

WASHTENAW COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

---

**PROGRAM  
GUIDE**

---

Community Engagement  
4101 Washtenaw Ave.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Phone: 734-973-4974  
Fax: 734-794-2128



**Jerry L. Clayton, Sheriff**

## MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF

I hope you find our Sheriff's Office Community Engagement Program Guide useful and informative. It should provide you a greater understanding of the scope and purpose of our many community engagement activities.

Community Engagement at the WCSO is a foundational element of our ability to realize our organizational mission. Embracing our role as a service organization, "engagement" describes how we perform our duties, and how we interact with and relate to the residents of Washtenaw County. We believe that we exist to serve the residents of Washtenaw County, making our communities safer and contributing to the improvement of everyone's quality of life. Community Engagement isn't just a program. It is how we communicate, build trust, identify needs and collaboratively work side by side with our partners to create interventions and provide solutions.

I often say that "Law enforcement cannot do it alone," and that "An educated community is our best partner." Community Engagement is how we build partnerships, educate our residents, and work with the people who live in our communities to implement programs that make our lives better. Whether it is running a basketball league or helping to establish a computer skills program when there are not enough youth activities, collaborating to provide needed equipment for new mothers as part of a Safe Sleep program, or implementing multiple "Education Series" forums as a follow-up to a countywide Town Hall session, community engagement is integral to how we serve.

While this Community Engagement Guide highlights many WCSO initiatives, it cannot cover every program or collaboration that we are or will be involved with to make our communities better. We will continue to develop new ways to engage and serve. Please feel free to contact us if you have questions, ideas, or are interested in assisting with one of these programs or in volunteering your time as we work together to improve the quality of life for you, our residents, who we are pledged to serve.



**Sheriff Jerry L. Clayton**





Law enforcement is about more than simply arresting someone or holding them in jail. Engagement is more than just a “feel good” program or a special unit where only a few officers proactively interact with the community. For the Sheriff’s Office, **Community Engagement is a “core philosophy” that guides our agency and establishes the tone for each and every employee.** It’s the way we think about the work we do, the community we serve, and the citizens we interact with. It’s about getting into our neighborhoods, forming meaningful relationships, building trust, working together, and ultimately creating a better community for us all. The Community Engagement Division ensures that enforcement is not the only tool we have in our efforts to build strong and sustainable communities.



## **SHERIFF'S OFFICE MISSION**

Create Public Safety, Provide Quality Service,  
Build Strong and Sustainable Communities.

*Serving Washtenaw County Since 1823*

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS:**

### **Engagement Programs**

Just 'Cause

ENPACT

Town Hall Sessions

Community Educations Series

Citizens Police Academy

Junior Police Academy

Explorer Program

Victim Services Unit

### **Outreach Programs**

St. Joseph Ann Arbor Mercy Collaboration

Peer 2 Peer

Sisters United Resilient and Empowered (SURE)

Safe Sleep

Interrupters

### **Public Education and Relations Programs**

Active Shooter and Active Assailant Training (ALICE)

Teaching, Educating, And Mentoring (TEAM)

Neighborhood Watch

Shop With A Cop

Ballin' Basketball Series

Eastern Washtenaw Basketball League (EWBL)

# WASHTENAW COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

*A Systematic Approach to  
Engaging Community*



*Public Safety - Quality Service - Strong Communities*

# ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS

Trying to establish trust or hold a conversation with a community in the midst of a crisis is too late.

**Engagement Programs** are our way of working to establish relationships, build bridges, develop trust, and...most importantly...listen to the communities we serve well before a crisis ever occurs. These eight (8) programs provide a multi-layered architecture to engage Washtenaw County residents in creative and innovative ways.



## **JUST 'CAUSE**

**Just 'Cause** small-group dialogues promote conversation between community members and law enforcement professionals...not in response to a crisis or event, but because open dialogue is important. They take place over lunch or dinner and are designed to be a free-flowing conversation with the simple goal of bridging any divides between law enforcement and the community we serve.

These are small, intimate conversations consisting of no more than 5 residents and 5 Deputies. Although small in the number of participants, the return on investment is the quality of the dialogue as participants use the opportunity to come to know and better understand each other's perspective with the intent of forging long-lasting relationships.

If you are interested in being a part of a **Just 'Cause** dialogue session, contact the Sheriff's Office Community Engagement Division.

## **ENPACT**

The **Enhancing Police And Community Trust (ENPACT)** workshop is the second component of our Engagement Program Series. **ENPACT** brings together 30 residents and 30 Deputies from across Washtenaw County in an effort to discuss solutions to the challenges that exist in the relationship between law enforcement and residents. This is more than just a conversation. It's a way for residents and officers to come together and set expectations, build trust, impact policy decisions, and ultimately improve the overall relationship.

The **ENPACT** workshop is a 6-hour day focused on solutions. The first half of the day, the 30 residents and 30 Deputies are in two separate rooms working to answer similar questions. For lunch we bring the groups together, share the answers to their earlier morning questions, and demonstrate how law enforcement professionals and community members are looking for similar outcomes, even though it may not always be apparent to them. In the afternoon, the groups co-mingle and use the remainder of the day to find ways to positively address the difficult barriers that may separate us...together.

If you're interested in participating in an upcoming **ENPACT** workshop, contact the Sheriff's Office Community Engagement Division.

## **TOWN HALL SESSIONS**

The third component of our Engagement Program Series is our **Town Hall Sessions**. These large, community-wide events bring together hundreds of community members to engage with and hear directly from their law enforcement leaders. With a focus on how we can improve relationships and work together to stop crime and violence in our neighborhoods, the **Town Hall Sessions** provide an opportunity for community members from all walks of life to be heard, ask questions, and receive answers and feedback from local law enforcement leaders in a panel style, question-and-answer setting.

If you are interested in hosting a **Town Hall Session**, contact the Sheriff's Office Community Engagement Division.

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION SERIES

**Just 'Cause** sessions are intimate discussions between the community and Deputies over lunch. **ENPACT** workshops are solution focused, all day working sessions between 30 community members and 30 Deputies. **Town Hall Sessions** gather several hundred residents in a discussion with community leaders. Our **Educational Series** is focused on providing detail about the most commonly questioned aspects of our beliefs about law enforcement.

Facilitated/instructed by Sheriff Clayton and members of the Sheriff's Office, it consists of a 40 minute classroom-style discussion of various topic areas followed by a question and answer period. By way of example but not limitation, the areas discussed may include:

- Recruitment, Hiring & Promotion
- New Employee Training
- Evolution of Subject Control and Use of Force
- Accountability Practices (Processing Service Complaints/ Internal Investigations)
- Veteran Employee Training Series (Managing Interpersonal Interactions)
- Corrections Operations
- Community Reentry
- Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)

If you are interested in hosting a **Community Education Series** event in your neighborhood or organization, contact the Sheriff's Office Community Engagement Division.

## **CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY**

A very popular program, the **Citizen Police Academy** is designed to give citizens who are 18 years of age or older a behind the scenes, in-depth look into the everyday happenings of the Sheriff's Office. Our goal is to make this course an informative and enjoyable experience for everyone involved. It's an opportunity for our dedicated staff to share what we do and how we do it. Programming includes meeting command staff, learning how traffic stops are made, taking a tour of the jail, meeting K-9 and Mounted Unit members and their special partners, learning how to process a crime scene, understanding how an arrest is made, and much more.

Each year we hold three 10-week **Citizen Police Academy** sessions. Each session meets once per week and can have as many as 50 participants from all across Washtenaw County.

If you're interested in participating in an upcoming **Citizen Police Academy**, contact the Sheriff's Office Community Engagement Division.

## **JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY**

The **Junior Police Academy** is designed to provide an opportunity for law enforcement officers and middle school age students to work together in a fun, creative, and interactive way over the summer. A three-week program, it works to introduce young people to law enforcement in the hope that they will consider a career in public safety, or have an appreciation and respect for the role that police play in our communities. The program provides a forum in which Deputies and our young cadets can interact that isn't related to enforcement, but is focused on building trusting relationships.

Cadets complete an application and are selected from a pool of nearly 50 students. Some express an interest in law enforcement as a career, some are just curious, and others are simply interested in engaging in fun and safe summer activities. The program is facilitated by Deputies who teach cadets all about crime scene investigations, traffic stops, and our various divisions and units within the Sheriff's Office.

If you're interested in participating in an upcoming **Junior Police Academy**, contact the Sheriff's Office Community Engagement Division.

## **EXPLORER PROGRAM**

A year-round initiative, the **Explorer Program** focuses on high school age youth who are interested in a career in law enforcement. Quite literally, “exploring” is not about lectures and slide shows. It’s about engaging in practical, real-world, life enhancing experiences within the context of a special and exciting career field. For Sheriff’s Office staff who serve as advisers and who are excited about their career, it is a wonderful opportunity to share their professional experience.

Explorers engage in educational and practical training experiences that focus on teaching the purpose and objectives of criminal justice, i.e., what it means to serve others in a public safety and justice role. The program includes but is not limited to career orientation experiences, leadership experience opportunities, and community service...all activities that support our youth as they grow as individuals, regardless of whether or not they choose a career in public safety.

Explorers attend the yearly statewide Explorer Academy and participate in a variety of other activities as they gain real life experience.

If you’re interested in becoming an **Explorer** or supporting the program, contact the Sheriff’s Office Community Engagement Division.

## **VICTIM SERVICES UNIT (VSU)**

The Sheriff's Office **Victim Services Unit (VSU)** is comprised of a group of civilian volunteers who have the desire to assist individuals and families experiencing the trauma of a sudden, unexpected death. **VSU** volunteers are not professional grief counselors and generally have no law enforcement experience. They are trained to serve as compassionate advocates for victims, while providing a liaison for the family with Deputies and Detectives.

If requested, **VSU** advocates provide assistance by making contact with family, friends, clergy, and relevant organizations. Each response is different and requires the advocates to be innovative, compassionate, and well versed in the resources available in our area.

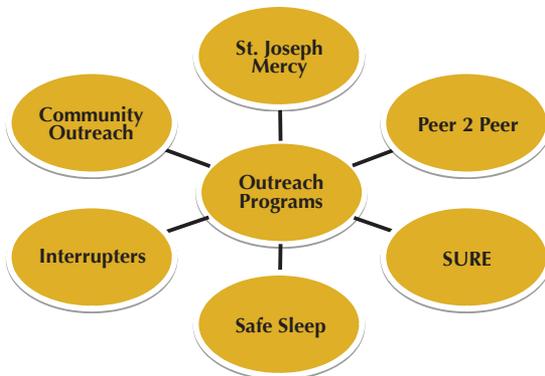
If you're interested in participating in an upcoming **VSU** class, contact the Sheriff's Office Community Engagement Division.

# OUTREACH PROGRAMS

A unique program, the role of the **Community Outreach Team** is to reduce re-offending and to bridge the gap with those individuals most at risk of offending. Operating since 2009, the program hires individuals who have been involved with the criminal justice system. As experts in their communities, we ask them to use their street credibility, relationships, and trust to help build up and restore the very neighborhoods they once tore down. In return, they receive training and support to invest in themselves, thereby reducing the likelihood of re-offending. Operating since 2009, the **Community Outreach Team** has become a flagship balanced and restorative justice program.

## Program Goals:

1. Reduce re-offending, crime and victimization of participants.
2. Resource communities by connecting residents to services & acting as system navigators.
3. Enhance Problem-Oriented Policing strategies by being bridge builders between the community and the criminal justice system.



## **ST. JOSEPH MERCY ANN ARBOR COLLABORATION**

In collaboration with St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor, **Street Outreach Team** Health Leaders serve as community educators on various health topics to populations within Washtenaw County. They provide education to community members on health topics that are mutually agreed upon by St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor and the Sheriff's Office. Health Leaders also support medical professionals in better understanding how to effectively interact with the various segments of the community they serve.

If you are interested in hosting a **health topic education session** in your group, neighborhood or community, contact the Sheriff's Office Community Engagement Division.

## **PEER 2 PEER**

**Peer 2 Peer (P2P)** programming pairs Community Outreach Workers with Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) probationers in Washtenaw County communities. The Outreach Workers act in the role of “peer mentors” for the probationers.

### **Program goals include:**

- Supporting probationers in obtaining and maintaining stable employment.
- Decreasing substance abuse.
- Providing access to community resources.
- Reducing technical and new offense violations.
- Supporting the overall successful completion of probation supervision.

This program showcases **Outreach Workers** at their very best, supporting state-system probationers to be successful in completing the terms of their probation, and in laying the foundation for them to never re-offend.

## **SISTERS UNITED RESILIENT AND EMPOWERED (SURE)**

**Sisters United Resilient and Empowered (SURE)** is a peer support group for mothers of youth within the juvenile justice system. Facilitated by an **Outreach Worker**, **SURE** meets weekly with Moms. The group focuses on providing a space to listen, encourage, teach, and learn from each other's experience. In addition to providing one-to-one support and community building among mothers in our target communities, **SURE** Moms also serve as a vehicle for family engagement and feedback to the justice system. Sharing their family's stories and helping to implement youth violence prevention plans, they coordinate community mobilization, social intervention, and organizational change to address youth, crime and violence.

If you're interested in participating in an upcoming **SURE** class, contact the Sheriff's Office Community Engagement Division.

## **SAFE SLEEP**

One of the most difficult law enforcement calls for service is the investigation of an infant death due to unsafe sleeping habits. For this reason, the Sheriff's Office **Street Outreach Team** partners with local organizations to host a monthly **Safe Sleep** class. Outreach members recruit families to participate and in partnership provide resources, materials, and content that will hopefully prevent an infant death from occurring.

Classes are held in a different location each month and provide resources such as a Pack n' Play, firm mattresses, fitted crib sheets, a safe sleep sack, and layette filled with infant necessities.

If you're interested in participating in an upcoming **Safe Sleep** class, contact the Sheriff's Office Community Engagement Division.

## **INTERRUPTERS**

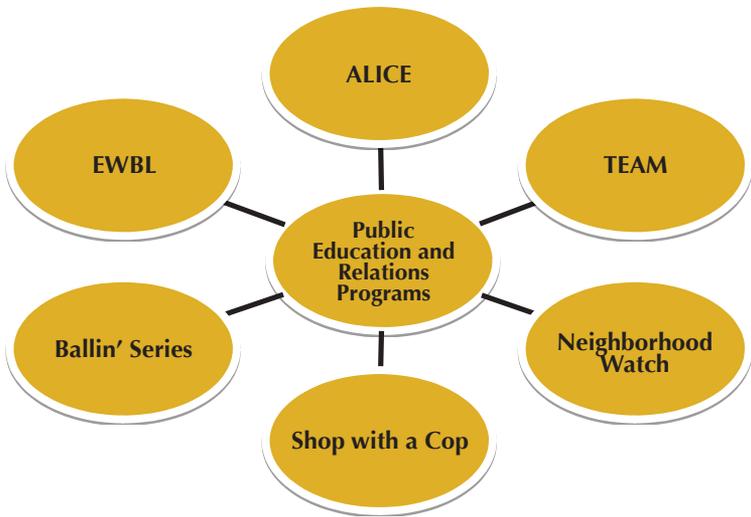
The **Interrupters** began as a volunteer-based program of community members willing to walk door-to-door handing out packets of information as part of a public education campaign to interrupt neighborhood youth violence; and, to show young people that the community will not tolerate youth violence. Together they work to educate our neighbors on what to look for, how to be safe, and what they could do to “interrupt” violence before it happens. This initiative involves law enforcement, elected officials, religious leaders, students, parents, and anyone else that is willing to stand up for their community.

The **Interrupters** has evolved into a regular group of community volunteers who come together for various community service programs with a focus on “interrupting” violence and building a sense of community.

If you’re interested in participating in an upcoming **Interrupters** class, contact the Sheriff’s Office Community Engagement Division.

# **PUBLIC EDUCATION AND RELATIONS PROGRAMS**

Crime is not just a police problem. It's a community problem that requires community-based solutions. To this end, the Sheriff's Office offers a wide range of community education, engagement, and relationship programs with a focus on building an educated and engaged citizenry.



## **ACTIVE SHOOTER AND ACTIVE ASSAILANT TRAINING (ALICE)**

Precipitated by active shooter incidents in schools, the workplace, and public buildings throughout the nation, the Sheriff's Office provides active shooter training to schools, court buildings, government buildings, and churches across Washtenaw County. Initially recognizing the need, Sheriff's Office staff worked with public entities throughout Washtenaw County to select and implement a response method. The group adopted the **A.L.I.C.E. (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate)** program which provides options that can be used in the event an intruder/shooter enters a building.

If you're interested in participating in an upcoming **ALICE** class, contact the Sheriff's Office Community Engagement Division.

## **TEACHING, EDUCATING AND MENTORING (TEAM)**

The **Teaching, Educating, And Mentoring (T.E.A.M.)** program is a school-based, “law related” education program geared towards school-age children taught by specially trained law enforcement officers. It’s a proactive effort to make schools and communities safer, promote responsible citizenship, encourage positive character traits, and create a positive perception and relationship between school-age children and law enforcement.

Deputies who provide the **T.E.A.M.** program attend a 40-hour training program that introduces them to over 30 lesson plans that they are able to present in schools all across our county. The lesson plans introduce students to the importance of “Homeland Security” and their role in “Family Preparedness.” In addition to learning the curriculum, officers receive training from subject matter experts in student and juvenile psychology, classroom management, bullying and harassment, and school security issues.

## **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**

A staple of police-community relations, **Neighborhood Watch** is a citizen-driven crime detection and prevention partnership program for people who want to be part of the solution. Deputies work with residents to educate them and leverage their knowledge of their neighborhood to build a strong localized prevention and crime solving network. Sheriff's Office staff remain responsible for enforcing the law and apprehending criminals and **Neighborhood Watch** members become better educated on how to protect their family and property, and work effectively with law enforcement.

The Sheriff's Office hosts numerous **Neighborhood Watch** meetings all across Washtenaw County.

If you are interested in learning more about **Neighborhood Watch**, please contact the Sheriff's Office Community Engagement Office.

## **SHOP WITH A COP**

The Sheriff's Office has facilitated the **Shop with a Cop** program in both Eastern and Western Washtenaw County since 2002. Each year we team law enforcement officers with nearly 200 youth from our county who are in need. For many, if not for **Shop with a Cop**, they would not have a holiday celebration.

Funding for the event is provided by generous donations from our corporate community. Participating staff donate their time. Each child is furnished with \$100-\$150 to spend on gifts. Each enrolled child also receives a winter coat, hat, gloves, blanket, backpack, toothbrush, and toothpaste. The program further provides participating children with \$100-\$125 in gift cards to local Washtenaw County restaurants and a \$25 gas card.

If you would like to become involved with **Shop with a Cop**, please contact the Sheriff's Office Community Engagement Division.

## **BALLIN' BASKETBALL SERIES**

For nine years the Sheriff's Office has facilitated the **Ballin' Basketball Series**. It's a free 3-on-3 basketball tournament that takes place for eight weeks throughout the summer. It's designed to provide a safe space for youth to enjoy the summer while also providing an opportunity for Deputies and residents to build relationships. In partnership with neighborhood residents and local organizations, the Sheriff's Office has expanded the program throughout the years. It is now hosted within seven neighborhoods:

- Ballin' in the Willow – West Willow, Ypsilanti Township
- Ballin' in the Brook – Sugarbrook, Ypsilanti Township
- Ballin' on the Blvd – Macarthur Blvd, Superior Township
- Ballin' in Appleridge – Superior Township
- Ballin' on the South Side – Ypsilanti City
- Ballin' in Hikone – Ann Arbor City
- Ballin' in Stonybrook – Ann Arbor City

If you would like to become involved with the **Ballin' Basketball Series**, please contact the Sheriff's Office Community Engagement Division.

## **EASTERN WASHTENAW BASKETBALL LEAGUE (EWBL)**

In collaboration with the Ann Arbor YMCA, Ypsilanti Community Schools, and Cultivate Coffee and Tap House, the Sheriff's Office provides a ten-week basketball league for Ypsilanti students in grades 6-12. Games are held every Friday between 5:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. at Ypsilanti Middle School. The overall purpose is to provide enriching programs that connect youth in Eastern Washtenaw County with opportunities to engage with caring adults outside of school and home life while simultaneously building bridges with law enforcement.

If you would like to become involved with **EWBL**, please contact the Sheriff's Office Community Engagement Division.

# WASHTENAW COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



---

*Serving Washtenaw County Since 1823*

---

# WASHTENAW COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



## Contact Information:

Community Stations & Services	Station Number	Phone		
Washtenaw Metro Dispatch Non-Emergency		734-994-2911	<b>Jerry L. Clayton</b> Sheriff	734-973-4613
Service Desk	1	734-973-4691	<b>Mark A. Ptaszek</b> Undersheriff	734-973-4621
Records Bureau	1	734-973-4655	<b>Gregory D. Bazick</b> Chief Deputy	734-794-2110
Human Resources	1	734-973-4650	<b>Marlene A. Radzik</b> Commander, Police Services	734-973-4949
Dexter, Dexter Township & Webster Township	3	734-426-0228	<b>Eric J. Kunath</b> Commander, Corrections	734-973-4748
Manchester Village & Lodi Township	4	734-428-8829	<b>Randy J. Casey</b> Lieutenant Commander, Corrections	734-973-4930
Salem Twp., Superior Twp. & Ann Arbor Twp.	6	734-484-6788	<b>Renee A. Wilson</b> Manager, Community Corrections & Correctional Services	734-973-4716
Scio Township	7	734-994-8098	<b>Derrick L. Jackson</b> Director, Community Engagement	734-973-4503
York Township	5	734-439-0777	<b>David R. Halteman</b> Director, Emergency Services	734-973-4734
Ypsilanti Township	2	734-484-6740		

**Create Public Safety, Provide Quality Service, Build Strong and Sustainable Communities**