

LPD Community Engagement Activities/Programs

Partnership with the Boys and Girls Club - Badges for Baseball, Badges for Basketball, and Fun Fridays

The LPD has been heavily involved with the Boys and Girls Club for roughly 8 years now. Badges for Baseball (completed our 8th year) and Badges for Basketball (completed our 4th year) were started in partnership with the Club as a way to establish relationships and mentor the kids in a positive environment. Badges for Baseball is a summer program that runs from mid-June through mid-August, while the Badges for Basketball runs from early January through early April. Fun Fridays is also a summer program (mid-June – mid-August) where officers go to the Boys and Girls Club and serve lunch to the youth and spend time with them. Over 100 young people are involved in these programs. The Boys and Girls Club has been a tremendous partner - they are an outstanding organization!

Salvation Army Christmas Kettle Campaign

The LPD has staffed a red kettle (11 hours per day throughout the Christmas season) as part of the Salvation Army's Annual Christmas Kettle Campaign for the past 7 years. This fundraising campaign certainly impacts the entire community in a positive way and provides us with an opportunity to engage with citizens at the kettle. Last year the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign (greater Lynchburg area) raised over \$246,000!

Citizen's Police Academy

The LPD is currently conducting our 25th session of the Citizen's Police Academy. This is a 9-week program where we provide local citizens with an in-depth view of the LPD and the law enforcement profession. Four Teacher's Police Academies and one LPD Spouse's Police Academy have also been conducted.

Neighborhood Watch Program

We currently have 64 active neighborhood watches. This continues to be a vital community partnership and serves as a great example of our community policing philosophy.

Books and Badges; Kids and Cops Reading Program

This is a partnership with the Lynchburg City Schools and for over 8 years LPD officers spent time reading to students at R.S. Payne Elementary on selected days throughout the school year. This provided us with another opportunity to spend time with young children in a positive environment. Though this program has been successful, it was also limited to just one school. We are currently working with LCS to expand this program to all elementary schools in the City. This is just another example of our efforts to reach young children in the community.

Criminology Class at E.C. Glass High School

In partnership with LCS, the LPD has implemented a Criminology Class at E.C. Glass High School this year. There are currently 25 students enrolled in the class (both students at E.C. Glass and Heritage). This is a 2-year program so next year we will have a Junior-level class and a Senior-level class. This class has a lot of potential and we are excited about the future.

School Resource Officers

The LPD currently has 5 SRO's on staff. They are assigned to E.C. Glass, Heritage, Dunbar, Sandusky, and Linkhorne. These officers have daily interaction and mentoring opportunities with the students at those schools.

Trailblazer Program

This is a newly established summer program in partnership with Parks and Recreation and targets inner-city youth ages 13-15. We are planning to run two 2-week sessions (8 youth per session) and we will focus on mentoring these young people with a focus on leadership skills and team-building.

Badges and Barbers

This 10-week program involves a partnership with LPD Officers and 4 local barbers. The program partners LPD Officers with local barbers in mentoring kids in the community. The young men learn how to cut hair while being mentored by both the barbers and police officers. Six young men graduated from the program this summer and we hope to expand the program in the future.

Community Code Compliance Team

This program links the LPD along with other City Departments and this team conducts community walk-throughs 4 times per year in an effort to work together to address community concerns and code enforcement.

Yovaso – Youth of Virginia Speak Out

This program involves another partnership with the LCS where SROs and Traffic Safety Officers partner with local high school students to promote traffic safety issues.

Fundraising for the Jubilee Center: Jubilee Center Benefit “Tug-Of-War”

This is actually an annual benefit event for the Jubilee Center. The LPD enters a team of officers and helps raise money for this charitable organization. Last year was the first year we were involved and we look forward to competing again this year.

Chick Fil-A Safety Night

This is an annual fall event to promote safety in the community. We have Crime Prevention and Traffic Safety booths with pamphlets and give-away items. In addition, the Traffic Safety Unit conducts car seat safety checks during this event.

R.A.D. – Rape Aggression Defense

This is a defensive tactics class for women taught by LPD Officers. We have conducted numerous R.A.D. classes each year for 8 years.

Shop-With-A-Cop/Angel Tree Program

Officers take time to shop for gifts with children in need during the Christmas Season.

Fundraising for Special Olympics

*The LPD has been involved in raising funds for Special Olympics for many years through events like the **Law Enforcement Torch Run, Tip-A-Cop, the Annual Guns and Hoses Softball Game, and an Annual Golf Tournament** at Winton Country Club.*

American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life

The LPD has been involved in this fundraising event for many years in an effort to remember loved ones and continue the fight against cancer. We have had a significant number of LPD employees impacted directly by this disease and we typically have a large number of employees involved in this event each year.

Fundraising for the United Way

Each year the LPD participates in the City’s United Way Fundraising Campaign. We have had LPD personnel assist with coordinating Lynchburg’s United Way Campaign (city-wide).

Assisting Meals On Wheels – Thanksgiving

Officers spend time delivering meals for “Meals on Wheels” (local non-profit organization) during the holiday. 2015 was the first time we have participated in this community outreach and we plan to make this an annual endeavor.

Gleaning for the World

Officers donate items (food, clothing, etc.) to this non-profit organization in an effort to help those in need.

Annual “Moustache for Kids” Fundraiser

A number of LPD Officers volunteer to participate in this annual fundraiser in an effort to raise money for CASA and the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Lynchburg.

Lynchburg Loss Prevention Association

This is a partnership involving the LPD and local business owners. This partnership began approximately 4 years ago and provides an effective means of communication between the LPD, other local law enforcement agencies, the Lynchburg Commonwealth Attorney’s Office, and local business owners. To date, this group has achieved a 20% reduction in retail theft in the area.

Business/Residential Security Assessments

This is a service we have offered the community for many years. We conduct, on average, about 40-50 security assessments per year.

Other programs that the LPD is involved in on a consistent basis:

- Bicycle Safety Programs*
- For Kids Sake Safety Day*
- Day in the Park*
- Bowl for Kid’s Sake*
- Regional Cop Camp for Kids*
- Car Seat Safety Checks*

We also have LPD Officers on a number of local civic boards to include:

- CASA Advisory Board*
- Salvation Army Advisory Board*
- The Exchange Club of Lynchburg*
- Mental Health Association of Central Virginia*
- The Lynchburg Optimist Club*
- Big Brothers / Big Sisters*
- Commonwealth Autism Board*
- Community Criminal Justice Board*
- Horizon Behavioral Health Board*
- Crisis Intervention Training Advisory Board*
- Central Va. Traffic Safety Board*
- Blue Ridge Regional Safety Board*
- Regional Domestic Violence Coalition*
- YWCA Advisory Board*
- FBI National Academy Associates – Virginia Chapter*
- FBINAA Lynchburg Alumni*