

TAPS Academy Brings Communities Together.



T.A.P.S. Academy Program Objectives

Create youth graduates who understand the roles and tasks of law enforcement and who are prepared to build, develop and grow their communities.

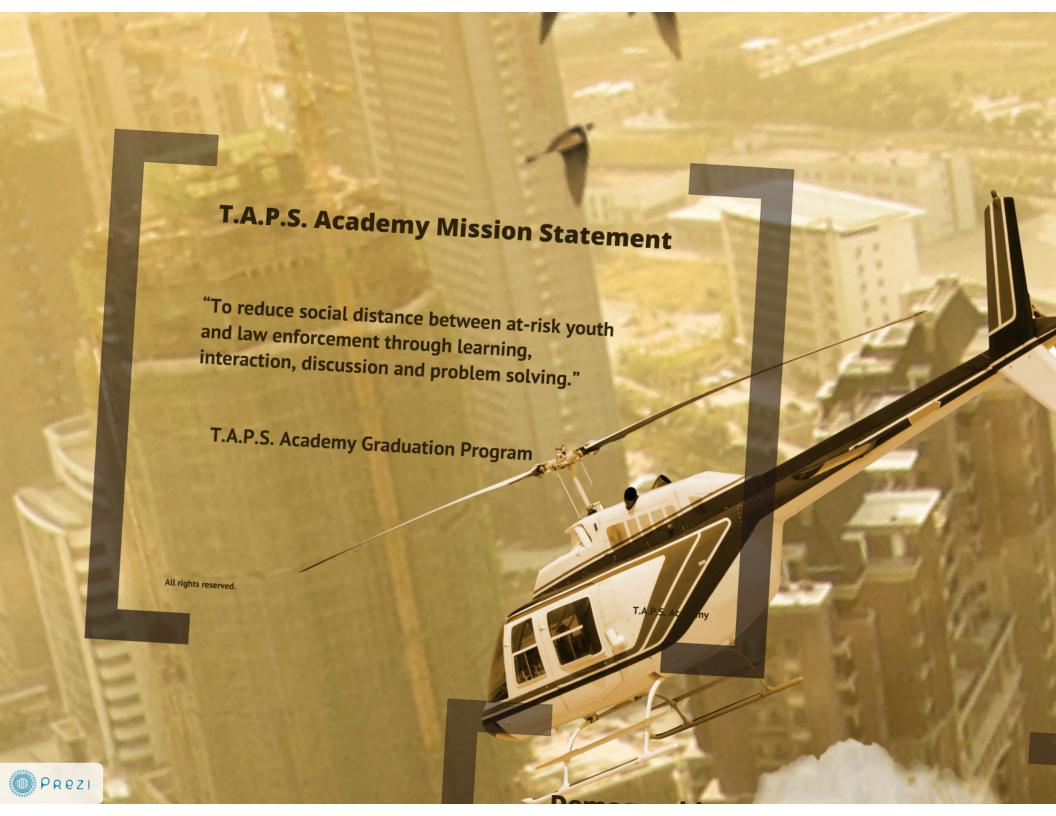
Reduce the social distance that exists between police and youth, educate youth and police about each other, while providing crime prevention projects to the community through the use of service learning.



COPS Office & HPD Cooperative Agreement

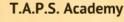
T.A.P.S. Academy





T.A.P.S. Academy #1 Key Findings

The first T.A.P.S. Academy served as the pilot program. From the beginning there was a great deal of enthusiasm amongst the TAPS1 partners and the TAPS1 'Team' that includes its leaders, police mentors and supportive staff. Some reductions in social distance between youth and police were evident at the midpoint and conclusion of the program.





Results of Youth Perceptions of Connection to Police (Treatment Group)

	Pre-Program	Post Program
Very Connected	13.5%	24%
Somewhat Con	21.6%	44%
Somewhat Discon	21.6%	8%
Very Disconnected	d 43.2%	20%



Youth and Social Distance Cont'd

Pre-I	Prog	ram	Post	Pro	gram
	_				

Like (A/S)	35.1%	64%
Trust	51.3%	84%
Respect	60%	92%
Pol Resp. You	43%	68%

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Police and Social Distance

Pre-Program Post Program

Trust* 76.9% 62.5%

Respect** 92.3% 100%

*..Youth think they can trust police to help them?

**Do you respect youth when you interact with them?

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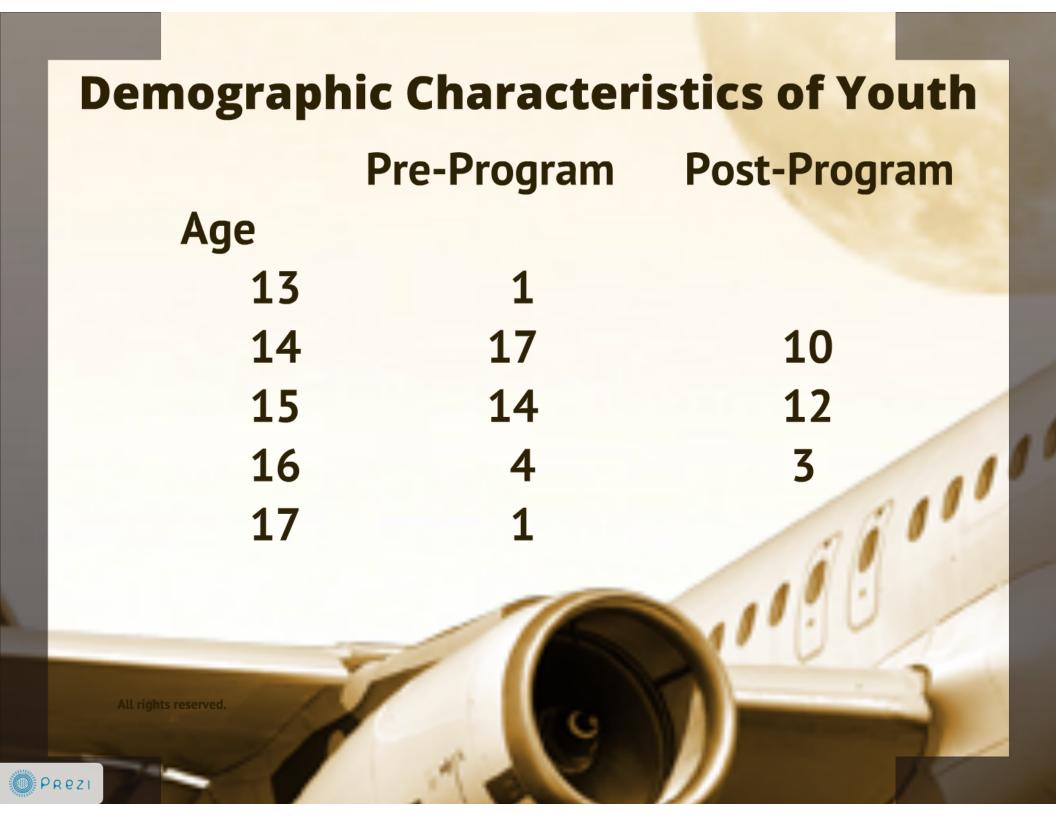


Demographic Characteristics of Youth

		Pre-Program	Post-Program
Ge	ender		
	Female	18	10
	Male	19	15
Ra	ce/Ethnicity		
	White	0	1
	African American	22	12
	Hispanic	12	11
	Native American	2	0
	Other	1	1

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Demographic Characteristics of Police

	Pre-Program	Post-Program
Gender		100
Female	4	4
Male	9	4
Race/Ethnicity		
White	1 1	61 71
African America	n 5	3
Hispanic	3	2
Asian American	11	1
NR	3	1
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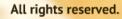


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Pre-Program

Rank
Officer 10 4
Sr. Officer 3 4

Education
Some College 6 4
BS/BA 4 3
NR 3 1





Demographic Characteristics of Police

Age	Pre-Program	Post-Program
25-29	3	1
30-34	3	
35-39	2	1
40-44	2	2
45-49		2
50-54		1
NR	3	1

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Other Recommendations

School performance and behavior data for youth participants should be made available by the participating school.

Revisions to the academy schedule should be limited.

Rotation of mentors and youth should be limited. Strategies for increasing parental involvement should be identified.

Increase the number of partners and volunteers to assist with community service projects.





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