



# Community Outreach Program

# Creating the foundation for what our youth will become tomorrow.

The CJIS Division Community Outreach Program (COP) continues to strive towards improving current programs, as well as implementing new ones, which fulfill the needs of area schools and community organizations. The programs represent the importance the FBI has placed upon being responsible members of North Central West Virginia communities. The FBI is committed to providing the following programs:

"This overview is different.
It is not only about a decade of hard work and programs that meet the needs of our local communities, but about leadership and vision.

It is about FBI employees, passion, and progress that has made the CJIS Division Community Outreach Program everything it is today."

-Thomas E. Bush, III Assistant Director

### School-based Initiatives

#### Caring Officers Promoting Safety (C.O.P.S.)

FBI Police Officers present a variety of safety tips to children and young adults and convey the importance of proper communication skills in the event of an emergency. The program also provides youth an overview of how police officers use their equipment, including all-terrain vehicles and dirt bikes. The officers also provide information about careers in law enforcement. The C.O.P.S. Program won the 2000 United States Attorney General's Community Service Award.

#### **Cultural Awareness**

Through learning about cultural diversity, students can hopefully dispel any stereo-types or misconceptions they may have of other cultures. FBI employees tour area schools in North Central West Virginia to provide cultural presentations. For example, to commemorate February as Black History Month, a choir consisting of FBI employees sing various songs that have historical significance to African Americans and the Black History movement. After each selection, a member of the group explains the meaning of the words. The program helps to create and promote cultural awareness for all ages and races.

#### Fed Facts: The Real Deal

The FBI COP has teamed up with the U.S. District Chief Judge Irene M. Keeley and the U.S. Probation Office in Clarksburg to provide the "Fed Facts: The Real Deal Program." Most drug education programs for students focus on health concerns. This program is drug education from another angle - the legal one. This 45-minute program combines video and simulations of drug crimes in progress, with classroom discussion, to give students in grades 8 through 12 an informative and thought-provoking interactive learning experience.

#### **Internet Safety Program**

The Internet Safety Program features a scenario-based presentation concerning appropriate safety and internet etiquette. The program is presented to students, school faculties, and community organizations.

#### Stranger Danger

This program features a demonstration that educates kindergarten through second grade students on protecting themselves from situations involving abduction, child abuse, and internet stalking.



#### **Ethics and Character Education Program**

Our interactive lessons feature the Six Pillars of Character -trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship. This program covers the cognitive, emotional, and behavioral aspects of living and maintaining a moral life. Variations of the program are also available for school faculties.

#### Students Who Achieve Today (SWAT) Team

This program allows area high school students to be actively involved in FBI COP activities. Some of these activities include: community fingerprinting; ushers and escorts at high-profile FBI ceremonies; acting and assisting in the production of public service announcements; producing drug/alcohol awareness posters; and distributing child identification kits. The SWAT Team from Valley High School, Wetzel County, won the 2001 United States Attorney General's Community Service Award.

#### **Drug and Alcohol Awareness Program**

Through various activities, police officers educate youth on the dangers and prevention of drugs and alcohol. Hands-on apparatuses such as Fatal Vision Goggles are utilized to simulate different levels of intoxication.



#### **Guest Speaker Program**

Experts from the CJIS Division and area FBI offices are available to speak to civic organizations, parent groups, and students at local schools, about the missions and programs of the FBI.



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#### FBI, American Football Coaches Association (AFCA)

The FBI has joined the AFCA in the distribution of the National Child Identification Program (NCIDP) kits. The NCIDP provides parents/guardians the resources to fingerprint their children, save a DNA sample, and record other identifying information to maintain as a permanent record in the event of a disaster, foul play, or runaway situation involving their child.



#### Community Fingerprinting Program

Students from Harrison County high schools are trained as Fingerprint Technicians, and accompany the COP staff to schools, day care centers, shopping malls, and area fairs and festivals to provide free fingerprinting services.

#### FBI Citizens' Academy

The FBI Citizens' Academy is an eight-week course of instruction that affords members of the community an inside look at the FBI. The aim of the Academy is to foster a greater understanding of the FBI and its multi-faceted role in law enforcement. Throughout the course, participants have the opportunity to raise issues and discuss topics of interest concerning the FBI.

#### Memorial Ceremony in Honor of Fallen West Virginia Law Enforcement Officers

In May 1996, then Governor Cecil H. Underwood, presented the CJIS Division with a proclamation declaring every second week in May as "Fallen West Virginia Law Enforcement Officers Week." Law enforcement members and community leaders throughout the state are invited to participate in the annual ceremony honoring West Virginians who have lost their lives in the line of duty.



#### **Director's Community Leadership Award**

Since 1990, the FBI has given this award to publicly recognize the achievements of individuals and organizations who have made a major difference in their communities. West Virginia University Head Football Coach Rich Rodriguez received the 2004 Director's Community Leadership Award.

#### Terrorism - What Can I Do To Help?

While the FBI has the primary responsibility for investigating terrorism matters in the United States, other law enforcement agencies play an integral role in combating this crime by joining Joint Terrorism Task Forces (JTTF). FBI Special Agents of the JTTF will be available to provide information about terrorism and inform the community what can be done to assist the JTTF in combating terrorism.

### COP Partners for Citizenship and Education (PCE) Program

The priority of the CJIS Division COP is the PCE Program. Currently, the CJIS Division is a PCE with the following schools: South Harrison High, South Harrison Middle and Van Horn Elementary (Harrison County); Alum Bridge Elementary (Lewis County); and Doddridge County Elementary.

The CJIS Division COP and Alum Bridge Elementary School were awarded the 2002 GOLD STAR AWARD from the West Virginia Education Alliance.

#### Hardest Working Student Award

Each year the CJIS Division honors the Hardest Working Students from each of their PCE schools during a ceremony at the CJIS Division Complex. Driven by the value of providing your best effort at whatever the task, this award gives our partners a chance to focus on the Hardest Working Students of each class without placing undue emphasis on grade averages.

#### **Junior Special Agent Program**

This course, designed for fourth and fifth grade students, is presented throughout the school year. The lesson plans are designed to stress the importance of being good citizens and providing your best effort at whatever the task. FBI employees provide a bi-weekly overview of CJIS Division and FBI operations, as well as lesson plans designed to build strong citizenship. Upon successful completion of the program, the students are presented with a Junior Special Agent badge and credentials by the CJIS Division Assistant Director during a graduation ceremony held at the CJIS Division facility.

Alum Bridge and Van Horn Elementary schools are the only schools in the state of West Virginia to be provided this program during the 2005-2006 school year.

#### The Lunch Bunch

This student-focus group addresses the special needs of students in elementary and middle schools. Team leaders from the FBI serve as mentors for the students, discussing issues that involve academic challenges, addictions, divorce, death, peer pressure, communication with parents, self-esteem issues and student-chosen topics. This bi-weekly lunch program gives students the opportunity to talk to an individual whom they trust, that is not a parent or teacher, in a nonthreatening environment.

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