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DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION ANNUAL REPORT



FLORIDA D.A.R.E. TRAINING PROGRAM

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Criminal Justice Professionalism Program promotes and facilitates the competency and professional conduct of Florida's criminal justice officers and delivers training to FDLE members and to Florida's criminal justice community.

One of its special programs is the D.A.R.E. Training Program, which trains officers from Florida and other states to teach the Drug Abuse Resistance Education curriculum to students. These certified officers teach effective peer resistance and refusal skills so that adolescents can say "Just Say No" to drugs and to their friends who may want them to use drugs. The program also builds students' social skills and enhances their self-esteem, empowering children to lead safe and healthy lives.

The statistics over the last year show an increased number of agencies working to bring D.A.R.E. to their jurisdictions. Requests have been received from parents and school officials who know the importance of building a foundation for teaching students good-decision making skills to help them lead safe and healthy lives. The relationships that are built with their D.A.R.E. officers strengthen the resolve to make good decisions.

D.A.R.E. is approved by the Florida Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission as an advanced training course, and as such is subject to audit by Commission staff. In November the FDLE Training Center received its 2013/14 audit. D.A.R.E. course files were reviewed in conjunction with six other courses offered by FDLE's Training Center and the auditor noted all was in order.

FROM THE DESK OF...

Florida's D.A.R.E. Statewide Coordinator

2015 was a rewarding year for D.A.R.E. in Florida. The Florida D.A.R.E. Training Program conducted two D.A.R.E. officer training classes. The first one was held January 5-16, 2015, in which 19 new D.A.R.E. officers were certified from Florida, Georgia, Indiana, California and Illinois. The second class took place June 15-26, 2015 and 26 new D.A.R.E. Officers from Florida, Alabama, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, Texas and Wisconsin were certified. The Florida Training Program has developed an excellent reputation for its training, allowing us to offer two D.A.R.E. officer training sessions per year compared to one-per-year that most states and regions offer. Our first D.A.R.E. officer training in 2016 was held January 4-15.

The Florida Training Program received major recognition this year when Mentor Ken Vila, a Collier County Sheriff's Office Corporal was honored as the 2015 Florida D.A.R.E. Officer of the Year by the Florida D.A.R.E. Officers Association. Corporal Vila was also honored as the D.A.R.E. America's 2015 D.A.R.E. Officer of the Year at this year's International Training Conference in New Orleans, LA. Corporal Vila is a true leader among the 56 Collier County Sheriff's Office Youth Relations deputies and has been a real asset to the Florida D.A.R.E. Training Program as a mentor.

A new Florida D.A.R.E. Statewide Coordinator will be named to replace me as I retire from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement on February 29, 2016. I am confident that the effort to provide our children with the tools, resources and skills that they need to make safe and healthy choices and to live their lives to their fullest potential with a very positive lifestyle will continue to be the focus.

As I end 36 years of law enforcement, I am very grateful that during my last seven years, I have had the opportunity to be associated with the D.A.R.E. program as an instructor, a mentor, and a facilitator along with my role as the Statewide Coordinator. I am very excited that the torch will be passed on to a competent and experienced law enforcement officer and that the D.A.R.E. officers and our children will be in good hands.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Stephen Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Stephen" and last name "Anderson" clearly distinguishable.

FDLE AND THE D.A.R.E. PROGRAM

Collaboration of law enforcement and education in drug prevention at the community level builds strong foundations for the future. New D.A.R.E. officers are trained to deliver the tools necessary for children to opt for the right choice when it comes to making healthy decisions for their life. With the skills they learn in the 80 hour course they support and guide children on how to use research-based refusal strategies in high-stakes peer-pressure environments.

The members of FDLE are guided by four fundamental values as they respond to the needs of Florida's citizens and criminal justice community:

Service	~ to the law enforcement community and others we serve;
Integrity	~ of the organization and the individual;
Respect	~ for each member as our most valuable asset; and
Quality	~ in everything we do

These values are held in high regard with the Florida D.A.R.E. Training Program team and the way in which each D.A.R.E. officer is trained. From the first day of training each candidate will begin to see that the fundamentals and information they will be introduced to will be helpful not only in the classroom but also in their positions within their agencies, as well as personally.

The top ten benefits of the D.A.R.E. trained officer are:

1. Improved written skills
2. Enhanced verbal and non-verbal communication
3. Link to information in communities
4. Increased creativity and flexibility tools
5. Improvement of people skills
6. Motivation for public service
7. Growth in ability to assess self and others seeking improvement
8. New tools gained in conflict resolution
9. Resources with which to understand their view as a community partner
10. Increased awareness of positive self-image

As D.A.R.E. officers become certified, they will be returning to their communities with the expertise to help students achieve the D.A.R.E. vision:

"A world in which students everywhere are empowered to respect others and choose to lead lives free from violence, substance abuse, and other dangerous behaviors."

FLORIDA D.A.R.E. OFFICER TRAINING



Congratulations to Graduates of the January 2015 D.A.R.E. Officer Training Program

With the increase in interest from agencies beginning or growing the D.A.R.E. program in their areas, the Florida D.A.R.E. Training Program had received overwhelming requests for training assistance in 2015 and we met the challenge by holding two D.A.R.E. officer training classes this year.

Nineteen new D.A.R.E. Officers were certified on January 16, 2015 after completing the 80 hour course at the FDLE Fort Myers Operations Center. The Florida officers were from Coconut Creek, Collier County, Holmes Beach, Miccosukee, Ocala, Okeechobee County, Sarasota County, and Village of Key Biscayne. Those attending from out of state were from California, Georgia, Illinois, and Indiana.

These officers will be teaching a curriculum encouraging students' to lead safe, responsible, and drug-free lives. The core concepts of the program enable students to exercise self-control, particularly when under stress and pressure, and also helps them identify the risks and consequences of their choices.

FLORIDA D.A.R.E. OFFICER TRAINING



Congratulations to Graduates of the June 2015 D.A.R.E. Officer Training Program

Twenty-six new D.A.R.E. officers were certified on June 26, 2015 after completing the 80 hour course at the FDLE Fort Myers Operations Center. The Florida officers were from Collier County, Holmes Beach, Indian River County, Marco Island, Martin County, Miami-Dade, and Ormond Beach. Outside Florida candidates included the states of Alabama, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, Texas and Wisconsin.

The new D.A.R.E. officers have been trained to teach both the elementary and middle school curriculum. The students are taught the D.A.R.E. Decision Making Model which gives them the tools they need to think through situations, make safe and responsible choices, and become good citizens.

Florida D.A.R.E. Training Program Mentor Ken Vila Named Florida D.A.R.E. Officer of the Year and 2015 National D.A.R.E. Officer of the Year

Corporal Ken Vila, from Collier County Sheriff's Office, and one of FDLE's Florida



Drug Abuse Resistance Education Training Program Mentors, is the 2015 Florida D.A.R.E. Officer of the Year. The award is given annually to a Florida law enforcement officer who is committed to drug prevention and enforcement.

Cpl. Vila was also selected as the top choice from among dozens of candidates from around the country, including three from Florida, to be named as D.A.R.E. Officer of the Year. The national award, given to someone who has shown dedication to D.A.R.E. beyond the high standards evidenced by others involved in the program, was presented to Ken at D.A.R.E. America's conference in New Orleans in August.



The Florida D.A.R.E. Training Program, trains officers to become certified to teach, as well as provides the resources which have enabled D.A.R.E. officers to become mentors.

Florida D.A.R.E. Officers Making a Difference in Florida



Collier County

D.A.R.E. officer Todd Davis graduated his first D.A.R.E. class at Sabal Palm Elementary School. The feedback he received from parents and staff was very good. He was able to use the tools he learned at the D.A.R.E. officer training to effectively make an impact on his students.

"Thank you for the very professional training that you guys gave in Ft. Myers. Keep up the great work." Todd Davis, Collier County Sheriff's Office.

Manatee County - Over the summer, Josh Fleischer attended training and received his certification as an SRO and D.A.R.E. instructor at the FLDE Ft. Myers Operations Center. "I taught D.A.R.E. to kids in summer school in Fort Myers," Fleischer said. He said he's excited to bring the 10-week D.A.R.E. program to Anna Maria Elementary for the new school year and is working with fifth-grade teachers on a start date for the program. Fleischer is a seven-year veteran of the Holmes Beach Police Department.



Volusia County - Ormond Beach D.A.R.E. officers Jay Brennan and John Dovine make some new friends. The police officers were having lunch at Chick-fil-A, and stopped their own lunch break to give stickers and books out to the kids who were there.

FLORIDA D.A.R.E. Essay Contest Coconut Creek Elementary – Broward County

Officer Dan Farrell of the Coconut Creek Police Department guided his 5th graders through the 10 week D.A.R.E. Program and says it's an excellent program which "gives children life lessons to learn to make good decisions." The young graduates received their diplomas in front of a packed house of classmates, family members, and City dignitaries. Officer Dan's wise words for his graduates: "Remember what you learned and the facts and information you gather to make good choices throughout life."

Essay contest winners pose with Officer Dan.

From L to R: Grand Prize Winner – Nathalie, (with large Daren)

Class essay contest winners: David, Charlotte, Neil and Olivia. (not pictured) Marcelina



D.A.R.E. Report/Essay by Nathalie Rodriquez – 12/3/15 Ms. Lindsay's 5th Grade Class

Do you think every school should have the program called "D.A.R.E."? During D.A.R.E. we have learned about so many safe and responsible choices and how to be a good friend or citizen. Well, in this report/essay I will be telling you 4 of my most interesting lessons during D.A.R.E. If you want to know what D.A.R.E. stand for then keep on reading to find out.

To begin with, in the first 3 to 4 lessons Officer Dan taught us about making safe and responsible choices, which was a very important lesson for us. We learned that no matter where we are in the world or what we are doing, we should always make safe and responsible choices, but if our body tells us to smoke well, you know that there will be consequences right?

D.A.R.E. Report/Essay – By Nathalie Rodriguez (continued)

Like for example we know that there are over 200 chemicals on a cigarette that can harm us. I used D.A.R.E. when I saw some teenagers smoking at 7-eleven so, I decided to stay as far as possible. I plan to use what I learned during D.A.R.E. when I am older and more mature so I can avoid smoking and using any type of drug.

Next, in the past 6 weeks, Officer Dan talked to us about confident communication and this is what I learned. We learned how to have confidence in ourselves and how to say “NO” in a positive/polite way. I also learned that we don’t have to be afraid. We have to make a responsible choice and confidently convince our friends to not do the wrong thing. We students have to help one another to not have negative thoughts but unnegative. I used this strategy a lot because some of my friends try to do things they are NOT supposed to do so I try to convince them to do the right thing not the bad thing. I plan to use this strategy when I’m around my friends and to always try to convince them to do the right thing not the bad thing.

Furthermore, in the past 7 weeks this is what I learned about communicating effectively. We learned that we should listen to one another because according to the D.A.R.E. book this is what it says, “Roberto needs to talk with Dion about his homework that is due tomorrow. While he is talking, Dion keeps texting. Roberto is annoyed that Dion is not listening.” So from this, you can tell that if Dion was talking would he like if Roberto was texting? I think not! So always treat others the way you want to be treated. I used this strategy a few days ago while Madison was talking to me, I was listening very carefully and while I was talking she was listening very carefully too. I was happy and satisfied that we both were interested in each other’s conversations. I will try to use this strategy every single day.

Additionally, in the past 8 weeks of D.A.R.E. this is what I learned. Officer Dan talked to us about this since the first week of D.A.R.E. – Responsibly Reporting Bullying. I learned that most people are afraid to tell a teacher or an adult nearby because they are afraid they might be bullied next. Bullying might be a very hard situation from lots of kids around the world, but, don’t let those kids bring you down. Defend yourself, be brave and always tell the nearest adult what is going on. I have been bullied before but that did not change anything about me and never will. I have used this last year when I was bullied because of how tall I am but, that never bothered me. I just walked away and acting like nothing happened. Then the bullies got tired and left me alone.

To wrap it up, I have explained to you four of my most interesting lessons during D.A.R.E. I think my favorite one was responsibly reporting bullying. Bullying, I really liked that one. Anyway, do you think every grade should have D.A.R.E. so they can have more of an experience?

P.S. D.A.R.E. stands for Define, Assess, Respond, Evaluate

I really enjoyed D.A.R.E. and I also enjoyed writing this. I hope we can have something similar to this. I really hope you enjoyed reading this as much as I did writing it.

FLORIDA D.A.R.E. PROGRAM STATISTICS

Agency	Elem. Schools Taught	K-4 Students Taught	5th/6th Grade Classes	5th/6th Grade Students	Middle Schools Taught	7th Grade Classes	7th Grade Students	Certified D.A.R.E. Officers
Aventura Police Department	1	700	6	120	0	0	0	1
City of Doral Police Department	7	0	46	1,040	0	0	0	7
City of Margate	5	1,100	19	445	0	0	0	4
Coconut Creek Police Department	3	2,133	19	495	0	0	0	3
Collier County Sheriff's Office	39	0	180	3,800	0	0	0	46
Coral Gables Police Department	1	0	2	100	0	0	0	2
DeLand Police Department	5	0	15	415	0	0	0	2
Eatonville Police Department	1	0	2	46	0	0	0	1
Florida Dept. of Law Enforcement	1	60	5	110	0	0	0	3
FL School for the Deaf & Blind PD	2	52	2	36	0	0	0	1
Florida State University PD	Did	Not	Report					
Gadsden County Sheriff's Office	10	950	32	700	1	14	210	7
Gulf Breeze Police Department	1	0	7	175	1	6	120	2
Gulf County Sheriff's Office	0	0	0	0	2	7	135	2
Hendry County Sheriff's Office	6	0	26	535	0	0	0	4
Highlands County Sheriff's Office	19	0	11	1,100	0	0	0	8
Holmes Beach Police Department	1	0	2	44	0	0	0	2
Indian River County Sheriff's Office	12	300	55	1,050	0	0	0	7
Key Biscayne Police Department	3	0	12	275	2	0	0	2
Marco Island Police Department	1	250	5	110	0	0	0	2
Martin County Sheriff's Office	12	0	67	1,450	5	0	0	10
Miami Police Department	47	0	241	7,230	0	0	0	12
Miami-Dade County/ Village of Palmetto Bay	3	0	10	315	0	0	0	2

FLORIDA D.A.R.E. PROGRAM STATISTICS (Continued)

Agency	Elem. Schools Taught	K-4 Students Taught	5th/6th Grade Classes	5th/6th Grade Students	Middle Schools Taught	7th Grade Classes	7th Grade Students	Certified D.A.R.E. Officers
Naples Police Department	3	0	12	248	0	0	0	3
Nassau County Sheriff's Office	8	0	36	862	1	1	18	1
New Smyrna Beach Police Department	4	1,500	22	660	1	-	-	1
Ocala Police Department	14	0	45	1,103	2	4	120	4
Ocoee Police Department	5	0	22	440	0	0	0	2
Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office	7	0	25	550	0	0	0	10
Orange City Police Department	2	150	10	300	0	0	0	2
Orange Park Police Department	2	0	13	260	0	0	0	1
Ormond Beach Police Department	8	0	24	740	0	0	0	3
Oviedo Police Department	5	3,000	0	0	0	0	0	1
Pinecrest Police Department	2	100	14	300	0	0	0	2
Pinellas Park Police Department	6	0	26	600	0	0	0	2
Punta Gorda Police Department	1	0	5	90	0	0	0	2
Sarasota County Sheriff's Office	20	300	10	575	0	0	0	2
Sebastian Police Department	3	150	10	230	0	0	0	3
Sebring Police Department	1	0	5	210	0	0	0	1
Seminole Police Department	1	22	1	12	0	0	0	1
Sunny Isles Beach Police Department	Did	Not	Report					
Tarpon Springs Police Department	Did	Not	Report					
Vero Beach Police Department	5	0	10	216	1	2	52	3
West Miami Police Department	1	0	3	90	0	0	0	1
Winter Haven Police Department	9	1,995	35	720	0	0	0	1
2015 - 42 reported	287	12,762	1,092	27,797	16	34	655	178
2014 - 42 Reported	261	5,750	1,224	19,763	18	54	986	151
2013 - 48 Reported	354	7,198	1,398	34,625	20	32	769	178
2012 - 56 Reported	313	9,365	3,810	34,705	17	44	1,411	168

<p align="center">CALENDAR YEAR 2015 EXPENDITURES</p>
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January thru December		
Salaries and Benefits		\$156,715.80
Expenses	Telephone Postage Printing Travel Supplies Total	\$ 122.70 \$ 154.41 \$ 90.25 \$ 14,285.88 \$ 348.45 \$ 15,001.69
Contracted Services	Training Maintenance Mail Service Total	\$ 6,000.00 \$ 35.00 \$ 118.75 \$ 6,153.75
Total Estimated Expenses for 2015		\$ 177,871.24

