

## **LPD Community Engagement Activities and Partnerships**

## **Current Activities:**

- Liberty University Cadet Program
- 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 9 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.
- **Citizen's Police Academy:** The LPD is currently conducting our 27<sup>th</sup> session of the Citizen's Police Academy. This is a 6-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 63 active neighborhood watches soon to be 64. 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 9 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 not currently involved in this program this year but we are considering speaking with LCS about the possibility of partnering in a literary campaign, which would include all of the public schools.
- 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 SROs 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.
- One Community, One Voice Lynchburg: LPD partnered with local ministries to create this group in 2016. We work to rebuild our community through partnerships with area communities of faith, public and private sector organizations, and the community policing effort. Our example and leadership will inspire change, empowerment, pride, and ownership in each community member. Through healing efforts and building relationships we are working to raise families and individuals out of poverty, improve access to educational and human services, and restore a sense of belonging, hope, and engagement.
- 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.
- **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.
- 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.
- **Fundraising for the United Way:** Each year the LPD participates in the City's United Way Fundraising Campaign.



- Lynchburg Loss Prevention Association: This is a partnership involving the LPD and local business owners. This partnership began approximately 3 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 in the Park
- Bowl for Kid's Sake
- Regional Cop Camp
- Kids car seat safety checks
- Blue Ridge Area Food Bank

## We also have LPD Officers on a number of local civic boards including:

- CASA Advisory Board
- Leadership Lynchburg Council
- The Exchange Club of Lynchburg
- Mental Health Association of Central Virginia
- The Lynchburg Optimist Club
- 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
- Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police Board
- Central Virginia Addiction Recovery Resource Group
- Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program Board
- Drug Court Advisory Board