

Facilitators Manual

Sample Agenda

Law Enforcement and Youth Forum Agenda

8:30 am	Module 1 – Panel discussion
10:00 am	Break
10:15 am	Module 2 – Panel Debrief Sessions
11:15 am	Reconvene in Large Group
11:30 am	Lunch – with breakout group
12:15 pm	Module 3 – Adolescent Development
2:15 pm	Module 4 – Effective Use of Communication to Interact with Youth
4:00 pm	End of program

Ground Rules

- One person speak at a time
- Be respectful
- Listen to each other
- Be honest

Preparation for Modules 1 and 2 – Forum and Debrief Sessions

Forum Coordinator

Purpose of the Forum

The overall purpose of these forums is to reduce the number of youth of color who enter the juvenile justice system. Although minority youth make up 22% of the population, they account for 76% of the youth in correctional facilities in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Research tells us that youth of color do not commit a higher percentage of crimes than white youth, yet they enter the juvenile justice system in greater numbers than their white counterparts and they stay longer.

We want to make our communities safer and save the lives of both young people and law enforcement. In order to accomplish these goals we need to implement strategies that reduce the likelihood of conflict between youth and law enforcement. This is so important because the first point of contact these youth have with the system is with law enforcement –

- 1 on the streets with police officers;
- 2 at school with School Resource Officers;
- 3 on public transportation with SEPTA; and,
- 4 in public housing with Housing Authority Police.

These forums offer one strategy – a way to open dialogue between young people and law enforcement and accomplish the following **forum objectives**:

- ☐ Identify issues, concerns about improving youth and law enforcement interactions; and,
- ☐ Identify recommendations for improving youth and law enforcement relations.

<p style="text-align: center;">MODULE 1:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Law Enforcement and Youth Panel Forum</p> <p>DATE: July, 2008 Revised: April, 2009</p>	
<p>MODULE OVERVIEW: Panel discussion is facilitated to provide an opportunity for youth and experienced law enforcement officers to openly dialogue about their perceptions of each other and explores ideas for improving relations. The audience is also engaged in asking questions and role play.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">TIME FRAME</p> <p>Time: 1.5 hours</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PARAMETERS</p> <p>Audience: Law Enforcement Training Academy Recruits, Young People from the community</p> <p>Number: Based on Size of Academy Class</p> <p>Space: A room large enough to hold all members of the recruits class plus young people joining them in the audience with theater style seating. Tables in the front of the room for all panelists.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES</p> <p>After this module, participants will be able to:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> identify issues and concerns about youth and law enforcement interactions</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> identify recommendations for improving youth and law enforcement relations</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">EVALUATION TECHNIQUES</p> <p>Observation by the facilitator of participant responses.</p>

MODULE 2: Debriefing the Forum

MODULE OVERVIEW:

Recruits, youth and a facilitator meet in small groups to talk about their reactions to the forum panel discussion and continue the dialogue to explore ways they can improve relations. Each small group develops a set of tips for youth and a set of tips for officers on how to interact with each other.

TIME FRAME

Time: 1 hour, preferably immediately following the Panel Forum

PARAMETERS

Audience: Law Enforcement Training Academy Recruits and Youth from the Community

Number: 10 - 20

Space:
Preferably a room where the seats can be arranged in a circle or a horseshoe so all participants can see one another.

PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES

After this module, participants will be able to:

- ☐ identify how they can improve relations between law enforcement and youth
- ☐ create a list of tips for both law enforcement and youth for interacting with each other

EVALUATION TECHNIQUES

Facilitator observation of participant responses

Preparation for Modules 3, 3A and 4 Forum Coordinator

Purpose of the Training

The overall purpose of these lessons are to reduce the number of youth of color who enter the juvenile justice system. Although minority youth make up 22% of the population, they account for 76% of the youth in correctional facilities in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Research tells us that youth of color do not commit a higher percentage of crimes than white youth, yet they enter the juvenile justice system in greater numbers than their white counterparts and they stay longer.

We want to make our communities safer and save the lives of both young people and law enforcement. In order to accomplish these goals we need to implement strategies that reduce the likelihood of conflict between youth and law enforcement. This so important because the first point of contact these youth have with the system is with law enforcement -

- 5 on the streets with police officers;
- 6 at school with School Resource Officers;
- 7 on public transportation with SEPTA; and,
- 8 in public housing with Housing Authority Police.

These training sessions offer one strategy – a way to identify issues and concerns regarding youth and law enforcement interactions; teach law enforcement about adolescent development, ethnic and cultural differences and how to work more effectively with youth; teach youth how to interact with law enforcement in a positive way in order to accomplish the following **training objectives**:

- Identify strategies for developing rapport with youth and for preventing confrontation and conflict
- Identify effective use of verbal and nonverbal communication

MODULE 3: Adolescent Development

MODULE OVERVIEW: In this session participants will learn about the environmental, physical and biological reasons why teenagers think and behave the way they do. The group will examine youth culture, brain development, concepts of hypervigilance and hypermasculinity, as well as the distinctive characteristics of boys' and girls' coping strategies. A number of video clips are shown from television, a movie, and a scripted simulation of a police officer's interaction with a teenage girl.

TIME FRAME	PARAMETERS
Time: 2 hours	Audience: Law Enforcement Training Academy Recruits Number: An Academy Platoon Class Size (30-40) Space: A room large enough for small groups to sit together at tables
PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES	EVALUATION TECHNIQUES
In this module, participants will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Identify how adolescent development and environmental influences (physical, social, cultural) impact behavior with law enforcement<input type="checkbox"/> Distinguish between male and female coping strategies	Facilitator observation of participant responses

MODULE 4: Effective Use of Communication for Police and Youth Interaction

MODULE OVERVIEW: In this module, recruits and youth enact situations given to them by the facilitator. The group identifies what behaviors led to increased conflict and discuss ways to improve communications in order to prevent unnecessary confrontations. Participants then create and enact a role play that demonstrates effective communication strategies.

<p style="text-align: center;">TIME FRAME</p> <p>Time: 1 ¾ hours</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PARAMETERS</p> <p>Audience: Law Enforcement Training Academy Recruits, Youth from the community</p> <p>Number: Based on recruit Platoon Groups (25 – 35 per group) plus young people divided evenly among the platoon groups</p> <p>Space: A classroom for each platoon and youth group.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES</p> <p>During this module, participants will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> demonstrate strategies for developing rapport with youth and for preventing confrontation and conflict <input type="checkbox"/> demonstrate effective use of verbal and nonverbal communication 	<p style="text-align: center;">EVALUATION TECHNIQUES</p> <p>Facilitator observation of participant involvement in role plays</p>