



June 8, 2023

City Commission  
City of Fort Pierce  
100 N US Highway 1  
Fort Pierce, Florida 34950

Honorable Commission:

Mutual trust and cooperation are two key elements of community policing. The Fort Pierce Police Department has five (5) unfunded programs that are strengthening the relationship with our citizens. I respectfully request that the Law Enforcement Trust Fund (LETF) be used to fund and enhance our abilities to provide resources and community services to our City.

**Courageous Kids – \$10,000**



The Courageous Kids program is near and dear to our hearts. It facilitates building positive relations between our youth, the community and law enforcement. The program is dedicated to helping our children and youths gain confidence and become courageous in their decision-making.

By introducing them to different sports, providing positive educational experiences, and countless mentoring opportunities allows them to feel comfortable talking and interacting with police officers.

Our officers, civilian personnel, and volunteers spend time reminding our Courageous Kids that they are valued, appreciated, and vital to our future. This weekly mentorship takes place every Tuesday from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at First Step Park, located at Avenue G and North 31st Street in Fort Pierce. Each participant receives a nutritious meal at the end of the program.



Rich House North, 2301 Avenue I - \$5,000

Rich House South – 903 S. 21<sup>st</sup> Street - \$5,000



RICH House North is a community center in the heart of the Lincoln Park neighborhood. Rich House South is inside of the City of Fort Pierce Recreation Center. The mission of the RICH Houses is to empower lives and strengthen the community by providing an opportunity for parents, children and residents of all ages to be involved in a wide range of learning, social and physical activities.

In providing these much-needed programs and resources to our citizens, it allows us to focus on intervention and prevention through problem solving while building collaborative partnerships between the Fort Pierce Police Department, schools, social services, and other stakeholders. This community policing effort not only improves public safety but also enhances social connectivity, economic strength, which increases community resilience to crime.

Police Explorers -\$5,000



The Law Enforcement Explorer Program is open to our youths between 14 and 21 years of age and who are interested in a career in law enforcement or a related field in the criminal justice system.

The program offers our youths a personal awareness of the criminal justice system through training, practical experiences, competition and other activities. Additionally, the program promotes personal growth through character development, respect for the rule of law, physical fitness, and good citizenship.



Unity In Our Community - \$5,000

Each year we look forward to partnering with our stakeholders and leaders of the community to provide resources and health checks to help empower our citizens toward their success. Unity allows our citizens to expand their knowledge and provide an opportunity to bring everyone together as we build stronger relationships within the community we serve.

This is our largest annual event with over 1,000 attendees. Our citizens enjoy a day of Unity, impactfulness, and fun filled with bounce houses, popcorn, snow cones, balloons, face painting, free food, a demonstration by the Fort Pierce Police Department's K-9 Unit, a DJ, and an entertainment lineup of local artists and performers.

These unfunded programs are essential to our Community Engagement. To assure our continued success, I respectfully request \$30,000, as listed, from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund (LEFT) to support these essential programs.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Diane Hobley-Burney'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'D' and 'H'.

Diane Hobley-Burney  
Chief of Police