



Justice Center
THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS



Center For
POLICING EQUITY

Establishing Community Response Models for College Campuses

August 30, 2023

Our Time Today

- I. Welcome and Organizational Overview
- II. Unlocking Democracy: The Power of Partnership
- III. OSU Assist
- IV. Amherst Community Responders for Equity, Safety & Service (CRESS)
- V. Learning Community Opportunities
- VI. Q & A

The Council of State Governments Justice Center

We are a national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that combines the power of a membership association, serving state officials in all three branches of government, with policy and research expertise to develop strategies that increase public safety and strengthen communities.



Our Goals

- Break the cycle of incarceration
- Advance health, opportunity, and equity
- Use data to improve safety and justice

How We Work

- We bring people together
- We drive the criminal justice field forward with original research
- We build momentum for policy change
- We provide expert assistance



Center For
POLICING EQUITY



Who We Are

The Center for Policing Equity (CPE) is a racial justice non-profit that protects, supports, and empowers communities—particularly Black and Brown communities—to redesign their public safety systems. CPE provides leaders with data, stories, and relationships to facilitate change that's bold, innovative, and lasting. **We do science to promote justice.**

CPE gathers and analyzes data on behaviors within public safety systems and uses those data to help communities achieve safer policing outcomes. Our goal is to make policing **less racist, less deadly, and less omnipresent**. We believe we can forge the path to justice by redesigning public safety systems to better keep communities safe.



Our Impact

Since our founding, CPE has served:



30

STATES

60

LAW ENFORCEMENT
AGENCIES

85.2m+

PEOPLE IN THE U.S.

Our Impact

PROPELLING POLICY

Our country's urgent call for reimagined public safety has challenged law enforcement agencies to make systemic change. Police departments that partnered with CPE have adopted one or more of our policy recommendations:



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Unlocking Democracy

- Learning Communities
- Data Connection
- Elected Leaders Council



**Justice
Center**



Center For
POLICING EQUITY



Unlocking Democracy/Learning Communities

Communities are already exploring ways to **redesign public safety**; however, much of the dialogue, policy, and practice around these models is fairly new. In response, CPE and The Council of State Governments Justice Center are hosting a joint series of Learning Communities for Policing Alternatives.

These **virtual learning communities** assist interdisciplinary teams seeking to implement, sustain, and evaluate policing alternatives in one or more of the following four areas: college campus community response, community violence intervention, crisis systems, and youth diversion.

Data Connection

Occurs simultaneously alongside learning communities and aimed to help communities do the following:



Learn how to use data to tell a story



Create an evaluation plan



Become more comfortable with data and data analysis



Connect to resources for funding or partners



Coordinate with other agencies for data collection and analysis



Develop a logic model

Unlocking Democracy: Elected Leaders Council

The Elected Leaders Council (ELC) brings together state and local elected officials nationwide and helps participants work collaboratively to develop strategies to enact and **sustain reforms, fund initiatives, and receive support**, including help identifying validators to help support initiatives in their communities.



[Learn More!](#)



The Elected Leaders Council is an innovative way to connect and share ideas for true public safety with elected officials from across the country. The program uses a community-centered approach and will help plant the seeds for tangible reform.

Crystal Hudson
Council Member
New York City



Image used by permission of Center for Policing Equity

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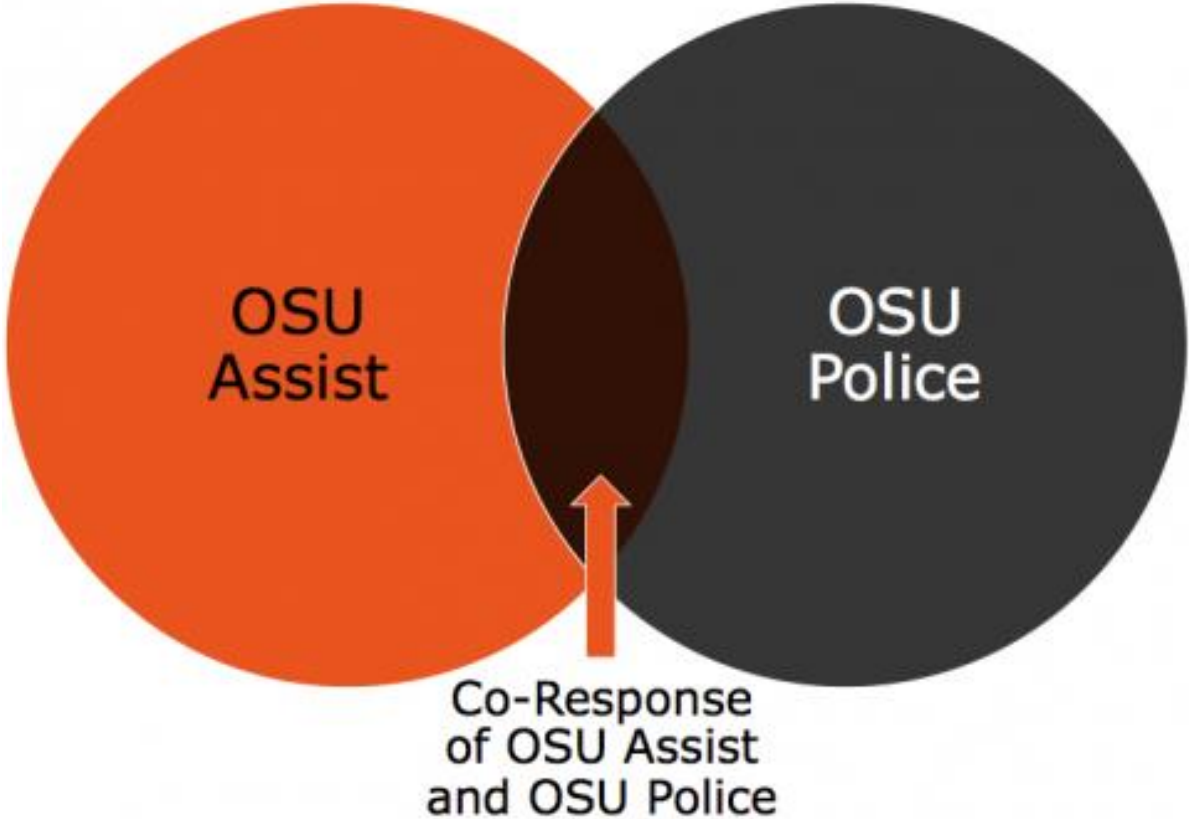
OSU ASSIST Oregon State University

Mobile Crisis Team | Corvallis, OR

Brief History and Purpose

- Origins of the program
- Partnership with campus organizations to provide the right resources at the right time
- Multidisciplinary team to respond to emergency situations either in person or by phone

Response Process



OSU Assist may respond to . . .

- ✓ A call for a person (**student, faculty, community member, etc.**) who is on the OSU Corvallis campus
- ✓ A call for a person who appears to be experiencing a crisis, emotional distress, or extenuating circumstances

OSU Assist will not respond initially if . . .

- There are reports of weapons on the scene or access to weapons.
- There are reports of violence (physically combative, threatening violence, assaulting).
- There is an immediate medical emergency.

Growth and Learning



- We've learned a lot in our first 10 months in the program.
- Expanding our footprint
- Student perspectives
- Triaging calls
- Co-responding with DPS

Who is on the team?

- Reiman, Responder (she/her)
- Javier, Responder (he/him)
- Tawn, Responder (xi/xir)
- Fourth Responder joining the team in September!

Fall 2023 Operations

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1:00 PM TO 1:00 AM	1:00 PM TO 1:00 AM	1:00 PM TO 1:00 AM	1:00 PM TO 1:00 AM	1:00 PM TO 1:00 AM	1:00 PM TO 1:00 AM	1:00 PM TO 1:00 AM

Training Completed by the Team

- ✓ Responder-led trainings leaning on multidisciplinary nature of the team
- ✓ DV/SA Advocate Certification
- ✓ Multiple suicide intervention trainings
- ✓ Trauma-informed care
- ✓ Mental illness and behavioral health needs in college
- ✓ Tours of campus residence halls, athletics, academics
- ✓ Co-training with DPS
- ✓ And more...

Questions or Follow-Up

- www.beav.es/assist
- osu.assist@oregonstate.edu

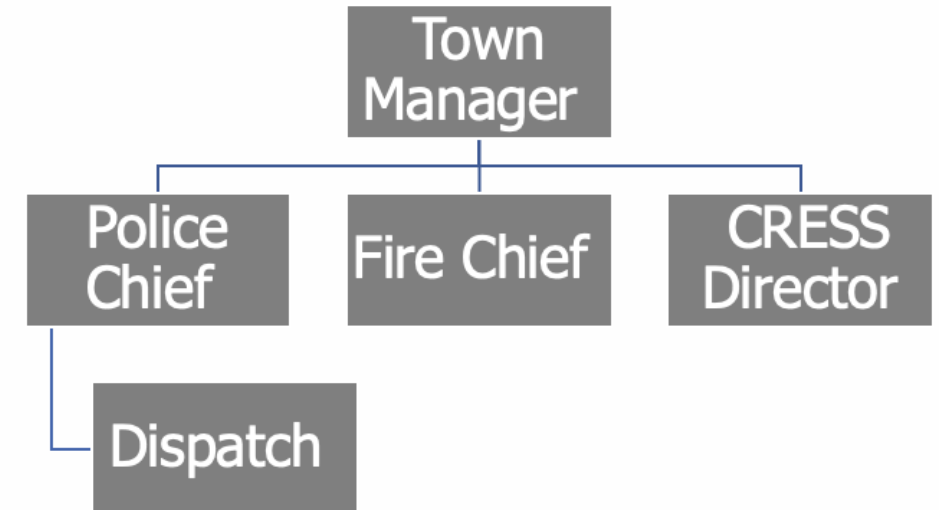
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CRESS Presentation Overview

- What CRESS Is and Where It Sits within Our Municipal Structure
- Contextualizing Amherst
- CRESS Mission Statement
- Non-municipal Trainings
- Blarney Blowout Example

Amherst Community Responders for Equity, Safety, and Service (CRESS) Department

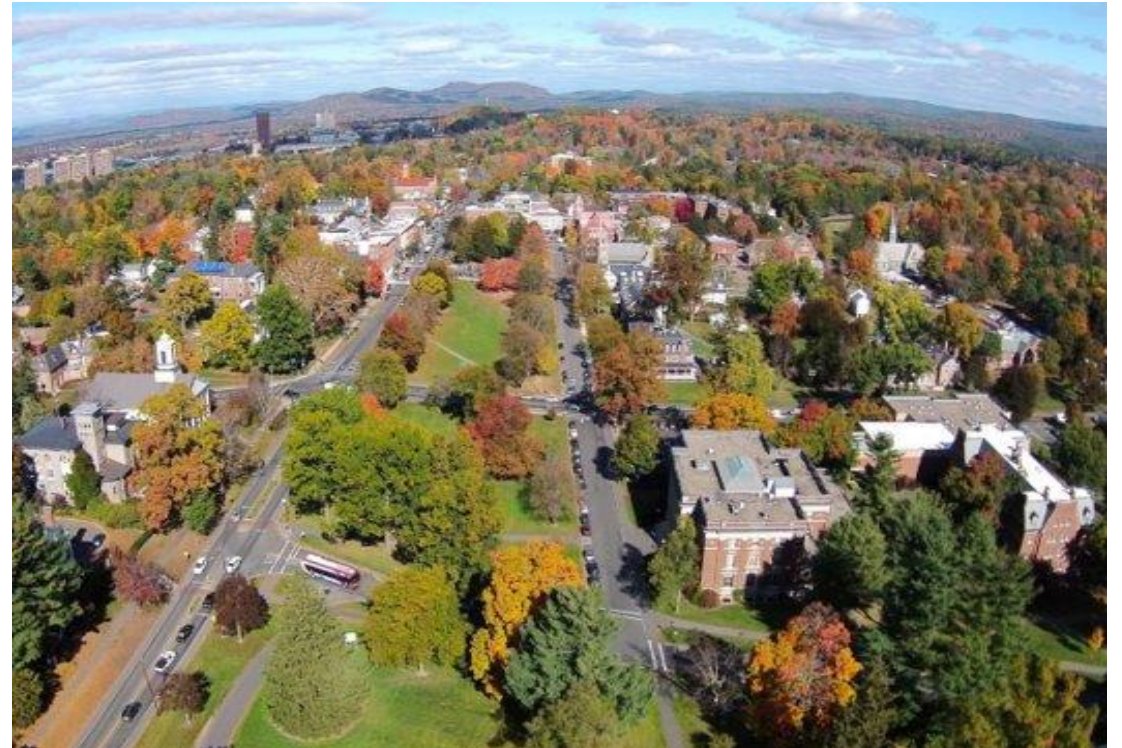


Amherst at a Glance

- College town of 40,000 permanent and student residents in western Massachusetts (students make up approximately 45 percent of the population)
- 13-member town council (with president and vice president), town manager

Demographics:

- Race: 70.4 percent White, 12.6 percent Black/African American, 5.6 percent Asian, 0.8 percent American Indian and Alaska Native, 0.2 percent Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, 10.4 percent other
- Age: 22 percent of population under 18, 77.9 percent over 18 (16.8 percent of which is over 65)
- Poverty: 6.0 percent income less than 10K; median income is 69K



CRESS Mission Statement

Core Values

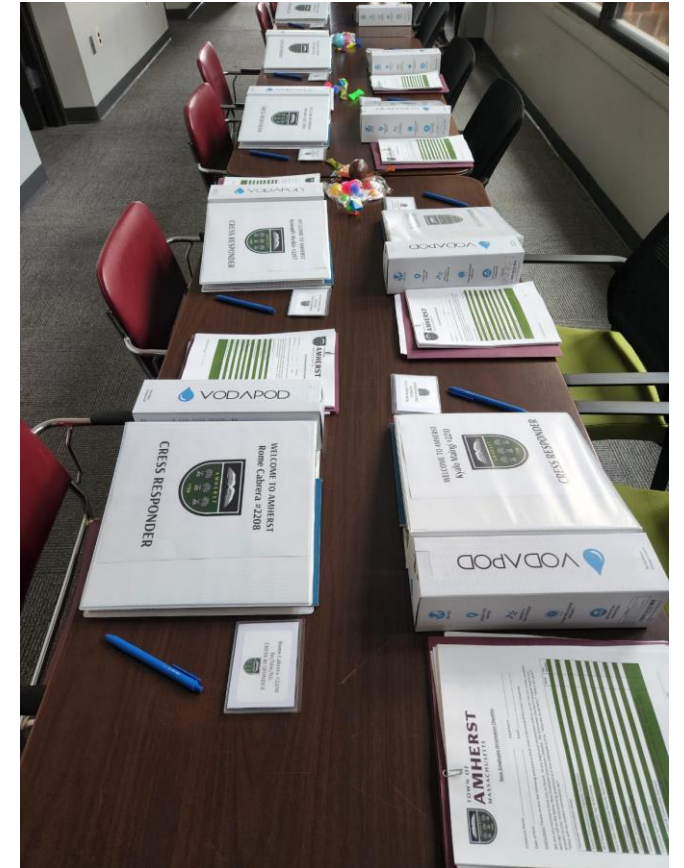
1. An overarching sense of optimism	2. Trauma-informed care
3. Antiracism	4. Being unarmed
5. Person-centered	6. Collaboration

Community Responders for Equity, Safety and Service (CRESS) is an unarmed, person-centered, trauma-informed, antiracist public safety agency.

Unarmed should not be taken to mean unprepared, untrained, or afraid. We exist in a community that has, historically, shown an ability to have challenging conversations and to hold the highest ideals of a commonwealth.

Non-municipal Trainings

Community-Based Trainings	College/University-Based Trainings
Motivational interviewing	Introduction to Off-Campus Student Life (UMass)
When the Conversation turns to Suicide, Working with Voice Hearers	Building Trust and Healing Harms: Intro to Trauma-Informed Practices & Restorative Justice (UMass)
Helping People with Severe Anxiety and OCD and Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder	External Relation and Amherst Collaborations (UMass)
Vicarious Traumatization: Taking Care of Those Who Take Care of Others	Being an Effective Recovery Ally (Amherst College)
The Biology of Fear and Safety	Identity and Anti-Bias part 1: Implicit Bias (Amherst College)
Tips for Helping People with ASD Feel Safer	Race, Racism & Anti-Racism Part 1: Learning and Unlearning Race and Racism (Amherst College)
Nonviolent Communication	Bias, Part 2: Institutional Bias (Amherst College)



Blarney Blowout

Overview/pre-Blarney



Day of Blarney Support



**Knock-'N'-Talks
with UMass**



Blarney Blowout: Amherst Police Department

AMHERST POLICE DEPARTMENT



OPERATIONAL PLAN

Saturday, March 4, 2023

Mission

To employ best police practices to provide a safe environment for the community, to prevent disorder, and to prevent or investigate criminal activity

Objective

To prevent or mitigate any large-scale disturbances resulting in the severe disruption of public order caused by the over-consumption of alcoholic beverages, severe alcohol intoxication, violence, fights, assaults, accidental injuries, excessive property damage, excessive noise, trash, vandalism, and traffic congestion. A plan will be utilized in order to identify and prevent a potential disturbance; mitigate and dissuade any unlawful gatherings through compliance; and disperse any unlawful assembly through tactical response; all in attempt to protect the safety, lives, and property of all people.

Community Responders for Equity, Safety & Service— CRESS Department

Cress members will be mobile and providing outreach at hotspots. The members wear grey polos with identifiers on the shirts.

Blarney Blowout: Amherst Fire Department

[Town Manager Paul] Bockelman told Western Mass News...“Normally, it’s not a **medical event**. It’s more of a **crowd control event**. This turned out to be a lot of alcohol-related **transports** to Cooley Dickinson **Hospital**, which was a big burden on them as well...

...the Amherst Fire Department responded to **38 ambulance calls** on Saturday which... is a significantly higher number than previous ‘Blarney Blowout’ weekends.”



Kristin Burnell, “Getting Answers: dangers of ‘borgs’ after ‘Blarney Blowout’ Hospitalizations,” Western Mass News, March 6, 2023, accessed August 25, 2023, <https://www.westernmassnews.com/2023/03/06/getting-answers-dangers-borgs-after-blarney-blowout-hospitalizations/>

How and Why Community Response Works for College Campuses

- Fidelity to your role = a force multiplier
- Town-gown relations benefits
- Support well-being and promote student success
- Institutionalize kindness
- Available resources
- Scalability
 - Can be tailored to meet the needs of a variety of institutions
- Unified effort to increase campus safety and well-being

Thank You!

Kat Newman
CRESS Implementation Manager
newmank@amherstma.gov



Brady (Kat's Service Dog)

Not the best at e-mails, but great at in-person visits and ball throws 😊

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Learning Communities 2023–2024

Focused on 4 key areas for alternatives to policing over 10 months with subject matter experts from the following fields:

- **College Campus Community Response**
- **Youth Diversion**
- **Community Response/Crisis Systems**
- **Community Violence Intervention**

and **Data Connection** throughout the sessions!



Learn More!

College Campus Community Response Learning Community

Sample Interdisciplinary Team Composition

- Behavioral Health Professionals
- First Responders
- Campus-Based Program Representatives
- College/University Administrators
- Student Representatives
- Parents or Family Members of Students with Lived Experience of Substance Use, Mental Health, and/or Incarceration

Key Topics Covered

- Goal Setting
- Logic Models
- Community and Stakeholder Engagement
- Program Development
- Resource Mapping
- Sustainability
- And More...

Unlocking Democracy 2023–2024

Important Dates!

- Learning Community Applications **OPEN NOW!**
- Elected Leaders Council Applications **OPEN NOW!**

Webinars

- *Alternative First Responder Models Can Support Youth in Crisis,*
September 7 at 1 p.m. ET

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Thank You!

Join our distribution list to receive updates and announcements:

<https://csgjusticecenter.org/resources/newsletters/>

For more information, please contact Melissa McKee at mmckee@csg.org

The presentation was developed by members of The Council of State Governments Justice Center staff. The statements made reflect the views of the authors, and should not be considered the official position of The Council of State Governments Justice Center, the members of The Council of State Governments, or the funding agency supporting the work.

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