



Sharing Ohio's Best Program

Recognizing Outstanding Community Policing



Agency of the Month

Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority Police Department

March 2024

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority Police Department is the fourth largest police department in Cuyahoga County. They have eight canine teams, a plain clothes detective bureau, a Transit Ambassador and Crisis Intervention Specialist program, and a Community Engagement unit.

Operation Kid Watch

Operation Kid Watch was created to enhance relationships between the department and the community. In its infancy, Operation Kid Watch supplied parents with identification cards to provide law enforcement with specific information about their child in the event their child goes missing.

Operation Community Watch

Seeing the need to include seniors and at-risk adults, the program expanded and was re-branded to Operation Community Watch. Since the inception of this program, the agency has created over 15,000 Identification cards.

Other Community Events

In 2023, the Community Engagement Unit coordinated or participated in 178 events, which includes:

- holiday events
- school details
- parades
- touch-a truck

Recently this unit partnered with CL3, an organization that combined Cleveland's major professional sports teams to create lasting transformational social change in communities across Northeast Ohio. This unit also partners with the Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging by delivering food to seniors in their medically tailored home delivery program.

With great success comes great request. As they complete each detail, they gain new interest in what they provide and the immense joy everyone receives from those gifts. Not only has the demand for their unit increased in the Cleveland area, but it has expanded to surrounding Northeast Ohio communities. They are continually thinking of new ways to be involved with the community they serve.