

FOR LAW  
ENFORCEMENT

# OneCOP

A MovementForward, Inc. Initiative



## What is OneCOP?

The One Congregation One Precinct (OneCOP) initiative is MovementForward, Inc.'s signature program that facilitates positive, ongoing partnerships between local law enforcement agencies and diverse congregations of every faith tradition.

## The road so far...

The OneCOP initiative was conceptualized on July 7, 2016 after a rash of high-profile violent crimes in metro Atlanta created a need for community cooperation with law enforcement. Clergy leaders saw an urgent need to coalesce and act in unison with police to address crime, promote and foster a protracting culture of concern, cooperation, and reciprocal respect. Today, OneCOP is established in Portland, Ore.; Indianapolis, Ind. and Athens and Clarkston, Ga.

## INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your commitment to volunteer your time and efforts through the OneCOP initiative for your community. The OneCOP initiative is an innovative program that is geared towards improving community safety by creating strategic partnerships between beat and patrol officers and faith congregations. OneCOP partnerships allow for program-participating officers to personally know the people in their assigned communities by building relationships with congregations in the respective, local area. Communities become safer when there are regular engagements between law enforcement officers and the citizens they serve and protect. Community and law enforcement collaborating on public safety helps build relationships and reduce mutual biases.

*On behalf of Rev. Markel Hutchins,  
the national lead organizer of the OneCOP Initiative,  
welcome to the OneCOP community.*



# STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

## Step 1

### **Meet with your partner faith and congregational leaders**

Once you receive the connection email from the OneCOP administrative team, schedule introductory meetings with your partnered faith leader and congregational coordinator.

## Step 2

### **Ride-Along**

Take your faith leader and/or congregational leader on a ride-along. These ride-alongs are vital because it allows the faith leader and the congregational coordinator (community leaders) to personally observe and experience the unique community challenges you face everyday from a law enforcement perspective. There have been numerous collaborative solutions to community specific challenges that have come from ride-along experiences.

## Step 3

### **Be introduced to the congregation**

Plan to attend a service at your partner house of worship and be introduced to the congregation. This will allow you to personally meet the members of your partner congregation in a mutually safe space.

## Step 4

### **Plan an event**

Collaborate with your partner faith leader and congregational coordinator in addressing the community challenges experienced during the ride-along. Formulate and participate in various outreach efforts with the house of worship (e.g. youth vs. cops basketball tournament, community canvass, prayer walks, ect.).

## Step 5

### **Attend OneCOP events in the city**

Periodically, we will be inviting all of our OneCOP partnerships to city-wide and national events. Please connect with your house of worship and participate in these trust and community building events.

## Step 6

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### **Take a moment to visit during service gatherings**

Stop by the partner house of worship during their regular service meetings and engage with the congregation. Establishing regular presence is vital in gaining congregational and community trust.

We understand that police officers change shifts, move to different precincts, and get promoted. If you can no longer serve as a OneCOP officer for the house of worship you are partnered with, please recommend and introduce a replacement officer.

For more information, email [info@onecop.net](mailto:info@onecop.net) or call 404-605-7000