



Behind the Badge

E-News from the Law Enforcement Foundation

Dear LEF Supporter,

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

D.A.R.E. Officers Honored with Longevity Awards for Commitment to Program

On August 6, the D.A.R.E. Association of Ohio (DAO) held its first Longevity Awards ceremony at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium with approximately 100 D.A.R.E. Officers and their families in attendance. Honored were those D.A.R.E. officers who have completed 5, 10, 15, and 20 or more years of instruction of the D.A.R.E. curriculum in their communities and maintained membership in the DAO over the years. Deputy Joe Vince, Franklin County SO, received the Lifetime Member Award. Additionally, Deputy Jim Hall of the Defiance County SO received the 20 Year Award, and Mrs. Lee Hall, Ohio Training Team Educator, received the 16 Year Award for years of dedication to instructing law enforcement officers in D.A.R.E. Officer Training. Awards were presented by the DAO president Sgt. Don Wilson, Springboro PD, and DAO vice president Sgt. Vern Shobe, Fairfield Township PD.

Many thanks to all those who helped make the Longevity Awards a successful event for our members, and thanks to everyone for coming and making it a very enjoyable day!



Deputy Jim Hall (far right) accepts the D.A.R.E. Longevity 20 Year Award from Sgt. Vern Shobe and Sgt. Don Wilson (left to right).



Mrs. Lee Hall (far right) accepts the D.A.R.E. Longevity 16 Year Award, pictured with Sgt. Vern Shobe and Sgt. Don Wilson (left to right).



Deputy Joe Vince (far right) accepts the 2012 D.A.R.E. Longevity Award with Sgt. Don Wilson and Franklin County Sheriff Zach Scott (left to right).



Deputy Joe Vince poses alongside his family with Franklin County Sheriff Zach Scott (far right).

D.A.R.E. *keepin' it REAL* Training Prepares Officers for 2012-2013 School Year

The D.A.R.E. ***keepin' it REAL*** Elementary and Middle School Curriculum educates pre-teens about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse and promotes healthy lifestyle choices. A total of 230 D.A.R.E. Officers attended the 2012 ***keepin' it REAL*** Elementary Curriculum training, which is mandated by D.A.R.E. America for instructors who will teach the new curriculum. Training sessions were held on June 26 in Oregon, Ohio; July 11 in Columbus, Ohio; and July 27 in Richfield, Ohio. Officers who will be teaching during the 2012-2013 academic year were required to attend one of the three training sessions, which are the only training sessions offered in Ohio this year.

D.A.R.E. ***keepin' it REAL*** Elementary Curriculum was added to the D.A.R.E. program after the immense success of the ***keepin' it REAL*** Middle School Curriculum in 2010. In addition to providing drug prevention education, the new curriculum focuses heavily on developing core skills that are necessary for making safe, responsible choices. Responsible choices extend far beyond saying “No” to drugs, helping children to flourish academically and in every aspect of their lives.



Officers participate in the D.A.R.E. ***keepin' it REAL*** Elementary Curriculum training.

D.A.R.E. Students Make Contribution to Their Community After Graduation

Since its implementation in 1983, D.A.R.E. has equipped students throughout the country with drug prevention education in hopes of decreasing the prevalence of drug abuse. In its near 30 years of operation, the D.A.R.E. program has transformed into a multifaceted program that also equips children with core life skills, helping to shape them into responsible citizens. D.A.R.E. students in Wapakoneta, Ohio, recently showed their commitment to their community by raising nearly \$1,000 for an Ohio hospital.

This summer, graduates of the Auglaize County D.A.R.E. program donated funds to the Dayton Children's Medical Center to help pay for new medical equipment. Funding was raised by members of the D.A.R.E. Council, with assistance from D.A.R.E. Officer Sam Blank. The D.A.R.E. Council consists of 6th and 7th grade students who volunteer to work with the D.A.R.E. program after completing the program in 5th grade. Fundraising activities included, but were not limited to, organizing a raffle and selling candy.

See the full [press release](#) from Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine.



***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.