



DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

June 13, 2014

J. Thomas Manger
Chief of Police

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to write in support of the application submitted by WORDE (the World Organization for Resource Development and Education) for funding under the **FY 2014 COPS Community Policing Development (CPD) Program**. Such funding will enable WORDE to expand, enrich, and solidify the existing components of the Montgomery County Community Policing Model.

In 2013, WORDE—in partnership with Chief J. Thomas Manger of the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD), and the Montgomery County Office of Community Partnerships' Interfaith Liaison, Rev Mansfield Kaseman—developed a community-led countering violent extremism (CVE) program that is widely known as the "Montgomery County Model" [MCM]. This innovative public-private partnership facilitates effective community policing by fostering social cohesion among diverse county residents and creating bottom-up strategies to promote public safety and reduce violence.

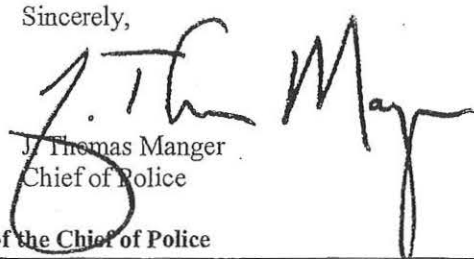
As an active member in the MCM, we commit to being a partner with WORDE for the purposes of this grant. In order to coordinate referrals and interventions specifically to combat violent extremism (CVE), the MCPD requests funding for police overtime to support its existing Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) unit for mental illness. The CIT unit will be responsible for coordinating the multi-agency response to CVE cases reported by the public or any other county agency, and for coordinating a response for referrals that come through MCPD.

We also request funding for a Clinical Social Worker or equivalent, who will be assigned to the CIT and address the mental-health component to determine if mental health is a factor and, if needed, make the necessary referrals and/or channel the person into the mental-health system.

WORDE President Hedieh Mirahmadi has conducted a series of training workshops for the MCPD at police headquarters in Gaithersburg, Maryland. Participants of the workshops included police officers, School Resource Officers, and case managers involved in counter-terrorism cases. Dr. Mirahmadi and her staff have brought a tremendous amount of cultural competence to our collaborative efforts, and I have the utmost confidence that our continued partnership will help to promote public safety and build social cohesion in Montgomery County.

Please feel free to contact me [240-773-5005] if I may be of further assistance in connection with this application.

Sincerely,


J. Thomas Manger
Chief of Police

JTM:mam

Office of the Chief of Police

Public Safety Headquarters • 100 Edison Park Drive • Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878
www.montgomerycountymd.gov • www.mymcpnews.com • MCPDChief@montgomerycountymd.gov