



Community Engagement Programs

Making a difference together

GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS INITIATIVES

DEADLINE TO APPLY: MARCH 20, 2026

The Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) and the Law Enforcement Foundation (LEF) are pleased to announce a grant opportunity for Ohio community policing programs. The Law Enforcement Community Relations Support Program encourages initiatives to improve the relationship between law enforcement and the community.

Two (2) \$1,000 grants will be awarded per year to OACP member agencies who develop sustainable and unique programs which enhance their image and make a positive impact upon the communities they serve.

Eligibility Requirements

- Member of the OACP.
- New program that can be established within six months of the grant.
- Can be an existing measurably successful program that cannot be sustained without new funding source.
- Must address at least one of the following priorities.

Program Priorities

- **Trust**
 - Programs targeting geographies where citizens whose distrust of law enforcement tends to be high.
 - Programs connecting law enforcement officers with individual citizens, community leaders, influencers and groups of the public in non-enforcement settings and situations.
 - Opportunities for local community leaders and influencers to gain better insight with law enforcement, such as ride-a-longs, training exercises (i.e. de-escalation, etc.)
- **Communication**
 - Encourage open communications between law enforcement officers and those they serve.
 - Educational programs with the public, which allows citizens to better understand the law enforcement's role in the community, their commitment to the public and how to interact with law enforcement officers in enforcement settings.
 - Workshops for law enforcement officers to improve and use public interaction tools and skills.

- **Youth Opportunities**

- Improving the opportunities for youth to lead productive lives by reducing the likelihood of becoming involved in criminal behavior and finding purpose.
- Youth oriented programs intended to encourage positive behavior, good citizenship and future opportunities.

- **Recruitment**

- Programs recognizing and rewarding law enforcement officers for self-initiated positive and meaningful contact with the public.
- Improved success in law enforcement officer recruitment by building a positive image of law enforcement officers within the community.

Current programs in jeopardy due to lack of funding will be given a higher consideration than those current programs not in jeopardy.

Funding for this grant program is sponsored by Mark and Maria Pizzi through The Pizzi Family Fund of the Delaware County Foundation.

Applications must be postmarked by March 20, 2026. The Review Committee will evaluate all applications and notify grant recipients by April 1, 2026. Checks will be mailed by April 15, 2026.

For more information, contact Executive Director Donna Harrass at donna.harrass@oacp.org.

Grant Application

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Agency			
Address			
City		Zip Code	
Primary Contact	Position / Job Title		
Email	Phone		
Size of Agency		County	

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Community Initiatives Program Priorities

(Indicate the priorities that your project will address. *Select one Primary priority and up to two other additional priorities*)

Primary	Additional	Program Priorities
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trust
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Communication
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Youth Opportunities
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recruitment

Program Objectives

(Indicate the objectives that your program will address. *Select all that apply*)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Focusing on areas where trust is low | <input type="checkbox"/> Education programs for law enforcement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Connecting with community | <input type="checkbox"/> Initiatives that empower youth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exposure to law enforcement experiences | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth engagement programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication with community | <input type="checkbox"/> Law enforcement recognition programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education programs for public | <input type="checkbox"/> Building positive image of law enforcement |

Program Summary

Program Title			
Program Start Date			
Program Status	<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> Existing (If existing, is the program in jeopardy?)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of Program (Provide a brief description of the program, attach additional pages if needed.)

Program Objective (Briefly describe the community and the issue your program is designed to address. If this is an existing program, briefly describe the results and any changes needed to improve the outcome for your community.)

Program Participation (Describe who will participate in or benefit from the program.)

Select the age of the audiences who will benefit from your program *(Select all that apply)*

- ☐ Children (0 - 5 years)
- ☐ Children (6 – 11 years)
- ☐ Teens (12 – 16 years)
- ☐ Youth (17 – 25 years)
- ☐ Adults (26 – 54 years)
- ☐ Older adults (55+ years)

Expected Results (Describe the expected outcome or results from the program.)

Submit the completed application to the Review Committee via email at donna.harrass@oacp.org by 5:00 pm on Friday, March 20, 2026. Please include all materials in **ONE PDF DOCUMENT** and name the file **"Grant Applicant_your agency name"**. Do not include multiple attachments. Applications will be reviewed by the Review Committee and applicants who are selected for funding will be notified by Wednesday, April 1, 2026.