



City of Dallas

Overview of DPD Youth and Senior Programs & Initiatives

**Public Safety Committee
February 13, 2023**

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Dallas Police Department
City of Dallas

Presentation Overview



- Background/History
- Purpose
- Programs
- Next Steps



Background/History



- Department has made significant efforts to improve community relations
- Office of Community Affairs established in 1987
- DPD PAL became charter member of National PAL in 2007



Purpose



- Make public aware of available programs
- Enhance relationships with the community
- Provide youths and seniors with activities



Youth Programs



- DPD provides programs for youths
- Programming includes:
 - Dallas Police Explorers
 - Dallas Junior Police Explorers
 - Blue in the School
 - Pathways in Technology Early College High Schools
 - Police Activities League
 - Junior Police Academy



Dallas Police Explorers



- Established in 1973
- Ages 14-21
- Currently has 15 active members
- Provides education and scenario-based training on law enforcement practice and procedure
- Members provide service to the community
- Over 200 Explorers have joined DPD or other law enforcement agencies



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Dallas Junior Police Explores



- Established in 2010
- Ages 9-13
- Currently has 21 active members
- Engages with children in a curriculum that highlights leadership, teamwork, and friendship
- Helps youth develop positive character traits
- Members provide service to the community



Blue in the School



- Established in 2013
- Taught to 3rd graders in partnership with DISD
- Total of 118 students this semester
- Teaches life-long skills that include:
 - Decision making
 - Self-confidence
 - Peer pressure
 - Conflict management



Pathways in Technology Early College High Schools



- Partnership with DISD and the Texas Education Agency
- Students earn credit toward associate degree while in high school
- DPD TCOLE certified instructors teach criminal justice curriculum
- Further provides:
 - Life-skills development training
 - Education on the nature and complexity of law enforcement



Police Activities League



- Dallas Police Athletic League became charter member of the National Police Athletic League in 2007
- The Police Activities League offers activities to Dallas residents ages 8-18
- Police engaged with City youth in various programs



Boxing



- Two gyms:
 - J.C. Turner Recreation Center
 - Forest/Audelia Center
- Open 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Monday through Friday
- Two groups – Boxing Basics and Competition Boxing
- Boxers can practice as often as they like and have the opportunity to participate in competitive boxing events
- 25-30 boxers per day at each gym





- Partnership with Parks and Recreation
- Played year-round at different City parks
- Focuses on calculations, evaluation, strategy, and decision-making skills
- Youth learn to control the flying disc by using angles, height, speed, and power
- In 2022, reached 363 youth



Horsemanship



- Partnership with Equest at 811 Pemberton Hill Road, Dallas
- 10–12 week schools offered in the spring and fall
- Instruction led by Equest staff
- Riders learn basic equestrian skills in addition to proper care and grooming techniques
- In 2022, reached 123 youth





- Currently in St. Philips School and Seagoville Middle School
- Taught twice a week during regular school hours
- Instruments provided by the schools
- St. Philips School students working toward a musical to be performed at the end of the school year
- Seagoville students instructed in use of guitar, electric guitar, and the electric keyboard



Junior Police Academy



- Three day-long classes held annually
- Basic Academy: 4th – 8th graders
- Advanced Academy: 9th – 12th graders
- Hands-on instruction from various specialized units in the Department, including SWAT, Investigations, and Motorcycles
- Opportunity to mentor youth in life skills



Senior Activities



- The Neighborhood Police Officer (NPO) units in each individual division develop and maintain relationships with established senior groups in their communities
- Host events tailored to specific community needs, to include:
 - Senior Health and Safety Fairs
 - Crime Watch Groups
 - Volunteers in Patrol



Senior Activities



- NPO units provide educational presentations on:
 - Crime prevention and safety awareness
 - Fraud and Financial Crimes prevention
 - Robbery and Identity Theft prevention



Next Steps



- Continue to provide current programming
- Increase number of programs available to seniors
- Double the number of boxing locations
- Partner with the Office of Integrated Public Safety Solutions on their summer initiative programs
- Quality of Life Committee memorandum presentation on February 21, 2023





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