

2022 Town of Christiansburg Police Department Certified Crime Prevention Community Summary

Review of the nineteen (19) Core Elements and optional element materials and discussion demonstrated that the prevention efforts of the Town of Christiansburg Police Department are strong and proactive. Throughout the review it became clear that the success of Christiansburg prevention efforts were due to three factors; community focus, developing partnerships and continuing growth of their professional staff.

Christiansburg's focus on community involvement and empowerment was evident by the leadership role and responsibilities that the members of the community play and by police officers embracing the idea of working in conjunction with the community.

Some of the strongest examples are found in their Neighborhood Watch Council. Within the last recertification period and even throughout the pandemic, the Christiansburg Police Department has continued to honor its commitment to the Neighborhood Watch program. In order to satisfy the agency's commitment to the group members, the Chief of Police and all members of the organization have made themselves readily available to their community to address concerns. Most of the citizens that are involved in their neighborhood watch programs also participate in other agency sponsored events such as our senior police academy, citizen's police academy, or triad group.

Christiansburg encourages individual, group, school, neighborhood, and community partnerships, programs, and activities to reduce/prevent crimes and disorder. By far, the greatest accomplishment pertaining to community-oriented policing is the relationship the agency enjoys with the community they serve.

Some examples of these relationships are the continuing and successful efforts to promote communication, understanding, and a very strong relationship with the town's minority population. The Christiansburg Police Department has continued to proactively work toward building relationships through their participation in regular business watch meetings as well as many other community groups. Those meetings have worked to connect the agency and the leadership of local civic organizations such as the NAACP. These connections have led to business related co-sponsorship of annual events, and officer attendance at events that promote cooperation, understanding, and harmony between all segments of the community and the agency.

I personally interviewed a participating member of their neighborhood watch programs and they spoke about the strong commitment that the Christiansburg Police Department has from the newest officer all the way up to the Chief of Police to their community. They raved about the department's willingness to allow citizens to be such an important part of their local law enforcement agency and their crime prevention activities.

With regards to Domestic Violence Intervention, the Executive Director for the Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley confirmed that all objectives were met, and in large part, surpassed the defined goals. During this recertification cycle, the DCJS Program Manager found that the program either met or exceeded their goals as it relates to their Domestic Violence initiatives.

The agency has also implemented a Code Enforcement initiative throughout their organization which allows all officers/detectives to work toward one common goal. They have focused on non-compliant properties, animal nuisances, noise violations, and many other issues that may create an unsettling environment within their neighborhoods. The Christiansburg Police Department proactively addresses

these identified issues with mediation and collaboration with other community resources.

After reviewing the Town of Christiansburg Police Department for recertification, I find that they have met the needed objectives and recommend them for recertification.



Todd Clingenpeel

Program Manager

DCJS