

2023
CRIME PREVENTION SECTION
MAJOR PROGRAM EVALUATION



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Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE): The DARE program has been the main anti-drug and anti-violence program in the Village of Addison since the 1980s. It is a well-known program, as its 68% awareness response continues to dominate the Police Department's programs (*source – 2015 Community Survey Report*). The full ten-week program is instructed to 5th grade students at St. Philip the Apostle School as 50-minute lessons, with a graduation hosted at the school for parents and relatives. The DARE program is offered in the following manner:

- K -2nd grade – Two times a year; 20 minutes each
- 3rd grade – Four times a year; 30 minutes each
- 5th grade – Ten times a year; 45 minutes each
- 10th grade – One full week at the end of each semester; 50 minutes each

The Crime Prevention Unit continues to receive positive comments with regard to topic instruction and methodology from parents and school teachers.

Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT): The GREAT program was instituted in Addison in 2008 and has been instructed at St. Philip the Apostle and District 4 ever since. Due to the DARE program not having an anti-gang component within its curriculum, the Crime Prevention Unit realized the benefit of being certified in GREAT. Similar to DARE, there are grade level-appropriate lessons. These lessons are instructed in the following manner:

- 4th grade – Four times a year; 30 minutes each (District 4)
- 4th grade – Five times a year; 30 minutes each (St. Philip)
- 6th grade – Five times a year; 45 minutes each (District 4)
- 6th grade – Five times a year; 30 minutes each (St. Philip)

Due to the positive reception of students, the Unit recommends that it continue.

Police Internships: The Department cooperates with 2-year and 4-year colleges and universities within the State to provide a supervised internship program for selected students pursuing an Associates, Bachelors, or Graduate degree in a Criminal Justice related field. The internship program provides opportunities for the intern to observe the functions of the various units, sections, and specialty areas within the Police Department. In 2023, the Police Department had three interns.

Home Alone Safety Program: This course is designed to provide information to youth between 8 and 14 years of age who might find themselves home alone for short periods of time before or after school. Basic safety tips and emergency information are provided. The home alone safety program is thought to third grade students at District 4. It is also available (in an abbreviated session) to any family who requests it. With this structure, it is recommended this program function as is.

Eighth Grade Truth about Drugs: The Unit continues to instruct the class, "The Truth about Drugs." It is a series of fourteen illustrated drug information booklets and videos containing facts about the most commonly abused drugs. The curriculum explains the physical and mental effects of drugs on a person and tells true stories of people who have used drugs and became addicted. Further, it gives a factual and concise overview of exactly what drugs are, how they work and what

they do. It gives the street names as well as the long- and short-term side effects of the most common substances. This curriculum is instructed in the Family and Consumer Education class.

Police Department Tours: The Unit conducts tours of the Department upon request by various schools, scouts (boys and girls), and through organized events such as the Henry Hyde Resource Center field trips. Positive comments are always received by many of our guests, and personnel such as ACDC have enthusiastically explained their responsibilities to our guests. It is recommended this program be continued as is.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)/Department of Homeland Security: The purpose of this program is to provide citizens with the skill and knowledge to assist themselves and other residents in case of a man-made or natural disaster. CERT volunteers are instrumental in community events and police functions, and they receive ongoing training throughout the year. The training meetings are held once a month at the Police Department. Currently, the CERT program has eight members. It is recommended the program continue.

Teen Community Emergency Response Team (CERT): In conjunction with the national CERT programs, teen CERT is a national Homeland Security initiative directed at making schools and communities safer by having educated and trained high school students capable of preparing and responding to disasters and emergencies. The program is taught at the Technology Center of DuPage. Teen CERT training is broken down into eight lessons with a practical exercise at the end. This program has received positive feedback from TCD, and it is recommended that it continue.

Special Olympics: The Police Department has been an active participant in State fundraising efforts for the Special Olympics since 2005. The Crime Prevention Unit is the lead for the Department and is responsible for seeing events such as Coffee with a Cop and Addison's portion of the Torch Run. The Unit recommends this program continue as is, but with additional manpower support for the Cop on Rooftop event. In 2022, the Police Department raised \$10,522. The Special Olympics will provide the totals for 2023 on February 2, 2024.

Addison Police Department Peer Jury: In 2007, the Police Department began Peer Jury, which serves as a diversion for first-time, non-violent juvenile offenders where they may otherwise have been introduced to the juvenile justice system. Cases are heard and reviewed, and sanctions are administered by the juvenile's peers who are specifically screened and selected students from the local high school. Consequences administered by the Jury include the following:

- Community Service
- Apology Letter
- Restitution
- Essay (on Related Topic)
- Jail Tour
- Research (Apply for a Job)
- Research (Apply for a School Club, Sport, etc.)

It continues to serve as a very beneficial program for the Police Department. It is recommended this program continue.

Explorer Scouting Program: The Police Explorer Program is designed to provide youth between 14 and 21 years of age with an opportunity to learn about law enforcement and the criminal justice system. Explorers volunteer and assist at community events such as roadside safety checkpoints, Village summer events, and DARE functions. The Explorer Scouting program is sponsored through the Boy Scouts of America. This program and its Explorers receive positive feedback from the Village Board and the citizens of the community on the need for this program. Based on the effectiveness of this program, it is recommended it function as is.

Neighborhood Watch: The Department has participated in the Neighborhood Watch program for over ten years. In 2014, the Crime Prevention Unit moved in a different direction, away from Block captains. This was due to many block captains moving, and the growing convenience of technology. Although meetings are still conducted on-site, newsletters and safety tips are available on the Department's website. The Unit maintains its goal of introducing or revitalizing neighborhood watch programs throughout the Village. It is recommended this program continue as is.

Tobacco Inspections: The Department has participated in the Illinois Liquor Control Commission "Kids Can't Buy 'Em Here" tobacco inspection grant program for several years. Pursuant to the State grant contract, three inspections were conducted within the grant period. The tobacco grant fund continues to be the main source of funding for supplies needed to efficiently run the Explorer and Peer Jury programs, which is widely recognized as a successful youth program in the Department. It is recommended this program be maintained.

Electronic Cigarette Inspections: Due to the increased number of underage minors using e-cigarettes, the Crime Prevention Unit conducted two checks. Both checks resulted in multiple violations to businesses; hence, it is recommended the program continue.

Stranger Danger Presentations: During the first semester of every school year, the Unit conducts Stranger Danger training sessions for all Kindergarten through 2nd grade students within the school district. It continues to be an effective way to assist parents in reminding their student about dangers of people they don't know or don't know very well. It is recommended this program continue as is.

DARE Open Gym: DARE Open Gym is a program designed to give children kids an opportunity to have fun without drugs. The program promotes positive alternatives to drugs and smart decision-making. It is hosted twice a year at the Addison Park District for all 5th grade DARE graduates. On average, both events serve about 200 hundred children. Due to the positive impact and popularity of the program, it is recommended this program continue.

Illinois Premise Alert Program: On August 28, 2009, the State of Illinois passed the Illinois Premise Alert Program Act. This Act was passed to ensure that consistently high levels of public safety service are available to every resident in the State of Illinois, including those who may require special consideration. This allows individuals with special needs or disabilities, their

families or their caregivers an opportunity to provide information that describes what special circumstances may be required when first responders, such as police, fire or emergency medical services (EMS) personnel, respond to that individual's residence or place of work in the event of an emergency. The information is kept in a secure database and can only be accessed by the Addison Consolidated Dispatch Center (ACDC), police, fire and EMS units responding to that specific location. Furthermore, ACDC created their own recordkeeping for a more prompt dissemination of that information when officers need it. It is recommended this program continue.

Security Surveys/Risk Assessments: This program is available to businesses and residents of Addison to improve safety. The section meets with the resident or business owner in his or her home or business and discusses various crime prevention measures that can be taken to improve the security of their home or business. While taking a brief tour of the building and property, officers will complete a residential or business security survey form that will then be discussed and given to the resident or business owner. "Clients" are determined by one of the following means:

- Crime Prevention contacts victims of residential burglary.
- Residents sign up for an assessment during a Neighborhood Watch meeting.
- Crime Prevention receives an unsolicited request for an assessment.

Due to Crime Prevention's expertise with this topic, it is recommended this program continue, with a few suggestions:

- Due to ever-changing crime trends, the Crime Prevention Unit should research classes and seminars update them on the latest crime deterrents (technology, security devices, security options, etc.).
- The Crime Prevention Unit recognizes that assessments are best conducted in person and on-site. However, a few home/business owners prefer to conduct the assessment over the telephone while discussing what security measures they have and then listening to critique and suggestions. The Unit now accepts this as a proper option to conduct an assessment, always encouraging the owner to contact them with further questions or concerns.

Crime Hazard Alert: Crime Hazard Alerts are bulletins completed by officers in the Unit as a way to warn residents and business owners of specific crimes occurring in the area or to similar businesses. Alerts come in the form of a document that is hand delivered and may be generated when the Crime Prevention Unit monitors crimes that officers are responding to or when hazard alerts are received from other agencies. The Unit creates or alters the hazard alert so it is specific to Addison, which maximizes the provided safety tip information. Due to ever-changing crime trends, it is recommended this program continue as is.

The Senior Center: The Crime Prevention Unit participates in weekly meetings hosted by the Addison Park District for the Senior Center. During the meetings, officers talk to seniors about practical safety tips and common scams. Because of the positive feedback from the Senior Center, the Park District, and the Village, it is recommended the program continue.

Shop with a Hero: Every December, the Shop with a Hero program makes it possible for less fortunate young adults to celebrate Christmas by purchasing clothes and new toys to reward them for their hard work and dedication to education. The children's names are submitted to the Police Department by the social workers from local schools. A family or a child can also be nominated by any Addison Police officer. This event is a collaborative event with the Addison Fire Protection District. The funds come from a grant from Walmart, as well as from donations from local Addison organizations. In 2023, the event provided gifts to 29 families or a total of 84 children. It is recommended this program continue.

National Night Out (NNO): National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement to bring back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive conditions. The event is held the first Tuesday in August at the Addison Village Greens. Due to the turnout and its success, it is recommended the program continue.

Coffee with a Cop: The purpose of the Coffee with a Cop event is to break down barriers between police officers and the citizens they serve. Coffee with a Cop brings police officers and community members together – over coffee – to discuss issues and learn about each other. The event has been hosted at various locations in Addison such as Dunkin Donuts, McDonalds and Starbucks. The event is well received by the community, and it is recommended that it continue.

Career Fairs: For recruitment purposes, the Police Department participates in various career fairs throughout the year. In 2023, the Crime Prevention Unit participated in the Western University Career Fair and the Joliet College career fair. Due to the need for recruitment, it is recommended the program continue.

Citizens Police Academy: The Citizens Police Academy is an 11-week program designed to give participants an understanding of the operation of the Police Department. The academy consists of a series of classes held once a week. Each class provides an overview of various areas of law enforcement. Classes include presentations by Addison Police officers, as well as members of the Addison Fire Protection District. The Police Department is committed to the philosophy of Community Oriented Policing and is committed to developing partnerships its citizens. It is recommended this program continue.