

Community and Law Enforcement Workshops & Services (CLEWS)

Youth Workshop #1 - 2020: Summary Report

Doris Ross Reddick Elementary School

325 W. Lake Drive, Wimauma, FL 33598

January 13, 2020: 8:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Workshop Host Sponsors

J. Thomas Roth, Principal - Reddick Elementary

Sheriff Chad Chronister, Hillsborough County

Charles F. (Fred) Hearn, CLEWS Executive Director/CEO

CLEWS Service Providers in Attendance

Darrell Daniels, Workshop Training Director

Viola Luke, Program Manager

Margaret Butler, Assistant Program Manager

Gilbertina Wright, Senior Workshop Training Facilitator

Dr. Roy Kaplan, Workshop Training Facilitator

Others in Attendance

Michelle Hicks, Assistant Principal – Reddick Elementary

Joel Parker, School Resource Officer

Fifty-four (54) people – 44 students and 10 HCSO deputies – participated in the first CLEWS Youth Workshop (Youth Workshop #1) of Fiscal Year 2019-2020. The workshop was held at Doris Reddick Elementary School in Hillsborough County.

Fifty-three (53) of the 54 Evaluations completed by participating students and deputies (**or 98% of the participants**), rated the Overall Workshop as either “Excellent” or “Very Good”. The highest combined ratings of the eleven (11) categories were: 1. Exploring the Patrol Cars; 2. the Overall Workshop; 3. What Am I Wearing presentation; 4. Lunch; and 5. the Training Director.

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS (54 Individuals)

Reddick Elementary Middle School

January 13, 2020: 8:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Students (44): Grade 5

1. Abrego, Larissa
2. Alarcorn, Julissa
3. Basilio, Evelyn
4. Booyanant, Jacob
5. Brandon, Giovanni
6. Bravo, Adrian
7. Buckins, Mariah
8. Camacho, Laulani
9. Chandler, Deon
10. Deleon, Destiny
11. Diaz, Johanna
12. Fernandez, Miguel
13. Figueroa, Yalaxi
14. Ford, Devin
15. Ford, Deyahna
16. Gay, Ethan
17. Gonzalez, Ryan
18. Haywood, Paul
19. Hernandez, Thomas
20. Jimenez, Deysi
21. King, Tyone
22. Lahmon, Shianne
23. Lara, Carlos
24. Lopez, Devon
25. Lopez-Perez, Jennifer
26. Marquez, Alan
27. Mendoza, Marleni
28. Moedano, Judith
29. Munoz, Angel
30. Nicolas, Catalina
31. Notario, Joanna

32. Perez, Reydy
33. Perry, Daniel
34. Ramos, Javen
35. Rivera, Karla
36. Rodriguez, Andrea
37. Rodriguez, Jzabehl
38. Sanchez, Jordan
39. Smith, Cameron
40. Soto, Damien
41. Spoly, Nicholas
42. Valencia, Yamilet
43. Vastillo, Endelsen
44. Williams, Jeremiah

Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office

Representatives (10)

1. Deputy Nicholas Elliott, Community Outreach
2. Dep. Ashley Alvarez
3. Dep. Anthony Forte
4. Dep. Robert Franklin
5. Dep. Desiare Krouse
6. Dep. Jared Lee
7. Dep. Matthew McCutcheon
8. Dep. Billy Nixon
9. Dep. Jeff Stout
10. Dep. Efrain Taveras

Youth Workshop #1 - 2020: Pre-Workshop & Post-Workshop Questionnaires

Reddick Elementary Middle School

January 13, 2020: 8:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

STUDENT RESPONSES: Participants (44)

(Majority Answers are **Bolded** & Underlined for Ease of Review)

1. WHAT OFFICERS ARE SWORN TO DO

- a. Do you think most youth understand what law enforcement officers are sworn to do when they put on their uniform?

Pre-Workshop (44 responses):

Absolutely – 4 Yes – 4 Somewhat – 13 **Not Sure – 18** Definitely Not - 5

- b. Do you think most youth in this workshop understand what law enforcement officers are sworn to do when they put on their uniform?

Post-Workshop (44 responses): **INCREASE of 15 “ABSOLUTELY” & 14 “YES” RESPONSES**

Absolutely – 19 Yes – 18 Somewhat – 5 Not Sure – 2 Definitely Not – 0

2. REASONS WE DO NOT AGREE

- a. Do you think you know a lot of the reasons why most youth and law enforcement officers may not always agree with each other?

Pre-Workshop (44 responses):

Absolutely – 5 Yes – 6 Somewhat – 13 **Not Sure – 19** Definitely Not - 1

- b. Do you think you have learned more of the reasons why most youth and law enforcement officers may not always agree with each other?

Post-Workshop (44 responses): **INCREASE of 11 “ABSOLUTELY” & 16 “YES” RESPONSES**

Absolutely – 14 **Yes – 22** Somewhat – 5 Not Sure – 3 Definitely Not - 0

3. BUILDING A PARTNERSHIP

- a. Do you think community youth and law enforcement officers would be willing to be “partners” if they attended workshops like this together?

Pre-Workshop (44 responses):

Absolutely – 12 **Yes – 23** Somewhat – 4 Not Sure – 5 Definitely Not - 0

- b. Do you think community youth and law enforcement officers would be willing to be “partners” if they attended workshops like this together?

Post-Workshop (44 responses): **INCREASE of 16 “ABSOLUTELY” & DECREASE OF 9 “YES” RESPONSES**

Absolutely – 28 Yes – 14 Somewhat – 1 Not Sure – 1 Definitely Not - 0

HCSO DEPUTY RESPONSES: Participants (10)

(Majority Answers are **Bolded** & **Underlined** for Ease of Review)

1. WHAT OFFICERS ARE SWORN TO DO

- a. Do you think most youth understand what law enforcement officers are sworn to do when they put on their uniform?

Pre-Workshop (10 responses):

Absolutely – 0 Yes – 1 **Somewhat – 7** Not Sure – 1 Definitely Not - 1

- b. Do you think most youth in this workshop understand what law enforcement officers are sworn to do when they put on their uniform?

Post-Workshop (10 responses): **INCREASE of 2 “ABSOLUTELY” & 5 “YES” RESPONSES**

Absolutely – 2 **Yes – 6** Somewhat – 2 Not Sure – 0 Definitely Not - 0

2. REASONS WE DO NOT AGREE

- a. Do you think you know a lot of the reasons why most youth and law enforcement officers may not always agree with each other?

Pre-Workshop (10 responses):

Absolutely – 1 **Yes – 4** **Somewhat – 4** Not Sure – 1 Definitely Not - 0

- b. Do you think you have learned more of the reasons why most youth and law enforcement officers may not always agree with each other?

Post-Workshop (10 responses): **INCREASE of 2 “ABSOLUTELY” & 2 “YES” RESPONSES**

Absolutely – 3 **Yes – 6** Somewhat – 1 Not Sure – 0 Definitely Not - 0

3. BUILDING A PARTNERSHIP

- a. Do you think community youth and law enforcement officers would be willing to be “partners” if they attended workshops like this together?

Pre-Workshop (10 responses):

Absolutely – 3 **Yes – 6** Somewhat – 1 Not Sure – 0 Definitely Not - 0

- b. Do you think community youth and law enforcement officers would be willing to be “partners” if they attended workshops like this together?

Post-Workshop (10 responses): **INCREASE of 2 “ABSOLUTELY” & DECREASE OF 1 “YES” RESPONSE**

Absolutely – 5 **Yes – 5** Somewhat – 0 Not Sure – 0 Definitely Not - 0

Youth Workshop #1 - 2020: Pre-Workshop Comments

Reddick Elementary Middle School

January 13, 2020: 8:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

I hope this workshop will:

STUDENTS:

- Be fun - 19
- Teach me about what cops/deputies/officers do – 11
- Teach me a lot/new things – 9
- Have cool things to do/see - 3
- Be informational/interesting - 3
- Give me lunch/McDonalds - 2
- Let me get/sit in the cop car - 2
- Let me be in (try on) handcuffs and talk on the mic (in their car).
- Help me understand that police officers are here to help.
- Teach things about the law.
- I want to get answers and knowledge.
- Teach me how to be a police (officer) when I get older; and to respect everybody.
- Help me know things that will help me be a FBI agent or be a lawyer.
- Help the deputies want to be partners.
- Be able to teach me new things and tell me what I shouldn't do.
- Teach me not to goof up in life.
- Help me in life.
- Give me a surprise.
- Meet new people.
- Not be boring.

HCSO:

- Build a better relationship/bond between youth and LEOs - 2
- Bring youth and law enforcement to bridge that gap that divides. Allow and build a positive and better relationship to decrease the number of arrests, and work towards a better society.
- Help make the students more comfortable with law enforcement.

- Enlighten each student who attended the workshop that law enforcement officers are friendly and approachable.
- Help students better understand what law enforcement officers' duties and responsibilities are.
- Help the youth have a better understanding of what law enforcement does.
- Open a dialogue with youth to create partnerships in the community.
- Educate both deputies and youth of the daily challenges of today's world.
- Enlighten the students about some of the dynamics of law enforcement.

Youth Workshop #1 - 2020: Post-Workshop Comments

Reddick Elementary Middle School

January 13, 2020: 8:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

If I could, I would change the workshop in this way:

STUDENTS:

- It's fine like this; I would not change a thing about it; keep it the same – 13
- I would like to not change the workshop, it is perfect.
- To come more often – 3
- Get more students - 2
- By doing this activity often so that others can learn.
- Make police officers come and do this more than 6 times a year.
- Bring motorcycles - 2
- Make it better by bringing a cop helicopter.
- I would want the sheriffs to drive us around.
- Let us see (the) cars first.
- If there were more police cars.
- Less paperwork - 2
- I would make more paperwork.
- Make paperwork disappear and make stuff on computers.
- By (other students) listening to instruction and following the rules.
- I would like to change my actions.
- More kindness and keep (the) same deputies forever.
- To bring happy-meal, not the burgers.

HCSO:

- Some questions on the questionnaire are difficult for elementary students to understand.
- I would not change anything with this workshop.
- Have students be able to switch (tables) each session so they can learn and interact with a different deputy.
- More time for discussions and less time with the patrol cars.
- More time for discussion with the youth.
- I would increase the amount of youth workshops put on by CLEWS.

Youth Workshop #1 - 2020: Small Group Discussion Comments

Reddick Elementary Middle School

January 13, 2020: 8:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

SUMMARY:

This report contains the responses of the students and deputies who attended the CLEWS workshop at Reddick Elementary School on Monday, January 13, 2020. All the students were fifth graders. They comported themselves well, were quiet and followed directions. The tenor of questions from students reveals some naivety about the work of deputies and law enforcement, bolstering the need for such activities. Some of the questions are simplistic but the responses of the deputies reflect genuine sensitivity to and for the students. Candid questions and responses demonstrate the value of this activity because they afford participants the opportunity to establish common ground and create channels of understanding and dialogue that break down barriers between them. Although no questions were repeated, which is in itself interesting, student inquiries centered around the use and limits of law enforcement powers (how often do they intervene, why, and how), and security at their school (why do we have deputies, what are their responsibilities). Deputy’s responses are lucid, honest and caring. They reassured students while providing the facts. This activity gave students the opportunity to see the human side of law enforcement—their needs, motivation and even fears, and hopefully will break down myths and stereotypes about them.

STUDENTS Comments & HCSO Responses

TABLE #1

- **How do you feel about being a cop?**
I enjoy the changes that (I) experience call to call. Helping people is the most fun.
- **How long do you have to be a cop?**
For as long as you like.
- **What happens if a partner gets sick?**
Other deputies help out.
- **How much do you get paid?**
\$48,000-\$83,000

TABLE #2

- **Do cops need a reason to pull people over?**
We need probable cause.

- **Do cops really like donuts?**
Yes, we are people!!!
- **If you are from another country and are driving in the U.S. with only a passport, can you be arrested if you are pulled over?**
Yes. You need a valid driver's license with your passport. There are other restrictions, too.

TABLE #3

- **Do you kill people?**
No. Deputies protect people, but sometimes individuals are injured or killed as a result of placing the public or deputies in great danger.
- **Do you guys date other cops?**
Some deputies who are single sometimes date other cops.
- **Does Trump give you badges?**
No, Donald Trump does not give me my badge, Sheriff Chad Chronister does.

TABLE #4

- **What happens if a deputy breaks the law?**
Gets fired from the job. No longer allowed to work for another agency. Very likely.
- **If a cop shoots another person, does the deputy get charged?**
If the shooting was justifiable, (imminent threat to deputy or other), the deputy does not get charged.
- **What happens if a cop gets into a school shooting?**
First and foremost, I am sworn to protect. If a shooting happens at a school, I must go in and at the same time call for backup. My job is to eliminate the threat!!!

TABLE #5

- **Why do people get chased while on a dirt bike?**
HCSO does not chase dirt bikes. Dirt bikes are not registered motor vehicles and cannot be driven on the roadway.
- **Why do people get shot if they put their hands in their pockets?**
The deputies need to see your hands so they know you do not have a weapon.
- **Who talks to the bad guy after they get arrested?**
The arresting deputy or a detective.

TABLE #6

- **Why do you always use a computer when you are driving?**

The computer tells us everything we need to know as far as where we are going and what calls are coming our way.

- **Do you all keep police cars?**

Yes. We are allowed to take them home.

- **Do you ever have to put teenagers in jail?**

Yes, when they commit a crime they are taken to juvenile detention centers.

- **What do you do when you pull someone over?**

We will tell our dispatcher the vehicle's information and location. The dispatcher puts the information down, (then we) turn on lights and sirens and the vehicle has to pull over.

TABLE #7

- **Why do we change deputies so much at school?**

Promotions. Transfers. Retirement.

- **Why do you arrest too much people?**

We don't want to arrest people, however, when people break the law we have no choice but to arrest them.

- **Why do we have deputies at school?**

For protection. To deter school-based threats, and (for) student guidance.

TABLE #8

- **Have (you) arrested people before?**

Yes, approximately 100.

- **Have you ever shot or tased anyone?**

Yes, in Afghanistan. Not as a deputy.

- **Do you work with the FBI?**

Yes.

- **What does SWAT stand for?**

Special weapons and tactics.

- **Do some people hate you?**

Yes.

- **How many chases have you done?**

None.

- **What is your biggest fear of being a police officer?**

Getting shot.

Youth Workshop #1 - 2020: Evaluation Responses

Reddick Elementary Middle School

January 13, 2020: 8:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Rankings of Workshop Activities

STUDENTS:

1. Exploring Patrol Cars (deputy-student activity)
2. Overall Workshop Rating
3. Lunch
4. What Am I Wearing? (presentation by HCSO)
5. Workshop Evaluation Form
6. People are People Exercise (overall interactive activity)
7. CLEWS Pledge
8. A Conversation with Adults (requesting students to talk with parents)
9. Training Director
10. Let's Have a Talk Table Discussions (student/law enforcement concerns & responses)
11. Workshop Questionnaires

HCSO:

1. Overall Workshop Rating
2. Training Director
3. People are People Exercise (overall interactive activity)
4. What Am I Wearing? (presentation by HCSO)
5. Let's Have a Talk Table Discussions (student/law enforcement concerns & responses)
6. Exploring Patrol Cars (deputy-student activity)
7. CLEWS Pledge
8. Workshop Evaluation Form
9. A Conversation with Adults (requesting students to talk with parents)
10. Lunch
11. Workshop Questionnaires

Evaluation Comments (Most & Least Favorites):

STUDENTS:

Most Favorite

- It was cool exploring the patrol cars – 8
- The patrol cars were fun - 8
- I learned a lot when exploring the patrol cars – 7
- I liked trying on the handcuffs – 6
- I got to see what they have in the car and why they need it - 3
- Turning on the siren in the cop cars - 3
- Sitting in the patrol car - 3
- Wearing the officer vest - 2
- Exploring the patrol cars was an awesome experience.
- I liked lunch the best - 7
- I liked the McDonald's lunch – 5
- My favorite part was eating lunch because I had nothing to eat this morning.
- I liked the "People are People" activity; it was fun - 2
- I liked talking to the officers and asking them questions - 2
- I liked talking at the table.
- I liked everything.

Least Favorite

- All the papers we had to fill out - 9
- I don't like paperwork – 4
- Paperwork is boring - 2
- The paperwork is boring-ish, but in real life it (paperwork) is boring.
- The Evaluation form was really boring; not fun.
- Nothing – 6
- Nothing; I enjoyed everything - 3
- Don't have a least favorite; everything was awesome!
- Asking me to talk with adults when I get home – 4
- When I Get Home because I don't know if my parents will talk.
- What Am I Wearing - 2
- Patrol cars (sirens) were so (too) loud.
- Discussion at the table.
- Let's Have a Talk because it wasn't very interesting.

- Some people laughed at my last name when I got my Pledge.
- I think the Pledge was boring.
- I was a bit bored during lunch.
- After People are People we had to listen to others talk.

HCSO:

Most Favorite

- I enjoyed each exercise. Each one generated interest which allowed each student to participate.
- The workshop (table) discussion and report was important.
- Discussions with the students about their questions and concerns about law enforcement. It helps us understand them and what they believe.
- The questions and answers section in which students got to ask questions regarding LE.
- Speaking to and answering the young people's questions.
- The interaction with the youth.
- Letting the kids explore the patrol car.
- Showing them (the students) our vehicle. This gave us a chance to provide instruction and explanation for the procedures we perform.
- Discussing the uniform with the students.
- People are People activity because it made the students interact with other students not at their table.

Least Favorite

- None – 5
- I think it is all done well.
- It was a good workshop; no complaints.
- The questionnaires before and after lost the attention of the youngsters.
- Too much time in patrol vehicles.
- Exploring the patrol cars was loud 😊
- Need coffee or caffeine available.

End Of Summary Report - Youth Workshop #1 - 2020

Reddick Elementary Middle School

January 13, 2020: 8:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

*Submitted January 21, 2020 by Charles F. (Fred) Hearn, CLEWS Executive Director/CEO
and Viola Luke, CLEWS Program Manager*