

GREEN BAY POLICE FOUNDATION

PRESS RELEASE

October 31, 2017



Green Bay WI: The Board of Directors for the Green Bay Police Foundation (GBPF) announce Foundation grants for 2018, and invite local police agencies to apply for an additional \$3,000.00 Community engagement grant for 2018.

In a meeting held on October 17th, Green Bay Police Foundation President Doug Collins and the Board of Directors for the Foundation awarded three grants for 2017. These grants are in addition to the \$67,000 already awarded to the Green Bay Police Department for the purchase of 100 Kevlar ballistic protective helmets and 100 tactical vests earlier this year. The helmets and vests are currently in every Green Bay Police Department vehicle and are used to protect officers in high-risk situations such as shootings and armed robberies.

"I am proud that the Green Bay Police Foundation is able to award these grants today," said Doug Collins, Police Foundation President. "These grants are a big step in making Green Bay a safer community, helping to positively engage the youth in our community and providing critical training for the officers that serve the community."

The three awards granted are:

1. \$5,000 to the "Bring Your Own 5" (BYO5) Basketball Tournament.

Held throughout the summer at Fisk Park and during winter break at the Boys and Girls Club, the BYO5 is a partnership with the Devine Temple Church of God in Christ and the Green Bay Police Department. The GBPD partners with community organizations to get young people to attend and participate with Green Bay Police Department officers attending and playing. It provides a positive environment and builds positive relations between the Green Bay Police Department and young people in our community. Expansion of the BYO5 program for next year will include the possibility of adding a second site on the east side of Green Bay and/or incorporating soccer into next year's program.

2. \$15,500 to the Green Bay Police Department's Police Explorers Program

The Green Bay Police Department's Police Explorers Program is focused on engaging young people, especially those youth that are at-risk, in a positive, productive manner to keep them free from drugs, gangs, and criminal activity. The Police Explorer program is aimed at youth from 14-17 years old. The grant will provide uniforms, equipment and activities fees for youth in Green Bay, many of whom cannot afford to pay for these items. The grant also includes five "scholarships" for members of the Explorer Program to attend the National Explorers competition.

3. \$6,000 for Police Implicit Bias training for police agencies in the Greater Green Bay area.

Implicit Bias training is designed to help officers recognize implicit biases that they may have. The training which is based on the current social science research and best practices in law enforcement, is critical to having strong and fair criminal justice system. The goal of the training is to promote fairness, eliminate bias and build the stronger, safer, more just society in the Green Bay region. The grant will allow the sworn officers of the Green Bay Police Department, as well as other sworn officers from the surrounding agencies to receive this specific training.

"These grants will help the Green Bay Police Department better engage the community, especially our young people.", said Green Bay Police Chief Andrew Smith. "Thanks to the Green Bay Police Foundation, our officers are safer and able to provide higher quality service to our community."

In addition, the Board of Directors announced the availability of a \$3,000 grant for a Brown County law enforcement agency to implement a community engagement program. Further details can be found on the Green Bay Police Foundations website at GBPolicefoundation.com
