



**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CLUSTER
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Bruce Adams
Director

June 11, 2014

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 the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD) and the Montgomery County Executive's Office of Community Partnerships developed the country's first 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 amongst diverse county residents and creating bottom up strategies to promote public safety and reduce violence.

The MCM's programs are executed through the Montgomery County Executive's Faith Community Working Group (FCWG), which connects faith communities to law enforcement and county government on a range of issues, including public safety.

WORDE, in partnership with the MCPD, county government, local nonprofits, and diverse faith communities, hosts events, workshops, and public forums that build awareness about the risk factors of violent extremism and promote social cohesion and resilience to the threat of violence. Funding will be used to institutionalize the program, conduct outreach and interviews to examine this model program and use the results to replicate this initiative on a national platform.



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WORDE President Hedieh Mirahmadi and her staff members have shown exemplary interpersonal skills and have brought a tremendous amount of cultural competence to our collaborative efforts. I have the utmost confidence that they will conduct this program effectively and in collaboration with the relevant partners in order to help promote public safety and build social cohesion in Montgomery County.

Please feel free to contact me if I may be of further assistance in connection with this application.

Sincerely,

Bruce Adams

Director, Office of Community Partnerships