

Principles of *Policing the Teen Brain* Training



TRAINING PRINCIPLES

Strategies for Youth (SFY) police officer training equips officers with practical and applicable strategies and scientific and evidence-based information that promote positive interactions and reduce conflict.

TRAINING APPROACH

Each training is developed with police officers, community-based youth-serving organizations, and local youth. Methods of instruction include interactive discussions with adolescent development experts and psychiatrists, films, and role plays with community youth.

SFY TRAINING SUPPORTS OFFICERS BY MAKING INTERACTIONS WITH YOUTH

- Easier and faster
- Less reliant upon force and arrest
- Less likely to escalate.

SFY TRAINING HELPS POLICE DEPARTMENTS

- Demonstrate investment in youth and increases youths' trust and communication with police
- Reduce departments' overtime and court costs by partnering with youth-serving community-based organizations for low level offenses
- Support good community relations and reduce complaints
- Increase risk management and reduce liability.

CORE TRAINING COMPONENTS

- Developmental Explanation of Normative Teen Behaviors
- Tactics for Working With Compromised Teens
- Juvenile Law for Law Enforcement
- Demographic Factors Affecting Youth
- Cultural Factors Influencing Youth
- Strategies for Asserting Authority & Getting Compliance from Teens
- Recognizing and Addressing Implicit Bias
- Developing Community-Based Partnerships – And Using Them Proactively
- Trying it on For Size – Role Playing with Officers & Youth

LOGISTICAL ELEMENTS OF TRAINING IMPLEMENTATION

Class Size: 35- 50 Officers

Participants: Patrol Officers, Juvenile Officers, SROs, Command Staff; Community-Based Youth Serving Agency Staff (3-5/class)

Duration: 14-16 hour intensive training program; 6th Month: Booster training of up to 6 hours duration

Materials: Power point presentations, videos, films, manual, hand-outs, reading lists, etc.

Speakers: Experts in adolescent development, teen psychiatry; attorneys, officers, and teens

Evaluation: Baseline survey of officers and youth; Pre/Post assessment of officer understanding

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