Protecting Faith Communities: Helpful Resources

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Resources for Faith Organizations

Physical Security Performance Goals for Faith-Based Communities
- This guide from the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) provides physical security practices to protect houses of worship and their congregations.

Faith-Based Security Advisory Council (FBSAC)
- The FBSAC provides recommendations about U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) strategy, coordination, programs, and evaluation.

Resources and Information for Faith and Community Leaders Regarding the Israel – Hamas Conflict
- This web page includes resources such as information about perimeter security, a toolkit for faith communities addressing hate, resources for at-risk communities, and more.

CISA Protecting Houses of Worship
- This website includes links to services, including information sharing and analysis programs, offered by CISA and other government agencies to support houses of worship.

Protecting Houses of Worship Against Arson
- The Department of Justice reports that arson was the leading cause of fires at houses of worship in 2020. This page includes fire safety tips and best practices to protect religious buildings.

Federal Grant Programs

DHS Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention Grant Program (TVTP)
- The TVTP Grant Program is meant to help prevent targeted violence and terrorism by creating partnerships between the government, the private sector, and local communities. They fund local, state, and tribal governments; nonprofits; and higher education institutions.

FEMA Nonprofit Security Grant Program
- The mission of the Grant Programs Directorate is to enhance security for at-risk nonprofit organizations. It seeks to bring together government and private organizations to increase security and preparedness for at-risk nonprofit organizations.

Suspicious Activity Reporting

FBI Electronic Tip Form
- Use the FBI's web form to report federal crimes and submit tips regarding terrorist activity.

DHS "If You See Something, Say Something"
- "If you See Something, Say Something" is a national campaign to increase public awareness about suspicious activity and how to report it to prevent terrorism and terrorism-related crime.
- **Recognize the Signs Infographic**

CISA De-Escalation Series
- This site explains how to navigate suspicious activity or escalating situations including how to recognize the signs, assess the situation, de-escalate, and report.

Other Resources

Resources for Community Organizations and Service Providers
- This handout from DHS links to trainings focused on emergency readiness, services offered by DHS to support organizations, and ways to fund measures to increase security at houses of worship.

DHS Prevention Resource Finder
- This web page includes links to different categories of prevention resources.

CISA Regional Offices
- CISA experts are assigned to 10 regional offices, offering a range of cyber and physical services.

DOJ Hate Crimes Enforcement and Prevention Website
- This page includes links to apply for grant opportunities and resources for preventing and reporting hate crimes.

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