



# Innovations in Community Based Crime Reduction (CBCR)

Safety is a critical component of a vibrant community, every bit as important as quality affordable housing, good jobs, and high performing schools. In many high crime areas, reducing crime and disorder is also essential to spurring business activity and attracting employers. The Innovations in Community Based Crime Reduction Program (formerly the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program / BCJI) helps urban, rural and tribal communities develop comprehensive, evidence-informed strategies that address priority crime problems while helping law enforcement and residents work together to rebuild the economic and social fabric of neighborhoods.

## What is the CBCR Program?

CBCR is a competitive grant program administered by the Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). The initiative's goal is to make some of the country's highest crime communities safer by mobilizing residents, law enforcement and other organizational partners to pursue coordinated strategies in "hot spot" locations. Often these locations are streets or intersections where crime has remained high for years, and that damage the broader community's chances for stability and revitalization.

The program emphasizes place-based, data-driven, and comprehensive cross-sector strategies that reduce and prevent crime and advance neighborhood revitalization goals.

Eligible applicants include states, units of local governments, non-profit organizations (including tribal non-profit organizations), and federally recognized Indian tribal governments.

The CBCR model is comprised of the following core program elements:

- » **Place based:** Targets crimes hot spots
- » **Data-driven problem solving:** Researchers work with partners using data to analyze problems and identify evidence-informed solutions
- » **Community-oriented:** Residents select strategies in partnership with law enforcement
- » **Cost effective:** Maximizes local resources and produces lasting solutions



## What are the outcomes?

CBCR is producing significant results in communities, including:

- » **Dramatic decreases in crime around problem spots**
  - In Evansville, Indiana, **reported crimes dropped 42%** in the CBCR target area from 2013-2015.
  - Five hot spots in the Milwaukee, Wisconsin CBCR target area experienced a **23% drop in violent crime**, compared to a 1% increase in the city as a whole from 2013-2015.
  - **Violent crime dropped 15%** over 16 months of CBCR implementation in Austin, Texas.
- » **A resurgence of real estate development and business activity in neighborhoods previously deemed unsafe**
  - CBCR partners in Providence, Rhode Island **are demolishing eight of the highest crime-producing properties** in area hard hit by the foreclosure crisis and transforming others into affordable housing
  - In Charleston, West Virginia, a **bar well known to police and neighbors for drugs and prostitution was shut down** by the CBCR team. The property is now an eatery, popular among residents of a nearby senior housing complex.

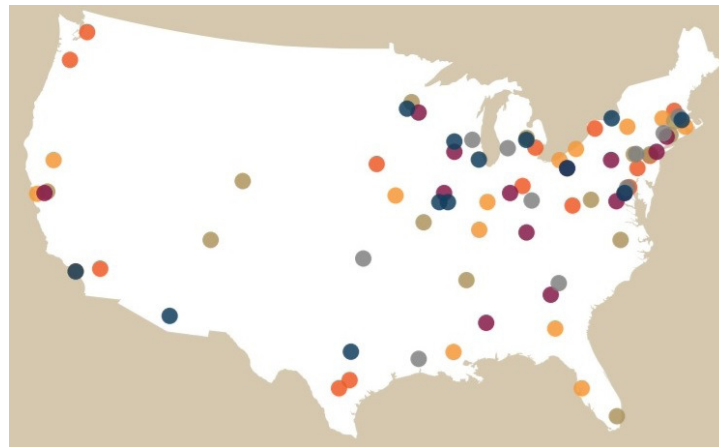
- » **More collaboration between police and residents to increase officer and community safety**
  - More than **100 residents** in Seattle, Washington participated in a **nine-month training program** and now comprise a diverse **Community Task Force that leads crime reduction strategies** in hot spots known for youth violence – in a community where isolation and fragmented efforts used to be the norm.
  - In Syracuse, New York, **residents led 20 projects** that brought previously fearful or distrustful people out of their homes to neighborhood events such as a movie night in a local park and a fire safety workshop.

## What has been LISC’s involvement?

The BJA partners with the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) to provide a range of training and technical assistance services to all CBCR grantees. Enhanced by partnerships with nationally known criminal justice and community development experts, LISC’s technical assistance draws on our 35-year history of supporting comprehensive neighborhood revitalization, including community safety efforts.

## The Sites

Since FY 2012, the inaugural year of funding, BJA has awarded six rounds of grants totaling \$54.7 million to 74 communities in 31 states. BCJI efforts are underway in cities of diverse size and demographics including rural and tribal areas. Funding has been provided in different categories to conduct robust planning and to also implement innovative, evidence-informed strategies.



● FY 2012 Sites	● FY 2013 Sites	● FY 2014 Sites	● FY 2015 Sites	● FY 2016 Sites	● FY 2017 Sites
Austin, TX	Baton Rouge, LA	Alameda County, CA	Atlanta, GA	Baltimore, MD	Chelsea, MA
Baltimore, MD	Cleveland, Oh	Battle Creek, MI	Berea, KY	Battle Creek, MI*	Austin, TX
Brooklyn, NY	Corning, CA	Coahoma County, MS	Brooklyn, NY	Boston, MA	Flint, MI
Charleston, WV	Erie, PA	Denver, CO	Harrisburg, PA	Hartford, CT	Rochester, NY
Dayton, OH	Evansville, IN	Durham, NC	Hayward, CO	Highland County, OH*	St. Louis County, MO
Detroit, MI	Kansas City, MO	Flint, MI	Indianapolis, IN	Milwaukee, WI	Chicago, IL
Lowell, MA	Los Angeles, CA	Huntington, WV	Langley Park, MD	Phillipsburg, NJ*	East St. Louis, IL
Milwaukee, WI	Nashville, TN	Highland County, OH	Madison, WI	Rockdale County, GA*	Los Angeles, CA
Omaha, NE	Providence, RI	Miami-Dade County, FL	Meridian, MS	Shreveport, LA	Tucson, AZ
Philadelphia, PA	San Francisco, CA	Minneapolis, MN	Minneapolis, MN	Tulsa, OK*	Madison, WI*
Portland, OR	Springfield, MA	New Haven, CT	Norwalk, CT		Minneapolis, MN*
San Antonio, TX	Syracuse, NY	Newark, NJ	St. Louis, MO		Youngstown, OH*
San Bernardino, CA	Tampa, FL	Phillipsburgh, NJ	Washington, DC		Langley Park, MD*
Seattle, WA	West Albany, GA	Rockdale County, GA	Youngstown, OH		
		Towaoc, CO			
		Tulsa, OK			
		Worcester, MA			

\* Implementation Only  
Grantee/Former  
Planning Only Site

## What can Congress do?

We urge Congress to fund the Innovations in Community Based Crime Reduction Program (CBCR) at not less than \$17.5 million in the Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies (CJS) Appropriations Bill.

*For more information, please contact Nicole Barcliff at [nbarcliff@lisc.org](mailto:nbarcliff@lisc.org).*

*Additional information on LISC Safety Initiative is available at [www.lisc.org/our-initiatives/safe-neighborhoods/](http://www.lisc.org/our-initiatives/safe-neighborhoods/)*