



U.S. Department of Justice Community Relations Service

Empowering Campus Communities

To Collaboratively Identify and Address Conflicts

The United States Department of Justice Community Relations Service (CRS) helps campus communities address conflicts through its Campus Site Identification and Resolution of Issues Together (Campus-SPIRIT) program. The program helps campus communities address tension and conflict related to issues of race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, or disability.

Campus-SPIRIT is a full day (or two half-day) program that brings together diverse student leaders, campus administrators, faculty members, staff, campus law enforcement, and external community leaders to identify and address critical issues impacting campus communities. The program is facilitated by CRS and campus community leaders and helps develop and implement concrete solutions to address campus problems.

CRS programs and services include ▼



Issue Identification. Participants work in small groups to identify issues impacting their campus community, including what works well and what should be changed.

Issue Prioritization. Of the issues identified in the small groups, participants prioritize those concerns that are most important to address in their campus community.

Solutions Development. Participants develop solutions to the prioritized issues identified. They discuss the possible impact and consequence of each potential solution.

SPIRIT Council. The SPIRIT Council, a standing group of campus community leaders selected to implement the solutions, is created during the Campus-SPIRIT program.

SPIRIT Report and Convening. CRS consolidates the feedback and information collected during the program to generate a report. CRS then convenes the SPIRIT Council to review the report and develop and implement concrete action steps to address the issues contributing to the conflicts discussed during the program.

▼ Why should campus communities consider Campus-SPIRIT?

Increase understanding and communication between campus leaders to resolve conflicts in their community

Improves collaboration among students, staff, administration, and campus law enforcement

Provides structured dialogue for participants to identify issues and develop solutions to improve campus-community relations

About CRS ▼

Established by Title X of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and expanded by the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr., Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009, CRS serves as “America’s Peacemaker” for communities facing tension or conflict based on differences of race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, and disability. CRS services aim to enhance the ability of local communities to independently and collaboratively prevent and resolve future conflicts through the use of problem solving, increased knowledge, and improved communication.

CRS Services and Programs ▼

CRS provides an array of programs to communities experiencing tension that cultivate understanding, improve collaboration, and prevent future conflicts. CRS staff are professional mediators, facilitators, trainers, and consultants experienced in bringing community members together to help enhance their ability to resolve existing conflict and prevent future conflicts.

Where We Work ▼

CRS Headquarters

Washington, DC

CRS Regional Offices

New England

Boston, MA

Northeast

New York, NY

Mid-Atlantic

Philadelphia, PA

Southeast

Atlanta, GA

Midwest

Chicago, IL

Southwest

Dallas, TX

Central

Kansas City, MO

Rocky Mountain

Denver, CO

Western

Los Angeles, CA

Northwest

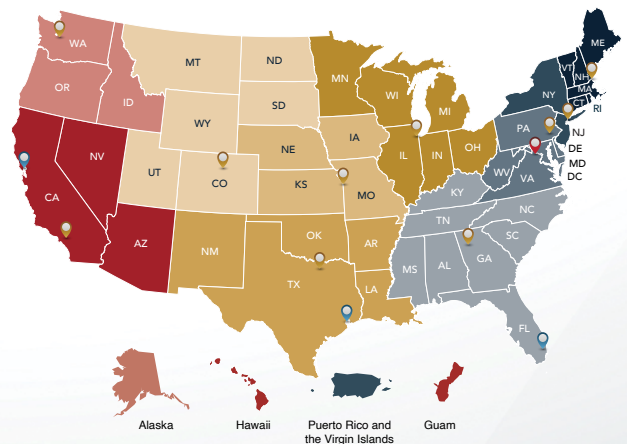
Seattle, WA

CRS Field Offices

Miami, FL

San Francisco, CA

Houston, TX



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For more information on this program or other CRS services, please contact your local CRS office:

<https://www.justice.gov/crs/about-crs/regional-and-field-offices>