

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Report Prepared By:

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Springfield Police Department Office of Professional Standards -

Positive, non-enforcement-related police interactions can serve to improve attitudes toward police and erode distrust over time. Through relationship building, the police department's effectiveness grows and community trust and legitimacy increase. This report serves to summarize these non-enforcement-related activities that members of the Springfield Police Department (SPD) engaged in during the 2022 calendar year.

1. Outreach Activities

The Springfield Police Department participated in 166 community outreach activities in 2022. These activities have been grouped into the following 11 categories:

- **1.** Community Event an event sponsored, planned, and/or hosted by an outside entity, and SPD was invited to participate.
- **2.** Collaboration or Event Planning a meeting between SPD staff and community members or groups to discuss various topics or plan an event.
- **3.** Community Group Meeting a regularly-scheduled community group meeting (i.e. Neighborhood Watch) where SPD staff were present to participate in or mediate the discussion.
- **4. CHETT** an activity where CHETT funds were distributed, or SPD staff participated in CHETT-associated assistance.
- **5. SPD Event** an event planned and hosted by SPD.
- **6.** Car Seat Check SPD's child car seat technician inspected and/or installed a car seat.
- 7. **Tour** SPD staff hosted a department tour for community members.
- **8. K9 Demo** SPD K9 officers demonstrated their K9 partners.
- **9. Presentation** SPD staff members gave a presentation to a community group.
- **10. Media Interview** SPD staff members gave a media interview.
- **11. General Activity** All other activities.

SPD spent 358.5 hours engaged in community outreach activities. These hours include the time spent directly engaged with/for community members and do not account for the time spent by SPD staff coordinating, communicating, and preparing for activities.

Category	Number of Activities	Hours
Media Interviews	3	3
K9 Demos	4	8.5
Tours	4	4.5
CHETT	5	10
Car Seat Checks	7	3.5
Presentations	11	21
Collaboration and Event Planning	15	14
Community Group Meetings	20	28
General Activities	23	32
SPD Events	26	69
Community Events	48	165
Total	166	358.5

Table 1. Event Types and Hours Spent

2. Outreach Locations

SPD served at a variety of locations throughout the city, and these locations have been grouped into the following 12 categories in the first column of table 2. The following locations are described for clarity:

- 1. **Care Facility** location where people who cannot otherwise care for themselves live/spend time (i.e. nursing home).
- 2. **Community** an event/activity that occurred at a decentralized location or at multiple locations (i.e. Walk with the Chief).
- 3. **Home** a community member's home.

Location Type	Number of Activities	Hours
Healthcare Facility	3	3.5
Church	4	10.0
Care Facility	5	7.5
Veteran Facility	5	20.5
Home	6	6.5

City Facility	8	12.0
Community	9	38.0
Community Service Center	11	15.0
Business	18	46
Park	19	56.0
School	22	68.5
SPD	56	75
Total	166	358.5

Table 2. Location Types and Hours Spent

3. Involved Personnel

The Springfield Police Department employed 106 people throughout 2022, and approximately ten of these individuals were not employed with the PD for the entire calendar year. Of the 106 employees, 63 (59%) participated in at least one outreach activity. On average, department personnel (not including the two members of the outreach team) attended 2.3 outreach events. Only 23 SPD employees (22%) attended more than the average number of events.

Division/Work Group	Events Attended
Command Staff	45
Patrol Staff	32
School Resource Officers ¹	28
K9 Officers	14
Admin Staff	12
Community Service Officers	10
Detectives	9
Records	4
Dispatch	4
Detention	1

Table 3. Events Attended by Division/Work Group

¹SPD employed two school resource officers and 44 patrol officers. Two school resource officers attended approximately the same number of events as 44 patrol officers.

4. Moving Forward

In 2023, SPD will track community outreach activities using Blue Team/IAPro. The Community Outreach Coordinator, who is expected to onboard in early 2023, will be responsible for creating Community Outreach incident entries that will log employee participation, event type, hours, POC information, and recommendations/notes for future activities. Blue Team will be able to link outreach events with related commendations, complaints, and case/incident numbers.