



Behind the Badge

E-News from the Law Enforcement Foundation

Dear LEF Supporter,

Welcome to the Law Enforcement Foundation's July e-newsletter – where we honor our supporters and share news about our executive training programs.

Thank you to our loyal supporters!

We'd like to extend our sincere appreciation to the following donors for their recent support of LEF:

Akrochem Corporation, \$350.00

Today's Economy Continues to Impact Charities

A Message from Joel Brown, LEF Board Chairman

It is difficult to be a charity today!

The economy has significantly impacted charitable giving. Declines in contributions became noticeable beginning in 2008 when Red Cross indicated a 30% reduction in donations. Around the same time, Meal on Wheels was reporting that members were experiencing a 65% drop in corporate and individual donations. The "Great Recession" has had a huge impact on banking, investment firms, automobile manufacturing and many other industries and companies that have traditionally been generous to charitable causes.

Although some metrics show improvement in the economy, the overall recovery has been slow and is certainly not complete. On a local level, the Law Enforcement Foundation (LEF) is also experiencing the impact of long-time supporters not being able to contribute this year, or reducing their normal gift. This decrease in "expected revenue" challenges our ability to continue with the effective and critically necessary programs which we support.

To those individuals and companies that have contributed in 2011, **thank you**. Your dollars are even more important in these challenging times. For others that are contemplating donations, thank you in advance for consideration of the Law Enforcement Foundation. While we are experiencing the reduction in charitable gifts for LEF, we are aggressively looking at new ways to generate funds to continue our programs of D.A.R.E., The Ohio Child Abduction Response Team (CART), School Resource Officer training, and the multiple programs we offer to provide additional education for police officers and police chiefs.

One of our new fundraising ideas includes sponsorships. If you are interested in sponsoring a program or an educational class, please contact me or Donna Braxton. Again, thanks for your continued and generous support of LEF.

DARE Association of Ohio and Ohio School Resource Officers Association Focuses on School Issues and Gathers Food for the Hungry

The DARE Association of Ohio (DAO) and the Ohio School Resource Officers Association (OSROA) held a combination conference at Salt Fork Resort and Conference Center in June. 139 Ohio law enforcement officers attended the conference that focused on current trends of school issues like violence and bullying and drug abuse. During the event, the officers held a food drive as a community service project to benefit GRACE Pantry located in Cambridge, Ohio. The officers collected 600 pounds of non-perishable items to benefit the community in which GRACE Pantry serves.

The Law Enforcement Foundation (LEF) is the only entity in Ohio certified to train Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) officers. The D.A.R.E. Officers in your local schools have attended a minimum of 80 hours of certified training to be eligible to teach the D.A.R.E. program in your local classrooms. D.A.R.E officers promote children's health and safety by educating youth on avoiding potential dangers within their environment: drugs, alcohol, and violence. In addition to drug and alcohol prevention education, officers teach students about internet safety, binge drinking and Rx/Over the Counter (OTC) drug abuse, bullying, gangs, peer pressure, as well as positive decision-making skills, personal responsibility, and conflict resolution skills.

In addition to administering the DARE curriculum, the LEF provides this training to municipal police departments at no charge. The LEF is able to provide this training, at approximately \$4,500 per officer, through donated funds and foundation support.



From left to right: Kari Parsons, DARE Training Director and Executive Director of OSROA, Rocky Hill, Past President of the DAO, Vic Lagneaux, Director of GRACE Pantry, and Jim Knallay, President of DAO.

This is one of the programs that is exclusive to the Law Enforcement Foundation. If you are interested in sponsoring the DARE Officer Training (DOT) or a student of DOT, please contact Donna Braxton at donna.braxton@oacp.org or 614-761-4630.

Kari Parsons, Director of DARE Training, Receives Award from DARE Association of Ohio

During the DARE Association of Ohio (DAO) and the Ohio School Resource Officers Association (OSROA) combined conference, Kari Parsons, DARE Training Director, was presented with an award for an Honorary Associate Member of the DARE Association of Ohio. This award is presented to individuals that are not certified DARE officers but have made a significant contribution to the DARE program in Ohio. Past recipients of the award include Ohio Senators, representatives of the Attorney General's office, Sheriffs, and educators. Please join us in congratulating Kari on this award and thanking her for her service and support of the DARE program!



Sgt. Jim Knally, DAO Past President, and Dep. Bobby Stroop, DAO President, present Kari Parsons, DARE Training Director, with the award for Honorary Associate Member of the DARE Association of Ohio.

Supporting law enforcement is an investment in the safety and well-being of your community. There are many ways to show your support:

- Make a tax-deductible donation at www.lef-oh.org
- Sponsor an LEF program by contacting Donna Braxton, CEO, at donna.braxton@oacp.org
- Enroll your Kroger Plus Card in Kroger's Community Rewards Program in support of LEF at www.krogercommunityrewards.com

Please partner with us and lend your financial support of our programs to help make our Ohio communities even stronger and safer places to live, work, learn, and play.