



APPLICATION FORM

All applications must include the following information. Separate applications must be submitted for each eligible program. **Deadline: June 1, 2020.** 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: County of Henrico

Program Title: Who Kept the Dogs In?

Program Category: Criminal Justice and Public Safety

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Victoria Davis

Title: Public Relations Specialist

Department: Public Relations

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SIGNATURE OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR DEPUTY/ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Name: Brandon Hinton

Title: Deputy County Manager for Administration

Signature: 

Program Overview

Henrico County Public Schools' Department of Workforce and Career Development has had a longstanding relationship with the Henrico County Police Division. In 2019, Henrico County Public Schools was approached by the K-9 unit of the Henrico Police Division to collaborate on a project to install an 8-foot chain-link fence topped with barbed wire to keep the police dogs contained during their training exercises.

The special projects coordinator for the department gathered a few students each day from the ACE Center at Highland Springs High School to assist with this project. Over a month, the students were able to complete the project and build lasting relationships with the officers of the Henrico K-9 unit.

Problem/Challenge/Situation Faced by Locality

The existing situation was inadequate to train and contain the police division's K-9 dogs properly. The police needed a fence so the patrol dogs could encounter obstacles they see on a regular basis. Henrico Police dogs were required to train at a City of Richmond facility because Henrico County had no similar facility.

How Program Fulfilled Awards Criteria

This project is a collaboration of the Henrico County Public Schools and Henrico County General Government, coming together to form a mutually beneficial partnership. Students expressed pride and honor in being able to save Henrico County \$23,000. This also enabled Henrico County general government to allocate funds in other areas.

How Program Was Carried Out

The goal of the program was to create a high-quality, affordable K-9 training area that benefited the Henrico County Police Division as well as Henrico County students. The process involved having students work with the Henrico County Police Division to install an 8-foot fence that included barbed wire along its top. This was needed to adequately contain the dogs in an outside environment as officers conducted training exercises with them.

The project took approximately four weeks, from inception to completion. Because of the short distance to the location, our students were able to maximize their time on this project.

The students, with the help of the special projects coordinator for Henrico County Public Schools, encountered few issues with the project and stayed within the deadlines and parameters set forth at the beginning of the project. The project goal was to complete the installation of the fence, but the benefits went further. The relationships formed among the students and the K-9 police officers were fantastic. The engagement between the two groups and the conversations that transpired made the project worthwhile in itself.

The Police Division saved a large sum of money by partnering with Henrico County Public Schools on the project — it would have cost about \$23,000 to have the project completed by a vendor. Henrico County Public Schools students completed the work at a cost of about \$7,500. However, the relationships built were invaluable. We have had some wonderful partnerships with the Henrico County Police, and we look forward to continuing those partnerships in the future.

Financing and Staffing

The only cost involved with the program was the cost of fencing materials. Labor and installation were completed as a “learning laboratory” for our students, and therefore did not involve a cost. I would add the cost here to this section and explain the difference between a vendor pricing and student service pricing.

Program Results

Before the installation of this fence, the police division had limited use of an outside space because of the inability to contain their K-9 dogs during a training exercise. Since the installation of the fence, the officers are now able to conduct training with the K-9 dogs adequately, without interference: the dogs no longer stray during training exercises. The police officers were gracious to our students and thanked them profusely for the work they did and talked with them about the positive impact that this will have on their unit, and for training throughout the county. The students had the pride of knowing that their project will have a long-lasting positive impact on the instruction of police dogs for many years to come in Henrico County.

Brief Summary

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