Service, ATF&E and ICE.

Once you have determined a need, access to PSN-related services is available through the U.S. Attorney's District PSN Coordinator in your Federal Judicial District. A formal request for services must be made by your district PSN Law Enforcement Coordinator using the "PSN Technical Assistance/Training Request Form" available at www.psn.gov. Additional information about training opportunities can be obtained by visiting www.bjatrain.org. You can also call NTTAC at 1-888-347-5610 for information on training and technical assistance opportunities, or send questions to psn@fvtc.edu.

PSN and its partners offer vast resources for various forms of technical assistance, from consultation to on-site training. If you have a training need, I encourage your agency to contact NTTAC, discuss the need and resources available, and take advantage of the free services that are available.

REFERENCES

Tyson, K.K. "Federal Resources for Gang Impacted Communities." Presentation at the National Gang Symposium, Orlando, Florida, 2011.

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