



IACP Community Policing Award

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2011 Winners and Finalists



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the human network. 

Each year since 1998 the International Association of Chiefs of Police Community Policing Committee has recognized the best community policing practices of agencies around the world. Entries are categorized by population, featuring innovative ideas utilizing the power of community policing, through collaboration and partnerships, to make local, national and global communities safer from crime and terrorism. This recognition comes in the form of the Community Policing Award from IACP and Cisco.

According to Mankato, MN Director of Public Safety Todd A. Miller, Chairperson of the IACP Community Policing Committee, “The philosophy of community policing is more relevant and necessary today than ever before. With resources limited by current economic conditions, the force multiplication agencies receive by implementing the community policing philosophy and partnering with citizens is the most effective means of making our communities safer, whether it be from crime or from terrorism.

We know that you can’t have Homeland Security without the hometown security that comes from police and the community working together. That is why we undertake this tremendous effort each year to recognize the best of the best.”

Since the award’s inception, over 60 Agency Winners and 110 Agency Finalists, from all over the world, have been recognized for their commitment to community policing and innovation. In addition, since 2005, agencies that excel in utilizing community policing philosophies in the furtherance of homeland security have also received special mention for their initiatives.

“Community policing is vitally important to the international policing community and to the state, local and tribal communities we serve,” said Mark A. Marshall, Chief of the Smithfield, VA, Police Department and President of the IACP. “Adopting the Community Policing philosophy of partnerships and problem solving positions law enforcement agencies to successfully work together with their citizens to create a safer environment while combating crime and supporting homeland security. Community policing is central to the success of the police mission as we provide cost effective services to our diverse communities.”

2011 Winners and Finalists

The submissions of the 2011 winners and finalists are highlighted in this document as best practices in community policing and summarized to give the reader an idea of their initiatives, how the initiatives can be adapted to solve problems in other communities, and who to contact for more information.

Agencies recognized in this document are:

Winners

Population fewer than 20,000 residents

Purcellville Police Department, Purcellville, VA

Population of 20,001 to 50,000 residents

New Brighton Department of Public Safety, New Brighton, MN

Population of 50,001 to 100,000 residents

New Rochelle Police Department, New Rochelle, NY

Population of 100,001 to 250,000 residents

Dayton Police Department, Dayton, OH

Population of 250,001+ residents

Waterloo Regional Police Service, Ontario, Canada

Finalists

Population fewer than 20,000 residents

Lincoln Police Department, Lincoln, NH
Sandwich Police Department, Sandwich, NH

Population of 20,001 to 50,000 residents

Hurst Police Department, Hurst, TX
Madison City Police Department, Madison, AL

Population of 50,001 to 100,000 residents

Rowlett Police Department, Rowlett, TX

Population of 100,001 to 250,000 residents

No Finalists Selected

Population of over 250,001 residents

Albuquerque Police Department, Albuquerque, NM
Boston Police Department, Boston, MA

Homeland Security Special Mention

No Agency Selected

Award Winners

Population: Under 20,000

Purcellville Police Department, Virginia

125 Hirst Rd. 7A

Purcellville, VA 20132

Contact Person: Lt. James Rust,

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Phone: 540-338-7422

Agency Head: Chief Darryl Smith Sr.

Engagement of Our Community

Population Served: 7,800

The Purcellville Police Department (PPD) became one of the fastest growing communities in the country when its population tripled within a 10-year period. The PPD chose an innovative top-down strategy to redirect community policing to focus on the rapidly growing youth population. Working with the community to expound the theory “It takes a village to raise a child” became the battle cry. Moving proactively, the PPD created eight community-policing sectors, assigned an officer to each, and began to implement programs in partnership with community stakeholders. The officers were instructed to provide guidance and leadership and to present positive messages to citizens, especially the youth, in their respective sectors.

Even with these sectors, the entire PPD owned the responsibility of community policing and shared the goal of encouraging all segments of the community to participate and get involved in improving life in Purcellville. Initiatives included basketball games with the youth, public safety days, an end of school picnic, homework assistance, a scholarship pageant, and Christmas caroling for the elderly. One of the most unique programs is the Homework Assistance Program. Two nights a week, officers work with local students as tutors at local apartment complexes. Participation averages about 20 children nightly. Not only are the programs highly successful and popular in the community, but the agency also has 100% officer buy-in and participation. The community embraced and accepted each program wholeheartedly as the benefits and advantages for the

youth, local residents, and the town are clear. Domestic violence involving youth are down 30%, runaway reports are down 60%, graffiti reports are down 70% and skateboarding complaints are down 95% since the start of the initiative.

The biggest challenge the PPD faced, however, was trust, which had to be developed and nurtured over time. The PPD found that trust requires dialogue, honesty, action, and positive results. The PPD had to demonstrate to all parties and stakeholders that it would do what it said, that the plan would work, and that ultimately it would achieve the desired objectives. Through time, respect and good will for law enforcement returned to the community, especially as the term officer, not cop, is the norm now among the youth when they address police officers.

Respect is one of the greatest assets the PPD has cultivated from the success of its efforts. The work is hard, but the rewards are well worth the effort. A small town department can have a tremendous, positive impact in a rapidly growing community with changing demographics by first changing attitudes from within the department and then throughout the community itself.

Population: 20,001 to 50,000

New Brighton Department of Public Safety, Minnesota

785 Old Highway 8 NW

New Brighton, MN 55112

Contact Person: Deputy Director Tony Paetznick,

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Phone: 651-288-4102

Agency Head: Director Bob Jacobson

New Brighton Department of Public Safety Neighborhood Oriented Policing (NOP)

Population Served: 21,456

New Brighton is a suburban community in the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area with a population of 21,456 residents in 7.2-square-mile area. For the past 12 years, the New Brighton Department of Public Safety (DPS) has employed its Neighborhood Oriented Policing (NOP)

strategy to increase the effectiveness of its neighborhood watch blocks. Patrol officers are assigned to these clustered areas as individual police liaisons for the nearly 20 different geographic enclaves of the city.

Since NOP's inception, residents of the city's varied neighborhoods have embraced this police-community partnership, which has resulted in historically low crime rates and increased citizen participation in the department's public-safety educational programs and volunteer efforts. Also, NOP pairs local residents with patrol officers to use problem-solving strategies to address ongoing neighborhood issues, such as traffic complaints, quality-of-life matters, and code-enforcement measures.

The five original tenets of the NOP philosophy were to: 1) increase communication between police and neighborhoods, 2) develop problem solving with neighborhood residents, 3) decrease crime and social problems, 4) establish police and community co-ownership and accountability in neighborhoods, and 5) create safer, more secure neighborhoods. Patrol officers received permanent assignments to particular neighborhoods where they dedicate patrol time during their daily shifts and are accountable to community service requests. NOP now includes training for neighborhood watch participants, focusing on local police resources, how to organize their particular areas, and methods for communicating public-safety messages within their blocks. Officers use this network to disseminate crime alerts quickly and engage neighborhood representatives for assistance with localized police concerns.

The City of New Brighton also hosts a series of weekly meetings at the four neighborhood centers in late-winter. With more than 200 active neighborhood watch areas, these enable block captains and residents from larger geographic areas to discuss common crime prevention issues. These meetings include other municipal departments that share information about redevelopment projects, infrastructure improvements, finances, etc. Officers regularly communicate related neighborhood issues to other City departments, advising them on a variety of resident concerns ranging from street conditions to ordinance violations.

Currently, the New Brighton DPS is more than halfway through its largest NOP-related undertaking, with officers stopping at each single-family residence, approximately 6,000+ homes, during a four-month period to provide residents with a squad car magnet and a copy of the agency's recently published "Public Safety Updates" newsletter.

Population: 50,001 to 100,000

New Rochelle Police Department, New York

475 North Avenue

New Rochelle, NY 10801

Contact Person: Lt. Cosmo Costa,

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Phone: 914-654-2323

Agency Head: Chief Patrick J. Carroll

Fixing Broken Windows: A Collaborative Approach to Housing Remediation

Population Served: 77,062

Over the past several decades, the city of New Rochelle experienced an evolving demographic landscape. Three major colleges, numerous day laborers and undocumented aliens, and early-1900s housing contributed to dwellings susceptible to abuse. In the last several years, the New Rochelle Police Department (NRPD) received an increasing number of housing complaints, many of which were the result of building- and fire-code violations, overcrowding, and illegal housing. To coordinate resources and responses, a multi-agency task force comprised of the police, fire, buildings, public works departments and the county electrical inspectors, all overseen by the law department, was established in 2007.

The Quality of Life Task Force incorporates both proactive and reactive approaches in choosing locations to inspect. The task force meets monthly with citizen groups, newly formed neighborhood associations, and college administrators and students, as well as with local landlords who own multiple dwellings that are the source of numerous complaints.

The meetings discuss problem locations for potential inspection; these locations are usually in violation of state or local building codes or local police and fire codes. The task force coordinates corrective actions, and the meetings help to provide community education on codes and laws. With multiple agencies participating, the task force can ensure various violations are addressed in a comprehensive and immediate manner. The local court and the District Attorney's Office coordinate on aggressively prosecuting individuals summonsed by the task force, and the New Rochelle Corporation Counsel introduced and passed local legislation that authorizes an escalating fine schedule for repeat offenders.

New Rochelle also implemented several prevention initiatives to combat disorderly college parties and curb underage drinking by organizing and conducting community patrols and educating merchants on how to identify false identifications. Complaints generated from the targeted locations have been reduced nearly 16% between 2007 and 2011, with a dramatic decrease of 49.8% in one particular neighborhood. Part 1 crime total for the entire city decreased 25% from 2008 to 2010, and 2010 had the lowest total since 1961.

In addition to achieving its goal of improving quality of life for its citizens, the task force has reduced calls for service, uncovered and corrected life-threatening hazards, fostered lasting working partnerships with other city agencies, bolstered the NRPD's standing in the community, and saved hundreds of thousands of dollars for the state.

Population: 100,001 to 250,000

Dayton Police Department, Ohio

335 W. Third Street

Dayton, OH 45402

Contact Person: Lt. Chris Williams,

Email: Christopher.williams@cityofdayton.org,

Phone: 937-333-7440

Agency Head: Director and Chief of Police Richard Biehl

Urban High School Disorder Reduction Project

Population Served: 141,000

Between the 2005-2006 and 2010-2011 school years, 145 violent crimes were reported at Belmont High School. Hot spots included alleyways, bus stops, bathrooms, and even the hallways. Patrol officer efficiency in the affected district was reduced to 69% in part due to responding to calls for service in and around the high school. Complaints from residential neighbors and the Belmont Business Association supported initial data suggesting the problem was growing beyond the school grounds.

With the support of local businesses, the Dayton Police Department (DPD) created a partnership with Dayton Public Schools, the Montgomery County Juvenile Court, and the Juvenile Division of the Montgomery County Prosecutor's Office. The Urban High School Disorder Reduction Project utilized community-policing strategies, including crime prevention through environmental design, to deny opportunities for disorder and crime by engaging community partners in a unified alliance.

The project committee and stakeholders agreed on the following strategies: 1) continuously communicating with all community partners, 2) identifying students requiring special intervention through arrest records, 3) reassigning classrooms to group students by grade level, 4) emphasizing a no-tolerance policy for violations and crimes, 5) assigning school staff members to monitor the lunch period, the school grounds, and nearby hotspots, 6) assigning patrol officers to assist with monitoring hotspots and addressing violations, 7) establishing clear rules for student behavior, and 8) reinforcing rules by making arrests, issuing citations, and subjecting students off school grounds to discipline.

The project resulted in a massive reduction of crimes and calls for service, improvements toward meeting educational goals, and a safer environment for students and neighbors. During the 2009-2010 school year, overall crime totaled 21 crimes—a decrease of 76.6% in the same geographical area. Assaults decreased 92%, from 51 assaults before the intervention to only 4 afterward.

The 9th grade graduation rate increased 54% and the 10th grade increased 38% from 2008–2011. The number of 11th grade students who took the ACT for college admission increased from 8% in 2008–2009 to 80% in 2010–2011. Nearly all displaced students returned to Belmont High School, with no noticeable increase in crime or disorder. One student removed for bad behavior transformed from a poor performer to the valedictorian.

Continued monitoring of the project is essential, as well as continued communication with Belmont High School’s staff, students, and parents. DPD continues to improve those relationships by holding periodic in-school trainings like Prom DUI prevention. DPD also continues to monitor the school during monthly CAPERS (crime analysis police enforcement and response strategies) meetings with command staff and other city agencies.

Population: Over 250,000

Waterloo Regional Police Service, Ontario, Canada

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 Phone: 519-653-7700 x8862
 Agency Head: Chief Matthew A. Torigian

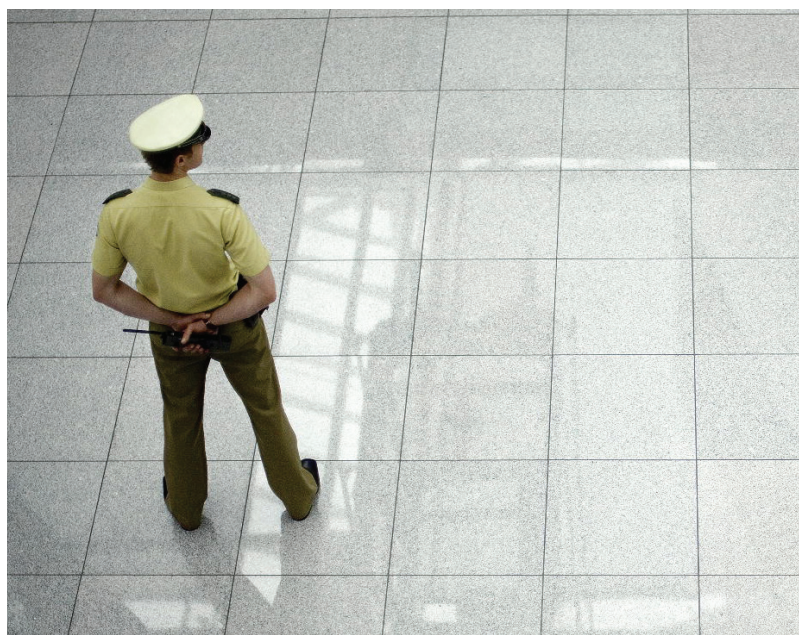
Alison Neighbourhood Initiative

Population Served: 500,000

In 2006, when the chief of the Waterloo Regional Police Service (WRPS) received a letter from a Muslim resident titled, “Unrest in the Community,” that described a crisis due to ethnic tensions in Cambridge, Ontario, Canada, a catalyst was launched. That catalyst inspired police and community members to overcome barriers and learn the power of collaboration and the value of small change. The police collaborated with Muslim community leaders, the Cambridge YMCA, Waterloo Regional Housing, and the City of Cambridge to create a long-term plan that aimed to develop relationships based on trust and inclusivity, to create training opportunities around cultural diversity, and to maintain a safe community.

The WRPS wanted the Muslim community to feel confident the police would respond to their concerns, would involve them in the investigative process, and would be sensitive to their cultural heritage. WRPS hoped to change the negative perception the community may have had about the police because of the way the police were perceived in their countries of origin. Because this initiative created an equal partner with the Muslim community, this initiative had support from the rest of the community.

In 2009, a collaborative event took place at the Islamic Center as a sign of the new partnership, the badging of new police recruits. At this event, two student winners presented their inspiring essays on “What Do Police Officers Bring to Our Community?” The news of this event brought such a stream of letters of support from the community that they were able to fund an outreach coordinator. WRPS realized that the police are not experts at everything, and there are many people with talents, skills, and connections that can be used when developing and implementing an action plan. However, the most important lesson WRPS learned was that they have a great deal more to learn from the community, and they will keep adapting their agency to the needs of the community.



Award Finalists

Population: Under 20,000

Lincoln Police Department, New Hampshire

PO Box 148

Lincoln, NH 03251

Contact Person: Chief Theodore Smith,

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Phone: 603-745-9000

Agency Head: Chief Theodore Smith

Tourism and Community Policing

Population Served: 1,200

Although Lincoln's census population is 1,200 residents, the city hosts a part-time community of seasonal residents both in summer and winter that can increase the service population to 30,000. The service population is also affected by second homeowners, condo rentals, and day visitors, and traffic increases during peak tourist times when the Kancamangus Highway is heavily visited.

This population base of residents, part-time residents, vacationers, and tourists made traditional community policing difficult because the population is constantly changing. The Lincoln Police Department (LPD) developed a community-tourism policing program that meets the challenges of this fluctuating population while still providing essential policing services for its core community. Partnerships were developed with the chamber of commerce, a neighboring ski resort, and other tourist attractions. This concept has produced numerous benefits, and the LPD received a regional community policing award for its efforts.

This initiative began with the development of a new mission statement. Officers were required to familiarize themselves with the mission statement, and a new set of standards enabled officers to understand better how the agency was operating under this new program. These standards included operating principles, how to treat citizens and others, and the climate within the department. The LPD involved the chamber of commerce

in identifying essential characteristics for prospective LPD officers and became one of few agencies in New Hampshire to be state accredited, CALEA recognized, and finally CALEA accredited. Officers work closely with the community on various year-round events and conduct surveys of businesses and residents to better understand their concerns and priorities. While there is no local newspaper, the LPD implemented the use of social media to help communicate with the public. To increase pride and recognition in the positive work of the agency, it also undertook a series of changes that included redesigning their vehicle markings and uniform patches, and it developed an awards program to recognize excellent work by officers.

The LPD has undergone transformation toward a highly professional, community-focused agency that values the important work of its officers. In recognizing that community policing is not merely a program, but rather an agency-wide effort to change the way it does business, the LPD has changed the culture of its agency and gained the support of its citizens and elected officials.

Sandwich Police Department, New Hampshire

PO Box 272

Center Sandwich, NH 03227

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Phone: 603-284-7139

Agency Head: Chief Douglas Wyman

Sandwich Police Department

Population Served: 1,400

The Sandwich Police Department (SPD) provides several services and programs that are done for the benefit of the community, referred to as "Sandwich staples." The agency operates in a small town, and they depend on the residents, merchants, and organizations to help accomplish the mission of maintaining order and serving the needs and earning the trust of the community. Conversely, the community relies on the police to provide the best service possible.

The police department is the face of the town government in such a small town, and the police handle calls from the community when a question arises. The officers follow four principles: 1) know your beat, 2) know the people on your beat, 3) know what the people do on your beat, and 4) know the times in which those people do those things.

Small-town policing is all about cooperation and partnerships, and that is exactly what the SPD stresses; the people need to be behind the police. Started after an unfortunate event, Project Good Morning helps elderly persons who do not have regular contact with someone on a daily basis. People who choose to participate call the department daily to check in with an officer or civilian. If the participant does not call in one day, an officer is dispatched to the residence and checks in with them.

Another innovative program is the Ice Cream Ticket Program. To encourage helmet use in children under 16 while riding a bicycle, the police give a biker an ice cream ticket if they are “caught” riding wearing a helmet. The kids enjoy this program so much that they now wave at the cruisers, yelling that they have their helmets on. These programs and others SPD provides accomplish the mission of serving the needs of the community. They all have minimal-to-no cost and help demonstrate the department’s investment in the community. In Sandwich, community policing is about the community, and the community is about caring.

Population: 20,001 to 50,000

Hurst Police Department, Texas

1501 Precinct Line Road
Hurst, TX 76054

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Phone: 817-788-7121

Agency Head: Chief Steve Moore

The Hurst Intervention Team

Population Served: 38,000

The Hurst Police Department (HPD) and other municipal employees encounter homes where adults and children are living in unsafe conditions, including excessive amount of companion animals, vermin, and/or insect infestations; spoiled and rotting food; accumulated human and animal waste; or non-working or inaccessible utilities such as heat, running water, sewer, or refrigeration. Issues inside these homes range from hoarding, to child/elder neglect, to drugs. Persons suffering from dementia and other chronic unmet mental health needs have also been found to live in unsanitary conditions. Code enforcement does not have an avenue to assist those individuals with problems beyond the typical code violations.

In light of such scenarios, the City of Hurst has developed and implemented an evolving group called the Hurst Intervention Team (HIT). This interdisciplinary group of professionals, including police, code enforcement, mental health professionals, and others, works as a team to ensure rapid, forward progress and long-lasting improvements to solve this type of neighborhood and community problem. HIT abates substandard housing and assesses the need for additional resources to assist people in maintaining a safe, code-compliant lifestyle.

A nuisance ordinance passed by the Hurst City Council allows code enforcement the ability to inspect the inside of homes upon receiving a complaint to check for unsanitary living conditions. If the home is considered unsanitary, the homeowners are provided with a list of things in need of repair, and each HIT team member plays a role. HPD ensures all laws are being followed and ensures the safety of those involved. Mental health professionals check for unmet mental health needs, offer crisis intervention, and direct the homeowner with community resources. Animal control officers assess the health of the animals and help with safely removing them from the home when needed. Adult and child protective services coordinate placement for any elderly or disabled persons or children in need. These agencies can also help to coordinate house clean up and complete an inspection before these persons are allowed to reside in the home again.

HIT has initiated intervention efforts at dozens of homes and effective partnerships with residents to abate issues that, if left unchecked, would have likely resulted in condemnation and costly demolition. In some cases, lives have been saved. Eager stakeholders are giving assistance to families to help them in viable behaviors related to an enhanced quality of life for all in the community.

Population: 20,001 to 50,000

Madison City Police Department, Alabama

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Madison, AL 35758
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Phone: 256-772-5670
Agency Head: Chief Larry R. Muncey

Protecting Our Communities: Continuing the Change

Population Served: 42,980

The Madison Police Department (MPD) serves a residential population of 42,980, but its daytime population more than triples because of several area employers including the Redstone Arsenal and Marshall Space Flight Center. The city projects to grow to 60,000 residents in the next two years. Although the MPD has historically enjoyed a close relationship with its citizens and businesses, rapid growth has resulted in it becoming more reactive in nature, which negatively impacted its relationship with the community, the attitudes within the department, and its overall effectiveness as a police agency.

To combat this, MPD leadership began to solicit input from stakeholders through citizen surveys, its website, and social media sites. The MPD discovered that citizens wanted to know their police officers better and understand the department's role in the community, its functions, and its capabilities. They also wanted to see officers more actively patrolling neighborhoods and to feel safer.

As a result, the MPD established the Protecting Our Communities initiative, which focuses on outreach, proactive patrols, and technology through community initiatives, such as a kids' camp, citizen police academy, and senior citizens' academy. Officers organize the kids' camp every summer to provide children with a better understanding of what police officers do. The citizen police academy gives citizens information about the MPD's mission, resources, and capabilities and allows citizens to get directly involved in and observe the operations of their police department. The Text-to-Protect Tip Line provides real-time information on criminal and suspicious activity, as well as tips about future activity. Students have used this program to report bullying, narcotics possession, firearms in schools, and suicidal students, which have led to numerous successful interventions. In addition, Mobile Data Terminals allow officers to stay in the field to complete reports, remain a visible deterrent, and be available for citizen contact.

This zero-cost, back-to-basics approach builds rapport with the public, establishes trust, and leads to valuable intelligence in solving crimes and disrupting criminal activity. Property crimes, such as auto burglary, decreased significantly since introducing the Protecting Our Communities initiative. Complaints against department personnel also decreased 25% between 2010 and 2011. These and other initiatives have allowed officers to develop a sense of ownership for the geographical patrol zones, and the citizens have become "their people."

Population: 50,001 to 100,000

Rowlett Police Department, Texas

4401 Rowlett Road

Rowlett, TX 75088

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Phone: 972-412-6208

Agency Head: Chief Matt Walling

Reduced property crime and mitigated impact to traffic safety and efficient traffic flow resulting from President George Bush Turnpike and Dallas Area Rapid Transit Light Rail Construction

Population Served: 56,230

The Rowlett Police Department (RPD) was challenged with handling a reduced operating budget and maintaining efficient traffic management during the construction of the President George Bush Turnpike (PGBT) and the Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) Light Rail System Blue Line while also managing all other public-safety issues.

The RPD created a vision, "Community First—Every Time," which enabled the department to recognize the community as the customer and the most important stakeholder. Property crime reduction initiatives included programs such as aggressive code-enforcement and crime prevention, as well as patrol initiatives. The RPD also focused on identifying and developing solutions utilizing problem-oriented policing techniques. These efforts reduced property crime by 9.3% in 2010.

Traffic management initiatives included mitigating the impact of PGBT and DART construction on traffic safety and efficient traffic flow. This consisted of analyzing traffic accidents, focusing on enforcement efforts as contributing factors, working alongside stakeholders to identify potential problems and hazards of construction and traffic lane switches, and enforcing significant violations related to the construction. This overall effort reduced traffic accidents by 11%.

The RPD learned that community-policing practices foster sustainable relationships that develop from people working together toward a common goal.

Problem-oriented policing creates a capacity within the department that allows limited resources to be redeployed to another problem or potential problem. Together, community policing and problem-oriented policing create a community atmosphere of cooperation and commitment in making the Rowlett a safer place to live.

Population: 100,001 to 250,000

No finalist.

Population: Over 250,000

Albuquerque Police Department, New Mexico

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Albuquerque, MN 87102

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Phone: 505-768-2419

Agency Head: Chief Raymond D. Schultz

Albuquerque Police Department Hospitality Partnership

Population Served: 545,852

Based on the success of the Albuquerque Police Department's (APD) partnership with big-box retail, the local hospitality sector asked APD to build a similar partnership for this industry. APD began working with the hotel-motel sector first, identifying industry representatives to ensure the partnership met the requirements of this community. The partnership uses crime prevention/awareness training to assist hotel-motel partners in understanding how to be more aware of crime and suspicious behavior on their properties. Additionally, they are taught how to engage law enforcement for crime and public-safety concerns.

To solidify communication between law enforcement and private sector partners, a website/e-mail alert database system called CONNECT (Community Oriented Notification Network Enforcement Community Technology) was created in late-2008. CONNECT (www.safecityabq.org) operates as a secure, web-enabled

“crime watch” that allows stakeholders to communicate about criminal activity impacting their businesses on a real-time basis. Law enforcement reviews incoming alerts and posts updates on active offenders, arrests, and criminal activity; the system also allows them to observe submissions and respond when appropriate. Community partners use the system to alert each other of specific criminal incidents impacting their business or geographic area to help prevent other partners from being victimized by the same offender. CONNECT’s e-mail feature allows partners busy with other duties to be notified immediately when a new incident alert has been posted.

This hospitality partnership has had a significant impact on how APD works to address crime with community partners. Public-private partnerships help to provide the community-policing innovation necessary for citizens to be engaged and involved in community public safety.

Furthermore, surrounding jurisdictions have expressed interest in the investigative leads APD gets from the real-time information sharing provided by its partners. Other law enforcement agencies began to request access to CONNECT, so that they could also get the real-time alerts. As such, APD began mentoring jurisdictions on building the foundation necessary to establish public-private partnerships for their areas. With training and access to CONNECT, these jurisdictions now have the foundation to push forward on building crime-fighting partnerships in their communities.

Boston Police Department, Massachusetts

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Boston, MA 02119

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Phone: 617-343-5096

Agency Head: Commissioner Ed Davis

Boston Police Department Safe Street Teams

Population Served: 645,169

When Edward F. Davis was appointed commissioner of the Boston Police Department (BPD) in 2006, Boston was experiencing decade-high increases in violence. Between 2000 and 2006, youth homicides increased 160% and the yearly number of shootings increased 133%. Davis recognized the need to reinvigorate community-focused

interventions and respond more effectively to the new challenges facing the community. To address the violence and reduce the level of fear in the city, he made a commitment to return the department to a community-policing focus and to bolster collaborative violence prevention. Borne from these objectives was the Safe Street Teams (SSTs).

SSTs consist of one sergeant and six police officers deployed in Boston’s most violent, hot-spot areas. Once these areas were identified through crime mapping and spatial analysis, the BPD reached out to relevant communities for their support. The police commissioner and BPD command staff held a series of meetings with community leaders, so they could provide input on program design and implementation. Soon after, SSTs were piloted in three of these hot-spot areas, engaging the communities in SST education, planning, and design. The SSTs have since expanded to cover 13 distinct neighborhoods in seven of the BPD’s 11 districts.

SSTs were given four objectives on which to focus: 1) increased visibility, 2) problem solving, 3) partnership development, and 4) enforcement. On foot or riding bicycles, SSTs are mobile yet more accessible to the public than officers in patrol cars. Aside from the police presence they provide, SSTs engage in problem solving and order maintenance, attend community events and meetings, and over time have become trusted allies of residents and small business owners. In addition to their traditional enforcement roles, they also play the roles of mentor, coach, customer service representative, and conflict mediator. Above all else, they are problem solvers.

Dr. Anthony A. Braga of Rutgers University and Harvard University recently performed a formal evaluation of the SSTs, which concluded that, from 2006 to 2009, SSTs took 396 problem-oriented actions in their neighborhoods, including situational interventions, enforcement interventions, and community outreach / social service provision actions. As a result, SST areas saw a 15% decrease in violent crime and a notable 19% decrease in robberies in comparison to hot spots of similar size, population demographics, and crime patterns. SSTs have also been very well received by the community.

Special Mention

Homeland Security

No finalist.

Cisco and the IACP

“Cisco is honored to support public safety organizations around the world and recognize the contributions of community policing agencies represented by the IACP Community Policing Awards.” said Bob Stanberry, former Chief of Police and current Public Safety Channel Solutions for Cisco, for the Community Policing Awards. “We’re proud to support this outstanding awards program and collaborate with agencies in local communities.”

Agencies and officers who wish to learn more about innovative ways to reduce crime, build trust in their communities, and improve community quality of life, are encouraged to visit the IACP Community Policing Web site: www.iacpcommunitypolicing.org which is sponsored by Cisco. On the site, you can list your agency as a community policing agency and link back to your own

Web site. You can upload your own videos, information about your agencies, and post notices of meetings and activities your agencies and citizens are participating in. There are forums and resources for community policing practitioners, both sworn and civilian, which are an opportunity for you to learn more about community policing, look for new ideas, and to secure help from your peers around the world.

Agencies wishing to submit their initiatives for the 2012 Community Policing Award by IACP and Cisco for a chance to be recognized can do so by going to www.iacpcommunitypolicing.org, registering, entering your agency information and viewing the Community Policing Award process videos, which will give you information on what judges are looking for in the submissions. You can also use this web site to read submissions from previous winners of the Community Policing Award.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police is the world’s oldest and largest nonprofit membership organization of police executives, with more than 20,000 members in more than 140 different countries. IACP’s leadership consists of the operating chief executives of international, federal, state and local agencies of all sizes. For more information, go to www.theiacp.org



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