

2024 PLECET NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Professionalizing Law Enforcement-Community Engagement Training

MAY 1-5, 2024 | ATLANTA, GA



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“This [PLECET Conference] is an outstanding opportunity... Community engagement is the work that bonds a community together to become vibrant and successful.”

Hugh T. Clements, *Director,*
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services,
U.S. Department of Justice

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“For too long we have not put the focus on [community engagement] training... The relationship between community and police determines the destiny not only of that agency, but of the community as well.”

Karhlton F. Moore, *Director,*
Bureau of Justice Assistance,
U.S. Department of Justice

About MovementForward, Inc.

MovementForward, Inc. (MFI) is a modern, inclusive social change organization working to protect, promote, and advance the human and civil rights of all people.

MFI’s mission is to continue the work of building the “Beloved Community” envisioned by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by providing innovative, inclusive, and solution-focused advocacy to support social justice, peace, and equality throughout the United States and around the world.

Based in Atlanta, Georgia, MFI is a charitable organization with a 501(c)(3) designation from the Internal Revenue Service and a platinum rating by Guidestar. The organization’s bridge building work has three core initiatives on criminal justice and policing: National Faith & Blue Weekend (Faith & Blue), the Law Enforcement-Community Engagement Network (LECEN), and the Professionalizing Law Enforcement-Community Engagement Training (PLECET) National Conference.



The Professionalizing Law Enforcement-Community Engagement Training (PLECET) National Conference

The Professionalizing Law Enforcement-Community Engagement Training (PLECET) National Conference is a specialized training, networking, and professional development summit for sworn and non-sworn personnel assigned to community engagement roles within law enforcement agencies across the nation. This conference is the only one of its kind; there is no other national or even regional or local convention offering this essential training, despite over 20,000 law enforcement professionals having dedicated community engagement responsibilities.

Effective law enforcement requires strategic community engagement in order to build trust and mutual respect. The PLECET Conference provides law enforcement professionals with the tools to facilitate outstanding community engagement in their jurisdictions.

PLECET 2024 will occur over five days and include:

- Officers from all 50 states, assigned to community engagement roles, in every type of law enforcement agency in the U.S.
- Top law enforcement officers from the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, including the FBI, ATF, USMS, DEA, and USSS
- Senior government officials and law enforcement leaders from the host city of Atlanta and the host state of Georgia
- Seven conference-wide sessions for all attendees with prominent leaders in the field
- Eight custom training tracks providing best practices on law enforcement-community engagement
- A citywide service project where attendees will work alongside residents to improve the external environment, which has demonstrated impact on public safety
- An awards ceremony that recognizes leaders building a better world in the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
- High-impact networking opportunities
- A special networking party where officers and sponsors socialize and build rapport
- Ongoing communication for all attendees throughout the conference
- And more

STATISTICS

2023 (Actual)	2024 (Expected)
ATTENDEES	
822+	1,500+
STATES	
50	50
AGENCY PARTICIPATION	
500+	1,000+
TRAINERS	
25	40
SPEAKERS	
23	30+
HOURS OF TRAINING	
15	20
DIRECT SERVICE PROJECTS	
0	7

The Challenge

Research has shown, and community members and law enforcement professionals agree that enhanced and expanded training for public safety personnel is needed to reduce crime, build trust, and enable successful community collaboration.

As crime rates rise, communities and police also concur that strong community law enforcement partnerships are increasingly requisite for public safety. Improved academy and in-service instruction addressing de-escalation, mental health, human trafficking, and opioid overdoses, among others, are being implemented across the nation. Yet, there is a colossal lack of training and professional development opportunities for community engagement roles within the law enforcement profession.

While many agencies have good community engagement program concepts, most lack the expertise, organizational capacity, standardized practices, and resources required to implement their ideas.

Further, most agencies have not received any form of training on how to best engage with and involve community members, or how to promote their outreach programs, events, and ongoing activities. Others have successfully organized impactful events but lack the expertise to transform these activities into long-term and sustained strategic partnerships that reduce crime and increase mutual trust. These are just a few examples of the community engagement training gaps that will be addressed during the 2024 PLECET Conference.





The Solution

During the 2024 PLECET Conference, public safety community engagement practitioners will learn about best and promising community outreach practices and resources that will help them excel in their roles. Participants will also have an opportunity to formally and informally network with other law enforcement professionals working in similar roles across the nation, which will provide immediate and sustained professional development opportunities.

The conference will utilize a standard seminar, workshop, caucus, and plenary structure with planned opportunities for networking. After an opening plenary session with prominent national leaders, each participant will take eight separate courses. The training will include sessions with an instructionally designed curriculum constructed to equip community engagement officers with best-in-class competencies to maximize their potential impact in local communities. The conference will include a televised national town hall meeting focused on effectively utilizing community engagement to reduce crime. Local, state, federal, tribal, and campus law enforcement agencies throughout the United States will attend the conference.

Based upon tenants of Intergroup Contact Theory, the PLECET Conference further “professionalizes” the critical and highly specialized community engagement sector of the law enforcement profession. Designed for law enforcement personnel with community engagement and outreach responsibilities, the conference attendees will also include agency heads, researchers, municipal staff and officials, nonprofit representatives, communications professionals, and technologists.

“For years, I had been looking for a conference that focused on community engagement, but unfortunately, I had not found anything that matched my interests and professional goals. However, when I came across the Professionalizing Law Enforcement-Community Engagement Training that you are organizing, I was thrilled to finally find a training program that addressed community engagement, exactly what I was looking for.”

Nadia Lovinsky
Director of Community Outreach,
Suffolk County
Sheriff’s Department,
Massachusetts

Schedule

DAY 1: WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2024 (pre-conference)

2:00pm	Registration Opens
7:00–9:00pm	Welcome Reception

DAY 2: THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024

8:00–8:50am	Opening Ceremony and General Plenary
9:00–10:20am	Training Sessions
10:30–11:50am	Training Sessions
12:00–1:20pm	Panel Discussion and Luncheon
1:30–2:50pm	Training Sessions
3:00–4:20pm	Training Sessions
4:30–5:30pm	Breakout Workshops with Community Engagement Organizations
6:00–7:00pm	Reception
7:00–9:00pm	National Town Hall Meeting

DAY 3: FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2024

8:00–8:50am	General Plenary
9:00–10:20am	Training Sessions
10:30–11:50am	Training Sessions
12:00–1:20pm	Panel Discussion and Luncheon
1:30–2:50pm	Training Sessions
3:00–4:20pm	Training Sessions
4:30–5:30pm	Breakout Workshops with National Law Enforcement Organizations
7:00–10:00pm	Professional Networking Symposium

DAY 4: SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2024

9:00–11:00am	The Torch Awards Brunch
1:00–5:00pm	Community Service Projects throughout the City of Atlanta (Buses depart at 12:00pm)

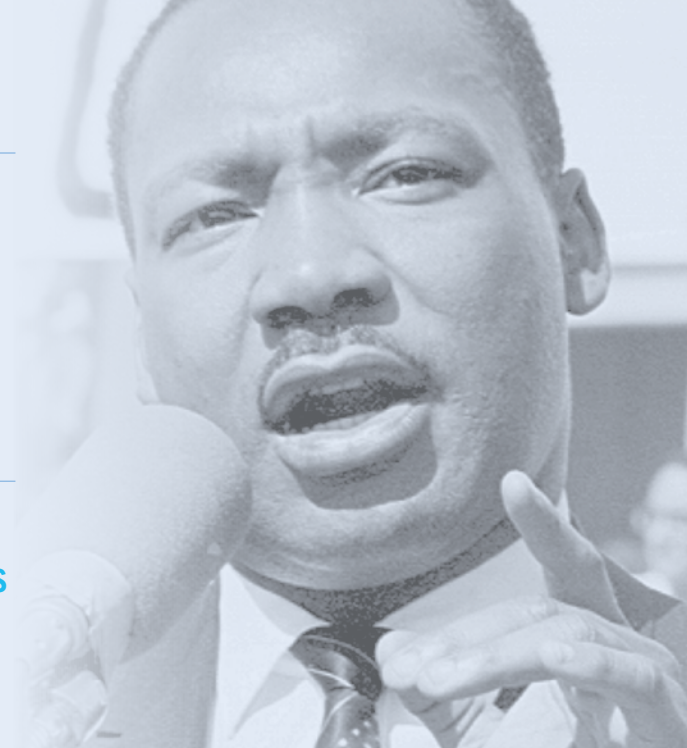
DAY 5: SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2024

9:00–10:20am	Regional and State Caucuses
10:30–11:30am	Completion (Closing) Ceremony and Conferral of Training Certificates
11:30am	2024 PLECET Conference Officially Ends



2024 THE TORCH AWARDS

Honoring leaders carrying forward
the work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s
'Beloved Community'



Co-Hosts:

MS. XERNONA CLAYTON and THE HON. ANDREW YOUNG

Revered Civil Rights Icons and Former Aides to Dr. King



Event Date: Saturday, May 4, 2024 – 9:00am to 11:00am

Event Location: Atlanta Marriott Marquis, 265 Peachtree Center Avenue, NE, Atlanta, GA 30303

The Torch Awards, presented by MovementForward, Inc. (MFI), recognize influential public figures who carry forward the torch of servant leadership and the spirit of service and nonviolent social change that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his cohorts embodied. While icons of the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s are rightly celebrated for their historic work to create a better world, each generation must produce its own leaders who forge justice. For that reason, the Torch Awards recognize the contributions of national leaders born after April 4, 1968, the tragic day Dr. King was assassinated on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee.

The Torch Awards honor prominent individuals who contribute to a better world in one of the following categories: *Advocacy, Arts, Business, Civil Rights, Education, Entertainment, Government, Health, Law, Media, Philanthropy, Public Safety, Religion, Science, Sports, and Technology*. By honoring recipients from all walks of life who light the way to improving humanity, the Torch Awards celebrate torchbearers building the “Beloved Community” that Dr. King envisioned in communities of every kind.

The 2024 Torch Awards will be presented in Atlanta, cradle of the American Civil Rights Movement, during a brunch gala from 9:00am to 11:00am on Saturday, May 4, 2024, at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis, located at 265 Peachtree Center Avenue, NE, Atlanta, Georgia. The event will occur during MFI’s 2024 Professionalizing Law Enforcement–Community Engagement Training (PLECET) national conference and will be attended by a diverse audience from throughout the United States, including corporate, political, business, government, faith, and civic leaders, along with college and high school students as well as the general public.

MovementForward, Inc., is a modern, inclusive social change nonprofit working to protect, promote, and advance the civil and human rights of all people in the great tradition of Dr. King and his contemporaries. We are building a multiracial, multifaceted, and intergenerational movement for social justice, economic parity, educational equity, racial reconciliation, and global peace by bringing diverse people together to solve problems in innovative, inclusive, and solution-driven ways. MFI’s current flagship initiative is National Faith & Blue Weekend, the nation’s largest collaborative community law enforcement engagement program.

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Host National Partners



Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice



Community Oriented Policing Services
U.S. Department of Justice

Host City and State Law Enforcement Partners



Watch 2024 Promotional Video



Scan the QR code or visit:
<https://youtu.be/xBTBd-sjw6U>



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"A Modern Collaborative for Human and Civil Rights"