



Sharing Ohio's Best Program

Recognizing Outstanding Community Policing



Agency of the Month

Parma Heights Police Department

August 2020

The Police And Citizens Together (P.A.C.T.). . . .

The P.A.C.T. ('Police And Citizens Together') Unit started in late 2017 by a patrolman who saw a need for more developed relationships between the police department and the citizens which they serve. The P.A.C.T. Unit works on a multi-pillar approach, the Youth Group, Town Halls, and Senior Programming.



The Youth Group

The Youth Group is for any youth who lives or attends school in the city ages 12 to 17. They meet twice a month with each meeting having a different focus. One meeting each month is "issue-based" and allows the youth to bring forward issues that they want to focus on. The second meeting each month is an "experience-based" meeting aimed to build personalized relationships between officers and the community's youth. The group has been growing in number since its inception and has been extremely impactful.



The Town Hall Meetings

The Town Hall Meetings are chances for an open forum discussion between residents and the government which serves them. Members of the department's administration, as well as City Hall officials at these events in an effort to achieve transparency for residents. Community resources are also available, so that residents are aware of what is available to them.





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Senior Programming



The senior programming has been done in partnership with the Parma Heights Senior Center as well as Independence Place Apartments. Officers and department personnel attend these venues so that senior citizens are continually updated on issues that may affect them and the resources available to them while offering companionship.



In addition to these core programs, officers are assigned to each zone within the city to provide a more individualized approach to community policing when dealing with issues that do not require an immediate police response. P.A.C.T. Unit members have also spoken at various high school and elementary school events, participated in Parma Heights Historical Society events, attended Touch-A-Truck and Kids In The Commons, given presentations to Boy Scout and Girl Scout Troops, various birthday parties, Holiday Shop-With-A-Cop, special Halloween details, spoken to special needs populations and hosted Coffee With A Cop at local coffee establishments. These few events are only a small portion of the work the members of this unit have achieved in recent years.





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With the loss of grant funding summer of 2018, the first Halloween Hurrah Fundraiser was held in an effort to keep these programs functioning. The fundraiser was a large success due in large part to the volunteer efforts of the youth group participants, businesses within the city, members of this department as well as community volunteers.

