


DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION 2011 ANNUAL REPORT



FLORIDA D.A.R.E. TRAINING CENTER
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Gerald M. Bailey, Commissioner



The Drug Abuse Resistance Education (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 17-week curriculum was designed to provide awareness and facts to elementary school students with the intent that the 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.

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.

The mission is to equip kids with the tools that will enable them to avoid negative influences and allow them to focus on their strengths and potential. And that's exactly what D.A.R.E. is designed to do!

Additionally, D.A.R.E. establishes positive relationships between students and law enforcement, teachers, parents, and other community leaders. Every youngster should have the opportunity to grow-up healthy, safe, secure, and equipped with the skills needed to succeed in life. Contemporary America, however, is rampant with challenges that could keep children from a positive life path.




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SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION TO DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION D.A.R.E.



DARE Graduation at the Florida School For Deaf and Blind in St. Augustine.

THE *NEW* D.A.R.E. CURRICULUM

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 were on bullying and gang & group violence have been added in response to these concerns. D.A.R.E. also addresses the growing methamphetamine epidemic and has added the prescription/over-the-counter (Rx/OTC) drug abuse materials.

The *New D.A.R.E.* curriculum incorporates innovative prevention science and research based strategies designed to improve students' skills and outcomes. The *New D.A.R.E.* K-12 curricula focuses upon the abuse of "gateway drugs" (tobacco, alcohol, marijuana and inhalants). The program offers a preventive strategy to enhance protective factors - especially related to bonding with family, school and the community. Research has shown this bonding fosters 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
- E** Evaluate their decisions

The *New D.A.R.E.* Curriculum...

- ◆ 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

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 students. D.A.R.E Officers are trained to support and guide children on how to use research-based refusal strategies in high-stakes peer-pressure environments. *New 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 *New D.A.R.E.* program have improved decision-making skills, view drug use as unacceptable, and are less likely to ever use drugs.

SECTION 2:

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

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY OF FDLE



In 1988, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (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 drug prevention program available and was selected for implementation in the State of Florida.

The primary role and responsibility of FDLE in the DARE program is to serve as the state administrator. This administration includes but is not limited to the preparation and oversight of the budget; training and certification of officers; and preparation of the Annual DARE Report. Additionally, the FDLE is responsible for ensuring compliance with national standards, delivery of technical assistance, and providing statewide program management.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY FDLE

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

- ◇ 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;
- ◇ Developing guidelines for the Florida D.A.R.E. Program;
- ◇ Serving as a liaison with the National D.A.R.E. policy making board.;
- ◇ Oversight of the Florida D.A.R.E. Training Center Accreditation.;
- ◇ Conducting statewide audits of local D.A.R.E programs to ensure compliance of standards;
- ◇ Conducting background investigations on D.A.R.E officer candidates;
- ◇ Maintaining training records on all D.A.R.E. officers in Florida;
- ◇ Providing D.A.R.E. trainers to other state training centers within the southeast region;
- ◇ Substituting for local D.A.R.E. officers who may be absent from the classroom;
- ◇ Assisting local law enforcement agencies in identifying supplemental funding resources to enhance their D.A.R.E. programs;
- ◇ Serving as support for the annual Florida D.A.R.E. day;
- ◇ Providing an annual report of D.A.R.E. related activities throughout Florida;
- ◇ Providing workshops and presentations to civic, business, and other community-based organizations concerning drug and violence prevention; and
- ◇ Coordinating the statewide evaluation of the D.A.R.E. program in Florida.

INSIDE THE FDLE D.A.R.E. TRAINING CENTER

The Florida D.A.R.E. Training Center hosted one D.A.R.E. Officer Training in 2011. In the August 21 - September 2, 2011, D.A.R.E. Officer Training at the Florida Public Safety Institute in Havana, Florida, 26 police officers/deputy sheriff's were trained and certified

Along with assisting Florida's law enforcement agencies with their D.A.R.E. units and their training, the Training Center maintains their relevancy by teaching full-time D.A.R.E. classes at various at-risk schools throughout Florida. The Florida D.A.R.E. Training Center works closely with D.A.R.E. America to insure that all instructor/mentors are trained and certified in the latest programs and curriculum.



The August 22 - September 2, 2011 D.A.R.E. Officer Training class at the Florida Public Safety Institute in Havana, Florida.



FY 2010 - 2011 D.A.R.E. EXPENDITURES

Salaries and Benefits:		\$176,180.00
Expenses:		
Telephone	\$	332.00
Postage		47.00
Printing		29.00
Travel		12,248.00
Other		<u>538.00</u>
	\$	13,194.00
Contracted Services:		
Training	\$	750.00
Mail/Delivery		<u>32.00</u>
	\$	782.00
Total:		\$ 190,156.00

SECTION 3:

FLORIDA D.A.R.E.

FLORIDA D.A.R.E. MENTOR/TRAINING STAFF

Inspector Stephen Emerson	FDLE D.A.R.E. Statewide Coordinator Ft. Myers Regional Operations Center
Special Agent Dale Crosby	FDLE Office of Statewide Intelligence Orlando Regional Operations Center
Special Agent Kevin A. Sapp	FDLE Office of Statewide Intelligence Ft. Myers Regional Operations Center
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 Joshua Harrison	FDLE Toxicology section
Administrative Asst. Mable Wimberly	FDLE Bureau of Professional Development

FLORIDA D.A.R.E. OFFICER'S ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Corporal Fred Jones, Lake County Sheriff's Office
Vice-President	Corporal Scott Wardingley, Lake County Sheriff's Office
Secretary	Officer Diane Duffy, Ocoee Police Department
Treasurer	Corporal Terry Allen, Lake County Sheriff's Office
Sergeant-At-Arms	Sergeant Mark Roberts, Okeechobee County SO
Chaplain	Sergeant Monica Sauls, Highlands County Sheriff's Office
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Newsletter & Website Chairperson	Captain Amy Schmidt Florida Department of Environmental Protection

FLORIDA'S FIRST LADY ANN SCOTT VISITS OSCEOLA ELEMENTARY

In November, First Lady Ann Scott visited Osceola Elementary School and participated in one of the D.A.R.E. classes. She spoke to them about the importance of making good decisions, not taking drugs of any kind, keeping themselves healthy, and encouraged them to read everything they could. She congratulated these students on their achievements in school and in D.A.R.E. The students enjoyed visiting with her and were thrilled to get her autograph.



Pictures courtesy of Collier County Schools

SECTION 4: D.A.R.E. AMERICA: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

PENN STATE AND D.A.R.E.: “KEEPIN’ IT REAL”

Pennsylvania State University (Penn State) and D.A.R.E. America have partnered to prevent substance use in elementary schools. “Keepin’ it REAL” is led by Penn State’s Dr. Michael Hecht, Distinguished Professor. D.A.R.E. America’s recent decision to transition to the “kiR” Elementary School Curriculum was based on the abundance of evidence which has accumulated over years that it is effective and incredibly cost efficient.

An independent, federally-funded cost effectiveness study evaluation prevention program reported that “keepin’ it REAL” was ranked among the top 3 overall, with a cost benefit of \$28 in benefits for every \$1 spent.

“Keepin’ it REAL” ranked among the top 3 most cost-effective prevention programs in a study by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

RX AND OTC DRUG ABUSE CURRICULUM RELEASED

Responding to the growth of a serious national trend, D.A.R.E. America has developed curricula to curtail the abuse of prescription (Rx) and over-the-counter (OTC) drugs by teens and young adults.

According to a recent study, with the exception of marijuana, teenagers are more likely to abuse over-the-counter and prescription medicines than any other drug.

Reasons for this trend:

- ⇒ These drugs are often cheaper and easier to get
- ⇒ Children think medicines are safer than street drugs



■ National Middle School Association

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October 1, 2010

Charlie Parsons, President and CEO
DARE America
PO Box 512090
Los Angeles, CA 90051

Dear Mr. Parsons,

National Middle School Association is dedicated to advancing the lives of young adolescents through improved educational systems. To accomplish this mission we are always looking for ways to improve our students' education. As part of this process, we reviewed DARE America's new *keepin' it REAL* middle school substance use prevention curriculum and believe that this curriculum is a valuable tool for student healthy decision-making. The curriculum facilitates active learning and encourages students' higher level thinking skills. The lessons support many of the goals stated in NMSA's position paper, *This We Believe: Keys to Educating Young Adolescents* including

- Be able to think rationally and critically and express thoughts clearly.
- Understand and use the major concepts, skills, and tools of inquiry in the areas of health and physical education, language arts, world languages, mathematics, natural and physical sciences, and the social sciences.
- Recognize, articulate and make responsible, ethical decisions concerning his or her own health and wellness needs.
- Develop the interpersonal and social skills needed to learn, work, and play with others harmoniously and confidently.

Not only will *keepin' it REAL* help middle school students lead healthy lives and accomplish the goals we see as crucial for our students, but it is easy to use; comes in customizable rural, urban, and suburban versions; and strengthens community-school bonds. Additionally, DARE's unique delivery system gives it instant credibility and enhances security with the presence of an officer on campus. As a result, NMSA wishes to be an active partner with DARE America for the *keepin' it REAL* middle school substance use prevention curriculum.

We look forward to our continued collaboration on this important initiative.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Drew Allbritten, Ed.D.
Executive Director

National Middle School Association is dedicated to improving the educational experiences of young adolescents by providing vision, knowledge, and resources to all who serve them in order to develop healthy, productive, and ethical citizens.

THE SILENT EPIDEMIC: KIDS AND PHARMACEUTICAL

According to recent surveys, while the abuse of illegal drugs is on the decline, statistics on teen abuse of legal drugs show a disturbing trend:

1. One in three teens reports having a close friend who abuses prescription pain relievers to get high.
2. One in four has a close friend who abuses over-the-counter (OTC) cough medicine to get high. Nearly one in five teens has used a prescription medication that was not prescribed to them. While the abuse of illegal drugs is on the decline, SAMHSA's National Survey on Drug Use and Health shows that teen abuse of legal drugs is on the rise.
3. Most kids who abuse pain relievers obtained the drugs from a friend or relative for free, while about 10 percent took the pain relievers from a friend or relative without asking.
4. New youth abusers of prescription drugs now outnumber new users of every illicit drug except marijuana.
5. The survey found that the majority of the legal prescription drugs abused by teenagers were obtained from within their homes or from the homes of friends or relatives.

STOP, THINK, CONNECT

In 2011, D.A.R.E. America joined the Department of Homeland Security in their effort to promote the "**STOP, THINK, CONNECT**" campaign to help spread the word about the importance of safety and security online.

D.A.R.E. 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.

SECTION 5:

D.A.R.E. ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

Essay Winners:

Peyton Mitchell
Kaila Cannon

from Tanglewood Elementary School, Fort Myers

Peyton Mitchell

D.A.R.E. Drug Abuse Resistance Education. That's right, Education! D.A.R.E. has given me so much education on drugs, tobacco and alcohol. I am going to tell you about all the information D.A.R.E. has taught me about these three things.

Drugs! UGH!! They have so much tar, chemicals and cause a great risk of cancer. Who would want to put that in their body? I know it's addictive, but why would you do it in the first place? When people use drugs they go crazy and rob places just so they can get money to buy drugs. When you take drugs you have short term memory loss, you can't concentrate and it slows down your coordination and reflexes. You also can't judge distance, speed and reaction time. For example, someone is driving a car and taking drugs. They might see a kid crossing the street and they don't hit the brakes until 5 or 6 seconds after they see the kid.

Tobacco breathes in 200 poisons and lets out any that didn't go into your lungs. Yuck! Again, why would you smoke? Tobacco gives you lung, kidney, bladder and throat problems. It also gives you bad breath and tooth loss. Tobacco causes dizziness and it dehydrates. Do you see why drugs and tobacco are bad yet?

Alcohol is so refreshing....NOT!!! Alcohol might seem refreshing to some people, but drinking alcohol is putting your whole body at risk. It goes straight to the blood stream and that increases the risk of diseases. I stated this before, but I am going to state it again, Why? Why do people drink alcohol? Someone I know said that it tastes disgusting. I bet it does! If you drink too much alcohol you have no coordination, bad reflexes, no self-control, poor judgment, memory lapses and slurred speech. Alcohol is so bad.

D.A.R.E. has taught me so much about drugs, tobacco and alcohol. Now that I have learned so many facts about these things, I won't do them. People do these things because of peer pressure. Peer pressure is when someone persuades someone else to do something bad or good. I hope you learned a lot of facts.

Pledge Statement

I, Peyton Mitchell, promise to try my best not to drink alcohol, smoke or chew tobacco and to not take drugs. I will always use positive peer pressure and use the D.A.R.E. decision making model to make choices.

Kaila Cannon

Drugs, alcohol and marijuana aren't even half of the things I learned about in D.A.R.E. The D.A.R.E. program has taught me a lot I need to know to make wise and healthy choices. Some of the things I learned about were DDMM, tobacco and marijuana and about alcohol facts. I can happily say that D.A.R.E. really helped me get a better education with healthy choices.

First, in D.A.R.E. I learned how to choose the right decision with the DDMM, a.k.a. the Dare Decision Making Model. This model really breaks down the steps to choose the better path. The steps are to define, describe the challenge or opportunity. The next step is assessing. Think about what your choices are. Respond, use facts and information you gathered. Lastly, evaluate, review your decision. Did I make a good choice? The impact that it put on me was that when I come across a risky choice I stop and think about this helpful tool. Then in the end, I realize that I have chosen the right choice. This is important because it leads me to the right path and gets me out of any approaching trouble.

Furthermore, I learned about tobacco and marijuana. I learned that tobacco has at least 200 known poisons in it! I also learned that it is the leading preventable cause of death in the U.S. I learned that marijuana is illegal in the United States. Marijuana also damages every part of my body. This is important because it helps me know what and how harmful these drugs are. The impact it puts on me is I know what these have the power to do, so I won't ever try these harmful poisons.

Lastly, I learned about alcohol. I learned that alcohol can lead to coma and death. This was important to know because it warns me that I shouldn't try it. I also learned that mixing alcohol with medicine is extremely dangerous. This impact is that I know how harmful alcohol can be. I won't do it. I'm not risking my life.

In conclusion, the D.A.R.E. program has taught me a lot I need to know to make the wisest decisions, such as, DDMM and avoiding marijuana, tobacco and alcohol. I know that knowing these facts can lead me to make the right decisions.

My commitment

I promise to make the wisest decisions about alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. I can achieve this by keeping the DDMM plan in my head so I can break the problem down step-by-step. I promise to never be a part of the 7% of people who smoke tobacco, or the 14% who drink alcohol. I will always follow D.A.R.E. rules while having safe fun.

SECTION 6:

2011 STATEWIDE D.A.R.E. PROGRAM STATISTICS

Agency	Elem. Schools Taught	K-4 Students Taught	5th/6th Grade Classes Taught	5th/6th Grade Students Taught	Middle Schools Taught	7th Grade Classes Taught	7th Grade Students Taught	Certified D.A.R.E. Officers
Avon Park PD	2	0	9	212	1	0	0	3
Charlotte County SO	9	0	16	1,453	0	0	0	4
Cocoa PD	0	0	0	0	1	7	165	1
Coconut Creek PD	3	0	21	525	1	0	0	4
Collier County SO	32	0	122	3,042	0	0	0	24
Coral Gables PD	3	0	11	299	0	0	0	2
DeLand PD	5	0	14	332	0	0	0	1
Eatonville PD	1	0	36	0	0	0	0	1
FAMU Law Enforcement Dept.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
FDLE	1	60	6	120	0	0	0	3
FL Sch. for the Deaf & Blind PD	4	21	0	0	2	2	36	3
Florida State University PD	1	0	4	101	0	0	0	1
Franklin County SO	2	0	5	106	2	3	198	2
Gadsden County SO	12	700	25	670	7	16	368	5
Gulf Breeze PD	2	300	8	200	1	6	300	2
Gulf County SO	2	0	7	140	2	7	160	2
Hallandale Beach PD	1	375	10	196	0	0	0	3
Hardee County SO	1	0	4	100	0	0	0	1
Holmes Beach PD	1	0	1	50	0	0	0	1
Indian River County SO	11	1,000	40	800	0	0	0	3
Jacksonville Beach PD	4	400	16	412	2	20	473	4
Key Biscayne PD	3	188	10	239	0	0	0	1
Lake County SO	27	3,000	150	3,000	0	0	0	7
Lake Mary PD	3	0	14	321	0	0	0	2
Longwood PD	1	0	8	128	0	0	0	1
Maitland PD	2	120	11	210	0	0	0	1
Marco Island PD	1	130	6	122	1	0	0	1
Margate PD	3	500	23	506	0	0	0	3
Martin County SO	13	700	61	1,100	0	0	0	5
Miami PD	5	0	14	400	0	0	0	3
Miami-Dade PD	42	400	432	10,850	0	0	0	12
Naples PD	3	0	13	260	0	0	0	3
New Smyrna Beach PD	4	900	9	250	2	0	0	2
North Palm Beach Public Safety	1	150	7	150	0	0	0	1
Ocala PD	12	0	42	935	0	0	0	2
Ocoee PD	5	12	28	620	0	0	0	1
Okeechobee County SO	6	0	25	550	3	0	0	5
Opa Locka PD	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	2
Ormond Beach PD	8	0	29	700	0	0	0	2

2011 STATEWIDE D.A.R.E. PROGRAM STATISTICS (CONT.)

Agency	Elem. Schools Taught	K-4 Students Taught	5th/6th Grade Classes Taught	5th/6th Grade Students Taught	Middle Schools Taught	7th Grade Classes Taught	7th Grade Students Taught	Certified D.A.R.E. Officers
Oviedo PD	4	2,572	26	590	0	0	0	2
Palm Beach Gardens PD	1	0	2	28	0	0	0	1
Palmetto Bay PD	4	250	416	416	0	0	0	1
Punta Gorda PD	1	0	6	125	0	0	0	3
Sanibel PD	1	0	2	45	0	0	0	1
Sebastian PD	2	0	9	140	0	0	0	2
Sebring PD	1	0	6	119	1	8	229	1
Seminole PD	1	29	1	21	0	0	0	1
Stuart PD	1	0	11	190	0	0	0	1
Sunny Isles Beach PD	1	0	8	183	1	0	0	2
Tarpon Springs PD	3	0	11	226	0	0	0	3
Vero Beach PD	4	0	14	300	0	0	0	1
Village of Pinecrest PD	2	40	13	290	0	0	0	2
West Miami PD	1	0	5	120	0	0	0	1
Washington County SO	1	0	5	100	0	0	0	2
Windermere PD	1	0	7	170	0	0	0	1
Zephyrhills PD	2	1,008	14	293	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	268	12,855	4,643	32,457	29	69	1,929	151

Cover Picture: D.A.R.E. Officer/Mentor Michael Wordly of the Miami-Dade Police Department.

Officer Wordly and his unit traveled around Miami Dade County the summer of 2011 educating over 5,000 kids at 17 different parks teaching on *anti bullying, gang resistance, pedestrian safety, internet safety and stranger danger.*

Officer Wordly was assisted in this endeavor by D.A.R.E. Officers Luis Martinez, Carlos Chaple and Cora Montgomery, with the added assistance of Ms. Mavis Cole of the Pedestrian Safety Unit.