

2008-2009 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.

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

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.

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 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, 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 selected for implementation in the State of Florida.

In August of 2004, the D.A.R.E. program was re-designed in the *New D.A.R.E.* model of technology and science. Additionally, the *New D.A.R.E.* elementary program has been reduced into a 10-week curriculum with follow-up courses taught at the middle and high school level.

The New D.A.R.E program 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 D.A.R.E.* curriculum incorporates innovative prevention science and research-based strategies designed to improve students' skills and outcomes.

New 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
- Meets national Health Education Standards

New 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.

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.

In preparing officers for their role within the school system; all officers trained under the *New D.A.R.E.* program are dually certified as D.A.R.E. officers as well as School Resources Officers (SRO). This creates a well trained officer with a broad base of knowledge thereby maximizing the impact on the students.



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

Special Agent Dale Crosby	Office of Statewide Intelligence-OROC
Special Agent Kevin A. Sapp	Office of Statewide Intelligence-FMROC
Special Agent Joel Norred	Florida Department of Law Enforcement- Retired
Sergeant Monica Sauls	Highlands County Sheriff's Office
Officer Jackee Nester	Hollywood police Department – Retired
Deputy Joe McCollum	Orange County Sheriff's Office
Deputy Alex Roman	Orange County Sheriff's Office
Inspector Stephen Emerson	FDLE D.A.R.E. Statewide Coordinator
Ed Spooner	(Interim Sheriff, Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office) FDLE Special Programs Administrator
Dr. Susan Bridges-Tompkins	Statewide D.A.R.E. Educator
CLA Josh Harrison	Florida Department of Law Enforcement Narcotics Block
Adm. Asst. Mable Wimberly	Florida Department of Law Enforcement



Services Provided by FDLE

Services provided by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement are continuous throughout the year. FDLE's dedication begins with the special agents and staff assigned to ensure that the highest quality is achieved. Additional services provided are as follows:

1. Assist 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. Develops guidelines for the Florida D.A.R.E. Program.
3. Serves 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. Conducts statewide audits of local D.A.R.E programs to ensure compliance of standards.
6. Conduct background investigations on potential D.A.R.E officer candidates.
7. Maintain training records on all D.A.R.E. officers in Florida.
8. Provide D.A.R.E. Trainers to other state training centers within the southeast region.
9. Substitute for local D.A.R.E. officers who may be absent from the classroom.
10. Assist local law enforcement agencies in identifying supplemental funding resources to enhance their D.A.R.E. program.
11. Serve as support for the annual Florida D.A.R.E. day.
12. Provide an annual report of D.A.R.E. related activities throughout Florida.
13. Provide workshops and presentations to civic, business, and other community based organizations, concerning drug and violence prevention.
14. Coordinate the statewide evaluation of the D.A.R.E. program in Florida.

Florida D.A.R.E. 2008-2009 Update

The Florida D.A.R.E. program has added new programs and or reestablished programs throughout the state during this calendar year.

There are currently **347 active** D.A.R.E. Officers in the State of Florida teaching the new curriculum. These officers taught the D.A.R.E. Elementary Curriculum in **4123** classes to **101,432** fifth and sixth grade students, and **132,067** students in grades kindergarten through fourth. Additionally, the D.A.R.E. Middle School Curriculum was taught in **426** middle school classes reaching **9353** middle school students. The D.A.R.E. Senior high School Curriculum was not reported taught this school year.

D.A.R.E. Expenditures

	Expenditures
Salaries & Benefits	\$439,454.51
Expenses	\$ 27,932.70
Contracted Services	\$ 7,952.54
Total	\$475,339.75

Inside the FDLE DARE Training Center

During 2008-2009 the Florida D.A.R.E. Training Center budget had a Special Programs Administrator assigned as the Statewide Coordinator, a Special Agent assigned as the Regional Coordinator and as a mentor (Instructor) and an Administrative Assistant.

The Florida D.A.R.E. Training Center hosted two (2) D.A.R.E. Officer Trainings FY 08-09 and assisted DARE America with the 2009 DARE International Training Conference, which was held July 21-23, 2009 at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort, Orlando, Florida. This training conference brought DARE officers from around the world. The 2009 Orlando conference was host to 2,000 police officers and educators from all 50 states and 43 foreign nations. Conference participants engaged in classes ranging from bullying and gangs to internet safety and OTC/Rx prescription drug abuse. Along with assisting agencies with D.A.R.E. units, FDLE D.A.R.E. Regional Coordinators assisted D.A.R.E. 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, D.A.R.E. America saw the importance of developing a curriculum to assist agencies and communities in combating this new problem. The Florida D.A.R.E. Training Center also participated in developing the new D.A.R.E. Community Resource Program which replaces the old D.A.R.E. Parent Program. The new Community Resource Program targets the community by teaching them how to identify current drug trends, 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 D.A.R.E. Officer the flexibility needed to provide specific training to a variety of community partners. Many of these lessons were piloted throughout Florida by local D.A.R.E. officers.

Beginning in the summer of 2009 the new *keepin' it REAL* curriculum, which is now used by DARE officers across the nation, was introduced. The *keepin' it REAL* program was developed in partnership with Penn State University for use with middle school students in the 7th and 8th grades. In addition to being a multicultural drug prevention program, the *keepin' it REAL* curriculum has been identified as an Evidence-Based Program on the National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices (NREPP) of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Since July of 2009, 37 DARE officers have been trained in this new curriculum.



2009 FDOA Board of Directors

Deputy Sal Anicito, President, St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office

Officer Chris Taylor, Vice President, Hallandale Beach Police Department

Officer Jamie Byrd, Secretary, Ocoee Police Department

Corporal Terry Allen, Treasurer, Lake County Sheriff's Office

Deputy Fred Jones, Sergeant At Arms, Lake County Sheriff's Office

Sergeant Monica Sauls, Chaplain, Highlands County Sheriff's Office

Dr. Susan Mochen, Educational Advisor, Palm Beach County Schools

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, 2009, 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 nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.

President 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.

Agency:	# 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
Altamonte Springs Police Department	6	200	24	505	0	0	0	9	1
Apopka Police	5	11	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Cape Coral Police Dept.	11	0	71	1365	0	0	0	2	2
City of Miami Police Department	5	800	566	566	0	0	0	4	4
Cocoa Beach Police Department	0	0	0	0	1	10	193	1	1
Coconut Creek Police Department	3	2500	25	625	1	0	0	7	3
Collier County Sheriff's Office	29	N/A	136	3147	N/A	N/A	N/A	25	25
Coral Gables Police Department	3	0	12	326	0	0	0	3	3
Daytona Beach Police Department	7	n/a	21	365	0	n/a	n/a	2	1
DeLand Police Department	5	100	13	347	0	N/A	N/A	1	1
Delray Beach Police Dept.	4	0	14	300	0	0	0	12	4
Dixie County Sheriff's Office	2	357	8	190	0	0	0	1	1
Doral Police Department	2	0	18	420	0	na	na	3	3
Florida A&M University Department of Public Safety	1	100	4	80	1	0	0	2	2
Florida State University Police Department	1	0	1	91	0	0	0	1	1
Gulf Breeze Police Department	2	600	7	170	1	0	0	2	2
Hallandale Beach Police Department	1	320	10	208	0	0	0	2	1
HARDEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	5	0	24	445	0	0	0	3	1
Hernando County Sheriff's Office	17	1035	96	2137	0	0	0	4	4
HIGHLANDS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	7	0	37	925	2	10	696	5	5
HOLMES BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT	44	30	2	44	0	0	0	1	1
Jacksonville Beach Police Department	4	460	14	420	1	4	125	4	3
KEY BISCAYNE POLICE DEPARTMENT	3	1000	9	190	2	0	0	1	1
Lafayette County Sheriffs Office	2	0	0	0	2	3	85	1	1
Lake County Sheriff's Office	26	26	26	4090	0	0	0	6	6
Lake Mary Police Department	3	50	13	270	0	0	0	1	1
Lakeland Police Department	3	0	7	174	0	0	0	4	2
Longwood Police Department	2	0	7	126	0	0	0	1	1
Maitland Police Department	2	125	10	200	0	0	0	1	1
Margate Police Department	3	490	20	525	1	0	0	3	2
MARTIN cOUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	11	0	43	1100	0	0	0	3	3

Marion County Sheriff's Office	19	2000	107	4437	0	0	0	12	4
Miami Shores Police Department	3	0	8	188	0	0	0	2	1
Miami-Dade County	140	10000	592	16000	0	0	0	23	23
Naples Police Department	3	0	11	290	0	0	0	2	2
NASSAU COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	6	0	35	900	0	0	0	1	1
North Palm Beach Police Department	1	200	5	100	0	0	0	1	1
Ocala Police Department	15	0	40	950	0	0	0	2	2
Ocoee Police Department	5	120	28	640	0	0	0	2	1
Orange City Police Department	2	0	10	300	0	0	0	3	1
Palm Beach Gardens Police Department	1	0	16	16	0	0	0	1	1
Punta Gorda Police Department	1	0	5	125	1	6	350	3	1
Sanford Police Department	5	0	26	0	0	0	0	1	1
Sebastian Police Department	2	200	10	230	0	0	0	3	1
Sebastian Police Department	2	250	270	270	0	0	0	4	1
South Miami Police Dept	80	0	4	80	191	6	191	3	2
St. Pete Beach Police	2	273	4	77	0	0	0	1	1
Stuart Police Dept.	5	100	15	250	0	0	0	3	1
vero beach police department	5	0	18	425	0	0	0	1	1
Washington County Sheriff's Department	2	0	10	325	2	0	0	4	2
West Miami Police Department	1	0	4	120	0	0	0	1	1
Wilton Manors Police	120	200	5	120	0	0	0	1	1
Winter Park Police Department	3	500	12	260	0		0	1	1
Zephyrhills Police Department	2	107	11	325	0	0	0	1	1
Totals	644	22154	2484	45779	206	39	1640	194	142