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Federal Cuts to Community Organizations Will Harm Public Safety, Warns Leading Law Enforcement Group

Beverly, MA – An organization of current and former law enforcement leaders is speaking out against the U.S. Department of Justice's decision to cancel hundreds of federal grants supporting community-based initiatives covering everything from mental health services for police officers to gun violence prevention and victim support. The cuts, announced this week, will severely undercut programs that law enforcement agencies across the country rely on to help build trust, reduce violence, and promote public safety.

"Upholding public safety is an incredibly hard job, and as law enforcement, we know we can't do it alone," **said Lieutenant Diane Goldstein, Executive Director of the Law Enforcement Action Partnership.** "Community organizations are a force multiplier for policing and each prong of this work plays a critical role in the broader public safety ecosystem. The funding cuts to these programs are shortsighted and will undoubtedly make our jobs even harder. But they will also have far-reaching consequences for the communities that rely on these organizations to provide residents with vital mental health resources, engage in violence intervention and outreach work, support crime victims, or help people find stability after incarceration."

The DOJ cuts disregard years of evidence demonstrating the effectiveness of these grants. Far from being "wasteful," investments in prevention, treatment, and community support often yield a strong return by [reducing recidivism](#), easing the [burden on emergency services](#), and [promoting long-term public safety outcomes](#) that enforcement alone cannot achieve.

Law enforcement agencies across the country are already stretched thin, and these community-based partners can help preserve law enforcement resources by preventing crises before they require a 911 call. Whether it's a violence interrupter who de-escalates a neighborhood conflict, a mental health provider who keeps someone from spiraling into a dangerous situation, or a victim advocate who works with survivors, these professionals are a vital asset to law enforcement in keeping communities safe.



LEAP urges the Department of Justice to reconsider these cuts and restore funding to programs that save lives, build safer neighborhoods, and support the well-being of both the public and the officers who serve them.

For more information on this critical issue or to schedule an interview, please reach out to LEAP's Media Director Noah Walker at 501-529-6178 or noah@lawenforcementaction.org

About LEAP

The Law Enforcement Action Partnership is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit of police, prosecutors, judges, corrections officials, and other law enforcement officials advocating for criminal justice and drug policy reforms that will make our communities safer and more just. Learn more at <https://lawenforcementactionpartnership.org/>

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