

NYPD KIDS FIRST

“As police, we often encounter young people who have had limited choices. Part of our calling is to help kids make better choices, expand opportunities and help them reach their fullest potential. New York City kids are the future.”

Dermot Shea
Police Commissioner



Youth
Empowerment
Strategies



Mentoring, College
and
Career Pipeline



Enhancing
Community
Spaces

NYPD KIDS FIRST

Empowering New York City's youth is a critical part of completely reopening our city.

That is why the NYPD has developed an umbrella plan that incorporates ambitious projects to turn damaged public spaces into places where kids can thrive; develop and facilitate athletic and enrichment programs to support positive social dynamics which are critical as the City emerges from the pandemic; and identify mentorship, internship and career pipeline opportunities for employment now.

Creating opportunity for New York City kids is a collaborative effort. Many of these initiatives are joint programs with other City agencies, and strengthened by the longstanding relationships that the NYPD has with community leaders and groups, the Police Foundation and more.

The effort to meaningfully engage young people and help them reach their full potential is not new for the NYPD. Since its inception, working with kids and helping prevent crime from occurring has been an important part of the day-to-day work cops do across the City. The Neighborhood Policing philosophy and most recently Police Commissioner Dermot Shea's development of the Youth Coordination Officer has laid the foundation for how the NYPD engages with young people



to increase opportunity and help them reach their full potential. NYPD KIDS FIRST is also critical to crime prevention. When powerful connections are made and children have increased pathways, it ultimately keeps crime from hurting individuals and communities.

In January, 2020 the NYPD created a new position, the Youth Coordination Officer (YCO), which reimaged the Youth Officer role as a true extension of the Neighborhood Policing philosophy. The YCO assignment or “sector” covers everything and anything involving or affecting youth under the age of 18. YCOs serve as precinct experts and force multipliers for all youth-related matters. They partner with city agencies and local community-service groups that have a stake in improved youth outcomes. While YCOs play an important role in all below programs, the NYPD’s investment in youth is integrated across the department.

The future of New York City depends on an unwavering commitment to safety, fairness, and justice. Equipping kids with resources, opportunity and options will pave the way for a better City.





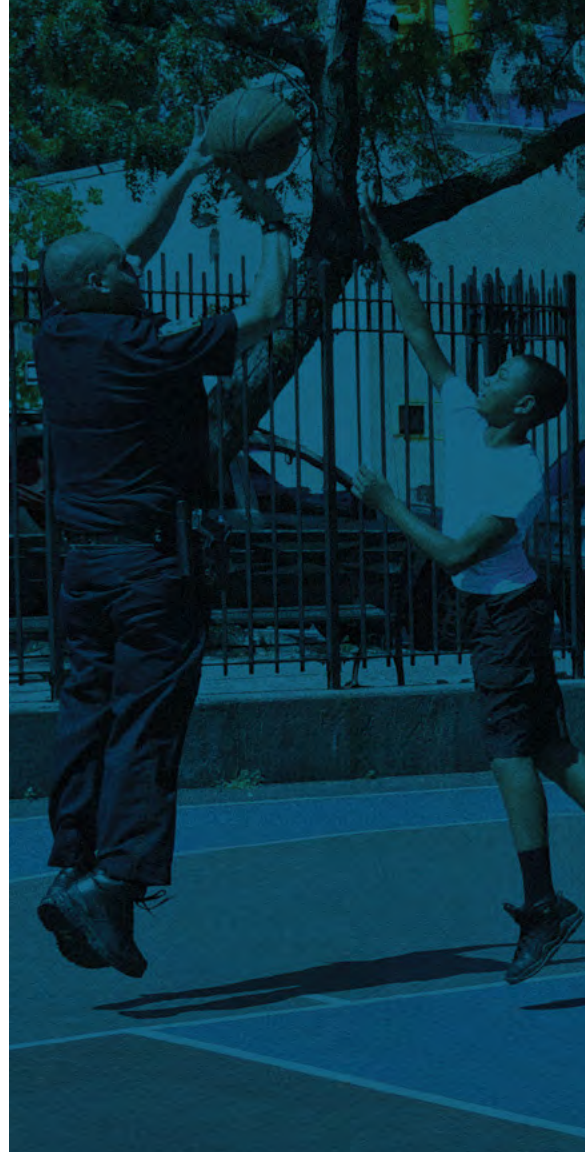
Mentoring, College and Career Pipeline

127 Penn—NYPD Community Center

As part of the Mayor's East New York Neighborhood Plan, the NYPD worked with local leaders to create the first NYPD multi-purpose Youth Community Center for young people ages 12-19 at 127 Pennsylvania Avenue in Brooklyn. The NYPD's goal in opening this center was to embody the philosophy of Neighborhood Policing by building stronger community connections. The building provides a variety of high quality educational, recreational and social programming and also serves as a place for family events, community meetings and a range of other enrichment opportunities. Some programs offered include: basketball, boxing, dance classes, digital media skills development, robotics, wig making, martial arts and general tutoring. Community Board 5 is also co-located in the building and plays an important role alongside community leaders, to help make 127 Pennsylvania Avenue a safe, social hub for the residents of East New York.

Blue Chips Program

Through mentorship, personal enrichment and sports, this program focuses on bridging the gap between the police and youth. Blue Chips provides the opportunity to impact the lives of thousands of youth across the city. Blue Chips is a coed program open to kids ages 12-17 and 13-16 to play in a Basketball League. Teams, citywide will consist of 12 players with two coaches who are members of service. Each team will play six regular season games; the top team from each patrol borough will move on to the playoffs. Blue Chips will promote locations designated by Saturday Night Lights and Activating Spaces to provide additional engagement opportunities. Precinct Youth Coordination Officers will assist members of service coaches in recruiting youth for the program. There is also a mentoring component, community problem solving component and youth development with guest speakers. Additional mentoring opportunities involve career development such as college fairs and tutoring.



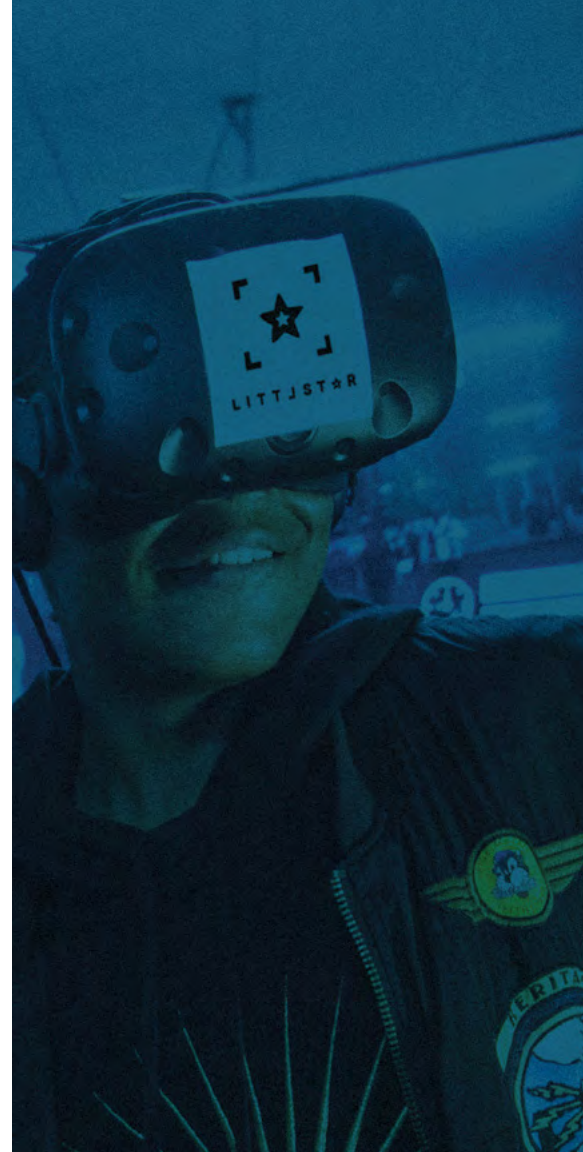


Chief of Department's Youth Forum

A series of at least 20 biweekly conversational forums with community partners and adolescent attendees. It focuses on connecting children from New York City communities experiencing crime plateaus with adults who have survived or overcome challenges to rise up as authentic voices from those same neighborhoods. These meetings are intimate in nature, featuring deep conversations that focus on sparking sustainable, long-term relationships with kids. Leading the conversations is Chief of Department Rodney Harrison, who shares his unique story of growing up in Queens and tells of his trajectory of having an initially poor outlook on the profession to becoming the highest uniformed officer in the country's largest municipal police department. The NYPD is a facilitator in this initiative, helping to build partnerships for children that open pathways for their financial literacy, emotional awareness and a lifetime of enrichment.

Options Program

The New York City Police Foundation and the New York City Police Department (NYPD) established the Options program, which helps New York City youth build decision-making skills and access career-development opportunities through a series of workshops, training programs and internships. By partnering together, NYPD officers and youth participants in the program are having authentic, thoughtful, and productive discussions regarding real-life situations and challenges that young New Yorkers are facing. The Options curriculum was designed to create better outcomes and utilizes cutting edge virtual reality technology, while also enhancing emotional intelligence, developing de-escalation techniques, and strengthening the situational awareness of its participants. Classes provided through the Options program include, but are not limited to, Financial Management, Wig Making, Coding, Podcast and Photo and Web Design.



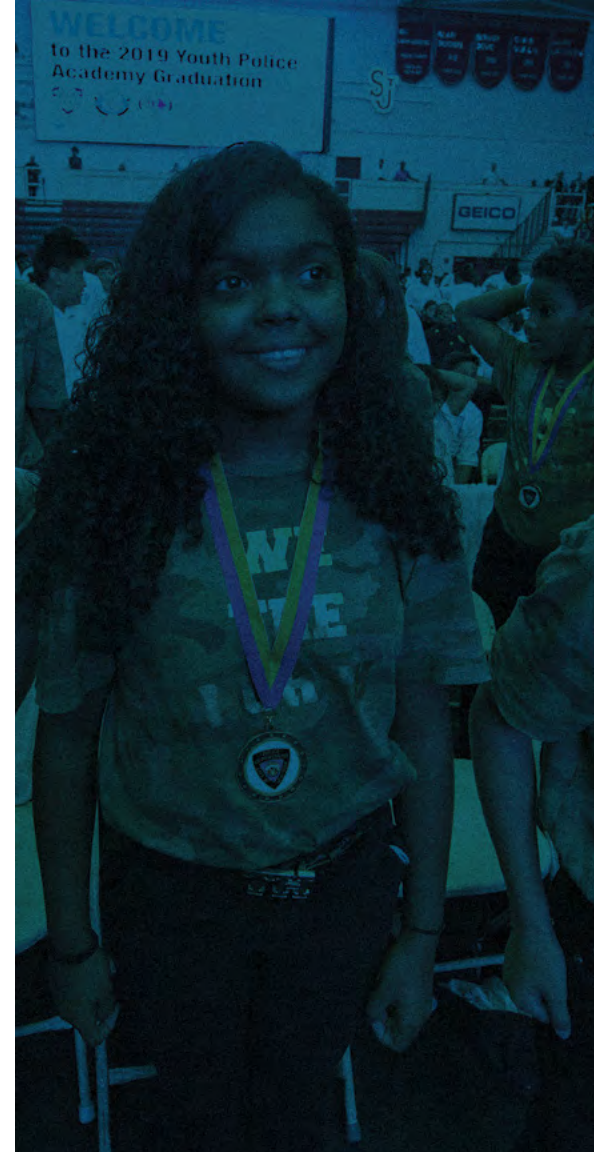


Explorers

The Law Enforcement Explorers program introduces young people ages 14 - 20 to careers in law enforcement or related fields. The program aims to strengthen the relationship between law enforcement officers and the community by establishing positive connections. Explorers are taught the importance of higher education, self-discipline, and respect for diversity and human dignity through training, involvement in community service projects, and other Exploring events. The NYPD has expanded the number of Explorers and continues to enhance programming.

Summer Youth Police Academy

The NYPD has partnered with the Department of Education (DOE) to host the Summer Youth Police Academy (YPA) in DOE facilities. During the course of this six-week program, participants receive instruction on a curriculum that emphasizes civic duty, order maintenance, recreation, mental health and education.



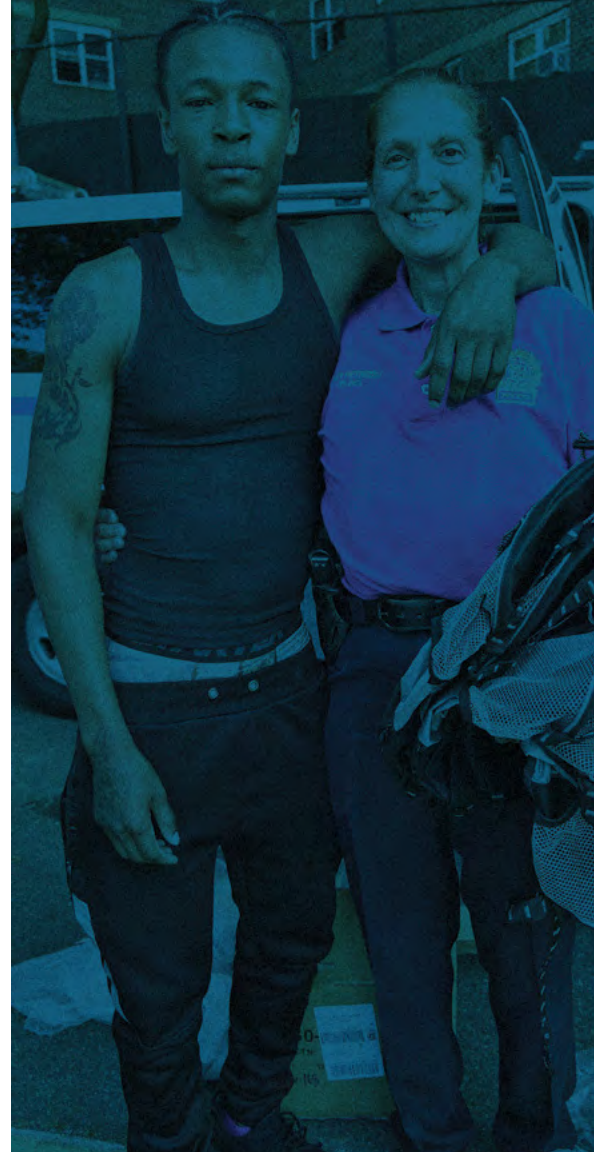


Summer Youth Employment Program

The Summer Youth Employment Program is administered by the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD), with applicants being selected by lottery. The NYPD partners with DYCD to provide youth ages 14-24 with paid summer employment. Participants are also provided workshops on financial literacy, career exploration, job readiness and opportunities for social and educational growth. In summer 2021, every precinct, PSA and specialty unit – including K9, Mounted, Aviation, Photo Unit, and more – will employ young people.

Youth Leadership Councils

In partnership with NYC Service, the NYPD has expanded the role of the Youth Leadership Councils (YLCs). The YLCs provide forums for young people to advise and share their feedback with the Department, while also gaining educational and enrichment experiences. NYPD values this formal mechanism for regularly receiving input from young people. This effort allows high school students ages 14-20, across the city, to meet with officers on a regular basis to voice various issues and ideas about how to improve their neighborhoods.





School Safety Programs

Across the City, School Safety Agents take initiative and lead a range of programs at making invaluable connections with students and playing a critical part of the school communities where they serve. Below is a sampling of programs:

SASS (Sister Assisting Sister to Succeed)

This program focuses on empowerment and encouragement of minority female teens in an underserved community through the promotion of self- esteem, self-respect and positivity.

She's the Movement

This is a Girls empowerment group for ages 13-18 providing mentoring on self-esteem and critical thinking.

Monjz bale't Bodies in Motion Dance Company

This program provides free dance lessons for Fredrick Douglas Academy students.

Spartans (MS 144 in the 49th Precinct)

This basketball program helps kids hone their basketball skills. In addition, young people that age out of the program return to volunteer with current kids in the program alongside School Safety Agents.

Hoops for Juniors (MS 158 in the 42 Precinct)

School Safety and the police officers from the 42nd Precinct work together to run a basketball program that helps kids build their athletic skills.

Wonderfully Made Wig Making Program

This program, through Options, is for youth ages 12-19 and is designed to educate and empower students with tools and techniques for life management through etiquette, social growth and entrepreneurial development. This initiative is located in the Brooklyn North area and teaches kids the craft of wig making.





Enhancing Community Spaces

Field of Dreams—NYCHA Basketball Courts and more

Using asset forfeiture funds, the NYPD is working closely with NYCHA and other community leaders to renovate 15 NYCHA basketball courts with new surfaces and paint, backboards, rims or soccer pitches. These courts are opening on a rolling basis and the majority will open by July 2021. In addition, the NYPD, together with NYC Parks and the Mayor's Fund, will launch a new soccer pitch and four renovated basketball courts at the Colonel Charles Young Park in Harlem.

Saturday Night Lights

The NYPD, the Department of Youth and Community Development, the NYC District Attorney’s Office and other city partner agencies are expanding the Saturday Night Lights program to 100 gyms to provide free sports programs for young people across the City beginning Summer 2021. Enrichment and sports programs for youth ages 12-19 to launch July 10, 2021 on Saturday evenings in 100 locations across the city. YCOs will be participating with community based organizations.





Youth Coordination Officer (YCO) Adopt a Park

Each Youth Coordination Officer (YCO) is “adopting a park” and spending time each tour in that specific park adding a layer to the YCOs and steady sectors. This effort creates a safe space for youth and displaces crime or quality life conditions in and around these locations.

Far Rockaway Colts

This program helps to promote positive relationships, academics and teamwork for young people through flag football and tutoring. It is a collaborative program between the NYPD and the Department of Education.

EFFAS

SCHOOL SAFETY COPS & KIDS

Summer SCHOOL SAFETY

COMMUNITY-DRIVEN NEIGHBORHOOD POLICING LAUGHTER

OUTREACH fighting crime

Shared Responsibility

SCHOOL SAFETY

HARMONY

YOUTH

STRATEGIES

Community

OUTREACH

Summer

SAFE Youth COPS & KIDS

Support

WORKING TOGETHER

TRAINING

School Safety

Law Enforcement

Explorers

Pride Crime Prevention

PROGRESS TRAINING

STUDENT REFORM

NEIGHBORHOOD COORDINATION

HARMONY

Law Enforcement

WORKING TOGETHER



Cops and Kids Programs

National Night Out

National Night Out is an annual community-building initiative that promotes police-community partnerships. Across the city, neighborhoods host block parties, festivals, parades, and youth focused opportunities to bring kids and cops together.

Police Athletic League: Cops & Kids

The Police Athletic League (PAL) provides educational and recreational activities for children and young adults throughout the city. In partnership with the NYPD, programs occur across New York City such as Police Commissioner for a Day, sports leagues, Reading with Cops, and more.



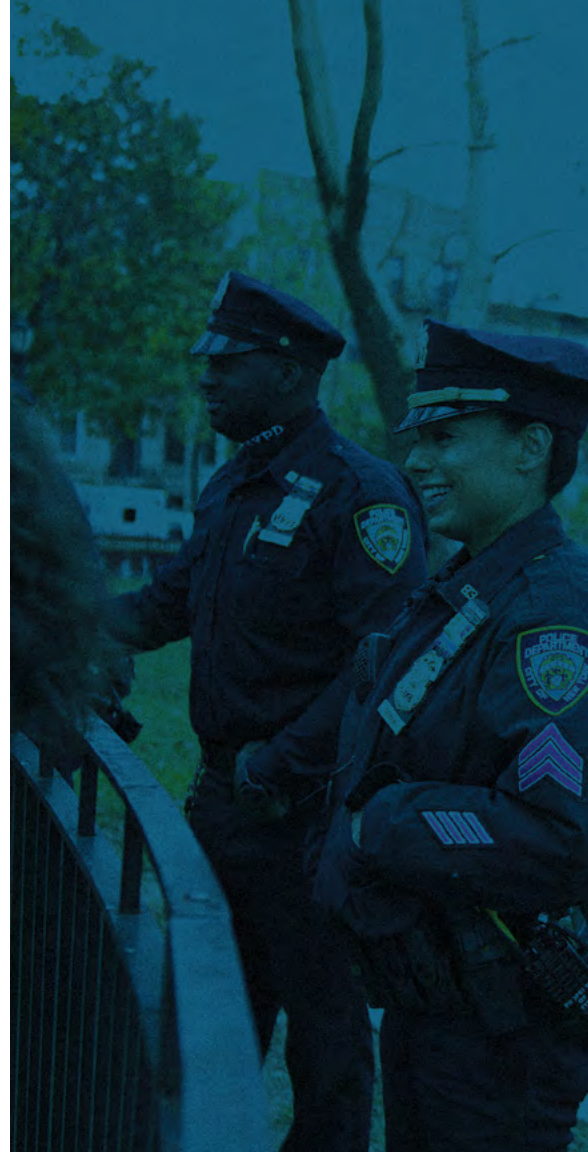


Toys for Tots

Across the NYPD, officers work closely with the United States Marine Corps (USMC) to collect unwrapped toys and deliver to those in need. This initiative takes place across the City.

YCO (Youth Coordination Officer) Street Meets

Meetings held on the street with Youth Coordination Officers (YCO) and Neighborhood Policing Officers (NCO) Sergeants from various commands in the early evening hours. Locations are determined by incidents particularly youth related shootings and gang violence. Community based organizations, residents, clergy, Explorers are all invited to attend.



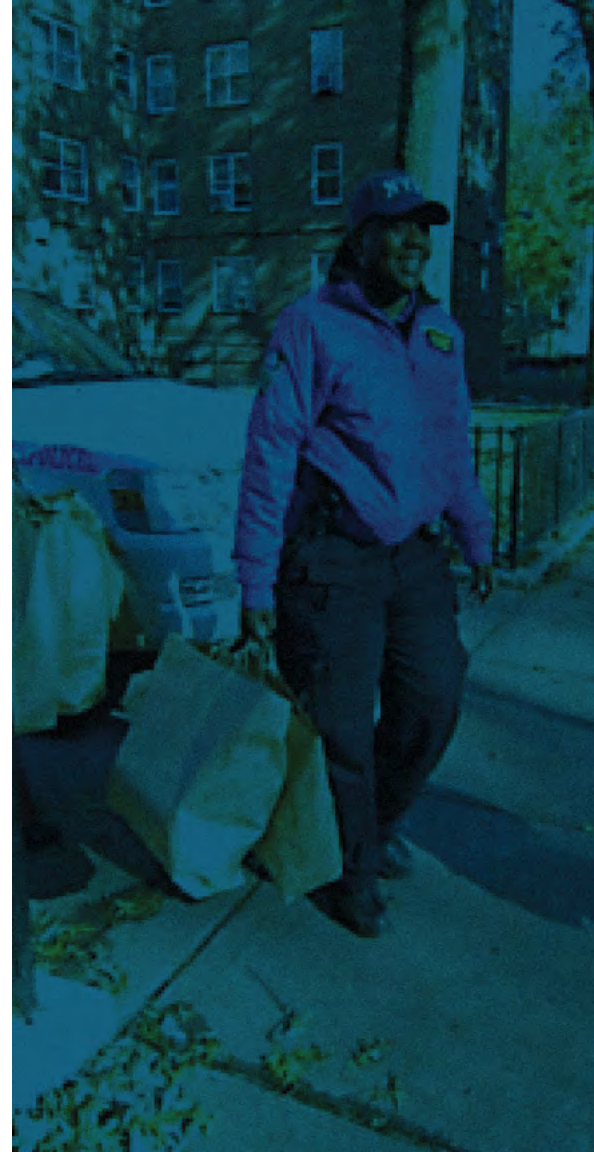


Trauma Support

In addition to the above listed programs, the Youth Strategies Division and Community Outreach Division collaborate to offer resources to victims of youth crime. Below are examples of recent incidents where this collaboration successfully assisted the victim and their family. These individual examples serve as force multipliers for positive change across the City.

- Officers visited the family of victim who was struck by a bus and died in the confines of the 62 precinct. Officers provided assistance for the victim's siblings and gave the siblings a gaming system and other toys. In addition, officers were deployed at the location of the crime, as well as other collision prone locations to help conduct Vision Zero awareness.
- Officers offered counseling services to the family of a youth that participated in programming at the NYPD Community Center and citywide flag football tournament. Officers have taken on a new role as mentors to the victim's siblings and actively engage with them daily at the NYPD Community Center.

- Officers assisted the family of Brandon Hendricks, a gun violence victim from the Bronx that was set to attend St. Johns University and play basketball. Officers have maintained contact with the family, with his mother attending the Mother's Day Event hosted by Community Outreach Division.
- Officers assisted an 18-year-old that was burned and stabbed in the Bronx. Officers have provided ongoing assistance with the family, helping them move to a new location.
- Officers visited the 7-year-old victim of gun violence in Harlem and provided the family with assistance, toys and giveaways.
- Officers visited a 16-year old victim of a stabbing and provided assistance to her and her family and have maintained contact since the incident.
- Officers coordinated with the 75th Precinct to provide a youth crime victim whose bicycle was stolen with a brand new bicycle and helmet.





**New York City
Police Foundation**
Invest in a Safe City



LEARNING FOR LIFE
LIFTING STUDENTS - BUILDING CHARACTER - DEFINING LEADERSHIP



**NYPD YOUTH
POLICE
ACADEMY**



EXPLORING™
DISCOVER YOUR FUTURE

NYPD KIDS FIRST

youthstrategy@nypd.org

Notes





For more information or to find a program near you:
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