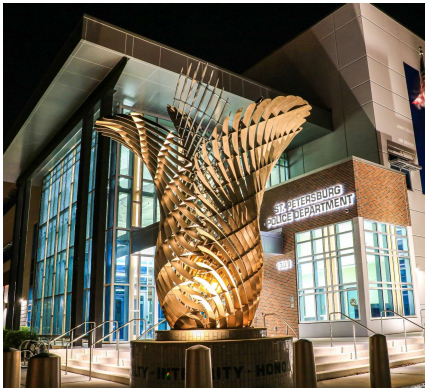


St. Petersburg Police Department Youth Engagement Programs

June 10, 2025



- ▶ Anthony Holloway
- ▶ Chief of Police

1

City of St. Petersburg

Population:
271,842

Square
Miles:
137.6

2

St. Petersburg Police Department



**602 Police
Officers / 230
Civilian Staff**

**Annual
Budget
\$162,073,529**



3

2nd Chance

Juvenile Diversion Program

- Alternative to Court
- 8 - Hour Workday
- NO Arrest Record



The Path You Take Is
YOUR CHOICE

2nd Chance Program

- Available to youth with no prior criminal history between the ages of 9-17 who are charged with a misdemeanor.
- An analysis of 142 youth enrolled in years 2019-2021 showed that 68% did not reoffend.
- The recidivism rate is LOWER for youth who participated the in 2nd Chance compared to those who did not enter the program.



4



ST. PETE
YOUTH
FARM

Participants complete an 8 Hour Workday at the St. Pete Youth Farm.

City's Community Impact & Safety Liaison works with families to offer individualized support and resources as needed.

5

We cannot arrest our way out of the juvenile crime crisis. We need to focus on real solutions such as prevention, community programs and youth engagement.

Our youth need guidance and opportunity not a jail cell.

6



7

Forward Together

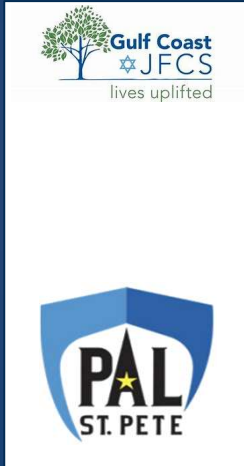
- The Forward Together Program provides wraparound services for justice-involved youth who may no longer be eligible for diversion programs.
- Program includes linkage to resources, positive activities, family support, expanded tutoring, mental health services, and mentoring (including siblings of youth client).
- This program is voluntary, and youth will still face consequences for crimes committed.



8

Forward Together

FORWARD TOGETHER PROGRAM PARTNERS (18-MONTH PROJECT)



Gulf Coast JFCS

- Mental-health focused Youth Coaches serve criminally involved youth and their families. Providing resources and system navigation.
- 73 % of the youth were not re-arrested or if re-arrested it was for lesser charge since start of program.

St. Petersburg Police Athletic League (PAL)

- Daily after school and summer break tutoring (50-75 youth).
- 95% of these students are from extremely low to low-income households.

9

Forward Together

FORWARD TOGETHER PROGRAM PARTNERS (18-MONTH PROJECT)



CFY Pinellas

- Removing financial barriers to play sports through youth scholarships and assistance with uniforms/equipment.
- Thousands in scholarships to St. Pete teams and players.
- Title 1 Schools receive Water Safety Classes offered with transportation.

Pinellas County Public Schools

- Tutoring (extended learning program before and after school), credit recovery and mentoring.

Arts Conservatory for Teens (ACT)

- Nine empowering (4-week) sessions that integrate drama therapy, creative technology, sound therapy, yoga, and financial literacy.
- Bonding dinners for youth and their families to increase parental buy-in.

10

H.O.M.E. Habitual Offender Monitoring Enforcement

- ▶ Designed to provide intensive services to youth with five felonies or more and on court-ordered home detention from incurring additional charges.
- ▶ Team of officers and crime analysts from several different local agencies work together to provide intensive surveillance & monitoring of the county's most prolific teen re-offenders.
- ▶ The HOME officers monitor a youth's location via GPS on an ankle monitor.
- ▶ Officers make in-person visits to physically verify the youth's location. The visits are frequent (several times a week, or in the same night, if necessary) and random. If the youth isn't home, the officers will search for him/her.

11

H.O.M.E. Habitual Offender Monitoring Enforcement January, February, March (2024 compared to 2025)



Juvenile Stats	2024	2025
Intensive Supervision	44	21
RADAR	246	240
BOTH Supervision & Radar	17	0
Electronic Monitors	60	58
Curfew / Compliance Checks	1,415	1,055

12

Lessons Learned

- ▶ **Small % of offenders commit most of the youth-perpetrated crimes.**
- ▶ **Must reach youth before they commit crimes & before escalation.**
- ▶ **Free accessible positive activities are needed, with transportation.**
- ▶ **Parental engagement is needed for voluntary and involuntary programs to be successful.**
- ▶ **More resources are needed for youth who are no longer eligible for diversion programs and their siblings (prevention tactic).**
- ▶ **Wraparound services provide benefit to families in “survival mode” and unable to effectively partner with law enforcement.**
- ▶ **If family life is in crisis, youth have greater likelihood to reoffend.**
- ▶ **Those who commit crimes often have been touched by trauma themselves.**

13

**We cannot solve our problems with
the same thinking we used when
we created them.**

~Albert Einstein

14

Questions?

15



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16