

Drug Abuse Resistance Education Annual Report FY 07-08



Florida DARE Training Center

**Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Gerald M. Bailey, Commissioner**

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DARE Summary

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) has been actively involved with the Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program (DARE) since 1988. DARE is a statewide diversion and prevention program for drug abuse administered to juveniles throughout Florida's schools.

FDLE's primary role and responsibility is to serve as the state administrator, including preparation and oversight of the budget, training and certification of officers, and preparation of this annual report. Additionally, FDLE is responsible for ensuring compliance with national standards, delivering technical assistance, and providing statewide program management.

DARE was developed and implemented in California in 1983 through the combined efforts of the Los Angeles Police Department and the Los Angeles Unified School District. The initial 17-week curriculum was designed to provide awareness and facts to elementary school students with the intent that knowledge would help them to resist peer pressure to experiment with alcohol and other drugs. To provide a more solid foundation for children, gang and violence prevention strategies were included in that curriculum.

In 1988, FDLE and the Florida Department of Education (DOE) entered into a partnership to bring a statewide drug prevention program to Florida's schools. DARE was determined to be the best drug prevention program available and selected for implementation in Florida.

In August 2004, DARE was re-designed in the New DARE model of technology and science. Additionally, the new DARE elementary program has been reduced from a 17-week to a 10-week curriculum with follow-up courses taught at the middle and high school level.

The new DARE listens to concerns from community leaders and observes trends throughout the country to create cutting edge curriculum addressing the issues faced by our children. In 2006, two supplemental lessons were introduced concerning "Bullying and Gang and Group Violence" in response to these concerns. A third supplemental lesson concerning the growing methamphetamine epidemic is being developed and will be available in the near future. The new DARE curriculum incorporates innovative, scientific and research-based prevention strategies designed to improve students' skills and outcomes, including:

- Is a science-based prevention program;
- Utilizes active learning;
- Targets communication and refusal skills;
- Teaches decision-making skills throughout lessons;
- Promotes accurate normative beliefs;
- Supports positive peer pressure influence;
- Promotes high self-efficacy;
- Creates a working knowledge of risk;
- Develops healthy attitudes;
- Is a community-based program; and
- Meets national health education standards.

New DARE officers are trained support and guide children on how to use researched-based refusal strategies in high-stakes, peer-pressure environments. New DARE students see tangible proof of how substance abuse diminishes mental activity, emotions, coordination and movement.

In preparing officers for their role within the school system, all officers trained under the New DARE Program are dually certified as DARE officers and School Resource Officers (SRO). This creates a well-trained officer with a broad base of knowledge, thereby maximizing the impact on the students.

Services Provided by FDLE

FDLE provides continuous services to DARE throughout the year to ensure the highest quality of service is provided, including:

- Assist in the prevention of future drug crimes and acts of violence by providing DARE training to federal, state and local law enforcement agencies in Florida as well as other states and counties;
- Develop guidelines for Florida DARE;
- Serve as a liaison with the national DARE policy making board;
- Provide oversight of the Florida DARE Training Center accreditation;
- Conduct statewide audits of local DARE programs to ensure compliance of standards;
- Conduct background investigations on potential DARE officer candidates;
- Maintain training records on all DARE officers in Florida;
- Provide DARE trainers to other state training centers within the southeast region;
- Substitute for local DARE officers who may be absent from the classroom;
- Assist local law enforcement agencies in identifying supplemental and/or alternative funding resources to enhance their DARE Program;
- Serve as support for the annual Florida DARE Day;
- Provide an annual report of DARE related activities throughout Florida;
- Provide workshops and presentations to civic, business, and other community based organizations, concerning drug and violence prevention; and
- Coordinate the statewide evaluation of Florida DARE.

FY 07-08 Update

Florida DARE added and/or re-established programs throughout the state during the year. During FY 2007-08, 62 new officers were trained, five officers were re-certified in the DARE Officer Training Program and two officers were trained to become training mentors. Three DARE officer training classes were conducted by the Florida DARE Training Center this year.

DARE classes across the state continue to decrease in line with the ongoing budget reductions to local and state agencies. A number of agencies reassigned DARE officers to enforcement activities and temporarily placed their DARE Unit into inactive status. The number of active DARE officers decreased from 394 in FY 06-07 to 184 in FY 07-08, a 53% reduction. The number of students instructed in the DARE curriculum decreased from 245,051 in FY 06-07 to 113,372 in FY 07-08, a 53% reduction. The DARE elementary curriculum was presented to 47,540 students in grades K-4, 64,347 fifth and sixth grade students and 1,885 middle school students. The DARE senior high school curriculum was not taught this school year.

DARE Training Center

The Florida DARE Training Center budget is allocated two full-time positions, a Special Programs Administrator assigned as the Statewide Coordinator, a Special Agent assigned as the Regional Coordinator and mentor (instructor) and an Administrative Assistant. The total program expenses for FY 07-08 were \$324,241.

The Center hosted three DARE officer trainings in FY 07-08 and assisted the Florida DARE Officers' Association with their annual state training conference in Marco Island. In order to assist the Miami-Dade Police Department in training a large number of DARE officers and reduce their related travel costs, a DARE officer training class was presented in Miami in January 2008.

In previous classes, students were not charged a fee; however, as the classes were conducted at hotel sites around the state, agencies were responsible for related travel costs. In a continuing effort to deliver DARE

training classes at a minimum cost, all classes are now offered at the Tallahassee Community College's Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy in Havana. The Academy facilities include classrooms, dormitory rooms and cafeteria. Students are charged a fee which is inclusive of lodging and meals, resulting in an overall cost savings to the agency.

Along with assisting agencies with DARE units, FDLE DARE Regional Coordinators assisted DARE America in developing the national curriculum to combat over-the-counter and prescription drug abuse. With over-the-counter and prescription drug abuse on the rise, DARE America saw the importance of developing a curriculum to assist agencies and communities in combating this new problem. The Florida DARE Training Center also participated in developing the new DARE Community Resource Program which replaced the old DARE Parent Program. This Program targets the community by teaching them how to identify current drug trends, and address internet child safety, bullying, and gangs. These lessons can be taught as a series of lessons or as a stand alone lesson. This allows the DARE officer flexibility to provide specific training to a variety of community partners. Many of these lessons were piloted throughout Florida by local DARE officers.

Florida DARE Association Officers

Deputy Larry Stripling, President, Martin County Sheriff's Office
Deputy Sal Anicito, Vice President, St Lucie County Sheriff's Office
Corporal Allison Smith, Secretary, Winter Springs Police Department
Detective Dennis Bowers, Treasurer, Sarasota Police Department
Sergeant Rob Hogan, Sergeant at Arms, Lee County Sheriff's Office

Mentor/Training Staff

Bridges-Tompkins, Dr. Susan, Statewide DARE Educator
Crosby, Dale, Special Agent, FDLE
Derege, Margaret, Deputy, Union County (North Carolina) Sheriff's Office
James, Sandy, Crime Lab Analyst, FDLE
McCollum, Joe, Deputy, Orange County Sheriff's Office
Nester, Jackee, Retired Officer, Hollywood Police Department
Norred, Joel, Special Agent, FDLE
Roman, Alex, Deputy, Orange County Sheriff's Office
Sapp, Kevin, Special Agent, FDLE
Sauls, Monica, Sergeant, Highlands County Sheriff's Office
Schley, Carol, Deputy, Macon County (North Carolina) Sheriff's Office
Sharpe, Arlene, Deputy, Richland County (South Carolina) Sheriff's Office
Spooner, Ed, Statewide DARE Coordinator, FDLE
Wells, Michelle, Deputy, Lee County (Mississippi) Sheriff's Office
Wimberly, Mable, Administrative Assistant, FDLE
Wordly, Michael, Officer, Miami-Dade Police Department

National Sheriffs' Association Resolution



NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION (D.A.R.E.)

WHEREAS, The National Sheriffs' Association recognizes the nationwide seriousness of drug abuse and violence by our nation's youth, and the urgent need to use and to expand school-based prevention education programs throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, The day-to-day struggle against alcohol abuse, tobacco, drugs and violence requires a long-term national, state and local effort and commitment; and

WHEREAS, Since 1983, the Drug Abuse Resistance Education ("D.A.R.E.") has taught millions of young people how to recognize and to resist the pressure to be involved in drugs, gangs and violent activities; and

WHEREAS, The D.A.R.E. Program underscores a nationwide commitment and dedication to help our nation's youth to "just say no" to drugs and to violence; and

WHEREAS, By promoting positive youth development, D.A.R.E. Programs across our nation are helping children and young people make the right choices and build lives of purpose; and

WHEREAS, The D.A.R.E. Program allows law enforcement personnel to enter our nation's classrooms to answer difficult questions about drugs, violence and crime, teaches students how to avoid temptation, and encourages open communication between young people and local law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, The D.A.R.E. Program strengthens our local communities and provides our children and young people with a strong foundation and model for success; and

WHEREAS, D.A.R.E. Instructors, along with parents, teachers, health care professionals and all other interested parties who help our nation's youth grow into responsible, successful adults are strengthening our country and contributing to a future of hope for everyone; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That the National Sheriffs' Association acknowledges and actively supports the effort of D.A.R.E. Programs to significantly reduce/eliminate use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs and violent behavior by our nation's youth.

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED,

That the National Sheriffs' Association urges Sheriff Offices across our nation to utilize D.A.R.E. Programs in their local communities.

FY 07-08 DARE Statistics

AGENCY NAME	# of Elem. Schools	# of K-4 Reached	# of 5th/6th Grade Classes	# of 5th/6th Grade Students	# of Middle Schools	# of 7th Grade Classes	# of 7th Grade Students	# of Certified D.A.R.E. Officers	# of D.A.R.E. Officers Teaching
Cape Coral Police Department	16	569	81	1741	12	0	0	3	3
City of Apopka Police Department	5	0	26	600	2	0	0	2	2
City of Miami Police Department	2	220	210	210	0	0	0	7	5
City of Sebastian Police Department	2	0	10	240	0	0	0	2	1
Cocoa Beach Police Department	0	0	0	0	1	15	268	1	1
Coconut Creek Police Department	3	2250	28	840	0	0	0	6	3
Collier County Sheriffs Office	27	0	133	3243	0	0	0	25	25
Coral Gables Police Department	4	0	14	14	0	0	0	3	3
Daytona Beach Police Department	7	400	750	750	0	0	0	2	2
Deland Police Department	5	30	11	372	0	0	0	1	1
Dixie County Sheriff's Office	2	980	8	161	1	0	0	1	1
FAMU Dept. of Public Safety	1	70	4	90	1	2	40	1	1
Franklin County Sheriff's Office	4	0	6	98	2	5	79	2	1
FSU Police Department	1	0	93	93	0	0	0	1	1
Gilchrist County Sheriff's Office	2	10	90	125	0	0	0	1	1
Gulf Breeze Police Department	2	700	7	150	1	37	845	2	2
Hallandale Beach Police Department	1	970	10	195	0	0	0	3	1
Hardee County Sheriffs Office	5	0	24	450	0	0	0	3	2
Hernando County Sheriff's Office	14	2309	74	1415	0	0	0	5	4
Holmes Beach Police Department	1	0	2	41	0	0	0	1	1
Jacksonville Beach Police Department	5	980	12	420	1	4	128	4	4
Jefferson County Sheriff's Office	1	0	3	53	0	0	0	1	1
Key Biscayne Police Department	3	200	10	181	0	0	0	2	2
Lafayette County Sheriffs Office	2	0	0	0	2	3	75	1	1
Lake County Sheriff's Office	26	2500	30	3000	0	0	0	6	6
Lake Mary Police Department	3	0	14	282	0	0	0	1	1
Lakeland Police Department	19	5113	56	1272	0	0	0	4	4
Lee County Sheriff's Office	29	970	122	3227	0	0	0	4	4
Leesburg Police Department	2	0	12	240	0	0	0	2	1
Longwood Police Department	2	0	7	135	0	0	0	1	1
Maitland Police Department	2	0	10	240	0	0	0	2	1
Margate Police Department	3	1080	27	490	1	0	0	5	2
Marion County Sheriff's Office	24	711	1055	2368	7	0	0	13	6
Martin County Sheriff's Office	11	0	45	1200	0	0	0	3	3
Miami Shores Police Department	4	210	10	280	0	0	0	2	1
Miami-Dade Police Department	136	5215	634	19200	0	0	0	23	20
Milton Police Department	2	300	7	200	2	0	0	2	1
Monroe County Sheriff's Office	2	0	9	190	0	0	0	3	3
Naples Police Department	3	0	11	300	0	0	0	3	3
Nassau County Sheriff's Office	5	0	33	925	0	0	0	1	1

AGENCY NAME	# of Elem. Schools	# of K-4 Reached	# of 5th/6th Grade Classes	# of 5th/6th Grade Students	# of Middle Schools	# of 7th Grade Classes	# of 7th Grade Students	# of Certified D.A.R.E. Officers	# of D.A.R.E. Officers Teaching
New Smyrna Beach Police Department	4	300	200	200	1	0	0	2	1
North Miami Beach Police Department	3	0	19	476	0	0	0	2	2
North Palm Beach Police Department	1	150	3	3	0	0	0	1	1
Orange City Police Department	2	0	10	305	0	0	0	3	1
Orange County Sheriff's Office	76	4000	388	8078	0	0	0	21	20
Ormond Beach Police Department	9	200	40	800	0	0	0	1	2
Oviedo Police Department	4	120	25	598	0	0	0	2	1
Palm Beach Gardens Police Department	1	0	1	17	0	0	0	1	1
Panama City Beach Police Department	2	20	7	175	0	0	0	3	3
Pinecrest Police Department	2	110	125	125	0	0	0	4	1
Pinellas County Sheriff's Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0
Pinellas Park Police Department	7	0	24	560	0	0	0	4	2
Punta Gorda Police Department	1	0	5	125	1	15	400	4	1
Sanibel Police Department	1	0	2	52	1	2	50	1	1
Sarasota County Sheriff's Office	7	0	49	860	1	0	0	0	0
Seminole County Sheriff's Office	22	13375	110	2675	0	0	0	5	0
St. Lucie Sheriff's Office	14	0	52	1310	0	0	0	6	6
Stuart Police Department	5	1000	7	150	0	0	0	2	1
Tallahassee Police Department	26	715	103	2386	0	0	0	10	9
Tarpon Springs Police Department	3	1200	11	250	1	0	0	4	3
Vero Beach Police Department	5	0	18	410	0	0	0	1	1
Washington County Sheriff's Office	2	0	14	300	0	0	0	4	2
West Miami Police Department	1	0	4	100	0	0	0	1	1
Windermere Police Department	1	400	6	130	0	0	0	1	1
Winter Park Police Department	3	0	13	251	0	0	0	1	1
Zephyrhills Police Department	2	163	13	290	0	0	0	1	1
TOTALS:	578	47,540	4,885	64,347	38	83	1,885	242	184