Action Toolkit

Nonprofit Security Grants Program (NSGP) Action Toolkit August 2025



Background

On August 22, <u>Community Safety Campaign</u> released a public sign-on letter supported by **60+ organizations from many different regions and faith** backgrounds, representing tens of thousands of people, and 115+ communal leaders, called <u>"Safety and Dignity for All: Our Communities Reject the Revised Conditions of the Nonprofit Security Grant Program."</u>

The letter addresses the repressive new conditions imposed by the Trump administration on the Nonprofit Security Grants Program (NSGP), which provides hundreds of millions of dollars in grants to nonprofit organizations at risk of attacks to improve building security and infrastructure. Signatories pledged to "halt and withdraw any applications for funding until the DHS removes the alarming restrictions for grantees that require compliance with ICE, forbid diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) programming, and prohibit legally-protected boycotts in support of Palestinian rights."

Please note that we've received conflicting information about recent updates and changes to these guidelines, so we're doing our best to update this resource with the latest information.

Calls to Action

- Organize Your People: Sign onto the letter and encourage your peers, your organization and communal leaders to do so as well. Use the social media graphics, templates and organizing plans to educate and engage your people about this issue, regardless of whether they end up signing onto the letter. Contact the leaders and administrators of your local faith community or organization and encourage them to halt or withdraw applications to the NSGP.
- 2. <u>Contact Elected Officials</u>: Since the NSGP is administered by DHS and FEMA, reach out to your elected officials, who have critical roles to play in influencing these conditions.

3. <u>Engage Influential Institutions</u>: The NSGP is supported by a broad set of institutions that encourage communities to access funding and exert influence over the program.

Organize Your People

Sign onto the letter and encourage your peers, your organization and communal leaders to do so as well. Different people will use different parts of this toolkit. Think through which relationships have the most impact and are most relevant to you. Use the social media graphics, templates and organizing plans to educate and engage your people about this issue, regardless of whether they end up signing onto the letter. Contact the leaders and administrators of your local faith community or organization and encourage them to halt or withdraw applications to the NSGP.

Key Links:

- Full Letter
- Link to Sign On
- <u>Community Safety Campaign Resources</u>

Media:

- A Federal Security Grant Program Popular with Jewish Organizations May Now Require Beneficiaries to Cooperate with ICE (Article, Jewish Currents, August 2025)
- Will federal security grants require synagogues to cooperate with ICE?
 Concerns are running high (Article, JTA, August 2025)
- <u>CT Jewish leaders denounce new rules for federal security grants</u> (Article, CT Mirror, August 2025)
- <u>CAIR Advisory to All Nonprofits: Do Not Apply for DHS or FEMA Grants Until It</u>
 <u>Drops New Requirements</u> (August 2025)
- <u>Making "Safety Through Solidarity" More Than a Slogan</u> (Podcast, Jewish Currents, July 2025)
- Why these Jews are opposed to more federal synagogue security funds (Article, The Forward, April 2024)
- Fears of Government Surveillance Complicate Muslim Groups' Access to Federal Security Funding (Article, Jewish Currents, March 2021)
- How Anti-Terror Program Became Jewish Earmark (Article, The Forward, September 2011)

Social Media Graphics:

- Download **Here**
- Repost Community Safety Campaign's Post <u>Here</u>
- Sample Captions for anyone spreading the word.
 - We all deserve safety and dignity. Ask your local faith organization or leader to reject repressive new conditions of the Department of Homeland Security's Nonprofit Security Grants Program. The new conditions require cooperation with ICE, forbid DEI programming, and criminalize constitutionally-protected boycotts in support of Palestinian rights. Learn more and take action with us at communitysafetycampaign.org/nsgp-letter/.
 - We won't be forced to choose between our safety needs and betraying our values. Ask your local faith organization or leader to reject the Nonprofit Security Grant Program's new guidelines at <u>communitysafetycampaign.org/nsgp-letter/</u>.
- Sample Captions for leaders and communities who have signed on.
 - We all deserve safety and dignity. We reject the revised conditions of the Department of Homeland Security's Nonprofit Security Grants Program which require cooperation with ICE, forbid DEI programming, and criminalize constitutionally-protected boycotts in support of Palestinian rights. Learn more and take action with us at communitysafetycampaign.org/nsqp-letter/.
 - The Nonprofit Security Grants Program provides hundreds of millions of dollars in grants to nonprofit organizations at risk of attacks to improve building security and infrastructure. We are committed to upholding our communal values and will not comply with the repressive new conditions for this program. Learn more and take action with us at communitysafetycampaign.org/nsgp-letter/.
 - Safety and Dignity for All, Not for Some: Join us in rejecting the Department of Homeland Security's repressive new conditions for the Nonprofit Security Grants Program. Learn more and take action with us at <u>communitysafetycampaign.org/nsgp-letter/</u>.
 - We won't be forced to choose between our safety needs and betraying our values. Join us in rejecting the Nonprofit Security Grant Program's new guidelines at communitysafetycampaign.org/nsgp-letter/.

Template Emails:

Subject: Concerning New Conditions for Nonprofit Security Grants

I'm writing with concerns about the recent changes to the Nonprofit Security Grant Program, especially as a community that's deeply committed to [examples: supporting immigrants, racial justice, civil rights, LGBTQ+ inclusion, Palestinian rights, etc].

In the past few months, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has updated its FY 2025 Grant Terms and Conditions document twice, adding new guidelines that require any grant recipient to certify that they will 1) cooperate with ICE, and not engage in 2) DEI programs or 3) constituentially-protected boycotts. (See Sections C9 and C17 of the current document, dated April 18 but uploaded in August). Learn more in this multifaith sign-on letter that includes 55+ organizations and 85+ communal leaders.

I believe our community has previously received these grants with guidance from [example of institutions such as Secure Community Network, the local Federation, CAIR or Pelco] to support our security needs.

OR

I don't know if we have received these grants in the past. Do you know whether we have? Regardless, I think it's important to speak out.

OR

I don't think we've received these grants previously, but I think it's important to speak out in this critical moment by supporting this effort.

I'm deeply concerned about our community possibly agreeing to these guidelines, especially [choose one to focus on one issue and why it matters to you]. So, I'd suggest that we collectively:

- Ensure that our community does not apply for these funds until these conditions are fully removed
- Sign onto this multifaith letter as a community
- Reach out to other communities locally who may have received funds previously or are considering applying now
- Contact the institution [examples: Secure Community Network, Federation, CAIR, etc.] that supported us in applying for the funds to encourage them to advocate for these guidelines to be removed
- Contact our elected officials [with the template below]

These guidelines are detrimental to our work of [speak to the specific justice work of your community.]

Thank you for your consideration, xx

Organizing Plans:

We encourage you to educate your community about this issue and work towards taking action together. You know your community best, so we hope you're able to find an entry point that's accessible for your context. This might look like; hosting an open community meeting to share more about this campaign; sharing political education resources about this campaign (see the <u>media section</u> above); convening a meeting of local communities, etc.

Questions for exploration and discussion:

- Who leads your safety and security planning in your community? Who has influence over these processes? If these decisions and processes are primarily led by one person, how could you shift to a more collective effort?
- What are the key values that shape these efforts? How are those values related to your commitments to social justice?
 - Resource: <u>Safety Planning Roadmap Community Safety Campaign</u>
- What are the social justice issues your community cares most about and how are those impacted by these new conditions? What's your community's interest and stake in ensuring that our collective safety does not require us to betray our values?
- How does your community resource your safety efforts? Have you received funding from the NSGP or other programs?

Contact Elected Officials

Key Links:

• Elected Officials Information

Subject: Concerning New Guidelines for Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP)

My name is xx and [I represent xx community OR I belong to xx community] as your constituent. I'm writing with **concerns about the recent changes to the Nonprofit Security Grant Program**, especially as a community that's deeply committed to [examples: supporting immigrants, racial justice, civil rights, LGBTQ+ inclusion, Palestinian rights, etc]. My community signed onto this multi-faith letter with 55+ other communities and 85+ communal leaders.

In the past few months, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has updated its FY 2025 Grant Terms and Conditions document twice, adding new guidelines that require any grant recipient to certify that they will 1) cooperate with ICE, and not engage in 2) DEI programs or 3) constituentially-protected boycotts. (See Sections C9 and C17 of the <u>current document</u>, dated April 18 but uploaded in August).

I believe our community has previously received these grants with guidance from [example of institutions such as Secure Community Network, the local Federation, CAIR or Pelco] to support our security needs.

OR

I don't think my community has received these grants previously, but I think it's important to speak out in this critical moment by supporting this effort.

I'm deeply concerned about these guidelines, especially [choose one to focus on one issue and why it matters to you]. I call on your office to raise this issue in Congress and with DHS/FEMA to ensure that these guidelines are fully removed and that meeting our community safety needs does not require us to betray our values. I also ask that you advocate for this program to be transferred out of the Department of Homeland Security which has a 20+ year history of criminalizing communities of color, especially immigrants, Muslim and Arab people, and is not a trusted source for our communities.

Thank you for your consideration, xx

Engage Influential Institutions

Key Links:

- <u>Secure Community Network</u> provide Jewish communities with support with applying for NSGP grants
- <u>Jewish Federations</u> local federations also provide grants support
- Pelco company that supports churches to apply for grants
- <u>CAIR</u> have provided support to mosques to apply for grants in past years (Please note: we're actively in touch with CAIR and they've already signed onto this letter)

Subject: Concerning New Guidelines for Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP)

My name is xx and I represent the xx community.

We've received support from your organization to apply for Nonprofit Security Grants grants.

I'm writing with **concerns about the recent changes to the NSGP**, especially as a community that's deeply committed to [examples: supporting immigrants, racial justice, civil rights, LGBTQ+ inclusion, Palestinian rights, etc].

In the past few months, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has updated its FY 2025 Grant Terms and Conditions document twice, adding new guidelines that require any grant recipient to certify that they will 1) cooperate with ICE, and not engage in 2) DEI programs or 3) constituentially-protected boycotts. (See Sections C9 and C17 of the current document, dated April 18 but uploaded in August). I signed onto this multifaith sign-on letter that includes 55+ organizations and 85+ communal leaders to reject these conditions.

I'm deeply concerned about these guidelines, especially [choose one to focus on one issue and why it matters to you]. I call on your organization to leverage your position with Congress and DHS/FEMA to ensure that these guidelines are fully removed and that meeting our community safety needs does not require us to betray our values. Long term, this program must be transferred out of the Department of Homeland Security, which has a 20+ year history of unjustly targeting communities of color, especially immigrants, Muslim and Arab people, and is not a trusted source for our communities.

Thank you for your consideration, xx