



Strategy for Targeted Violence Prevention for the State of Minnesota

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Introduction

Minnesota, like many other states, has been impacted by criminal acts fueled by violent ideological beliefs and grievances. While these incidents cannot be erased, we must identify a path forward that enables us to stop future incidents from happening, and more lives from being lost.

It is with that goal in mind that we present the Minnesota Strategy for Targeted Violence Prevention. This strategy is rooted in cross-discipline partnerships and embodies our shared commitment to fostering a safer and more secure Minnesota for all.

We have taken a holistic approach, addressing both ideological and non-ideological forms of targeted violence. Our strategy also embraces a wellness-informed framework that emphasizes preventative measures taken before targeted violence occurs.

Our strategy relies on community members, professionals and organizations – leaning in to our collective strength and expertise to guide and inform this effort.

Also central to our strategy is adopting a public health-informed approach, exemplified by behavioral threat assessment and management (BTAM). Through BTAM, we strive to understand how to effectively manage threatening behavior by assessing facts that help guide the proper allocation of resources and mechanisms to support individuals.

Ultimately, we strive to promote the safety of Minnesotans and those who visit our state while adhering to privacy rights and personal freedoms.

Respectfully,

State of Minnesota Strategy for Targeted Violence Prevention Working Group

Acknowledgements

The Minnesota Preventing Targeted Violence State Strategy Working Group would like to express its sincere gratitude to violence prevention professionals from multiple sectors who played a crucial role in this collaborative effort.

The core working group consisted of representatives from the following agencies whose collaborative efforts were fundamental to developing strategies and practices for preventing targeted violence and ensuring the safety and security of our communities.

- Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships
- Cottage Grove Police Department
- Washington County Threat Assessment Group
- Lakeville Area Public Schools
- FBI Minneapolis Field Office
- Minneapolis Police Threat Assessment Team
- Hennepin County Sheriff's Office
- St. Cloud Police Community Response Division

Mission, vision and values

Mission

Our mission is to prevent targeted violence and promote public safety in Minnesota through a comprehensive, prevention-based strategy. By actively engaging communities, providing resources, and building partnerships, we foster resilience and reduce the risk of violence by taking a proactive approach.

Vision

Minnesota envisions a future where every individual is equipped with the knowledge, resources, and support to prevent targeted violence, leading to thriving communities built on mutual respect, understanding, and collective safety.

Values

- **Prevention:** Prioritizing proactive strategies to address the root causes of targeted violence.
- **Partnerships:** Working collaboratively across sectors and communities to leverage collective expertise and resources in violence prevention efforts.
- **Equity:** Ensuring all individuals and communities have equal access to resources and opportunities to participate in and benefit from violence prevention initiatives.
- **Empowerment:** Empowering individuals and communities with the tools, skills, and agency to recognize and address potential threats of violence.
- **Continual Learning:** Committing to ongoing evaluation, research, and adaptation of strategies based on the latest evidence and stakeholder feedback to improve the effectiveness of violence prevention efforts.

Defining the problem

Targeted violence is a deliberate act of violence directed at specific individuals, groups or locations, regardless of motivation, that violates federal or state laws. Targets are often selected to achieve specific motives such as retribution for a grievance or making a political or ideological statement.

Incidents of targeted violence in the United States have grown more frequent and more lethal. This trend encompasses a spectrum of acts including hate crimes, stalking, racially or politically motivated assaults, terrorist attacks designed to cause large numbers of casualties and other forms of grievance-fueled violence. The incidents undermine the sense of safety and security that communities seek to uphold.

Because these incidents can happen anywhere and at any time, a concerted, unified approach is required to address this evolving threat.

Active shooter incidents in the United States¹

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	
Total Incidents	48	50	61	40	30	
Casualties (Excluding Shooters)	244 105 killed 139 wounded	313 100 killed 213 wounded	243 103 killed 140 wounded	164 38 killed 126 wounded	258 103 killed 155 wounded	
LE Officers Killed	2	1	2	1	2	
LE Officers Wounded	12	21	5	11	15	
Met "Mass Killing" Definition	15	13	12	5	13	
Incidents Where LE Engaged Shooters	12	9	17	8	11	
Shooters	49 shooters 48 male 1 female/ transgender male	50 shooters 47 male 1 female 1 nonbinary 1 unknown	61 shooters 60 male 1 female	42 shooters 35 male 3 female 4 unknown	33 shooters 32 male 1 female	
Shooter Resolutions*	Shooters Died by Suicide	7	9	11	7	6
	Shooters Killed by LE	12	7	14	4	9
	Shooters Killed by Citizen	0	2	4	2	1
	Shooters Apprehended by LE	30	29 3 at large	30 1 at large	24 5 at large	17
	Shooters Wore Body Armor	5	4	2	1	4

2023 metrics decreased from 2022
2023 metrics increased from 2022

** In 2021, one shooter was killed in a vehicle crash and does not fit into any shooter resolution category.*

Targeted violence incidents in Minnesota

Like many regions across the United States, Minnesota has experienced acts of targeted violence in schools, workplaces, houses of worship and other settings.

- March 21, 2005: A 16-year-old person in Red Lake, Minnesota, shot and killed nine people including his grandfather and his grandfather’s girlfriend, five students and two school faculty members. This event remains the deadliest instance of targeted violence in Minnesota's history.

¹ Source: Active Shooter Incidents in the United States in 2023, FBI, page. 36

- Sept. 27, 2012: A 36-year-old person shot and killed six people at his former workplace in Minneapolis. This is deadliest workplace shooting in Minnesota history.
- Feb. 9, 2021: A 67-year-old person shot five people, killing one, and discharged three improvised explosive devices inside of a healthcare clinic in Buffalo, Minn.
- March 17, 2021: A 32-year-old person was arrested in St. Cloud for stalking and possibly planning an attack against police. A BTAM team assessed the person and determined that civil commitment and addressing his untreated mental health condition would best serve him and public safety. Since then, the man has been successfully living in the community and is gainfully employed.
- September 2022: A 21-year-old person was arrested for possession of a machine gun. Federal court documents indicate that the subject was preparing for a violent exchange with police and expressed sympathy and admiration for mass shooters. The person had access to an AR-style rifle, handguns, body armor and a Kevlar helmet. Communication with an FBI confidential source revealed that the person attempted to purchase three auto sears² and three inert hand grenades.
- July 25, 2023: A 20-year-old person from a northern suburb of the Twin Cities Metro Area was sentenced to 30 years in prison for a 2021 burglary during which he tried to steal guns to carry out a mass attack in a public space. An initial BTAM assessment identified an intent to carry out mass violence. This approach ensured that the criminal justice system acted appropriately and in a coordinated fashion.

Identifying common factors

Previous attacks and research have shown that attackers often face multiple stressors and risk factors while lacking positive connections and non-violent problem-solving skills.

Risk factors

- Physical or mental wellness issues
- Personality disturbances
- Mental illness that is not adequately managed
- Suicidality
- Having the means to carry out a threat of violence
- Problematic behavioral history such as substance abuse, poor behavioral control/impulsiveness, history of violence, etc.

² An auto sear is a device that can be used to convert a semi-automatic firearm into a fully automatic firearm.

The presence of these risk factors increases the likelihood of people carrying out acts of targeted violence or terrorism³.

In addition to individual risk factors, there are social risk factors such as economic instability; concentrated poverty; limited housing, education, and healthcare access, and more. These factors are not predictive but may serve as an accelerant to violence.

Protective factors

Protective factors decrease the likelihood of individuals becoming perpetrators and act as buffers against the risk of targeted violence⁴.

- Conflict resolution skills
- Flexible thinking
- Ability to set realistic goals
- Strong family support
- Healthy social connections
- Effective coping mechanisms
- Financial, vocational, and residential stability
- Prosocial involvement
- Resilient personality traits
- Accessibility to assistance

In addition, public health plays a critical role in promoting healthy lifestyles, foundational of the protective factors that mitigate risk factors linked to targeted violence and terrorism. Public health is also instrumental in recognizing and managing risk factors in individuals and is well-positioned to play a pivotal role in preventing targeted violence and terrorism. The public health-informed approach offers holistic solutions to mitigate risk factors and other causes. Moreover, it supports developing and implementing protective factors as barriers against targeted violence.

³ Centers for Disease Control, About Violence Prevention, 2024. [cdc.gov/violence-prevention/about/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/violence-prevention/about/index.html).







⁴ Centers for Disease Control, About Violence Prevention, 2024. [cdc.gov/violence-prevention/about/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/violence-prevention/about/index.html).

Targeted violence prevention strategy

The primary objective of this strategy is to proactively enhance the safety and security of Minnesota residents by identifying, reporting, assessing and effectively managing threats before a violent act. This approach requires partnerships and comprehensive, multidisciplinary frameworks.

Drawing inspiration from the public health approach to violence prevention, this strategy encompasses the spectrum of primary, secondary and tertiary prevention initiatives aimed at defining and monitoring the problem, identifying risk and protective factors, developing and testing strategies, and assuring widespread adoption of best practices.

Tiers of Prevention⁵

Levels of Prevention	Partner Examples		Programs	
Primordial Advocating to Prevent the Development of Risk Factors	 Policy Makers	 State & City Government	Civic Engagement, Youth Resilience, Law Enforcement Community Engagement	
Primary Fostering resilient communities	 Public Health Workers	 School Admins & Social Workers	Training and Awareness, Bystander Training, Social Cohesion Programming	
Secondary Providing services to people at risk	 School Counselors	 Mental Health Providers	 BTAM Teams	Referral Services, BTAM, Intervention Services
Tertiary Supporting offenders to facilitate positive community re-entry	 Judges, Prosecutors, Defense Attorneys	 Re-Entry, Parole & Probation Officers	Rehabilitation and Reintegration Services, Post-Attack Recovery	

1. **Primordial Prevention:** Aims to prevent the development of risk factors and unhealthy behaviors before they emerge by addressing root causes and underlying conditions that contribute to them. This approach involves implementing broad public health policies and societal changes, such as promoting healthy lifestyles, improving socio-economic conditions and fostering environments that support long-term health and well-being. Primordial prevention seeks to create a foundation for health by influencing societal norms and conditions that impact individual and community health.

⁵ Source: Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships, U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security

2. **Primary Prevention:** Reduces exposure to risk factors and enhances resilience at the community level through initiatives like media literacy training, access to healthcare, and community resilience programs.
3. **Secondary Prevention:** Supports specific populations vulnerable to violence, emphasizing early detection and intervention through multidisciplinary practices central to behavioral threat assessment and management.
4. **Tertiary Prevention:** Addresses ongoing risk factors and violent behavior at the individual level, preventing recurrence through interventions such as counseling, rehabilitation therapy and victim services.

Role of Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management

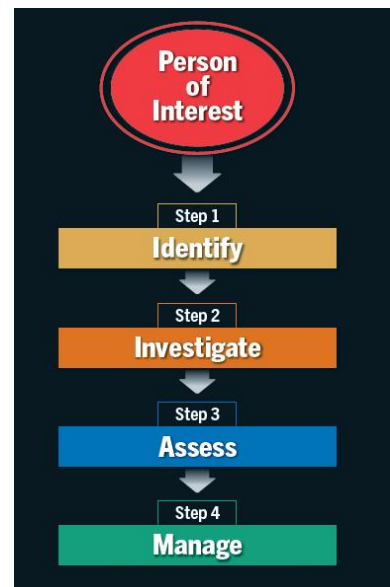
BTAM teams are most effective when they are multidisciplinary, incorporating a range of professions and expertise. These teams may include administrators, behavioral health and social services providers, faith leaders, medical personnel, and law enforcement professionals, among others.

A BTAM team should not consist solely of law enforcement, as they may not have the capacity to fully assess mental health needs, provide counseling or identify appropriate support services. Similarly, a mental health provider may not possess the tools, resources, and ability to promote safety and security functions such as victim or target protection.

Forging partnerships is essential. In early intervention cases, law enforcement serves a consultative role, while the primary effort is led by mental health, social services and public health professionals. In more serious cases where a criminal violation has already occurred, the lead and priority of functions may shift to law enforcement.

The Pathway to Violence

Violence can be categorized as impulsive (reactive) or predatory (planned)⁶. Impulsive violence is emotional and spontaneous, often in response to a perceived immediate threat, while predatory violence is premeditated and serves a specific purpose⁷. Targeted violence and terrorism incidents are always premeditated and predatory. The process of targeted violence begins long before an attack, with planning and preparation that can span days, weeks, months



⁶ J. Reid Meloy, Jens Hoffman, E.R.D Deisinger, S.D. Hart, “Threat Assessment and Threat Management,” International Handbook of Threat Assessment (2021).

⁷ J. Reid Meloy, Jens Hoffman, E.R.D Deisinger, S.D. Hart, “Threat Assessment and Threat Management,” International Handbook of Threat Assessment (2021).

or even years. People contemplating violence may exhibit concerning behaviors or engage in detectable pre-attack preparatory actions – this provides an opportunity for BTAM to prevent an attack. People considering targeted violence and terrorism often progress along a pathway to violence, frequently starting with a deeply held personal grievance or humiliation arising from real or perceived injustices.



Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, National Threat Evaluation and Reporting Program

The pathway is bidirectional, with individuals moving back and forth at varying speeds and sometimes skipping or repeating steps. The order of behaviors in the middle of the pathway can change, and there is no set expiration date associated with a planned attack. In rare cases where a specific grievance is not identified or the individual does not follow the pathway, an identifiable behavior progression during planning and preparation can still offer opportunities for intervention and prevention.

Existing prevention initiatives in Minnesota

This Targeted Violence Prevention Strategy establishes a top-down policy framework. However, numerous local government agencies have also embraced prevention efforts at the grassroots level, including activities outlined here.

- In 2015, local agencies partnered to create the Hennepin County and Washington County Threat Advisory Group (TAG) to promote violence prevention through threat management activities.

- In 2018, the St. Cloud Police Department partnered with mental health providers in central Minnesota to address concerning behaviors proactively through cross-discipline partnerships.
- In 2021, the FBI's Minneapolis Field Office launched a Threat Assessment and Threat Management (TATM) meeting to bring law enforcement, social workers, mental health professionals, prosecutors, probation, parole and other sectors together to assess and prevent potentially violent situations through resource distribution and management capabilities to promote public safety.
- In 2021, Hennepin County announced plans to have social workers embedded in 21 police departments countywide by early 2022. The Hennepin County co-responder plan was designed to find more effective ways to help law enforcement respond to calls involving people in crisis.
- In 2023, the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) applied for a nationally competitive grant from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships (CP3) to support prevention activities in Minnesota. BCA became an awardee and federal funds are being used to enhance the BCA's prevention activities.
- The state of Minnesota has a growing cadre of Behavioral Threat Assessment Master Trainers certified by the Department of Homeland Security National Threat Evaluation and Reporting Team (NTER). Master Trainers provide no-cost training and resources to increase public awareness and to support secondary prevention activities.
- Additionally, the Department of Public Safety's Minnesota School Safety Center outlines the role of behavioral threat assessment and management to promote school safety.

Expanding prevention initiatives in Minnesota

Preventing potential targeted violence incidents from being carried out involves recognizing certain warning signs or behaviors that, when assessed by a trained professional, may provide details about the threat and imminence. These behavioral indicators⁸ may include the sudden use of extreme or violent language, drastic changes in behavior, withdrawing from social interactions or expressing the acceptance of violence to address grievances or to promote ideological beliefs. By understanding and responding to these early signs, it's possible to take steps to prevent violent acts and protect our communities.

Targeted violence may include actions designed to cause many casualties including domestic violent extremism, homegrown violent extremism, bias-motivated crimes, and violence in public spaces, workplaces and schools.

To mitigate these complex and evolving challenges, the working group developed a comprehensive strategy founded in four milestones:

- **Milestone 1** (Building Awareness and Capacity Building): Training and awareness to public safety and prevention stakeholders.
- **Milestone 2** (Assessing Threats and Consultative Support): A state threat assessment and management team and stakeholder threat management meetings.
- **Milestone 3** (Supporting Management Guidance and Assistance): Connection to available resources to support proper management, including partnerships with relevant stakeholders.
- **Milestone 4** (Implementation, Monitoring, and Evaluation): The Strategy for Targeted Violence Prevention is a living document. Evaluations of the strategies effectiveness will be conducted annually to ensure outcomes guide prevention activities.

Milestone 1: Building awareness and capacity

Objective: Equip Minnesota's communities, institutions and law enforcement agencies with the knowledge, skills and resources to identify, address and mitigate potential threats effectively through comprehensive capacity-building training.

Step 1: Enhance training of BCA Threat Assessment Team

⁸ National Governor's Association, State Targeted Violence Prevention: Programming & Key Performance Indicators, 2022.

- a. **Action:** Leverage training offerings from DHS' NTER program.
Details: Enroll members of the BCA Behavioral Threat Assessment Team in DHS's NTER Master Trainer program to deepen their expertise.
Resources: DHS NTER program materials, webinars and in-person training sessions.
- b. **Action:** Utilize training resources from the FBI's Behavioral Threat Assessment (BTAC) program.
Details: Incorporate BTAC specialized training on identifying and managing threats posed by individuals exhibiting concerning behavior.
Resources: FBI BTAC manuals, case studies and expert-led workshops.
- c. **Action:** Incorporate training from the U.S. Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center (NTAC).
Details: Include NTAC best practices for threat assessment and management, focusing on preventing targeted violence.
Resources: NTAC guidelines, simulation exercises and regional training sessions.
- d. **Action:** Engage with training offerings from behavioral threat assessment associations.
Details: Collaborate with professional associations to stay current on the latest methodologies and research in behavioral threat assessment.
Resources: Association memberships, conferences and certification programs.

Step 2: Host DHS master trainer training opportunities in Minnesota

- a. **Action:** Organize and host DHS Master Trainer training sessions in Minnesota.
Details: Coordinate with DHS to bring Master Trainer courses to Minnesota, creating a local cadre of certified trainers.
Resources: DHS training materials, logistical support for training events, and collaboration with local venues.
- b. **Action:** Develop a regional network of training providers.
Details: Ensure that newly certified trainers can offer no-cost training to local stakeholders including law enforcement, mental health professionals and schools.
Resources: Trainer certification records, scheduling tools and outreach materials.

Step 3: Build regional awareness

- a. **Action:** Develop and distribute a prevention newsletter.
Details: Create a bi-monthly newsletter highlighting key aspects of behavioral threat assessment and targeted violence prevention.
Resources: Newsletter design software, distribution lists and content creation teams.

- b. Action:** Share training opportunities and resources.
Details: Include information on upcoming training sessions, available resources and relevant case studies to enhance stakeholder knowledge and engagement.
Resources: Training calendars, resource libraries and case study archives.
- c. Action:** Promote community engagement in prevention efforts.
Details: Use the newsletter to encourage proactive involvement from prevention providers in threat detection and reporting.
Resources: Community outreach strategies, success stories and engagement metrics.

Outcome: Implementing these steps establishes a robust prevention capacity, empowering local stakeholders with the skills and knowledge necessary to identify, assess and manage potential threats, thereby enhancing the overall safety and security of the state's residents.

Milestone 2: Consultative and investigative support

Objective: Provide comprehensive consultative and investigative support to various sectors – including public safety agencies, schools, faith-based organizations and workplaces – to effectively evaluate and manage threats.

Step 1: Establish statewide threat assessment and management team

- a. Action:** Form a dedicated team within the BCA.
Details: Assemble a multidisciplinary team of trained professionals including law enforcement, mental health experts, public health officials and social services providers.
Resources: Recruitment and training programs, team structure and roles, documentation and inter-agency agreements.
- b. Action:** Develop standardized protocols for threat assessment and management.
Details: Create guidelines and procedures for evaluating threats, managing cases and coordinating responses.
Resources: Protocol manuals, training sessions and expert consultations.

Step 2: Host monthly behavioral threat assessment meetings

- a. Action:** Conduct monthly threat assessment meetings at the BCA.
Details: Organize regular meetings involving multidisciplinary partners to review and manage cases, share information and develop intervention strategies.
Resources: Meeting schedules, participant lists, case management software and secure communication channels.
- b. Action:** Ensure broad participation from key stakeholders.

Details: Include representatives from public safety agencies, schools, faith-based organizations, workplaces and other relevant sectors.

Resources: Stakeholder engagement plans, invitation templates and follow-up procedures.

Step 3: Provide consultative support to various sectors

- a. **Action:** Offer consultative support to public safety agencies and private sector stakeholders.

Details: Provide guidance on threat assessment, resource allocation and intervention strategies to local law enforcement, emergency responders and workplace violence prevention professionals.

Resources: Consultation schedules, best practices guides and on-call advisory teams.

- b. **Action:** Support schools with threat assessment and management.

Details: Assist educational institutions in developing and implementing threat assessment protocols, conducting risk assessments and coordinating with local authorities.

Resources: School safety plans, training materials for educators and liaison officers.

- c. **Action:** Engage with faith-based organizations.

Details: Provide tailored support to religious institutions, including threat assessment training, security planning and crisis response coordination.

Resources: Faith-based security toolkits, outreach programs and partnership agreements.

- d. **Action:** Collaborate with workplaces on threat management.

Details: Help businesses develop workplace violence prevention policies, conduct threat assessments, and provide training on recognizing and responding to potential threats.

Resources: Workplace safety guides, training workshops and consultancy services.

Step 4: Information sharing and threat evaluation

- a. **Action:** Develop a robust information-sharing framework.

Details: Establish secure systems for sharing threat-related information among stakeholders, ensuring timely and accurate communication.

Resources: Information-sharing agreements, secure databases and communication protocols.

- b. **Action:** Implement a comprehensive threat evaluation process.

Details: Use evidence-based assessment tools and techniques to evaluate the seriousness of threats, prioritize cases and allocate resources effectively.

Resources: Assessment tools, evaluation criteria and training for evaluators.

c. **Action:** Foster inter-agency collaboration.

Details: Strengthen partnerships between various agencies to ensure coordinated responses and comprehensive threat management.

Resources: Inter-agency collaboration frameworks, joint training sessions and regular coordination meetings.

Outcome: By executing these steps, Minnesota will establish a strong consultative and investigative support framework, enhancing the ability of various sectors to effectively evaluate and manage threats. This collaborative approach will promote a unified and proactive response to potential threats, thereby improving overall safety and security in Minnesota communities.

Milestone 3: Supporting management through consultative assistance

Objective: The Minnesota BCA BTAM Team will establish a dedicated team of trained professionals to assess, evaluate and support local stakeholders with consultative threat management activities.

Action: In partnership with clinicians, public health officials and other prevention providers, this team will utilize evidence-based practices to effectively identify and address threats of targeted violence.

Details: By offering specialized expertise, recommendations and resources, the BCA BTAM Team aims to enhance the capacity of communities to prevent incidents of targeted violence.

- Collaborate with public health agencies and, when appropriate, mental health professionals to provide support for people in crisis who may pose a threat to themselves or others.
- Promote mental health and crisis intervention training for law enforcement and first responders.
- Develop a comprehensive continuum of threat management activities, addressing primordial, primary, secondary and tertiary threats.
- Implement intervention and prevention strategies tailored to each threat level.
- Offer opportunities for rehabilitation and reintegration for people who pose threats, with a focus on addressing underlying issues such as mental health or radicalization.

- To ensure access to resources and expertise, foster collaborations with federal, state and local prevention stakeholders, academic institutions and professional organizations.

Milestone 4: Implementation, monitoring and evaluation

Objective: Ensure the effectiveness of the Targeted Violence Prevention Strategy through continuous monitoring, evaluation, and improvement.

Step 1: Allocate resources for implementation

Action: Outline funding and resource allocation.

Details: Ensure ongoing financial support for training, support teams and partnerships.

Resources: Budget plans, financial reports and funding proposals.

Step 2: Establish a robust data collection system

Action: Develop a data collection framework.

Details: Track threats, interventions and outcomes to assess strategy effectiveness.

Resources: Data collection and analysis protocols.

Step 3: Regular evaluation and adjustment

Action: Conduct annual evaluations of the strategy.

Details: Assess the effectiveness of the strategy and make necessary adjustments based on findings.

Resources: Evaluation reports, stakeholder feedback and adjustment plans.

Step 4: Promote ongoing collaboration and information sharing

Action: Foster continual collaboration among stakeholders.

Details: Encourage regular information sharing and updates on evolving threats and challenges.

Resources: Collaboration platforms, regular meetings and communication channels.

Step 5: Ensure integration and continual improvement

Action: Regularly review and update the strategy.

Details: Adapt the strategy to address new threats and incorporate best practices.

Resources: Strategy review protocols, update logs and best practice guides.

Outcome: Through continuous monitoring, evaluation, and collaboration, Minnesota will ensure the ongoing effectiveness and improvement of its Targeted Violence Prevention Strategy, adapting to evolving threats and enhancing overall community safety.

Privacy rights and civil liberties

The Constitution protects the right to freely speak and associate with others. This targeted violence prevention strategy adheres to practices that protect civil rights, civil liberties and privacy by focusing on behaviors such as threats or acts of violence rather than beliefs or ideals. This approach mitigates the potential to target people based on their decision to exercise constitutionally protected rights.