



Sharing Ohio's Best Program

Recognizing Outstanding Community Policing



Agency of the Month

Marion Police Department

March 2022

The Marion Police Department has made a commitment to being involved in the community. From organized events like the ones detailed below to impromptu interactions with citizens, their officers are all-in on making an #MPACT in the community.

National Night Out

The Marion Police Department partners with the Marion City Schools to host a National Night Out event that includes music, inflatables, police and fire equipment, police K9's and fireworks. The highlight of National Night Out is a "mascot dance off" featuring mascots from local businesses and schools, but the favorite participant is Safety Pup, the reigning champion of the dance-off. It is attended by hundreds of families in Marion each year.

Books and Badges

A partnership with the Starfish Assignment and the 2nd and Seven Foundation has enabled the Marion PD to have uniformed officers read to elementary school children to build positive relationships and promote literacy in our community. One of the best aspects of the program is that each student receives a copy of the book read in class that day due to partnerships with these outstanding programs. The officers love to spend time in these classrooms and there are no shortages of volunteers to participate in the Books and Badges events.

TAPS Academy

TAPS stands for Teens and Police Service Academy, and it is a ten-week program where officers provide mentorship to at-risk youth. It hopes to reduce the distance between these youth and law enforcement and help provide the tools the students need to become better citizens. At the conclusion of the program, there is a graduation and reward for those students who complete the program.

Citizens Police Academy and Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association

The Marion Police Department offers a Citizens Police Academy that provides a look into the law enforcement profession to those who wish to learn more about what it means to be a police officer. Graduates of this program are offered to join the Alumni Association or the CPAAA. The CPAAA volunteers at many community events and assist the police department in a variety of ways.



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Cops and Cocoa

The Marion Police Department engages the youth during the Holiday season by offering cookies, cocoa, gifts and a visit from Santa. Almost 500 children participated in this wonderful event in 2021 and the officers look forward to it just as much as the children do.

Sporting Events

Officers and employees of the Marion Police Department have begun to play in events against local groups to provide positive interactions. While we almost always lose, a great time is had by everyone. Marion PD has played baseball against a 12U travelling team; volleyball at the Harding High School varsity team; basketball against the teachers at Grant Middle School; softball against a local girls team; kickball with the Special Olympians from Marion County and a community attended softball game against the Marion City Fire Department.

Police K9 program

The Marion Police Department K9 program is an integral part of the #MPACT program. There are 2 patrol K9's, a drug detection K9 and a therapy dog who all are local celebrities. They are requested to attend so many community events, on top of their busy work schedule. There is no doubt that the police dogs are a great asset in the Marion community outreach and involvement philosophy.

Crime Prevention Seminars

The Marion Police Department, in partnership with the Marion Public Library, present seminars to the senior population on crime prevention strategies to help keep these vulnerable citizens safe from scams and other crimes.

Women's Self Defense Classes

The defensive tactics instructors with the Marion Police Department provide instruction in self-defense to females annually. This very popular course is always booked up by citizens wanting to learn some tools to help keep them safe.

Cops and Kids and other Holiday gift programs

The Marion Police Department joins the local Fraternal Order of Police Lodge to provide dozens of children, each year, Christmas gifts that they would not otherwise have. They also provide Christmas gifts to the Salvation Army, the Domestic Violence shelter and also kids in foster care through Children's Services. This wonderful program is often described as the best day of the year by the officers. This year, a local charity was also struggling to get donations for a food drive they were conducting over the holiday season. Marion Police Department officers responded to request for help and donated almost 2,100 pounds of non-perishable food to help fellow community members in need.