



APPLICATION FORM

All applications must include the following information. Separate applications must be submitted for each eligible program. **Deadline: June 1, 2018.** Please include this application form with electronic entry. If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your entry within 3 days of submission, please contact [Gage Harter](#).

PROGRAM INFORMATION

County: _____

Program Title: _____

Program Category: _____

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Title: _____

Department: _____

Telephone: _____ Website: _____

Email: _____

SIGNATURE OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR DEPUTY/ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____



COUNTY OF PAGE

103 South Court Street, Suite F
Luray, Virginia 22835
(540) 743-4142
Fax: (540) 743-4533

Board of Supervisors:

Morgan Phenix – Chairman – At- Large
D. Keith Guzy, Jr. – District 1
David Wiatrowski – District 2
Mark Stroupe – District 3
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Amity Moler

PAGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE YOUTH SUMMER CAMP

Overview

Looking for a way to fill a void in Page County, Sheriff Chad Cabbage set out on a mission to provide the “real” summer camp experience to youth in our community, while educating them about law enforcement and familiarizing them with those who protect and serve the County in which they live. Collaborating with Sgt. Stevie Owens, Page Alliance for Community Action (PACA) and Northern Virginia 4-H Educational Center, they applied and were awarded a Virginia Rules Grant. With part of the funding and established curriculum, the team engaged local businesses, organizations and community leaders to raise the remaining funds. Partnering outdoor activities such as canoeing, hiking and kickball with the Virginia Rules curriculum on bullying, drug and alcohol laws and consequences and law enforcement guideline demonstrations on traffic stops and K-9 searches, the camp was a huge success.

Challenge/Financing

The first ever Page County Sheriff's Office Youth Summer Camp launched July 30, 2017. It began with a promise, made by Sheriff Chad Cabbage, on the campaign trail. Having two children of his own, he wanted to find a way to engage youth through law enforcement education. As if that weren't challenging enough, he envisioned a week long summer camp, free to all participants. He first joined forces with Sergeant Stevie Owens, Crime Prevention

Division Supervisor, to devise a plan of action. Sergeant Owens oversees all School Resource Officers. Through this relationship, he learned of the Virginia Rules program. Adding another community resource to the team, Page Alliance for Community Action (PACA), they applied for a Virginia Rules Camp grant in hopes of securing part of the funding, as well as using the curriculum as a guide to teach the students about Virginia laws in a fun and interactive way. The application was a success and Page County was one of twenty localities awarded funding across the state. With five thousand dollars secured, the team set out to raise the rest of the funds and find a suitable camp location. With no kid friendly camp locations in Page County, Sheriff Cabbage reached out to the Northern Virginia 4-H Educational Center in Front Royal to secure the week of July 30 – August 3, 2017. With the location set, partial funding and teaching curriculum established, the next hurdle was raising the remaining finances. Sheriff Cabbage and Sergeant Owens contacted local businesses to request donations and/or child sponsorships (the cost of participation was roughly \$275 per child). With this being the inaugural year of the camp, it was a challenge to show businesses and organizations the impact the camp could have on a child. There were not enough business contributions to cover the remaining cost, so local individuals in the community stepped up to the plate and filled the funding gap.

Virginia Rules guidelines established the age range of campers to be between the ages of 10 and 13. Corporal Owens visited all 5th through 7th grade classrooms throughout Page County, advertising the upcoming camp and handing out camp applications. The plan was to allow for 40 campers, 20 males and 20 females. A second challenge the team faced was filling those 40 spots. With this being the first year of the Page County Sheriff's Office Youth Camp, parents and some children, were hesitant. Many children in the age range had never been

away from their parents, much less for an entire week. Providing the camp staff roster that included 5 sworn law enforcement officers, 3 male and 2 female, 2 4-H camp staff and 1 Virginia Rules Instructor staff, Sgt. Owens was able to fill 30 of the 40 available spots.

The Virginia Rules curriculum provided interactive instruction on Virginia law and gave an introduction of the local law enforcement officials that serve their community. The campers were educated on topics such as drugs and alcohol, bullying, and the consequences of their actions. They seemed more engaged and willing to discuss the issues rather than hearing facts and stats. In addition to the Virginia Rules curriculum, campers also got a live K-9 drug search demonstration and Emergency Response Team traffic stop, which they really seemed to enjoy. For the conventional summer camp experience, local businesses donated services such as canoe rentals for a river adventure, a tour through Luray Caverns and ice cream from a local favorite, Flotzie's. The week ended with a banquet that parents also attended. The campers received a certificate of completion for the Virginia Rules program.

Results

Sergeant Owens followed up with campers and parents at the beginning of the school year for feedback on their camp experience. One child admitted they were nervous about being away from home for a week but was happy they chose to go, while another said "I want everyone I know to go to the camp. It's the best thing I've ever done and the only thing I've done away from my parents!" Every child had a great time and for most, it was the highlight of their summer. Parents were equally as happy with the program commenting "Thanks for making this summer so unforgettable for my children. Thank you to the Sheriff's Department

for valuing our youth and caring enough to develop relationships outside of the uniform.” The Sheriff’s Office has received more applications for the upcoming 2018 camp than there are spots available.