



July 12, 2018

VIA EMAIL

FOIA Officer
Abraham Zisook
Associate General Counsel
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
300 W. Adams St., Suite 200
Chicago, IL 60606
CJA.FOIA@illinois.gov

Re: Illinois Freedom of Information Act Request Regarding Targeted Violence Prevention Program

To Freedom of Information Officer,

This is a request under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*, submitted on behalf of Muslim Advocates and the ACLU of Illinois.

Background

Muslim Advocates and the ACLU of Illinois seek records pertaining to the Illinois Criminal Justice Authority's efforts directed at Countering Violent Extremism ("CVE"). In particular, we seek records concerning the Illinois Criminal Justice Authority's ("ICJIA's") Targeted Violence Prevention Program ("TVPP") and development of a "Bystander Gatekeeper Training" program based on a "public health" model. We are particularly concerned about the ICJIA-TVPP's intervention model, including its request that mental health professionals refer patients to law enforcement.¹

¹ *Engaged Bystander-Gatekeeper Training for Ideologically Inspired Targeted Violence*, ILLINOIS CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION AUTHORITY, available at http://www.stopcve.com/uploads/1/1/2/4/112447985/icjia_tvpp_bystander_and_gatekeeper_training_proposal_narrative.pdf; *see also* Junaid M. Afeef, *Can Mental Health Professionals Prevent Ideologically Inspired Targeted Violence?*, ILLINOIS TARGETED VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM, available at <http://www.illinoistvpp.org/blog/2017/11/03/can-mental-health-professionals-prevent-ideologically-inspired-targeted-violence>.

Records² requested

We request the following records:

1. Records concerning any events, meetings, conferences, briefings, workshops, and/or trainings hosted by ICJIA-TVPP relating to “Bystander Gatekeeper Training,” “Bystander Gatekeeper Education,” “Public Health Interventions,” “Question, Persuade and Refer” models, or any other CVE efforts in Illinois;
2. Records concerning any events, meetings, conferences, briefings, workshops, and/or trainings hosted by ICJIA-TVPP for mental health providers, health care workers or other health providers, school officials or other education providers, volunteer service groups including but not limited to county-based Medical Reserve Corps, libraries or other community service providers, or any other third-party service providers;
3. Records concerning any events, meetings, conferences, briefings, workshops, and/or trainings hosted by ICJIA-TVPP for law enforcement officers, investigators, and any other related law enforcement personnel;
4. Records concerning any events, meetings, conferences, briefings, workshops, and/or trainings hosted by ICJIA-TVPP for any faith-based organizations or members of the general public;
5. Records concerning the training of any service providers regarding Islam, Muslims, Muslim culture, or South Asian, Arab, and/or any other Muslim community, including but not limited to training materials, guidelines, evaluations, or any other document created or used by ICJIA-TVPP personnel;
6. Records concerning the training of law enforcement officers, investigators, and any other related law enforcement personnel regarding Islam, Muslims, Muslim culture, or South Asian, Arab, and/or any other Muslim community, including but not limited to training materials, guidelines, evaluations, or any other document created or used by ICJIA-TVPP personnel;
7. Records concerning the funding, development, or implementation of any “Bystander Gatekeeper Training,” “Bystander Gatekeeper Education,” “Public Health Interventions,” “Question, Persuade and Refer” models, including but not limited to training materials, guidelines, evaluations, or any other document created or used by ICJIA-TVPP personnel;

² For purposes of this request, “Record” means a record in the broadest sense possible, and includes, without limitation, everything tangible, electronic, or digital containing a datum, number, photograph, picture, word, or any other information, including, but not limited to, communications between phones or other electronic devices, e-mails, digital or physical images, video, audio recordings, voicemail messages, social media posts, instructions, directives, guidance documents, formal and informal presentations, training documents, bulletins, notices, alerts, updates, advisories, reports, legal and policy memoranda, contracts, agreements, minutes or notes of meetings and phone calls, and memoranda of understanding. We seek responsive documents within the time period of January 2013 to the date this request is completed.

8. Records or communications involving ICJIA-TVPP personnel concerning the development or implementation of any CVE programs in Illinois, including but not limited to programs in community centers, public schools, public universities, and any houses of worship including but not limited to mosques;
9. Records or communications involving ICJIA-TVPP regarding “Bystander Gatekeeper Training,” “Bystander Gatekeeper Education,” “Public Health Interventions,” “Question, Persuade and Refer” models, or any other CVE efforts in Illinois;
10. All CVE or TVPP grant applications drafted or submitted by ICJIA-TVPP;
11. Copies of any and all written agreements between the ICJIA-TVPP and any federal, state and local law enforcement partners, including but not limited to the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Chicago Police Department, Illinois State Police, Cook County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, DuPage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and Illinois Terrorism Task Force;
12. Copies of any and all written agreements between the ICJIA-TVPP and any federal, state and local government partners, including but not limited to the Illinois Office of Emergency Management and Communications, Illinois Department of Public Health, and Illinois Department of Mental Health;
13. Correspondence or any other communications between the ICJIA-TVPP and any federal, state, and local law enforcement partners, including but not limited to the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Chicago Police Department, Illinois State Police, Cook County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, DuPage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and Illinois Terrorism Task Force;
14. Correspondence or any other communications between the ICJIA-TVPP and any federal, state, and local government partners, including but not limited to the Illinois Office of Emergency Management and Communications, Illinois Department of Public Health, and Illinois Department of Mental Health;
15. Records or communications involving ICJIA-TVPP personnel concerning the funding, development, or implementation of CVE programs in Illinois, including but not limited to the City of Chicago, DuPage County and surrounding areas, and the greater Springfield area; and
16. Any other records or communications relating to the development and implementation of CVE programs in Illinois, including but not limited to the City of Chicago, DuPage County and surrounding areas, and the greater Springfield area.

Request for waiver of fees

We are prepared to pay reasonable copying costs for reproducing the requested materials, but request that you waive any such fees under the provision of FOIA that authorizes you to waive copying fees when release of requested information is “in the public interest.” In compliance with section 6(b) of the amended FOIA, we represent to you that the documents are sought to determine information concerning the legal rights of the general public and this request is not for the purpose of personal or commercial benefit. Accordingly, a waiver of fees is in the public interest as defined by section 6(b).

If you deny the request for waiver, please notify us before compiling records for which the copying charge will exceed \$50.00 so that we can discuss narrowing the request to cover only the information we seek.

Response requested in five days

Please notify us of your determination of our request and release all responsive records as soon as possible and no later than five working days from the receipt of this request. 5 ILCS 140/3(d). If more than five working days are required to produce the written records, please provide us with a written statement of the reasons for the extension and the date by which the response will be forthcoming. 5 ILCS 140/3(f). Please provide us with copies of responsive records in a searchable and analyzable electronic format where possible. 5 ILCS 140/6(a).

Should any part of this request be denied, please notify us of the denial and provide a written statement of the reasons for the denial, including a detailed factual basis for the application of any exemption, and the names and titles or positions of each person responsible for the denial. 5 ILCS 140/9(a).

If you have any questions concerning this request, you may contact me at juvaria@muslimadvocates.org or at (202) 897-1896.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Juvaria Khan

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/s/ Kathy Hunt Muse

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