

### Teen Opportunities and Programs for Success (TOPS)

One-to-one, community-based mentorship that emphasizes using youth-adult relationships to build youth assets. CRU members coordinate their efforts with Recreation, schools, home and the community in mentoring our most at-risk youth; working to develop assets that mitigate the risk factors in their lives.

### Recurring activities/events

These activities are designed to maximize positive interactions between the youth and police officers. Topics relevant to the youth are covered and range from police- to life-related topics. Groups are intentionally left smaller to maximize personal interactions. Examples include:

- **Birch Grove and Osseo Junior High Girls' groups:** Topics such as personal awareness, conflict resolution, healthy eating and gangs. Homework help also provided (ave. 9-20)
- **Teen Police Academy:** Topics of distracted driving, gangs, traffic stops, K-9, fire, self-defense and police Q&A (ave. 12)
- **Cooking Class at Elk's Lodge:** Healthy food options and guest chefs from various ethnic communities (ave. 10)
- **Fashion 5-0:** Introduction to fashion, career opportunities and basic sewing/design skills (ave. 15). Includes year-end runway show.

### Jobs and Money Solutions (JAMS) for Teens

A collaboration with Rasmussen College and TCF Bank, the program consists of a series of classes followed by one-on-one mentorship with the CRU and other community partners. Three youth have found employment through this program.

- Session I: How to get a job – application process, appropriate attire (18)
- Session II: Giving great interviews (12)
- Session III: Financial management (15)

### Participation in community-based events

The CRU attends a variety of events hosted by the schools and community-based organizations. They educate youth and adults on the role of police, provide enforcement and, ultimately, attend the events to get to know the community better.

Examples include:

- Corn Boil and Bike Rodeo at Redeemer Covenant Church (100)
- Attended Zanewood Elementary School assembly, Q&A
- Attended Park Center High School cultural showcase
- Taught self-defense at 3R's lock-in for girls (8)
- Spoke with 6<sup>th</sup> graders about policing at Park Brook Career Fair
- Attended A-List talent show (250)
- Assisted with Zanewood's Young Men's Violence Prevention group (6)
- Attended Tater Daze dance (60)
- Read at Birch Grove Elem. Family Library Night (40)

### Recreational activities

The Police Activities League (PAL) formed in 2011 allowing the CRU to coordinate a series of recreational activities for youth. Plentiful in the summer months, these activities provide youth with something to do during their down time and allow them to get to know the CRU and other officers on a personal level.

Community partnerships are essential to the success of these programs.

- Punches with a Purpose (ave. 15)
- Cops 'n' Kids Fishing Tournament (104)
- Cops 'n' Kids Golf Clinic (33)
- Soccer game with men of ASSA (30)
- Kickball game LiWIM girls (40)
- Video Game Tournament (20)
- Blacklight Dodgeball (70)
- Open gym (ave. 50)
- 3-on-3 basketball league and tournament (ave. 40)
- Self-defense classes (ave. 20)
- Skateboard competition

### Community Response Unit (CRU) outreach events & activities

The surrounding boxes describe the various types of outreach and educational activities that the CRU has sponsored or participated in during 2011. The numbers of participants is listed in parentheses (#). This is not a comprehensive list, rather it gives a representation of activities they engaged in.

### Apartment complex picnics

Already familiar with officers from interactions at the schools and at Zanewood, youth and their families were provided an opportunity to socialize with CRU and other officers while enjoying a picnic, getting to know each other more personally. With the goal of holding a picnic at each complex, we were able to schedule 6 this summer at Riverview, Autumn Ridge, Pebble Creek, Huntington, Strawberry Commons and Kensington.

### Enforcement activities

- Afterschool patrol and collaboration with School Resource Officers: increased familiarity with youth and improved information sharing with other officers and partnering organizations
- Juvenile probation checks with Hennepin County
- Increased visibility has led to more information sharing between community and CRU. Suspects have been identified and guns have been removed from the street as a result of relationships with officers