

2009

Sheriff's Crime Summit Update

Orange County Sheriff's Office



Youth Services Section

Educational Committee



ISSUE # 1

- *Increased community involvement.*
- *Parents becoming involved with their children.*



Solution

*Developed a program within our community
involving parents*

PARENT WATCH



Parent Involvement

PARENT WATCH

Program



- *This program is a partnership between Orange County Sheriff's Office, Orange County Public Schools, Bright House Corporation, FOCUS Members and parents within our community.*
- *The program consists of 5 Elementary Schools and 1 Middle School within Orange County. The Schools are as follow:*
 - *Millennia Elementary School*
 - *Palmetto School*
 - *Sadler Elementary School*
 - *Shingle Creek Elementary School*
 - *Westridge Middle School*



Concerns

- *Potential for fighting on the way home*
- *Strangers in the neighborhood who may approach students*
- *Students did not go directly home and loitered at*
 - *Gas Stations / Convenience Stores*
 - *Apartment Complexes*
 - *Abandoned Residences*
 - *Shopping Centers*



Parent Watch Program

- *Parent volunteers are visible in areas identified as needing adult presence on the way home.*
- *Trained to spot trouble and how to report incidents using cell phones and radios issued by the school.*
- *Students are taught who “safe adults” are so they can report concerning issues to them.*
- *Background checks completed on all volunteers.*

How will the students, parents and community benefit ?

- *Students will feel safer walking home.*
- *Students will know the adults in the community are looking out for their safety and are visible if they need help.*
- *Other parents will begin to see the success and need for the program, more participation of parents by volunteering to become part of the Parent Watch program.*

•With the parents, students and the community involvement we can make a difference in our community.

•The community will benefit by awareness, reducing opportunities for trouble and taking a proactive approach on crime prevention.



Issue # 2

- *Truancy*
- *Absences*
- *Skipping School*



Solution

Truancy Squad was formed to enforce juvenile truants skipping school.



Truancy Squad

- *Apprehend juveniles not attending school*
- *Juveniles are transported to the Truancy Center for processing and evaluation.*
- *Parents are notified of the juveniles truancy activity and released to their custody.*

•When juveniles are truant from school within our community this increases their opportunity for engaging in some type of criminal activity.

• 2009 - 968 juveniles were brought to the truancy center.

- 851 of those juveniles were located by Orange County Sheriff's Office

- 152 of those juveniles has a prior criminal histories.

School Resource Officer's Working the Streets

- *The SRO's worked during the summer months with our patrol division and specialty units.*
- *This provided increased manpower which contributed to the reduction of crime within our community.*

