

**Chief of Police, Anthony Daykin**

**Parents and Family Association Grant Proposal  
Program Title:  
UAPD Residence Hall & Greek Life Liaison Program**

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## **UAPD Residence Hall & Greek Life Liaison Officer Program Overview**

The Liaison Officer Program assigns a specific officer to a Residence Hall, Sorority chapter and Fraternity chapter. In some cases an UAPD officer will have to take on two Sorority Chapters or Fraternities in addition to a residence hall. This unique concept allows for community oriented/problem policing approach and campus residents to get to know members of UAPD.

The UAPD Residence Hall & Greek Life Liaison Officer program is in place to help over 200 resident assistants, 5,493 residence hall residents and hundreds more Greek Life actives foster positive working relationships between the Residence Hall & Greek Life Student Body and the University of Arizona Police Department. Establishment of two way communication between student and officer is essential to accomplish this goal. The Liaison Officer may at the request of the residence hall or chapter president attend residence hall & chapter meetings for brief informal info sessions, provide monthly awareness packets for display in common areas and conduct presentations on a variety of topics to include but not limited to:

Personal Safety (On/Off Campus)	Sexual Assault/Prevention
Alcohol/Drug Awareness	Travel Safety
Theft/Robbery Prevention	Bicycle/Auto Theft Prevention
Social Setting Safety (Date Dashes/Bid Night)	Ask-A-Cop Sessions

Entering its eighth year The UAPD Liaison Officer Program originally began with one UAPD officer assigned to each residence hall with the intent of establishing a simple and non traditional way of communication and partnership within the residence hall community. The liaison program was supported and later mandated by Residence Life to ensure that at the least some sharing of information was occurring.

The collaborative effort quickly grew and was embraced by liaison officers as well as hall staff and administrators requiring the need for some kind of training in a large group setting. The next phase of the program growth brought forth the creation of an annual UAPD Liaison Officer/RA Training Meet and Greet Dinner. This event which is held at the SUMC Ballroom would allow RA's to view a video (in which some students role play) containing various scenarios that they may encounter when on call, how to manage them, and what to expect from police when they are called to a residence hall.

The video is followed by a power point presentation explaining the RA's importance in our partnership, their role as leaders in each residence hall, and most importantly how to stay safe in their own community. In this same event the RA's are accompanied by their assigned liaison officer for an informal "meet and greet" while they have dinner, form new partnerships and rekindle old ones after returning from summer break.

The annual training event is then followed up by liaison activities as stated above and by a monthly awareness packet program that educates students, staff and visitors on a variety of crime prevention topics and personal safety practices. These monthly awareness packets are generated by the UAPD Crime Prevention Office and Liaison Coordinator and delivered by each Liaison Officer. The information is then displayed by the residence hall staff for public viewing.

## **Proposal**

It is self evident that community policing is an integral component to the success of continued partnerships between the student body and UAPD. There is also a need to educate our young population on how to form these partnerships and it has become evident that interaction with police officers in a non traditional setting is most conducive to this type of learning. The students become relaxed in this setting as do the officers and understanding and trust are a result of the interaction.

Consequently the UAPD OSD Commander Kevin Haywood, Crime Prevention Supervisor Sgt. Juan Alvarez, and UAPD Liaison Coordinator Officer Andrew Valenzuela would like to request funding from the Parents and Family Association in order to maintain what has taken time to build and extend that growth into the Greek Life student body. The following would be offered with the assistance of this grant:

- Conduct the annual RA Training event held each August and funding for liaison officer interaction at each individual residence hall
- Conduct the 1<sup>st</sup> Greek Liaison meet/greet training during Spring Semester
- Conduct an annual Travel Safety Fair on the UA mall displaying resources from the UA Community as well as outside service providers
- A survey of Hall Residents, Resident Assistants, Community Directors and Greek Life Executive staff and members for program assessment and navigation towards improvement

By funding this grant the Parents and Family Association will assist the UAPD Liaison Program in fostering positive working relationships with the student body while promoting personal safety and helping to create responsible successful post graduates.

## **Funding Request**

In order to fund this liaison program, the University of Arizona Police Department Liaison Program request \$3000.00 per liaison section to fund a wide variety of

student/liaison activities outside of the classroom including annual Liaison Officer/RA Training, Liaison Officer/Greek Life Training, individual liaison officer programming event at each residence hall and Greek Life House, and an annual Spring Break Safety Fair. In addition, we request \$300.00 dollars each for the 22 Residence Hall Liaison Officer assignments to conduct individual personalized student officer interaction at each of the 22 residence halls.

**Budget**

\$3000.00 per liaison section for three sections	\$9,000
<u>Individual Liaison Officer/Hall Activity</u>	<u>\$6,600</u>
	Total: \$15,600

**Amount requested from Parents Association \$15,600**

**Increased Request for Education and Outreach**

The UAPD desires to continue to engage our Residence Life and Greek Life partners in the liaison program with a new interactive approach in the manner of informal social events to be held at individual resident halls at the discretion of the liaison officer and hall staff, as well as structured training such as the UAPD Liaison Officer/Resident Assistant Training Dinner, and the introduction of a UAPD Liaison Officer/Greek Life Training Dinner.

Like the Residence Hall Liaison Program the Awareness packet initiative would also be available to those Greek Chapters that wish to participate.

For several years the liaison program has simultaneously reached out to the Greek Life student body and Residence Life and with growing acceptance and popularity in Greek Life, this Spring Semester has shown marked increase in requests for liaison presentations and non-traditional police interaction in the sorority chapters and some fraternity houses.

Since the establishment of the liaison program UAPD Liaison Officers have engaged in a number of residence hall events/activities ranging from attending hall staff meetings to special events such as judging decorating/costume contests, ice cream socials and individual barbecues at residence halls. These events are used as an opportunity to impart crime prevention and personal safety practices while establishing an environment conducive to education, encouragement and partnership in a non-traditional police setting such as an Ask a Cop session where anonymous “what ifs” are asked in a “town hall” type setting.

Liaison officers have been asked to return again and again. Some officers have gone above and beyond and helped to arrange kickball tournaments, video game playoffs at residence halls, cooked spaghetti dinners for their RA’s, and even put themselves behind the BBQ for a hall cookout.

Most of these engagements are normally completed on a weekend and almost always occur when the officer is “off duty”. The officers and RA’s shift their own personal schedules to “make the partnership work”.

Other RA’s have also relayed attachment to their liaison officer when they become disappointed at *their* liaison officer being reassigned due to shifts in responsibility but happily accept the newly assigned officer incorporating new ways on handling “old problems”.

### **Special Engagement Requests**

Both Greek Life actives and non-Greek Life students have shown great interest in safety concerns as it pertains to domestic travel as well as travel abroad. At times it seems as though there are as many students engaging in academic travel as well as for pleasure.

With our nations attention focused on travel hot spots such as border towns near the US/Mexico border and other parts of the world students and their parents alike are becoming more restrictive and inquisitive as to what kind of personal safety measures students can take while traveling domestically and abroad.

With this need in mind the UAPD has also recognized the need to revitalize an annual event in early March titled “Spring Break Safety Event”. During this event, students, parents and UA visitors can visit a vast number of information tables ranging from UA Campus Health, UA Police Department, MADD, SADD, US Customs & Boarder Patrol to a visit with representatives from the US Consulate to Mexico Sonora Port of Entry. Information ranging from using the appropriate sun block to who to contact in an emergency while in a foreign country can be found.

This semester one group of RA’s went so far as to put what little they had together and throw a baby shower as their Liaison Officer was soon to be a first time parent.

### **Measure/Assessment of Events**

After every funded event a survey from event attendees and participants would be conducted and compiled for review by respective department heads and an event report provided to the Parents and Family Association reporting on the success of the event an improvements. This would aid the UAPD in securing further grant support, and to seek additional sources of funding. In annual business reports and at student/parent orientations information about the events and support resources would be made available.

### **Parents and Family Association Recognition**

If this proposal request is granted the UAPD will ensure public acknowledgement of the PFA through media outlets such as the Daily Wildcat, Campus Watch program, Partners With our Community Recognition Awards Ceremony, and posting on the UAPD website and at all PFA funded events.