

COPS Selected Highlights

1994

- Passage of the Violent Crime Control & Law Enforcement Act.
- The COPS Office was created.
- COPS awards \$200 million to 392 agencies for 2,700 additional community policing officers.

1995

- COPS funds 25,000 community policing officers.
- Starts the Universal Hiring Program (UHP).
- COPS announces the Making Officer Redeployment Effective (MORE) program.

1996

- Funds more than 52,000 community policing officers through UHP.
- Announces the Problem-Solving Partnership initiative.

1997

- Funds a nationwide network of Regional Community Policing Institutes (RCPIs).

1998

- 75,000 new community policing officers nationwide funded through COPS.
- Launches the Methamphetamine Program, awarding \$34 million.

1999

- Announces the COPS in Schools (CIS) grant program.
- COPS funds the 100,000th community policing officer in May.
- Announces the Tribal Resources Grant Program (TRGP).

2000

- Announces the Justice Based After-School (JBAS) and Value-Based Initiatives (VBI) programs.
- Announces Peacemakers and Problem-Solvers Initiative.
- Funds civilian hiring and redeployment through the COPS MORE program.

2001

- COPS supports the NYPD and Arlington County Police Department as they respond to the September 11 attacks.
- Announces \$81 million for law enforcement technology grants.
- Announces \$17 million dedicated to promoting integrity in law enforcement.

2002

- Awards more than \$70 million through the COPS Methamphetamine Program.
- Awards more than \$154 million through the COPS Technology Program.

2003

- COPS launches Homeland Security Overtime Program (HSOP).
- COPS Interoperable Communications Technology Program announced.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q:

How do I find out about COPS grants?

A:

COPS Online, www.cops.usdoj.gov, is the best resource for finding information on COPS grants. Information on COPS grants, programs, and activities may also be obtained through the U.S. Department of Justice Response Center at 800.421.6770.

Q:

Who is eligible for a COPS grant?

A:

COPS grants vary by program, but are available to state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies. COPS grants also fund law enforcement organizations and academic institutions.

Q:

How do I apply for a COPS grant?

A:

During open solicitations, COPS grant applications are available on our website, or by contacting the U.S. Department of Justice Response Center at 800.421.6770.

Q:

Who can I call if I have a question on the application process?

A:

Your Grant Program Specialist can assist during all phases of the grant application process, as well as with the implementation of your grant. All programmatic questions and issues surrounding your grant should also be directed to your Grant Program Specialist. A complete list of Grant Program Specialists is available online, or you may call the U.S. Department of Justice Response Center and they will connect you to the appropriate person.

Q:

Can I use training resources through the Regional Community Policing Institutes (RCPIs) if I don't have a COPS grant?

A:

Yes, anyone may register for training through the RCPIs on a space-available basis. We encourage community members to take advantage of these training opportunities.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services
1100 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington D.C., 20530

To obtain details on COPS programs, call the
U.S. Department of Justice Response Center at 800.421.6770

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U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services



www.cops.usdoj.gov

Community Policing Keeps America Safe

The COPS Office was created as a result of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. As a component of the Justice Department, the mission of the COPS Office is to advance community policing in jurisdictions of all sizes across the country. Community policing represents a shift from traditional law enforcement in that it focuses on prevention of crime and the fear of crime on a local basis. Community policing puts law enforcement professionals on the streets so they can build mutually beneficial relationships with the people they serve. By earning the trust of the members of their communities and making those individuals stakeholders in their own safety, community policing makes law enforcement more efficient, and makes America safer.

Making a Difference

COPS provides grants to tribal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to hire and train law enforcement professionals, acquire and deploy cutting-edge crime-fighting technologies, and develop and test innovative policing strategies. COPS hiring and redeployment grants have helped fund more than 116,000 law enforcement professionals to American communities in its first nine years of operations. Community policing is defined by communication and interaction between law enforcement and the community to proactively address crime and the fear of crime across America. COPS-funded training helps advance community policing at all levels of law enforcement—from line officers to law enforcement executives—as well as others in the criminal justice field. COPS-funded resources include ethics and integrity training, violence prevention programs, homeland security resources, and a variety of publications on community policing topics ranging from bullying in schools to street prostitution. This broad range of programs and resources helps COPS offer agencies support in many aspects of law enforcement, and it's making America safer, one neighborhood at a time.

COPS has assisted approximately 13,000 jurisdictions through 27 different grant programs since 1994. These grant programs fund projects that range from developing programs that address integrity issues for law enforcement professionals to after-school centers. COPS grants target crimes ranging from graffiti to date rape, from disorderly youth to methamphetamine proliferation, and from loud car stereos to assaults in bars.

www.cops.usdoj.gov



Why Community Policing?

Letter from the Director

People unfamiliar with the community policing model ask, why choose community policing? After 30 years in law enforcement, I can confidently say, because it works. I think community policing is the right approach for local law enforcement to take towards combating crime and the fear of crime in their communities. Key elements of community policing include involving the community, problem-solving efforts, and creating change on an organizational level to bring law enforcement officers into the community.



Community policing works by combining the efforts and resources of the police, local government, and community members. The community policing philosophy seeks out the input and makes use of the talents of all members of the community in the effort to safeguard our neighborhoods. An involved and aware community can have a significant impact on the fear of crime in its neighborhoods.

Collaborations between the police and the community help identify persistent crime and disorder problems. Problem-solving partnerships help police agencies and the communities they serve analyze why specific problems occur, help develop tailored responses to the problems based on those analyses, and assess the impact of those responses.

Community policing also emphasizes organizational changes such as delegating decision-making power to line-level officers and assigning them to fixed geographic areas. These officers are able to build more productive relationships with residents and become more familiar with community fears and concerns and can respond more effectively to them. Members of the community also learn to trust the officers they see in their neighborhoods every day, making it easier to bring community concerns to the attention of law enforcement.

Community policing is an effective strategy for addressing crime and the fear of crime because it puts law enforcement professionals on the streets, working in and with their communities to help solve specific problems. Community policing keeps America safe.



Carl R. Peed
Director
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services

COPS Funding

COPS Grants Put Community Policing Into Action

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) has invested more than \$9 billion to implement and enhance community policing efforts in tribal, state, and local jurisdictions since 1994. Over the next eight years, COPS issued more than 35,500 grants to more than 12,800 agencies across the U.S. These grants tackle important and immediate needs of communities across America through 27 innovative grant programs.

Hiring and Redeployment

The COPS Universal Hiring Program (UHP) and Making Officer Redeployment Effective (MORE) grants help agencies increase the number of officers on the street who can engage in community policing activities. The COPS in Schools (CIS) grant program helps fund law enforcement officers and deputies in schools to work on a variety of issues and foster community partnerships. COPS has provided nearly \$6 billion in assistance to tribal, state, and local law enforcement agencies through these three programs.

Special Projects

Other COPS grant programs focus more narrowly on specific issues. For example, COPS funded innovative community policing approaches to the increase in youth violence associated with firearms in 1995. COPS funded agencies facing significant gang-related problems in their communities in 1996. COPS funds helped small communities retain COPS-funded officers through the Small Community Grant Program in 1998. COPS also provides funding to combat the production, distribution, and use of methamphetamine. COPS awarded funds to tribal agencies for training, equipment, technology, and additional officers through the Tribal Mental Health Community Safety Initiative in 2000. The COPS Tribal Resources Grant Program (TRGP) has helped tribal law enforcement agencies keep their communities safer since 1999.

COPS Training

Regional Community Policing Institutes (RCPIs)

The COPS Office funded the creation of a national network of Regional Community Policing Institutes (RCPIs) in 1997 to develop and deliver innovative community policing training. RCPIs have the latitude to experiment with new ideas that challenge and improve traditional training curricula, and to develop new curricula to support community policing and sustain it into the future. The RCPIs also provide a wide range of specialized training opportunities designed to advance community policing into as many aspects of law enforcement as possible.

Partnerships and Training Opportunities

COPS funding helps state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies advance community policing. These partnerships allow COPS to help provide valuable training and explore revolutionary ideas in community policing. Look for more information on COPS, training opportunities, and our partners in community policing at COPS Online: www.cops.usdoj.gov.

Community Policing Consortium (CPC)

The Community Policing Consortium (CPC) is made up of five of the most influential law enforcement organizations in the country. The COPS Office funded the CPC as a way for the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), the National Sheriffs Association (NSA), National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), and the Police Foundation to collaboratively advance community policing. The CPC's primary mission is to advance community-policing strategies that will enhance the quality of life for all citizens.

COPS Resources

COPS publishes a wide range of community policing resources. The COPS Office works with some of the most innovative and respected names in law enforcement to develop publications designed to help with many aspects of community policing, as well as specific problem-oriented studies. From involving victims in the community policing process to addressing problems like graffiti, COPS publications can offer insights and experiences from others in the field. Browse through them in the Resource Room at COPS Online, located at www.cops.usdoj.gov, and download as many as you like.

COPS Community Policing Resources Include:

- ★ **Problem-Oriented Guides for Police Series**
- ★ **The Law Enforcement Tech Guide: How to plan, purchase and manage technology (successfully!)**
- ★ **The COPS Collaboration Toolkit: How to Build, Fix, and Sustain Productive Partnerships**
- ★ **COPS Innovations: *Promising Strategies from the Field***
- ★ **Law Enforcement Responds to Terrorism: Lessons in Prevention and Preparedness**
- ★ **The Ethics Toolkit: Enhancing Law Enforcement Ethics in a Community Policing Environment**