

# STRENGTHENING YOUTH THROUGH EXPLORING

LAW ENFORCEMENT

# WHAT IS **EXPLORING**<sup>™</sup>

xploring is all about helping young men and women in sixth grade through 20 years old to make a more informed decision about future careers and determine if a particular career is the right one for them. Typically, a young adult will either: 1) get involved, learn about a career, and decide to pursue it; OR 2) learn enough about the career to determine it's not the right fit for them. It's better to learn as a young adult that a career is not for you, than after spending lots of money on an education only to THEN discover you don't like the career!

Exploring leaders volunteer their time to provide real-world career experiences for young adults. Exploring is not about lectures and slide shows-it's about gaining practical experience in a career field. The result is a program of activities that helps youth pursue their special interests, grow, and develop.



Exploring builds positive relationships in society and consistently guides people to work together for the good of their communities. Respectful interactions through the Exploring program help law enforcement and community members establish mutual trust and cooperation-key elements of community policing.

The program introduces young people to potential careers in law enforcement or related criminal justice fields. It also helps them grow in strength of character, respect for the rule of law, physical fitness, good citizenship, and patriotism. Through Exploring, young citizens gain an understanding of procedural justice while members of law enforcement gain a better understanding of the communities they serve.

#### **EXPLORERS WILL:**

- · Learn important leadership skills
- Gain respect for police officers
- Develop new personal skills
- Improve their marksmanship
- Learn law enforcement protocols and procedures
- Attend local and national competitions
- Network with professionals who work in these careers daily
- Learn about the educational requirements for a career in law enforcement

Our role is to ... give Explorers meaningful insight into what it is to be a police officer. -OFFICER SIMONE B. EXPLORING POST ADVISOR AND PARENT

... builds character and provides invaluable learning experiences for young adults. -AARON D. KENNARD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

... provides excellent support to our community-based programs. -MARK SULLIVAN DIRECTOR | U.S. SECRET SERVICE

I've been in the Exploring program fo three years and I love it. -ASHLEY K. EXPLORER

## **EVERYONE WINS WITH EXPLORING!**

Exploring will be one of the best opportunities you offer your company, your employees, and the youth of your community.

#### **BENEFITS FOR COMMUNITIES**

Introduce youth to career opportunities through hands-on programs that help them explore their interest alongside experienced professionals.

Encourage leadership development by involving youth in decision making and problem solving within their communities.

Build familiarity and trust by engaging youth and giving them regular opportunities for positive interaction with law enforcement, their neighbors, and community leaders-in settings where everyone can get to know each other and share mutual interests.<sup>1</sup>

#### INTRODUCE EXPLORING IN YOUR COMMUNITY TODAY

• Establish or expand local Exploring posts and clubs.

- Agency, minority-based law enforcement groups, and other influential organizations.
- Share success stories within your organization and with local media.
- Help fund existing and new resources for Law Enforcement Exploring in your local BSA council.

<sup>1</sup>President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing. Pillar 4. Action Item 4.4.2 and 4.5.2

# **5 AREAS OF EMPHASIS**

**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES** 

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

LIFE SKILLS

**CITIZENSHIP** 

CHARACTER EDUCATION

#### **TESTIMONIALS**

#### **BENEFITS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Engage and recruit the next generation of law enforcement professionals with a deep-rooted interest in successful community policing.

Bring law enforcement and local residents together to address public safety issues.

• Help develop Exploring partnerships with police chief associations, the Department of Justice, the National Security

**OUP** Shape the workforce of tomorrow by engaging and mentoring today's youth in VISION career and life-enhancing opportunities.





## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

BILLY YOUT EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP AWARD

CAPT. JAMES J. REGAN SCHOLARSHIPS

COLUMBIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPLORING SCHOLARSHIP

HAPCOA AWARD

JAMES E. BREINING SCHOLARSHIP

SHERYL A. HORAK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS FOUNDATION PUBLIC SAFETY EXPLORER SCHOLARSHIP

Learn more at www.exploring.org/law-enforcement.



- Police officers
- Sheriffs
- Federal agents
- State police/highway patrol
- Probation officers
- Military police
- Correction officers
- Security officers



