

Grant Control Number Request

Today's Date: 05/09/2022

Requestor: Police Chief Robinson via James Pettis

Requesting Dept: Racine Police Department

Action Requested: Permission to Apply

Funding Agency: Teen and Police Service Center

Type of Agency: Non-profit organization

Grant Title: TAPS Academy Multistate Mentoring Initiative for Youth & Police

Project Duration: 2 years

Project Start Date: August 2022

Project End Date: July 2024

Amount: \$66,000.00

Required City Match: \$0.00

How Will Match be Funded: N/A

Grant Application Deadline: 05/09/2022

Grant Funds Will Be Used For:

As coverage for over time, compensatory time, and base wages for current police/youth engagement efforts, to include the Racine Police Cadets and COP House Caretakers, in addition to the implementation of the TAPS Academy 11-week curriculum within both programs.

Grant Control Number Assigned: 00447

Office of Chief of Police



Chief of Police Maurice A. Robinson

**TAPS Academy Administrator
2726 Bissonnet St.
Houston, Tx. 77005**

Dr. Everette Penn,

I have reviewed this grant proposal and we are excited to be considered for this opportunity.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maurice A. Robinson". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Maurice A. Robinson
Chief of Police
Racine Police Department



Request For Proposals: Multistate Mentoring Initiative for Youth & Police

Applications due by May 10, 2022

Want TAPS Academy Funded in Your City? Apply Now!

Deadline May 10, 2022

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Multistate Mentoring Initiative for Youth & Police

Funded by OJJDP FY 2021 Multistate Mentoring Programs Initiative, approximately \$66,000 per site will be awarded over a two (2)-year commitment

Teen And Police Service (TAPS) Academy places at-risk teens on equal footing with police, in order to exchange ideas and learn from each other. The program brings together the best of community policing along with lessons learned from Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE), the Gang Resistance Education And Training (GREAT) Program, Citizen's Police Academy, Explorers and other school- and community-based initiatives to move to 21st Century Policing to actively engage one of the least-participatory groups in the community: at-risk teens.

We use the Texas Education Agency at-risk indicator code to determine "at-risk" students, which can be found [here](#).

It is awe inspiring to see at-risk teens and police working together to understand why crime occurs and most importantly, what to do about it. Tapping into this resource creates a synergistic outcome that moves the discussion past "us" versus "them", so that police are seen as assets to the community and youth move from being at-risk to at-promise.

TAPS Center is research-based and operates with a goal to change the way teens think about police, as well as how police think about at-risk teens, and we are currently expanding into 9 new cities across the United States

Please complete this form to be considered as a future home to TAPS Academy!

KEY DATES

The Timeline

February 10, 2022: RFP Posted

March 24, 2022, 10 A.M. -11 A.M. CST: Informational Zoom Meeting for all applicants

May 10, 2022: Application closes

June 1, 2022: Sites will be notified of application decisions

July - August 2022: Officer/Civilian Training

August 2022: Program Begins

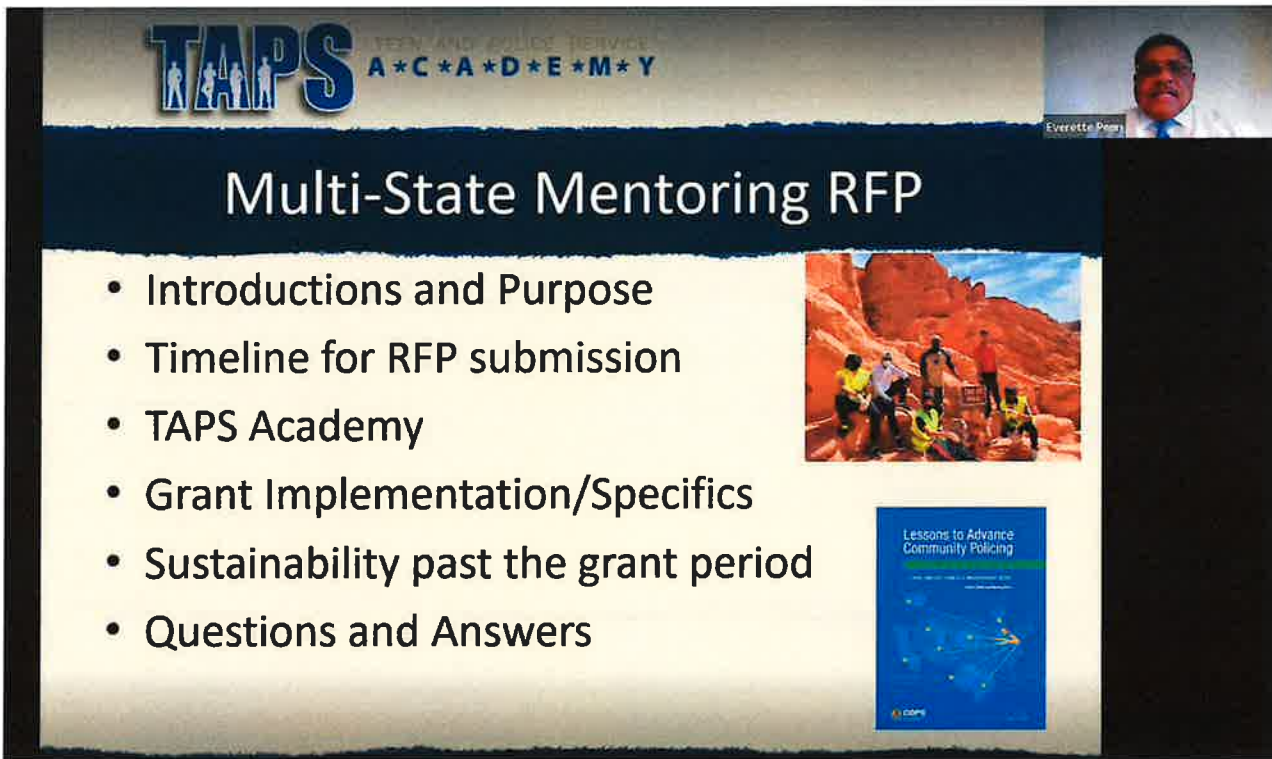
Year One: August 2022 - July 2023

Year Two: August 2023 - July 2024



Questions?

Miss the informational session? Catch the rebroadcast below!



TAPS TEEN AND POLICE SERVICE
A * C * A * D * E * M * Y

Multi-State Mentoring RFP

- Introductions and Purpose
- Timeline for RFP submission
- TAPS Academy
- Grant Implementation/Specifics
- Sustainability past the grant period
- Questions and Answers

Everette Penn

Lessons to Advance Community Policing

Submit your questions to EPenn@PennPals.net. As questions are submitted, they will be posted and answered here, so please be sure to check back periodically!



Have a question or comment? Mail us a letter, drop us a line or send us an email! We look forward to hearing from you!

Headquarters [10000 West Loop West, Suite 1000, Houston, TX 77042](#)

Phone [713.771.2000](tel:7137712000)

or fill out our [contact form](#)

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- [TAPS Academy](#)
- [TAPS Center](#)



TAPS ACADEMY: Multistate Mentoring Initiative for Youth & Police

Funded by OJJDP FY 2021 Multistate Mentoring Programs Initiative. Appx. \$66,000 per site will be awarded over 2-year commitment.

Teen And Police Service (TAPS) Academy places at-risk teens on equal footing with police, in order to exchange ideas and learn from each other. The program brings together the best of community policing along with lessons learned from Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.), the Gang Resistance Education And Training (G.R.E.A.T.) Program, Citizen's Police Academy, Explorers and other school- and community-based initiatives to move to 21st Century Policing to actively engage one of the least-participatory groups in the community: at-risk teens.

We use the Texas Education Agency at-risk indicator code to determine "at-risk" students, which can be found here: <http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/peims/standards/1314/e0919.html>

It is awe inspiring to see at-risk teens and police working together to understand why crime occurs and most importantly, what to do about it. Tapping into this resource creates a synergistic outcome that moves the discussion past "us" verses "them", so that police are seen as assets to the community and youth move from being at-risk to at-promise.

TAPS Center is research-based and operates with a goal to change the way teens think about police, as well as how police think about at-risk teens, and we are currently expanding into 7 new cities across the United States. Please complete this form to be considered as a future home to TAPS Academy!

Learn more about us at www.TAPSAcademy.org

Questions? Please email Ms. Middleton at jmiddleton@tapsacademy.org

PROPOSED TIMELINE:

*Feb 10, 2022: RFP Posted

*Mar 24, 2022: Informational Zoom Meeting for all applicants, 10am - 11am CST.

Join Zoom here: <https://uhcl.zoom.us/j/92562567804>

*May 10, 2022: Application closes

*Jun 1, 2022: Sites will be notified of application decisions

*Jul - Aug 2022: Officer/Civilian Training

*Aug 2022: Program Start

*Year One: Aug 2022 - July 2023

*Year Two: Aug 2023 - July 2024

* Required

Your name:*

James Pettis

Your position/title:*

Sergeant

Your phone number:*

2629392869

Your email address:*

james.pettis@cityofracine.org

Type of organization that would be home to TAPS Academy:*

Police Department

City Department

County Department

Middle School

High School

501c3 Non-profit

Name of Organization that would be home to TAPS Academy:*

City of Racine Police Department

Address:*

730 Center St.

Director Name:*

James Pettis

Director Email:*

james.pettis@cityofracine.org

Director Phone:*

2629392869

City, county, and state of the organization that would be home to TAPS Academy:*

Racine, Racine, Wisconsin

Is your area a Quality Opportunity Zone (QOZ)? If you are unsure, please check here: <https://opportunityzones.hud.gov/resources/map>*

Yes

No

Why is TAPS Academy a good fit for your community?*

In 1992, the Racine, Wisconsin Police Department embraced the community policing philosophy, building upon the community policing framework introduced by Dr. Lee P. Brown. Six community-oriented policing (COP) houses were established. These six houses act as community hubs in areas requiring substantial amounts of police services. We strive to provide appropriate services to these neighborhoods. Police officers assigned to these houses work with community stakeholders to establish solutions to long standing crime problems and quality of life issues for residents. Our embrace of the community policing philosophy led to a 70% reduction in violent crime in Racine's West 6th Street community, the first to see the establishment of a COP house. Much of our success in reducing crime is rooted in police and youth engagement. If we become part of the national TAPS Academy program, our future youth engagement efforts will incorporate the TAPS 11-week curriculum among our current youth engagement "infrastructures".

Since 2012, Police Sergeant James Pettis has run the Racine Police Cadet program. The Racine Police Cadets were established in 1969 as one of the first law enforcement career exploring programs in Wisconsin. The Racine Police Cadets serve as a preparatory training program for teenagers interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement. Currently, our program serves 14 Racine area youth who meet weekly over classroom and scenario-based training covering all areas encountered by those in law enforcement. The intent of the Racine Police Cadets is to cultivate homegrown Racine Police applicants while educating all participants on the roles served by police in society. Seven Racine Police Officers currently serve as Racine Police Cadet mentors, who are paid through the City of Racine to organize and host these weekly trainings. In 2022, the City of Racine granted funding to hire five part time police cadets. These cadets, who have not yet met the minimum standards to be hired as police officers in the State of Wisconsin, will work alongside Racine Police Officers in an experiential learning environment to develop their personal capacity while training for the written exam, physical readiness tests, and adhering to the personal and professional conduct standards established by the department. Furthermore, the Racine Unified School District (RUSD) has established a Public Safety Pathway education tract for students interested in a law enforcement career. Through this program, in partnership with the Racine Police Department, Mount Pleasant Police Department, and Gateway Technical College, students will earn college credit in the field of criminal justice while in their senior year of high school. RUSD will hire and train Racine Police Officers as Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction certified career and technical college secondary school teachers to teach Gateway Technical College curriculum at Jerome I. Case, William Horlick, and Washington Park high schools. In June 2022, we will begin the 8-week long Anthony Lane COP House Caretakers pilot program. This effort will target 10 youth between the ages of 12-17 who live within the Anthony Lane COP house community through a City of Racine and County of Racine youth employment partnership. Racine County has committed to hiring and paying these youth \$12 per hour for up to 16 hours of work per week during this 8-week program. The City of Racine has committed to funding two police officers, Police Officer Travis Brady, who is assigned to the Anthony Lane COP house, and Police Sergeant James Pettis, who supervises Racine's COP program, to facilitate the COP house caretaker's pilot. Community stakeholders such as local businesses, benevolent organizations, and private citizens have contributed over \$2,000 toward the acquisition of equipment as well as funding toward a team building outing. It is our intent, through the demonstrated efficacy of this program, to obtain future funding to host the COP House Caretaker's year round at all six COP house locations. Youth will focus on yard maintenance for blighted properties in the Anthony Lane neighborhood and neighborhood

beautification for occupied homes whose residents are unable to conduct yard maintenance. The TAPS curriculum will assist in the advancement of the Racine Police Department's core mission through community oriented policing engagement with youth, while providing youth served with tools to enhance their knowledge and interaction with police officers. Moreover, if this grant application is approved, we also will incorporate some of Dr. Anne Thomas Sulton's 21st Century Emergency Management – First Responders model. As TAPS Academy staff know well, Dr. Sulton is a nationally recognized criminologist with more than 40 years experience specializing in crime prevention. Dr. Sulton was born and raised in Racine, maintains a residence here, and received her pilot's license in 1977. Free of charge, she has assisted with the preparation of this grant application and has offered to provide assistance as we implement the TAPS Academy program as it relates to the aviation component of her model. Essentially, Dr. Sulton's model will help us enhance the existing TAPS Academy model by incorporating youth participants' exposure to careers in firefighting, EMT, and aviation as these relate to first responders' comprehensive emergency management responses. All participants will become CERT and CPR certified. Because parental involvement is key to Dr. Sulton's model, participants' parents will be required to attend a one-hour introductory seminar with their children so that they can provide a home-based supportive network for our students. This feature should assist in participant program retention. We need the TAPS Academy program in Racine. This small city of 80,000 residents has the dubious distinction of regularly being listed among the top five worst places in the USA for African Americans. Our public schools struggle to educate and graduate their 16,200 students, most of whom are economically disadvantaged and fail to meet academic expectations. See for example <https://dpi.wi.gov/accountability/resources>. Furthermore, the City of Racine has experienced a surge in calls for service involving youth participating in criminal behavior ranging from minor events such as curfew violations to the extreme violence of attempted homicides. Many of these youth resort to criminal behavior due to lack of parenting or positive role models, diminished self-esteem or internal motivation, lack of relationships with police officers, their anonymity within the broader community, and the opportunity to commit crimes in and around dilapidated properties. In 2021, juveniles within the City of Racine were apprehended in 99 distinct criminal events, ranging from disorderly conduct to armed robbery and 1st degree intentional homicide. TAPS Academy funding will help us address the challenges, in part, because it will provide us with access to some of the best and most experienced COPS-oriented police officers in the nation – officers like us who are dedicating our careers to working with youth to steer them from at-risk toward at-promise.

The funding for TAPS Academy will provide for salaries of officers. How will your organization sustain TAPS Academy after the 2-year funding period?*

We are building upon our current public and private sector support for our youth engagement efforts, and anticipate continued funding during the coming decades. With Dr. Sulton's assistance, which is an in-kind or free contribution, we also will be seeking separate grants to enable us to do a site visit to TAPS Academy's home in Houston and other TAPS sites to increase our understanding of this concept and facilitate our successful long-term implementation of this unique program.

TAPS Academy is most effective when a school and police department work together. MOUs will be established with selected sites, and a 2-year program commitment will be

required. Please attach a letter of support from your Mayor, Police Chief, or School Superintendent.*



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Submitted 5/9/22, 7:57 AM

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in partnership with the Racine Police Department, Mount Pleasant Police Department, and Gateway Technical College, students will earn college credit in the field of criminal justice while in their senior year of high school. RUSD will hire and train Racine Police Officers as Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction certified career and technical college secondary school teachers to teach Gateway Technical College curriculum at Jerome I. Case, William Horlick, and Washington Park high schools.

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