



Terry Zeigler  
Chief of Police

# Kansas City Kansas Police Department

## Juvenile Engagement Programs



Captain Hill  
Community Policing

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### **C.H.A.M.P.I.O.N. (Children Having Activities and Meeting Police In Our Neighborhoods)**

Program- An assortment of sports balls was placed into for Community Policing, District Cars, and other selected vehicles for an initiative designed to engage kids in the community. The balls are a way for an officer to begin building positive relationships with kids in the neighborhoods by starting a "Pick-Up" game or simply playing catch. This gives an officer(s) the option of positively interacting with kids, other than thru a call-for-service type scenario.

Point of Contact: Officer Nick Kohrs (913)573-8707 [nkohrs@kckpd.org](mailto:nkohrs@kckpd.org)

### **B.O.S.S. (Being of Sound Standards)**

Program- It is recognized that some of the children who are at risk for engaging in negative behaviors do so as a result of negative influences or perceptions in that child's early life. Desiring to make a change, Officer Lee contacted the school administrators for one of the grade schools within his area, and arranged to form a mentoring program with a group of 5th grade students who were regularly receiving negative attention at school. Officer Lee met with these children in the school gymnasium every Monday morning and discussed life skills and hurdles, and offered guidance and positive encouragement. He was able to make these concepts resound with the children by drawing parallels between life events and decisions and relating these topics to sports. The results of this program have led to it being expanded. Next year, B.O.S.S. will be in place at J.F.K. and also at Emerson Elementary.

Point of Contact: Officer Joe Reyes (913) 573-8719 [jreyes@kckpd.org](mailto:jreyes@kckpd.org)  
Officer Kevin Terry (913) 573-8728 [kcterry@kckpd.org](mailto:kcterry@kckpd.org)

### **P.O.P. (Police Over Pizza)**

As a means of reaching out to kids who are having difficulty adjusting or who may otherwise not be fully prepared to enter middle school, COPPS Officers began going to Turner Early Learning Center and having lunch with a group of children who are selected by the school administration and discussing current events, as well as life

lessons. This program usually occurs on Fridays, which is typically pizza day. District Officers have also been included, and the Chief of Police attended one session.

Point of Contact: Officer Nick Kohrs (913) 573- 8707 [nkohrs@kckpd.org](mailto:nkohrs@kckpd.org)

### **Today a Reader, Tomorrow a Leader Program**

This initiative was designed to engage with children and inspire them to learn. Once a month, COPPS and MPS officers respond to Parker Elementary School and read from selected books to the Kindergarten, First and Second grade students. The selected reading always supported whatever character trait the school was teaching for that month. These sessions usually lasted about ½ hour, and always ended with a question and answer session.

Point of Contact: Officer Jason Wilt (913) 573-8702 [jwilt@kckpd.org](mailto:jwilt@kckpd.org)

### **Delaware Ridge Elementary Outreach**

COPPS has established a firm relationship with Delaware Ridge Elementary and will participate frequently with special events, classroom door judging contests, and lunch period interaction with the students.

Point of Contact: Officer Dennis Vallejo (913) 573-8726 [dvallejo@kckpd.org](mailto:dvallejo@kckpd.org)

### **New Chelsea Elementary Outreach**

COPPS has established a firm relationship with New Chelsea Elementary and participates frequently with lunch and recess time interaction, parking assistance and school assembly and field day participation.

Point of Contact: Officer William Carver (913) 573-8506 [wcarver@kckpd.org](mailto:wcarver@kckpd.org)

### **Mentoring Program and Warrant Amnesty outreach at DCFS**

This initiative was designed to work as a collaboration between the PD, Municipal Court and DCFS. DCFS recommends clients who are unable to receive assistance due to outstanding warrants, and who they believe to be amenable to mentoring and lifestyle change. The clients are then screened through the PD and Municipal Court, and warrants are changed from fines to community service, which is then performed in partnership with COPPS.

Point of Contact: Officer Brian Bunich (913) 573-8732 [bbunich@kckpd.org](mailto:bbunich@kckpd.org)

### **S.A.F.E. (Seatbelts Are For Everyone)**

The SAFE program is a program that focuses on increasing teen restraint compliance through education, positive rewards and enforcement. It is designed to bring awareness to the importance of wearing a seatbelt, therefore reducing the number of motor vehicle-related injuries and fatalities among Kansas teens. The goal of SAFE is to increase seatbelt use among students while providing strong traffic safety messages throughout the school year.

Point of Contact: Officer Elaine Moore (913) 573-8720 edmoore@kckpd.org

### **M.C.S.P. (Metropolitan Community Service Program)**

M.C.S.P. is a collaboration with the Metropolitan Crime Commission that provides community service from throughout the metropolitan area that are directed and supervised by a COPPS officer. These workers are frequently utilized for scheduled neighborhood clean-up efforts as well as any manpower project deemed appropriate.

Point of Contact: Officer Brian Bunich (913) 573- 8732 bbunich@kckpd.org  
Officer Nick Kohrs (913)573-8707 nkohrs@kckpd.org

### **Harvester's Food Program**

COPPS partners with the Harvester's food program to disseminate food to at-need families at Schlagle High School once a week during the school year. We also maintain a food pantry to assist in supplementing meals for children throughout the week.

Point of Contact: Officer Elaine Moore (913) 573-8720 edmoore@kckpd.org

### **Night Out Against Crime**

Night Out Against Crime is an annual community building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, better places to live.

Point of Contact: Captain Katie Hill (913) 573-8715 khill@kckpd.org

### **Drug Take Back Program**

A collaboration between KCKPD, KCKCC and the DEA. This program provides an easy, legal way to dispose of expired, unused or questionable medications. This program helps prevent the possibility of accidental poisoning, overdose and abuse.

Point of Contact: Captain Katie Hill (913) 573-8715 khill@kckpd.org

## **Cigarette Sting Partnerships**

COPPS routinely partners with Kansas A.B.C. agents to detect, deter and arrest licensed establishments whose employees are illegally selling tobacco products to underage persons.

Point of Contact: Sergeant Jason Allen (913) 573- 8725 jallen@kckpd.org

## **COPPS Christmas Program**

The 2015 Community Policing toy drive was completed in December. This year's program helped provide gifts to approximately 80 children and provided a meal for all of these children's families. The program also provided several hundred dollars' worth of groceries for several families and furniture for 5 households. This was achieved because of the generosity of community members, coupled with the task oriented and focus driven work product of the Community Policing Officers who participated in this endeavor

Point of Contact: Officer Paula Vallejo (913) 573-8711 pvallejo@kckpd.org

## **Neighborhood Outreach Efforts**

Frequently COPPS will become aware of community members who have specific needs at their homes that they are unable to fix, due to monetary issues or lack of assistance for labor. These individuals will often be unable to receive assistance through traditional means. COPPS will then either locate individuals to donate goods or services to make the repairs, or they will do it themselves. The work performed has included replacing heaters and hot water tanks, faulty plumbing, roof issues, landscaping issues, etc.

Point of Contact: Sergeant Jason Allen (913) 573-8725 jallen@kckpd.org

## **Problem Residence Abatement Issues**

There are frequently houses that are abandoned and in disrepair and are being utilized for nefarious purposes. Frequently the problematic houses are brought to the attention of COPPS by our District partners or by community members. While these houses are normally on the list with various NRC Departments for abatement, it is often in the best interests of all involved parties to promptly secure the residences. In these cases, COPPS will utilize donated lumber and secure the residences by ourselves to alleviate the issues.

Point of Contact: Sergeant Jason Allen (913) 573- 8725 jallen@kckpd.org

## **Graffiti Abatement**

In adhering with the principles of the Broken Window Theory, it is imperative to quickly remove graffiti once it is detected. As with the above listed issues, there are measures in place to repair the graffiti damage, however, the resources are often stretched thin. COPPS has abated graffiti damage to both public and private property approximately a dozen times within the last year.

Point of Contact: Sergeant Jason Allen (913) 573- 8725 [jallen@kckpd.org](mailto:jallen@kckpd.org)

## **COPPS Community Garden**

In an effort to partner with one of our community churches and as a way to mentor to community youth, the COPPS Unit started a community garden. This garden was planted by COPPS officers and is maintained through their efforts, but also by partnering with juveniles who are in need of community service credit. This time together allows for an opportunity to spend time with youth in a non-criminal justice manner and potentially strengthen relationships. The vegetables are then disseminated to community members or given to the juveniles to take home.

Point of Contact: Officer Travis Toms (913) 573- 8703 [ttoms@kckpd.org](mailto:ttoms@kckpd.org)

## **Bicycle Rodeos**

All of the officers assigned to COPPS are trained and qualified through the International Police Mountain Bike Association. Several times a year, COPPS will partner with various agencies or schools and host bicycle safety rodeos. The purpose of these rodeos is to teach safety and street laws.

Point of Contact: Officer Paula Vallejo (913) 573- 8711 [pvallejo@kckpd.org](mailto:pvallejo@kckpd.org)

## **Junior Police Academy**

J.P.A. is a school based curriculum taught by PD staff that has been in place in all of the USD 500 High Schools and Bishop Ward H.S. The classes allow for a foundation upon which police can effectively connect with youth and that can potentially impact attitudes towards public safety employees.

Point of Contact: Officer Elaine Moore (913) 573-8720 [edmoore@kckpd.org](mailto:edmoore@kckpd.org)