

PSN TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Monthly Newsletter



Thank you for following our monthly Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) bulletin. The monthly bulletin highlights TTA and resources provided to PSN task forces and local law enforcement agencies. TTA requests can be made online [here](#). If you have questions regarding TTA, please contact your regional TTA liaison or the PSN TTA team at psntta@cna.org.

Inside this Issue

CRIME MAPPING TRAINING MODULES

Check out this video series on crime mapping from the new PSN TTA crime analysis resource!

See below

SPOTLIGHT ON RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION CHALLENGES

Check out these resources addressing recruitment challenges facing law enforcement agencies.

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GRANTS SPOTLIGHT: FIVE STEPS TO DEVELOPING A GRANT STRATEGY

Read below to discover tips on developing a grant strategy.

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CRIME MAPPING TRAINING MODULES

In May, the PSN TTA team released a resource to support the integration of crime analysis into PSN. The resource includes seven training modules on crime mapping that provide an introduction to the topic, an overview of data sources, tutorials on how to generate maps, and spatial analysis and modeling. See the next page for links to each of the seven training modules.



Introduction to Crime Mapping and Spatial Analysis

Allison Rojek, MA
Michigan State University
School of Criminal Justice

GIS TRAINING PART 1: INTRODUCTION TO CRIME MAPPING

GIS TRAINING PART 2: DATA SOURCES

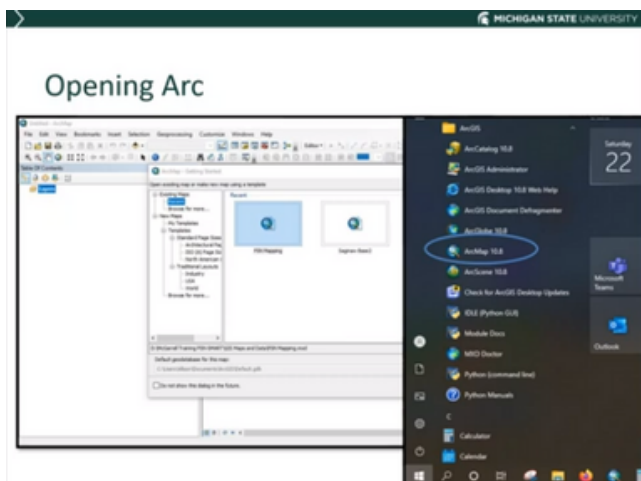
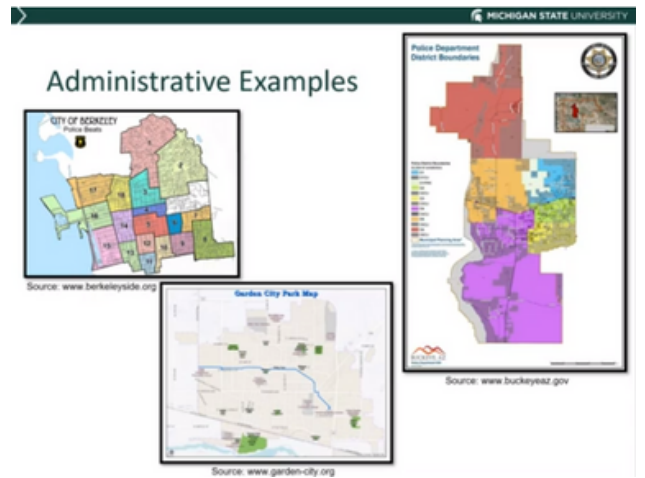
GIS TRAINING PART 3: FROM DATA TO MAPS

GIS TRAINING PART 4: GENERATING MAPS (A)

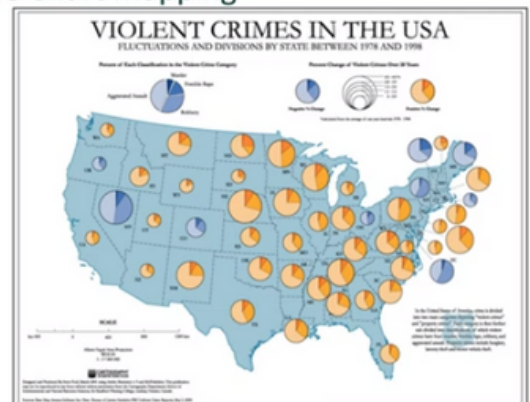
GIS TRAINING PART 5: GENERATING MAPS (B)

GIS TRAINING PART 6: GENERATING MAPS (C)

GIS TRAINING PART 7: SPATIAL ANALYSIS AND MODELING



Pie Chart Mapping



YOU CAN ACCESS THE FULL RESOURCE [HERE](#).



SPOTLIGHT ON RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION CHALLENGES

Law enforcement agencies throughout the United States face challenges, what some describe as a crisis, in recruiting and retaining a highly skilled, professional workforce.

Recruitment and Retention: Ongoing Challenges

In this PSN TTA learning session, Professor Justin Nix from the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Nebraska, Omaha, discusses these challenges and presents the findings of a recent study he conducted with Deputy Chief Scott Mourtgos from the Salt Lake Police Department and Professor Ian Adams from the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of South Carolina. The study highlights the nature of these workforce challenges and offers suggestions for agencies to address the issue. The learning session also provides resources developed by BJA to support agencies.

View a recording of the session [here](#).

Literature Review & Resource Inventory: Law Enforcement Led Recruitment and Retention Meeting April 18, 2023

This resource highlights the key recommendations from current research pertaining to major focus areas with the problem of recruitment and retention, including eligibility and hiring practices, the role of local officials, work life balance and officer wellness, diversity in hiring, pipeline programs, and the role of the private sector.

View the resource [here](#).

WEBINARS

Wellness
Strategies for
Effective
Leadership

Date:

June 6, 2023,
2:00–3:30 p.m.
EST

[Registration link](#)

Building an
Effective Team

Date:

July 18, 2023,
2:00–3:30 p.m.
EST

[Registration link](#)

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Twitter to get regular
updates, learn about
resources, or ask
questions.*



GRANTS SPOTLIGHT BY JOAN BRODY: FIVE STEPS TO DEVELOPING A GRANT STRATEGY

Grant writing is the easiest part of acquiring public or private grant funding. Figuring out what you “want to buy” and implementing/administering a grant-funded project requires time and expertise. It also involves policy and decision-making. Once you know the specifics of what you want your grant to purchase, the writing is easy.

The following steps were designed as a template for public safety agencies (e.g., police departments, prosecutors, etc.), to guide them in **developing a grant strategy**, which is just a fancy name for a “wish list” of needs. The process of developing a grant strategy will help you create a cadre of internal subject matter experts (SMEs) that can be called upon to help develop proposals and implement grant awards.

I am including the first three steps for launching an internal grants committee below. I will include next steps for holding your first meeting and developing a grant strategy document in the next two newsletters. You should strive to complete your first grant strategy during the early months of FY24, which starts October 1, 2023. If you can’t wait until then, just reach out to me and I can send you information sooner.



GRANTS SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED

Proposed First Three Steps to Convening an Internal Grants Working Group:

1. Select an internal agency Grants Coordinator – This person can help identify funding sources and convene an internal grants working group or committee.

2. Identify an internal group of SMEs in suggested grant/wish list areas – These are just examples of public safety SME areas. Develop your own list!

- | | |
|---|--|
| <i>1. Technology</i> | <i>8. Community outreach</i> |
| <i>2. Domestic violence/Elder abuse</i> | <i>9. Crime analysis/CompStat</i> |
| <i>3. Youth</i> | <i>10. Administration</i> |
| <i>4. Training</i> | <i>11. Crime lab</i> |
| <i>5. Patrol</i> | <i>12. Cyber crime</i> |
| <i>6. Homeland Security</i> | <i>13. Economic/White-collar crime</i> |
| <i>7. Research and evaluation</i> | |

It is important that SMEs are mid-level. If they are too high on your organizational chart, they won't have time to attend meetings or work on grant approaches. You want someone who is working in the field and high enough in rank to have experience and knowledge about what the upper brass would approve. And yes, it is OK if the same person covers multiple areas.

3. Schedule the first grants committee or grants working group meeting and invite the SMEs identified in the previous step – If possible, also invite your chief or agency head to stop by the meeting to thank everyone for their time and participation. This will help inspire the group.

Next month, I will provide you with suggestions and an agenda for holding your first grants committee meeting. I will also share tips for a handout that you can use to gather information for completing your own grant strategy.

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