

Community and Law Enforcement Workshops & Services (CLEWS)

Youth Workshop 2019 #7: Summary Report

Beth Shields Middle School

15732 Beth Shields Way, Ruskin, FL 33573

August 26, 2019: 10:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.

CLEWS Service Providers in Attendance

Darrell Daniels, Workshop Training Director

Fred Hearn, Program Manager

Viola Luke, Assistant Program Manager

Gilbertina Wright, Senior Workshop Training Facilitator

Margaret Butler, Workshop Training Facilitator

Fifty-six (56) people – 45 students and 11 HCSO deputies – attended the seventh CLEWS Youth Workshop (Youth Workshop #7) of Fiscal Year 2018-2019. The workshop was held at Beth Shields Middle School in Hillsborough County.

Forty-six (46) of the 55 Evaluations completed by participating students and deputies (**or 84% 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. Lunch; 3. the Training Director; 4. the Overall Workshop; and 5. A Conversation with Adults (requesting students to talk with parents).

Student Participants (45 Individuals)

Beth Shields Middle School

August 26, 2019: 10:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Grade 6

1. Avila, Jesus
2. Carrie, Lavontae
3. Davis, Marquise
4. Davis, Sy'Maria
5. Dominguez, Alexis
6. Hernandez, Raul
7. Jemeson, Tresia
8. Lyons, Galvin
9. Melendez, Marissa
10. Mendoza-Baxcajay, Meredith
11. Morales, Yadrienne
12. Padgett, Tyler
13. Ramos-Galarza, Jozuel
14. Rivera, Victoria
15. Rodriguez, Daisy
16. Shelby, Talyn
17. Sims, Nathaniel
18. Villanueva, Desaray

Grade 7

19. Derryberry, Anthony
20. Gabriel, Perla
21. Gallegos, Jaime
22. Gallegos, Nyelle
23. Gomez, Jose

24. Lopez-Gomez, Antonio
25. Majors-Quamina, Jaiden
26. Padilla, Tyler
27. Palacios, Carmen
28. Reyes, Angel
29. Reyes, Angelina
30. Roblero, Erik
31. Schermerhorn, Cameron
32. Tipton, Abigail
33. Valdovinos, Davian

Grade 8

34. Avellaneda, Jasmine
35. Baltazar, Alejandro
36. Carranza, Fidel
37. Cortez, Ezequiel
38. Crawford, Anton
39. Jackson, Charles
40. Mendoza, Angel
41. Phillips, Madison
42. Polissant, Jesse
43. Shoop, Logan
44. Valencia, Yuliza
45. Way, Marcus

Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Representatives (11)

Deputy Anibal Nieves Jr., Community Outreach

(10 Participants)

1. Dep. Ashley Alvarez
2. Dep. Tanner Barnes
3. Dep. G. Coll-Cardenas
4. Dep. J. Footman
5. Dep. Cliff Fletcher
6. Dep. Robert Franklin
7. Dep. Ernesto Gonzalez
8. Master Dep. Melvin Jones
9. Dep. Stephanie Krager
10. Dep. Billy Nixon

Youth Workshop 2019 #7: Pre-Workshop & Post-Workshop Questionnaires

Beth Shields Middle School

August 26, 2019: 10:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.

STUDENT RESPONSES: Participants (45)

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

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

Pre-Workshop (45 responses):

Absolutely – 0 Yes – 7 **Somewhat – 19** Maybe – 10 Not Sure – 7 No - 2

Post-Workshop (45 responses): **INCREASE OF 11 “ABSOLUTELY” & 12 “YES”**

RESPONSES

Absolutely - 11 **Yes - 19** Somewhat - 12 Maybe - 2 Not Sure - 1 No - 0

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

Pre-Workshop (45 responses):

Absolutely – 0 Yes – 8 **Somewhat - 13** Maybe - 10 Not Sure - 10 No - 4

Post-Workshop (45 responses): **INCREASE OF 13 “ABSOLUTELY” & 4 “YES”**

RESPONSES

Absolutely – 13 Yes - 12 Somewhat - 12 Maybe - 4 Not Sure - 3 No - 1

3. Do you think most youth and law enforcement officers would be willing to be partners if they spent more time together in workshops like this?

Pre-Workshop (45 responses):

Absolutely - 0 **Yes - 22** Somewhat - 8 Maybe - 9 Not Sure – 3 No - 3

Post-Workshop (45 responses): **INCREASE OF 14 “ABSOLUTELY” & SAME**

MAJORITY NUMBER OF “YES” RESPONSES

Absolutely – 14 **Yes - 22** Somewhat - 6 Maybe - 0 Not Sure – 1 No - 2

HCSO DEPUTY RESPONSES: Participants (10)

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

1. 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 - 0 **Somewhat - 8** Maybe - 1 Not Sure - 0 No - 1

Post-Workshop (10 responses): **INCREASE OF 2 “ABSOLUTELY” & 4 “YES”**

RESPONSES

Absolutely - 2 **Yes - 4** **Somewhat - 4** Maybe - 0 Not Sure - 0 No - 0

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

Pre-Workshop (10 responses):

Absolutely - 0 Yes - 1 **Somewhat - 4** Maybe - 2 Not Sure - 0 No - 3

Post-Workshop (10 responses): **INCREASE OF 1 “ABSOLUTELY” & 4 “YES”**

RESPONSES

Absolutely - 1 **Yes - 5** Somewhat - 4 Maybe - 0 Not Sure - 0 No - 0

3. Do you think most youth and law enforcement officers would be willing to be partners if they spent more time together in workshops like this?

Pre-Workshop (10 responses):

Absolutely - 0 **Yes - 6** Somewhat - 2 Maybe - 2 Not Sure - 0 No - 0

Post-Workshop (10 responses): **INCREASE OF 4 “ABSOLUTELY” & SAME**

MAJORITY NUMBER OF “YES” RESPONSES

Absolutely - 4 **Yes - 6** Somewhat - 0 Maybe - 0 Not Sure - 0 No - 0

Youth Workshop 2019 #7: Pre-Workshop Comments

Beth Shields Middle School

August 26, 2019: 10:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.

I hope this workshop will:

Students:

- Help me know more about/better understand law enforcement – 12
- Give me an idea of what it is like everyday to be in their shoes - 2
- Teach me what officers do and what sacrifices they have to make – 1
- Help me develop leadership skills and inform us about the duties of the deputies - 1
- Teach me what it's like to be an officer so I can understand what to do when I try out for being a cop - 1
- Help me feel better about law enforcement - 1
- Help me with some things I need to talk about – 1
- Be interesting; teach me something new - 6
- Teach me new things about school and life, and be fun - 1
- Be fun – 10
- Be a great success for us – 1
- Help make all of us be friends and stop bullying – 1
- Help me understand the importance of life - 1
- Make me better when I grow up around police - 1
- Change what people would do in life and not be bad or do wrong stuff - 1
- Affect me in the future – 1
- Grow more people who want to come do this program – 1
- Let us do more activities than just sitting down doing paperwork - 1
- Not have a lot of paperwork – 1
- Be good – 2
- Not be boring – 1
- I don't know – 2

HCSO:

- Bridge the gap in understanding between youth and law enforcement – 3
- Improve interactions/understanding between law enforcement and youth – 3
- Explain better what being a LEO means for the community - 2

- Help clarify questions and concerns students have about my job and my concern for their safety – 1
- Help remove media bias from the youth about law enforcement – 1
- Provide answers and guidance for the children – 1
- Help different generations come closer and understand each other's issues and point of view - 1

Youth Workshop 2019 #7: Post-Workshop Comments

Beth Shields Middle School

August 26, 2019: 10:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.

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

Students:

- I would not change anything; it is good the way it is – 12
- More time with the officers to learn more about them - 2
- More time to talk and better understand – 2
- Maybe some role-play with kids trying to be cops - 1
- More time with the cars - 3
- Let us ride in the cars – 4
- I would like to see/hold their gun - 5
- I would like to try on a bullet-proof vest – 1
- Make it more fun - 2
- Have games that teach us about the law – 2
- Have more activities – 1
- I would change my attitude – 1
- By being nice - 1
- It changed my thinking about cops and how they do their job - 1
- I don't know – 1

HCSO:

- Change nothing; it's all good – 3
- I think the workshops are structured well for interaction and dialogue – 1
- More time explaining our roles and responsibilities to students - 1
- Add more time to the meet and greet at the beginning; more time is needed to meet all of the children and to introduce myself - 1
- Allow more time for questions and answers at the tables – 1
- Have officers enter the workshop after all students are seated – 1

Youth Workshop 2019 #7: Small Group Discussion Comments

Beth Shields Middle School

August 26, 2019: 10:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Table #1

Student Comments:

- Why don't the youth and the Police get along?
- Why do cops approach people aggressively?
- What's the difference between Police and Sheriff?

HCSO Comments:

- They do not completely understand each other.
- It could be determined by the nature of the call.
- Each Agency is assigned a different area to cover.

Table #2

Student Comments:

- How many years of college is needed to become a Law Enforcement Officer?
- Have you ever lost a loved one (zone partner)?
- Has a K-9 ever been injured on duty?

HCSO Comments:

- A 4-year Degree is needed.
- Yes, my friend and brother John Kotfila.
- I don't know if a K-9 has ever been injured.

Table #3

Student Comments:

- Have you ever responded to a school shooting?
- Have you ever been in a high-speed chase? Why?
- What are the Deputies doing when they are sitting on the side of the road in their car?

HCSO Comments:

- I have not, because we have not had any in our County.
- Yes, approximately 2-3. We were trying to arrest a rapist during one of the chases. In the other, we were trying to arrest a homicide suspect. We only chase people who are wanted for serious crimes against other people.

- They are doing paperwork, looking for traffic violations, eating lunch, reading emails, watching surveillance cameras, following up on investigations or just taking a break.

Table #4

Student Comments:

- Why do the Police carry so many tools?
- Why are handcuffs so tight?
- Why do the Police shoot tasers guns more than one time?

HCSO Comments:

- All of the tools are carried for different reasons. They are used to help or protect people.
- They are to be worn only one way.
- Tasers are shot multiple times when the suspect continues to resist the arrest.

Table #5

Student Comments:

- Why does Law Enforcement go on a stake-out?
- Why is it so easy to purchase a gun at Wal-Mart?
- When is it ok to use a weapon?

HCSO Comments:

- They are used to gather evidence, information for investigations. They are not always required.
- Wal-Mart has the same Laws as other establishments. May be a bit more restrictive. Not all Wal-Marts sell guns. Wal-Mart has to train the employees in the specific task of selling firearms.
- The use of weapons is dependent on the interaction with the citizen and the circumstances of the investigation. Law Enforcement's use of force begins with our being present up to the use of our firearm, also known as "deadly force". A citizen just talking about (written words were illegible) doesn't justify the Law Enforcement using a gun. A person pointing a gun at someone would not justify using pepper spray.

Table #6

Student Comments:

- What is the importance of being a cop?
- What is the importance of paperwork?
- What happens when someone doesn't give you their ID?

HCSO Comments:

- The importance of being a cop is to help people who are unable to help themselves?
- Paperwork is important to ensure that everything is documented correctly. Paperwork documents someone's name and other information. If the paperwork is filled out wrong, it can cause delays.
- If someone does not provide their ID, we first need to make sure we have a reason to make the stop. If we have a reason to make the stop, the person is expected to ID themselves. If there is no reason to make the stop, the person is not expected to ID themselves.

Table #7

Student Comments:

- Why would you wear body cameras?
- Does your gear weigh you down?
- How do you know when someone is a bad cop?
- How do you tell the difference between a fake and a real cop?
- What is the difference between a Security Guard and Law Enforcement?

HCSO Comments:

- We currently do not wear body cameras. Why? The financial expense, storage, and other reasons.
- Yes, it does. But we train and practice to have a physical advantage. We train at the gym, in Jiu-Jitsu, and martial arts.
- Like any other job, we all have roles and responsibilities. When a Law Enforcement Officers defies their duties and doesn't do what they have taken the oath to do, which is to serve and protect their Community, they are bad cops.
- Look at the Uniform. Ask for Badge and ID. Verify the Badge number. Look for a marked patrol unit.

- Security Guards have no authority to arrest. Law Enforcement Officers investigate criminal activity and enforce the laws.
- Security Guards can detain someone, but not arrest them. Law Enforcement Officers have the authority to arrest, pull someone over, give tickets, and conduct Criminal Investigations and reports.

Youth Workshop 2019 #7: Evaluation Responses

Beth Shields Middle School

August 26, 2019: 10:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Rankings of Workshop Activities

STUDENTS:

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

HCSO:

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

EVALUATION COMMENTS (Most & Least Favorites):

Students:

- I liked exploring the patrol cars; it was cool - 29
- I liked trying on the handcuffs; it was fun - 2
- I wish I could have held the gun – 1
- Liked asking questions of/talking to the deputies – 7
- I had fun with/enjoyed meeting the officers – 5
- I liked the table discussions - 2
- I am shy; I do not like to talk; I was uncomfortable talking - 3
- My least favorite was the group talk – 2
- I hated the question and answer part - 1
- I least liked the table reports - 2
- I did not like doing the paperwork – 16
- I liked meeting new people - 1
- I liked the Training Director – 1
- I liked the “People are People” activity - 2
- Lunch (pizza) was good – 9
- I did not like the lunch - 2
- I wish there had been more food - 1
- Everything was good; I enjoyed myself; I had a good time - 9
- I hope to do this (workshop) again – 1
- I least liked coming here – 1

HCSO:

- Best was the free talk with the youth, their ideas, thoughts, questions and concerns about law enforcement; enlightening - 7
- I liked interacting with the youth – 3
- There is not enough time for the small table discussions - 2
- I felt the People are People exercise was helpful in getting the kids talking - 2
- Exploring the patrol cars was poor as there was not any organization or structure – 1
- Overall, I liked being at the workshop – 2

End Of Summary Report - Youth Workshop 2019 #6

Beth Shields Middle School

August 26, 2019: 10:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Submitted September 6, 2019 by Charles F. (Fred) Hearn, CLEWS Program Manager

And Viola Luke, CLEWS Assistant Program Manager