

2010 Drug Abuse Resistance Education Annual Report



Florida D.A.R.E. Training Center
Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Gerald M. Bailey, Commissioner

Drug Abuse Resistance Education – D.A.R.E.

D.A.R.E.'s primary mission is to provide children with the information and skills they need to live drug and violence-free lives. D.A.R.E. helps equip kids with the tools that will enable them to avoid negative influences and instead allow them to focus on their strengths and potential. Additionally, the D.A.R.E. program helps to establish positive relationships between students and law enforcement, teachers, parents, and other community leaders. Every child should have the opportunity to grow up healthy, safe, secure, and equipped with the skills needed to succeed in life.

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) serves as the state administrator for the D.A.R.E. program. This includes, but is not limited to, the preparation and oversight of the budget, training and certification of officers, and preparation of the Annual D.A.R.E. Report. Additionally, FDLE is responsible for ensuring compliance with national standards, delivery of technical assistance, and providing statewide program management.

The D.A.R.E. program 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 program 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. In order to provide a more solid foundation for our 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. The D.A.R.E. program was determined to be the best program available and was implemented in Florida.

The D.A.R.E. curriculum has been redesigned over the years. The current D.A.R.E program considers concerns from community leaders and observes trends throughout the country to create cutting edge curriculum addressing the issues faced by our children. Lessons on bullying and gang and group violence have been added in response to these concerns. D.A.R.E. also addresses the growing methamphetamine epidemic and has added prescription/over-the-counter (Rx/OTC) drug abuse materials.

The D.A.R.E. K-12 curricula focus upon the abuse of gateway drugs (tobacco, alcohol, marijuana and inhalants). The program offers a preventive strategy to enhance protective factors, especially bonding to family, school and community, which research has shown to foster development of resiliency in students who may be at risk for substance abuse or other problem behaviors. The program employs the use of the D.A.R.E. decision-making model in which students are provided skills to use in developing and assessing choices they make in life. Students build skills to:

- D Define problems and challenges;
- A Assess available choices;
- R Respond by making a choice; and
- E Evaluate their decisions.

D.A.R.E....

- 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.

D.A.R.E. officers are trained to support and guide children on how to use researched-based refusal strategies in high-stakes peer pressure environments. D.A.R.E. students see tangible proof of how substance abuse diminishes mental activity, emotions, coordination, and movement. Rigorous scientific evaluation has documented that kids who complete the D.A.R.E. program have improved decision-making skills, view drug use as unacceptable, and are less likely to ever use drugs.

In preparing officers for their role within the school system, all officers are dually certified as D.A.R.E. and School Resource Officers. This helps to create well-trained officers with a broad base of knowledge thereby maximizing the impact on the students.

FDLE Services

FDLE provides continuous support to the D.A.R.E. program throughout the year. Services include:

1. Providing assistance in the prevention of future drug crimes and acts of violence by providing D.A.R.E. training to federal, state and local law enforcement agencies in Florida, as well as other states and counties.
2. Developing guidelines for the Florida D.A.R.E. Program.
3. Serving as a liaison with the National D.A.R.E. policy making board.
4. Oversight of the Florida D.A.R.E. Training Center Accreditation.
5. Conducting statewide audits of local D.A.R.E programs to ensure compliance of standards.
6. Conducting background investigations on D.A.R.E officer candidates.
7. Maintaining training records on all D.A.R.E. officers in Florida.
8. Providing D.A.R.E. trainers to other state training centers within the southeast region.
9. Substituting for local D.A.R.E. officers who may be absent from the classroom.

10. Assisting local law enforcement agencies in identifying supplemental funding resources to enhance their D.A.R.E. program.
11. Providing support for the annual Florida D.A.R.E. day.
12. Providing an annual report of D.A.R.E.-related activities throughout Florida.
13. Providing workshops and presentations to civic, business, and other community-based organizations concerning drug and violence prevention.
14. Coordinating the statewide evaluation of the D.A.R.E. program in Florida.

Florida D.A.R.E. Training Center

In 2010, the Florida D.A.R.E. Training Center hosted two D.A.R.E. officer training sessions:

- June 21 - July 2: 31 police officers and deputy sheriffs were trained and certified.
- July 12 and 13: Training session covering bullying and gangs, Rx/OTC drug abuse and certifying officers in the middle school *keepin' it REAL* program in partnership with the Miami-Dade Police Department and D.A.R.E. America.

The D.A.R.E. Training Center not only assists Florida's law enforcement agencies with their D.A.R.E. units and training, but also provides full-time D.A.R.E. classes at various at risk schools. The Florida D.A.R.E. Training Center works closely with D.A.R.E. America to ensure that Florida's instructors/mentors are trained and certified in the latest programs and curriculum.

There are currently 124 active D.A.R.E. officers teaching in Florida schools. During 2010, these officers taught D.A.R.E. in almost 400 elementary schools (public & private) to almost 14,000 kindergarten through fourth graders and over 27,000 fifth and sixth graders. Additionally, the D.A.R.E. Middle School Curriculum was taught in 11 middle schools to over 1,300 seventh grade students. (See Appendix on page 6).

D.A.R.E. Expenditures

Salaries & Benefits	\$179,356
Expenses	\$ 3,979
Contracted Services	\$ 750
Total	\$184,085

Florida D.A.R.E. Mentor/Training Staff

Inspector Stephen Emerson	FDLE D.A.R.E. Statewide Coordinator
Special Agent Dale Crosby	FDLE Office of Statewide Intelligence/Orlando
Special Agent Kevin A. Sapp	FDLE Office of Statewide Intelligence/Ft. Myers
Officer Sean Viara	North Port Police Department
Officer Michael Wordly	Miami-Dade Police Department
Officer Jackee Nester	Hollywood Police Department – Retired
Dr. Susan Bridges-Tompkins	Statewide D.A.R.E. Educator
Crime Lab Analyst Sandra James	FDLE, Toxicology
Adm. Asst. Mable Wimberly	FDLE, Leadership Center

2010 Florida D.A.R.E. Officers Association – Board of Directors

President	Corporal Fred Jones, Lake County Sheriff's Office
Vice President	Officer Chris Taylor, Hallandale Beach Police Department
Secretary	Officer Jamie Byrd, Ocoee Police Department
Treasurer	Corporal Terry Allen, Lake County Sheriff's Office
Chaplain	Sgt. Monica Sauls, Highlands County Sheriff's Office
Educational Advisor	Dr. Susan Mochen, Palm Beach County Schools
Newsletter & Website Chairperson	Captain Amy Schmidt, Dept. of Environmental Protection

Appendices

2010 Statewide D.A.R.E. Program Statistics

Agency	Elem. Schools Taught	K-4 Students Taught	5 th /6 th Grade Classes Taught	5 th /6 th Grade Students Taught	Middle Schools Taught	7 th Grade Classes Taught	7 th Grade Students Taught	Certified D.A.R.E. Officers	D.A.R.E. Officers Teaching
Apopka PD	5	0	29	646	0	0	0	3	1
Cocoa Beach PD	1	0	0	0	1	10	218	1	1
Coconut Creek PD	3	350	26	780	1	0	0	7	2
Collier County SO	35	N/A	136	3022	0	N/A	N/A	27	18
Coral Gables PD	3	0	11	293	0	0	0	2	2
Deland PD	5	0	395	395	0	0	0	1	1
FAMU Dept. of Public Safety	1	200	2	50	1	0	0	1	1
FDLE	2	32	186	186	1	31	31	3	3
Gulf Breeze PD	2	0	8	180	1	0	0	3	1
Hallandale Beach PD	1	900	10	205	1	0	0	3	2
Highlands County SO	9	N/A	32	1025	2	2	422	5	4
Holmes Beach PD	1	30	3	48	0	0	0	1	1
Jacksonville Beach PD	4	720	14	416	1	6	175	4	4
Key Biscayne PD	2	192	7	171	0	0	0	1	1
Lake County SO	26	5000	175	175	0	0	0	7	7
Lake Mary PD	3	50	15	323	0	0	0	1	1
Longwood PD	2	0	8	180	0	0	0	1	1
Maitland PD	2	150	9	240	0	0	0	1	1
Margate PD	3	790	24	535	0	0	0	3	3
Marion County SO	22	0	110	2717	0	0	0	10	3
Martin County SO	11	700	60	1200	0	0	0	3	3
Miami PD	6	75	18	312	0	0	0	6	6
Miami Shores PD	4	0	8	206	0	0	0	2	1
Miami-Dade PD	94	0	414	1300	0	0	0	20	11
Naples PD	3	0	13	290	0	0	0	3	3
New Smyrna Beach PD	4	800	300	300	1	500	500	2	2
North Bay Village PD	1	4	4	128	0	0	0	1	1
North Palm Beach PD	1	100	2	98	1	0	0	1	1
Ocala PD	16	0	22	22	0	0	0	2	2
Ocoee PD	5	0	26	450	0	0	0	2	1
Orange City PD	2	0	9	263	0	0	0	2	1
Orange County SO	77	2349	377	8180	0	0	0	17	17
Ormond Beach PD	8	0	26	703	0	0	0	2	2
Palm Beach Gardens PD	1	15	1	12	0	0	0	5	1
Punta Gorda PD	1	0	120	120	0	0	0	3	1
Sanibel PD	1	0	2	45	0	0	0	1	1
Sarasota SO	2	0	9	9	0	0	0	3	2
Sebastian PD	2	0	10	250	0	0	0	2	1
Stuart PD	5	0	10	200	0	0	0	3	1
Tarpon Springs PD	3	0	10	230	0	0	0	5	2
Vero Beach PD	5	0	17	400	0	0	0	1	1

West Miami PD	1	0	4	120	0	0	0	1	1
Wilton Manors PD	2	500	140	140	0	0	0	1	1
Windermere PD	1	500	6	170	0	0	0	1	1
Winter Park PD	3	400	12	280	0	0	0	1	1
Zephyrhills PD	2	0	13	276	0	0	0	1	1
TOTAL	393	13,857	2,833	27,291	11	549	1,346	176	124

National D.A.R.E. News

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA A PROCLAMATION

Drugs, gangs, and violence threaten our children and communities every day. Today we commemorate Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.), a program that has worked to educate children and protect them from these problems. National D.A.R.E. Day provides the opportunity to reflect upon the dangers of drugs, gangs, and violence and to emphasize efforts to combat these threats.

From inner cities to suburbs and rural communities, gangs and drug dealers prey upon youth across the United States. Unaware of the dangers of drug abuse and violence, many youth surrender the promise of a bright future. Every child lost in this battle represents a tragedy for our Nation, and we must do more to stop it.

Education efforts to help children avoid drugs and violence must begin in the home. Parents must be positive role models and take the lead in advising their children on the effects of drugs on their health and well-being.

The D.A.R.E. program has worked to educate students about drugs, gangs, and violence for more than 25 years. Placing law-enforcement personnel in the classroom, D.A.R.E. provides students with important lessons from experts and seeks to prepare them for the difficult encounters and choices they may face.

Today we honor D.A.R.E. for its important work. The efforts of D.A.R.E.'s instructors and supporters benefit our Nation's children and are deserving of praise and appreciation. D.A.R.E.'s renewed efforts to implement science-based programs and to strengthen partnerships among law enforcement, families, and their communities are particularly worthy of commendation. Through effective teaching methods and broad participation, D.A.R.E. can help ensure that every child in America enjoys the opportunities he or she deserves.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim April 8, 2010, as National D.A.R.E. Day.

I call upon our youth, parents, educators, law enforcement personnel, and all the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate programs and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand ten, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.

Barack Obama

D.A.R.E. Program Improves Public Image of Police

*Accepted for publication in Health Education Research
Augustine Hammond, Ph.D.
Department of Political Science, Augusta State University,
Augusta, GA*

Research Summary:

The study has provided findings with important implications for prevention programming, and agencies concerned with improving the public image of the police and police functions.

Given the possibility that program outcomes are related to attitudes toward program instructors, the more positive evaluation of police instructors by students in this study suggests that D.A.R.E. programs delivered by police officers are more likely to have a positive impact.

Consequently, we suggest that police officers may be appropriate deliverers of prevention programs for the majority of adolescents. The use of police officers as instructors of prevention programs has the potential of not only helping improve the effectiveness of prevention programs but would also help create and sustain a more positive image of the police or at least abate the negative image held by adolescents.

The positive image of the police developed among students may create a situation where the students could relate cordially to the police, report crime voluntarily and cooperate in curbing crime in schools. With schools being a microcosm of the wider community, it is expected that the cordial relationship developed between the police and students in schools would be transferred to the community. This might engender more positive community engagement and meaningful police-community partnerships toward effective and efficient policing.

This is particularly important considering that community policing has become a dominant approach to policing in the United States of America in recent years.

D.A.R.E. Essay Contest Entry

Submitted by: Raina Daniels
Fifth Grade Student
G. Weaver Hipps Elementary School

D.A.R.E. Drug abuse resistance education. In this program, I have learned so much about the dangers of tobacco and alcohol. I learned that if I were to start these things, I would not only be risking my health, but others too. D.A.R.E. has helped me and it can change you.

Alcohol. What a harmful beverage. This drink can affect your whole body. Like all food, it goes through your bloodstream and travels all throughout your body. This causes it to release into your organs and occasionally causing a disease. I know the dangers because a family member was an alcoholic and suffered from a coma. He never woke up. Alcohol is in beer, wine, and liquor.

Tobacco. This shaved leaf is the most common cause of cancer. 400,000 people die from this terrible drug a year. If you smoke it, you can put others in danger too with the second hand smoke. Another family member chews tobacco and got cancer. Marijuana is also a leaf. It causes breathing problems, memory loss, and it can be addictive. It is illegal anyways.

To make wise decisions, I go to the D.A.R.E. decision-making model. It is made up of four steps. Number one D-Define. Describe the problem, challenge or opportunity. Two, A-Assess. What are my choices? Use the information I have gathered. And four, E-Evaluate. Review my decision. Did I make a wise choice? The D.A.R.E. decision-making model helped me through D.A.R.E. and will help me in the future. I trust I will always remember to use it.

To conclude, D.A.R.E. gave me all the essential information I need to get through tough situations. I believe that I was very fortunate to receive D.A.R.E. Now I know exactly what I need to do and will do. Thank you to my officer, Inspector Emerson.

Pledge: On my honor, I will try to be smart about my choices, wise about my decisions, and to strive for the best. D.A.R.E. is a privilege. So I pledge to be free of addiction!



D.A.R.E. Essay Winners
December 7, 2010
G.Weaver Hipps Elementary School
Lehigh Acres, Florida