



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Office of Professional Accountability

Timothy B. Schwering

SPD Community Partners Survey – Spring 2015

Surveys were sent to partners from the following agencies that work closely with SPD:

City Probation, County Probation, County Public Defender's Office, City Prosecutors Office, County Prosecutors Office, Department of Corrections, Spokane County Jail, Community Court, Spokane County Drug Court, YWCA Family Justice Center, Regional Gang Task Force, Spokane Investigative Regional Response (SIRR) Team, Spokane Fire Department, Spokane Schools, Frontier Behavioral Health, Providence Health Services, Inland Northwest Health Services, Eastern State Hospital, Developmental Disabilities Administration, Aging and Long Term Care of Eastern Washington (ALTCEW), Indian Child Welfare, Veterans Affairs, Spokane Transit Authority (STA), Homeless Coalition, Downtown Spokane Partnership, East Spokane Business Association, Lutheran Community Services, Mayor's Advisory Council on Multicultural Affairs (MACMA), Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission, Excelsior Youth Center, Northwest Autism Center, Spokane County Community Services, Daybreak Youth Services, Eastern Washington University, Washington State University, and Spokane Regional Health District. Many of the partners are part of the Mental Health Steering Committee (MHSC). SPD Youth Outreach partners included: Spokane County Juvenile Court, Crosswalk Shelter, KFCA Ministries, Operation Healthy Family, Youth for Christ, Southeast Lions, Martin Luther King Jr. Family Outreach Center, Spokane Parks Department, Spokane Parks Foundation, and West Central Community Center.

Summary:

Respondents were overwhelmingly positive (90% or more agreeing to every question except one). The only question with less than 90% agreeing was the question about the agency's relationship with SPD improving over the past two years. 88% agreed and 10% were neutral, suggesting there was not a dramatic change in the relationship for all participants. Our partners are showing strong support for SPD's initiatives and strong support for SPD in general.

Not a single respondent disagreed that their agency had quality interactions with SPD staff. No respondents disagreed with SPD's initiatives in youth outreach and training. Only one person disagreed in regards to SPD's successfully working to build the public's trust, and SPD headed in the right direction with community outreach efforts, precincts, and the creation of specialty units.

Where possible, we will try to incorporate partners' feedback. For example, a partner from City Probation asked for additional coordination with the jail, and Sergeant Keller from the Gang Unit said he would help facilitate that for her.



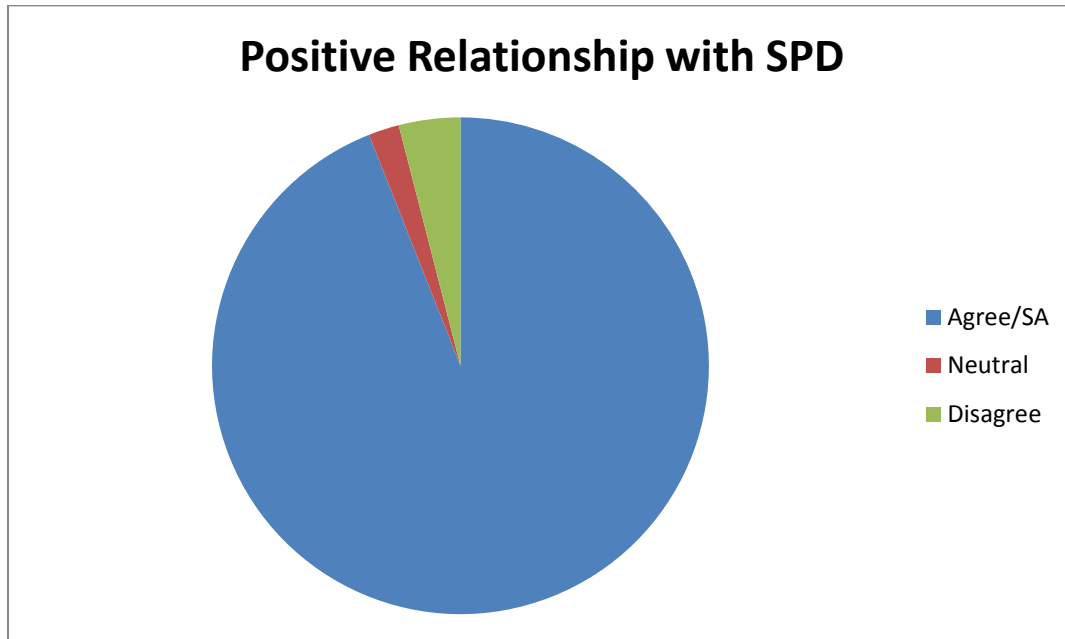
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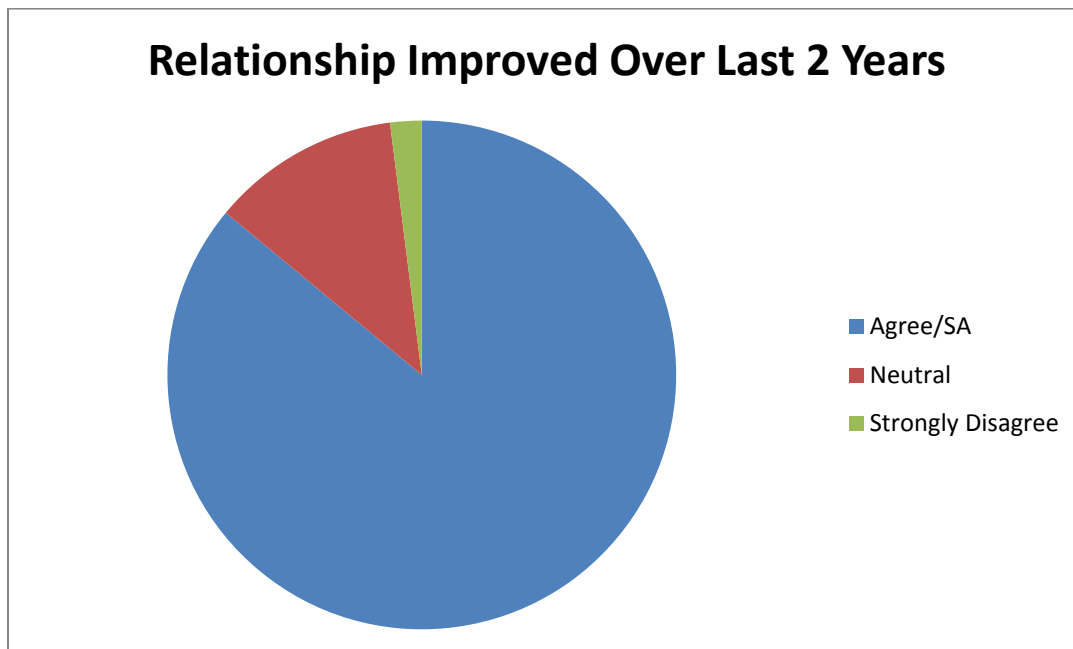
Our organization has a positive relationship with Spokane Police Department.

94% agreed or strongly agreed; 2% neutral; 4% disagreed.



Has the relationship with Spokane Police Department improved over the last two years?

86% agreed or strongly agreed; 12% neutral; 2% strongly disagreed.



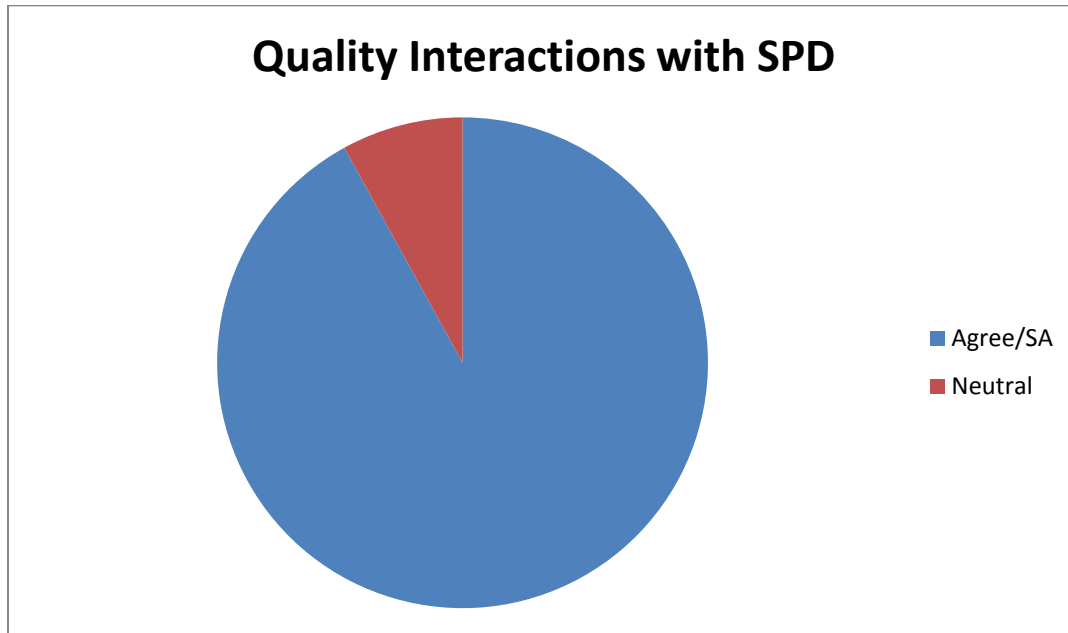


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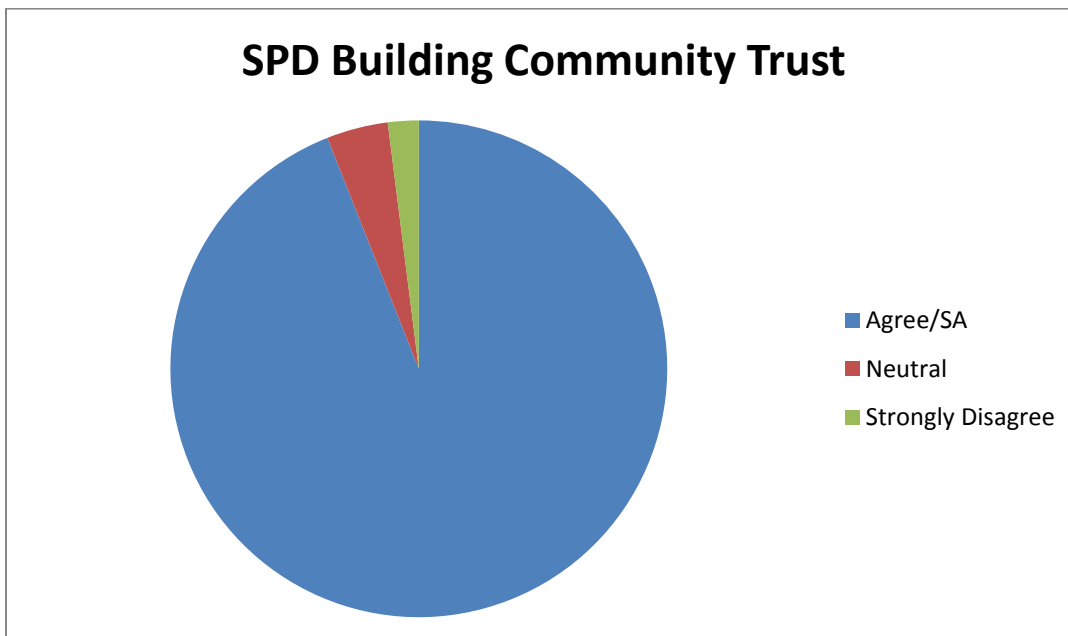
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Our organization experiences quality interactions with Spokane Police Department staff.
92% agreed or strongly agreed; 8% neutral.



Spokane Police Department is successfully working to build the community's trust.
94% agreed or strongly agreed; 4% neutral; 2% strongly disagreed.





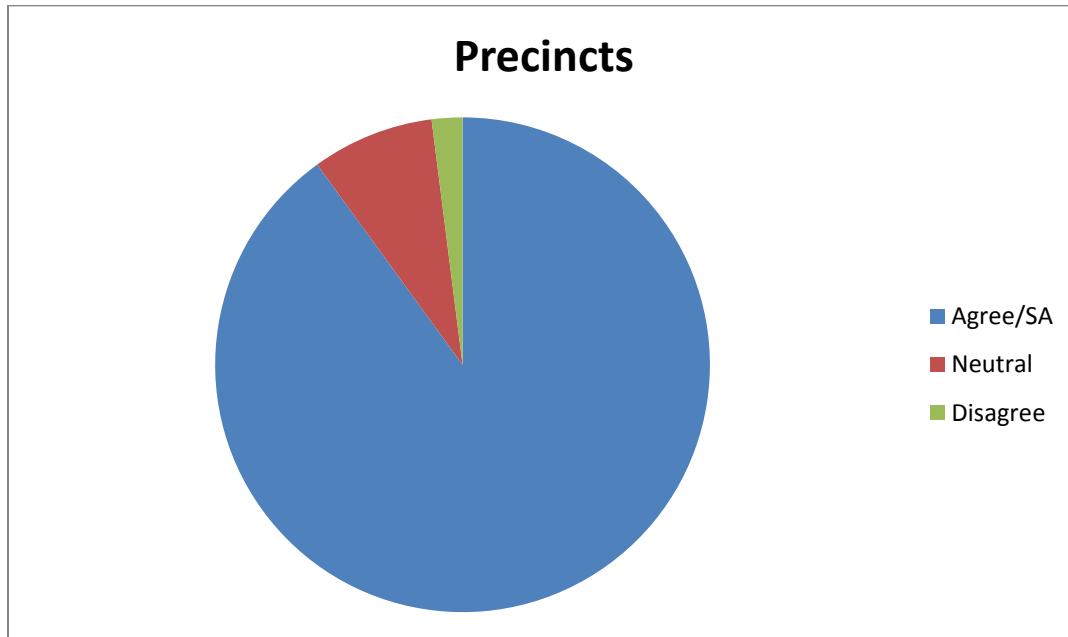
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Spokane Police Department is headed in the right direction with Area Precincts.

90% agreed or strongly agreed; 8% neutral; 2% disagreed.



Spokane Police Department is headed in the right direction in regard to training, such as mandatory Crisis Intervention (CIT) and de-escalation training for officers.

94% agreed or strongly agreed; 6% neutral.





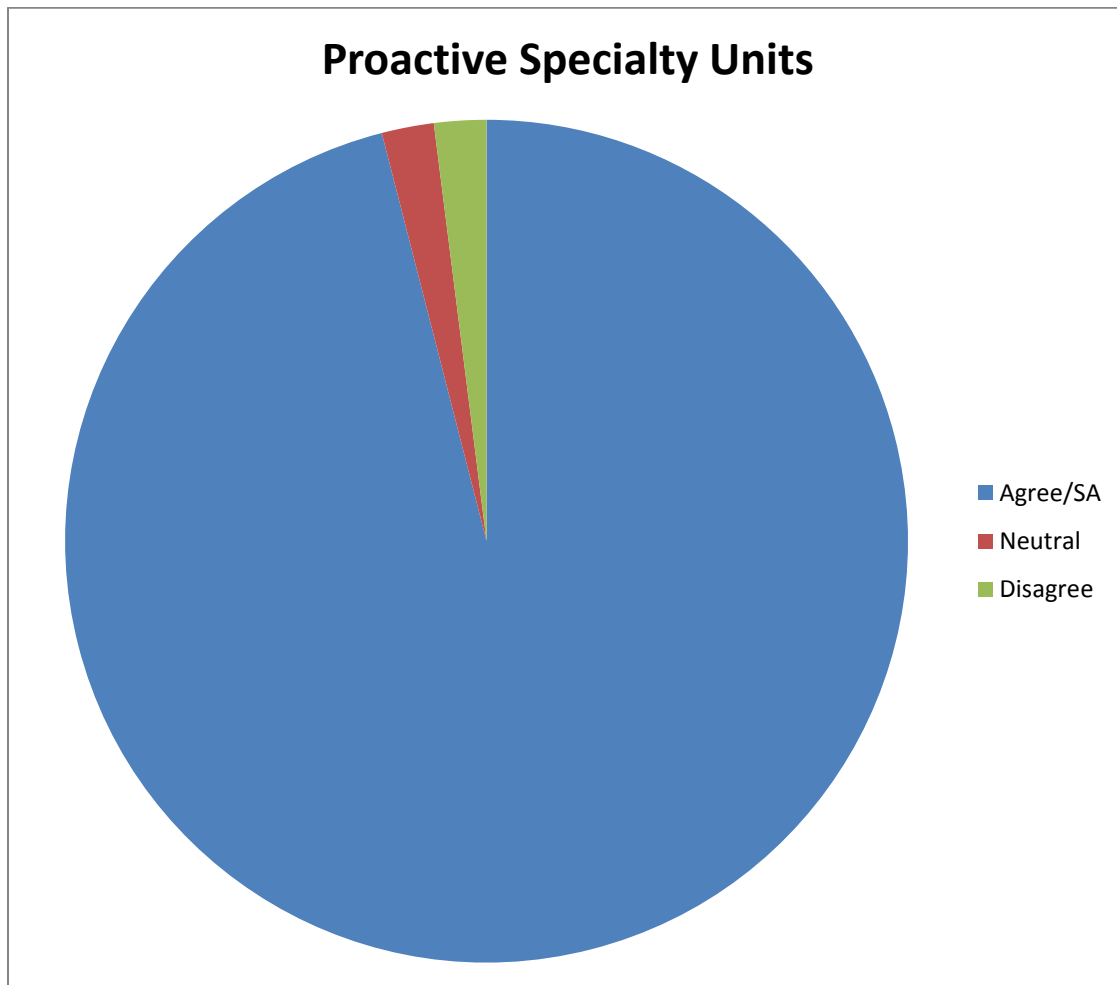
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Spokane Police Department is headed in the right direction with proactive specialty units such as the Chronic Offender Unit and the Domestic Violence Unit.

96% agreed or strongly agreed; It is worth noting that 32 out of 51 respondents (63%) strongly agreed. 2% neutral; 2% disagreed. Only two respondents did not agree with the creation of proactive specialty units.





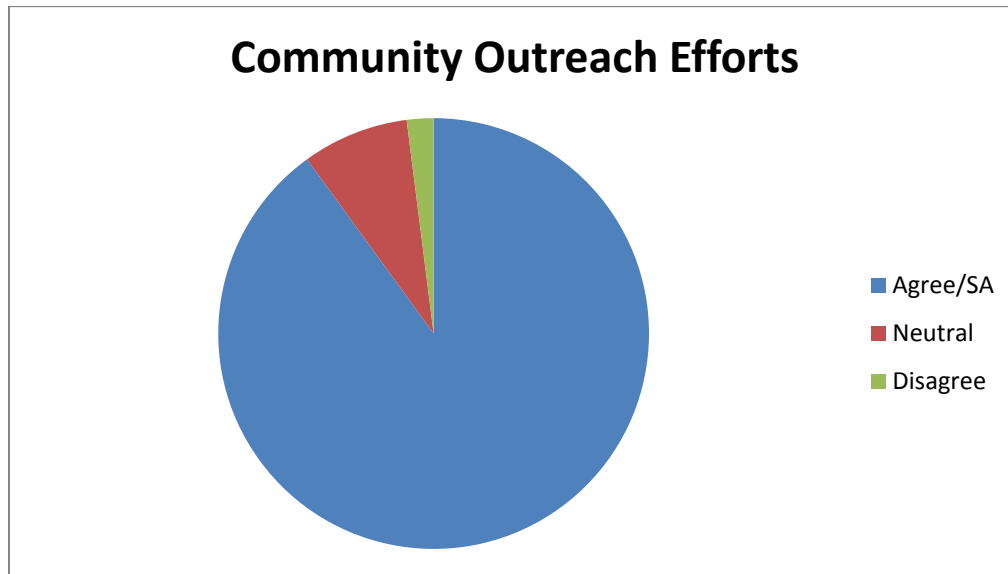
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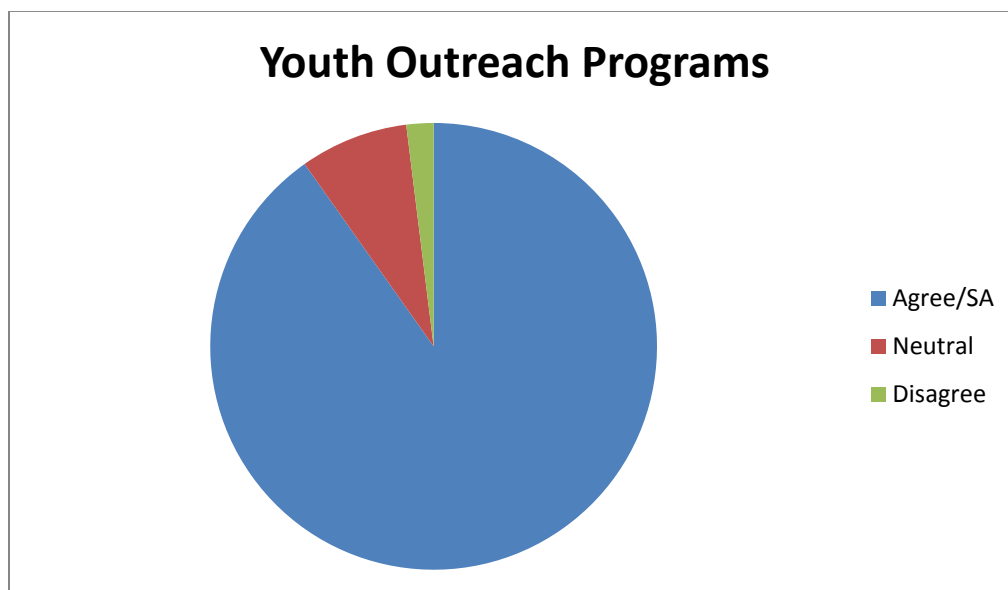
Spokane Police Department is headed in the right direction with community outreach efforts.

90% agreed or strongly agreed; 8% neutral; 2% disagreed.



Spokane Police Department is headed in the right direction with youth outreach programs such as Youth and Police Initiative (YPI) and Police Activities League (PAL).

92% agreed or strongly agreed. It's worth noting that 35 out of 51 participants (69%) strongly agreed. 8% neutral.





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How can Spokane Police Department be a better partner to your organization?

- As a part of the SIRR team, I primarily work with the Major Crimes detectives and command staff. Across the board, they continue to be outstanding partners and enjoyable to work with!
- Continue to collaborate.
- No other suggestions.
- Our organization has a long hx of positive collaboration we couldn't ask for a better partner.
- Spokane PD have been an amazing partner with our organization. My only comment would be to focus on community outreach activities they can be an active partner in over those they just attend.
- They are very receptive to visiting and interacting with local organizations.....maybe it would help if they could become more proactive in identifying tools that are helpful in improving their ability to work with families and vulnerable populations, tools that families can use to inform police of their loved one's needs, and improve police response to crisis situations. Project Lifesaver?
- Increased dialogue on how the Inpatient facilities and the SPD can work even more collaboratively.
- Housing Municipal Probation Officers part time in the precincts might help with better collaboration and supervision of offenders and quicker responses to violations.
- Reinstate the vulnerable adults unit that focused on crimes against older adults.
- I think stability is important (trying not to move people around as much as they are) and we could use more officers and communication.
- Continue current actions & improving with solid leadership.
- All trusted organizations to give input on YPI and PAL. Look for ways to give back to the trusted organizations that help with programs, acknowledge the efforts. Put the "right" officer in the right place. Just because an officer is will to help does not mean they are affectively helping. Don't take partners for granted or put unrealistic expectations on volunteers.
- I think the collaboration is remarkable. We are very fortunate to be in a community that has such a strong partnership with police and mental health. All of our future projects/efforts (ECIT, TEAM Conference, etc.) will continue to further support and strengthen this partnership.
- A lot of the children and youth that we serve have a negative attitude towards police officers due to their families' experiences in the past. YPI is great and a wonderful program but for those youth that are at a higher risk should be in a longer more intensive program. Brainstorm ways to build upon the relationships that have started through YPI.
- Continue working to complete investigations and maintain communication among the rank and file officers and DPA's. There have been significant improvements in these areas in the last 18 months.



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- I work with Spokane Public Schools and have been impressed with the collaboration. The only improvement that I can see is to have a representative at some of our meetings/trainings as appropriate. This has been hit and miss in the past. Thank you for all that you do and the collaboration.
- Keep doing what they're doing!
- The constant staff turnover is a symptom of a deeper problem. We never know how to contact the person in charge of programs. There is no good primary number to call that is a human or helpful. If you don't know an officer's personal cell #, you cannot get a human to help. Employees at police radio have been rude and lacking in accountability (not all of course, but the frequency is enough to be an issue). Radio does not seem to support the mission/values of the SPD and they seem to be isolated and unhappy. The officers in the streets often complain to us about leadership and the organization's problems. It seems to be a cultural issue that is also shared in other agencies across the community.
- Our Reactor Nation Social justice program would love to list Spokane PD as a partner next school year. The program has grown from focusing on anti-bullying to the social connection model that involves training on Positive Behavioral Support.
- Becoming more familiar with what we do aboard our station and possibly running some training so the two departments can have a better understanding with one another.
- Actually, the Spokane Police Department has been an excellent partner with EWU and as a faculty member I am working to make my colleagues aware of the openness of the SPD and the range of innovative programs and initiatives that they can join in and assist with.
- Occasionally schedule CompStat meetings during "regular business hours" like between 9am and 5pm.
- Continue reaching out and collaborating on community sensitive issues. Good work recently!
- Implementing cultural competence training for officers and requesting volunteering for a non-profit community outreach program among communities of color.
- By educating/understanding ACE's (Adverse Childhood Experiences). Most of our clients have significant childhood trauma. Also, by continuing ventures like YPI, PAL and community outreach programs.
- Fire officers who are abusive.
- We are having great strides and success with our department (Misdemeanor Probation) and the Gang Task Force, Chronic Offender Unit and DV Unit. We would definitely like to have more coordination with the jail - sharing of data (tattoo photos, intake paperwork or anything indicating if a defendant is under the influence when taken to jail). We would love to have access (even if limited), to OMS and also receive the weekly list of the current gang members/population that the Gang Task Force receives. Thank you for all that you do! We look forward to continued work together!
- Involved DOC officers in joint efforts.
- I think they're currently doing an excellent job and do not have any ideas that would improve it.



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- Just continue the positive relationship and be open to options and new ideas.
- SPD is doing a good job. Keep moving in a positive direction.
- Keep working with the youth & being a positive role model. Continue efforts in individual communities and improve relationships.