

EFFECTIVE POLICE Interactions WITH YOUTH

A Training Program targeting the Reduction of DMC

Effective Police Interactions With Youth (EPIWY) is a one day class for patrol officers designed to reduce the likelihood that interactions between police officers and young people will have negative outcomes and/or result in police action, particularly for minority youth.

Training participants will learn:

- The role of patrol officers in helping to eliminate the problem of disproportionate minority contact with the juvenile justice system (DMC).
- Why adolescents tend to test boundaries, challenge authority, and have difficulty controlling impulses and making sound decisions.
- Strategies for communicating more effectively with young people and improving police/youth relations

This learning event is delivered by uniformed police officers certified to deliver this program to other police officers. After completing this training events participants may consider the certification process for themselves based on mutual interest and leadership demand.

The content in the learning event will include demographic data and youth behavior statistics to verify the consistency of behavior of all youth regardless of race ethnicity or gender.

Discussions will include possible causes of DMC, confirmations of youth behavior and ways patrol officers can help eliminate DMC. Adolescent decision making, the importance of adolescent development and social influences are addressed as a basis for improved understanding and action steps.

The methodology will include videos of conditions and situations involving youth de-escalation techniques and small group discussions.

At the end of the one day learning event patrol officers come away with the following comments:

"I came away feeling like I learned things I could take back and use."

"The training gave me the opportunity to hear what the youth of today think of police and how we could better interact with them."

"The class was kept involved with activities requiring participation."

"Group exercises were helpful un utilizing the various amounts of experience within the classroom."

Please Contact State DMC Chair Lt. Carlos Camacho at (603) 594-3527 for more information.