Developing a Multi-Disciplinary Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management Team

The most important feature in developing a comprehensive targeted violence prevention plan is to establish a multidisciplinary Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM) team of individuals who will direct, manage, and document the BTAM process. BTAM teams will leverage the expertise and insight of various disciplines to aid in effectively assessing threats or observable behaviors that may concern others, and in developing management strategies. BTAM teams should be comprised of a core group of representatives from relevant disciplines, such as law enforcement, security, mental health, social services, legal, human resources or administration, or others relevant individuals to the entity establishing the team. This may also include, on an as-needed basis, prominent community members like religious leaders and citizens groups.

**Suggested practices for establishing a BTAM team include:**

- BTAM teams should have a designated leader.
- BTAM teams should be multi-disciplinary, consultative, creative, and flexible.
- BTAM teams should establish consistent protocols and procedures. Established protocols can help to clarify roles, responsibilities, and standards.
- BTAM teams should meet on a regular basis and when a particularly concerning case is brought to its attention.

Sources:

Want more information regarding the BTAM model? Interested in further training, resources and information to assist in the development of BTAM processes in your organization or community? Please contact NTER.MTP@hq.dhs.gov