



THE OUTREACH

CREATING RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH DIALOGUE | FALL 2023

FBI Denver Hosts Teen and Collegiate Academy on the Wind River Indian Reservation

FBI Denver held the first-ever Teen Academy on a reservation in June. Wyoming Indian High School in Ethete, Wyoming, offered to host the one-day event on the Wind River Indian Reservation. Local news outlets promoted the event after receiving a news release, and the school encouraged students to participate.

FBI Denver partnered with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Wyoming, which assisted the day of the event, along with FBI personnel from the Lander Resident Agency and those who traveled from Denver.

The event was open to all students. While some traveled some distance to attend, many participants were tribal members who live on the reservation.

Some 30 students spent the day at the school in breakout sessions that included presentations about forensics, SWAT teams, and Evidence Response Teams. The Bureau of Indian Affairs police teamed up with an FBI special agent to explain law enforcement on the reservation, which is home to the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho tribes.

The school provided lunch for the students, and the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus gave a virtual presentation from their Office for Education Outreach.

"This was a unique opportunity to work with new partners to provide an opportunity directly on the reservation, where many of the Teen Academy participants felt more comfortable," said FBI Denver Special Agent in Charge Mark Michalek. "We want to meet our communities where they are, and this was a new way of doing just that."



During the free, one-day event, attendees learned about FBI careers, participated in hands-on demonstrations, and learned about online safety.

The day wrapped up with a career panel, with FBI agents and professional staff speaking about how they came to their jobs. Students were encouraged to ask questions. They were interested in the education background needed, what motivates an FBI employee, the risks and challenges of each role, work/life balance, and any advice for potential FBI employees.

Continues on next page

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

2 BACK TO SCHOOL

Bureau employees assigned to the Washington Field Office welcomed local students back to the classroom.

3 FBINCAA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The three-day event featured keynote speakers, exhibits, breakout sessions, and time for networking.

4 INTERNATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY

Community outreach specialists visited San Salvador to share information about the Bureau's community outreach program.

4 HISPANIC ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

HACU members visited the FBI Experience to see exhibits and artifacts that help illustrate the importance of the Bureau's work to protect the nation.

5 AWESOME CON

The Human Resources Division participated in the three-day convention, which drew more than 70,000 fans. FBI employees shared several interactive virtual experiences with participants.

6-7 OUTREACH IN ACTION

Community outreach specialists throughout the nation aim to create and strengthen relationships with minority groups, religious and civic organizations, schools, and nonprofits.

Continued

School staff members applauded the effort and the program.

"I think the biggest takeaway the kids got today was the exposure to all the different careers," social studies teacher Ben Dyer told a local reporter who covered the event. "The FBI needs all sorts of people, and I think that's important for them to realize that they're not limited in what they want to do."

Following the day's events, each student received a certificate of completion.

Participant Kortni Knell told the local news outlet her favorite part was learning about the wide variety of careers possible with the FBI.

"Just realizing that people came from the same kinds of backgrounds that we do, and how hard they worked to get where they are," Knell explained.

Wyoming Indian High School has already offered to host another event, and a neighboring reservation school has asked FBI Denver to hold a future Teen Academy on its campus. ■

FBI Washington Field Office Adopts a School!

As part of a two-day celebration of the 50th anniversary J.C. Nalle Elementary School students were in for a surprise on their first day of school. As they arrived, FBI employees from the Washington Field Office and FBI Headquarters greeted them — and their caregivers — with cheers, fist bumps, high-fives, hugs, and smiles.

J.C. Nalle is the 2023-2024 partner school for WFO's Junior Special Agent Program, a 10-to-16-week program that gives students an inside look at today's FBI. Students learn critical thinking, conflict resolution, and oral and written communication skills and about crime, drug, gang, and violence prevention.

"This interaction provides a unique opportunity to interact with area youth," said Supervisory Special Agent Bridgette Trela, "not to mention the ability for us to emphasize the importance of making good decisions, getting good grades, living a healthy lifestyle, and remaining drug free."

WFO designed and implemented the JSA program in 1990. Establishing the program at schools in predominantly high-risk neighborhoods gives students positive law enforcement role models who can teach, tutor, or mentor students.

WFO learned about J.C. Nalle through contacts at the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia, said Community Outreach Specialist Nicole Mines. "The school met our criteria and had many students in need of support. More importantly, the school's staff and parents were extremely supportive of the partnership," Mines said.

The JSA will meet from 9 to 10 a.m. the first Tuesday of each month. At the end of the program, participants recite the



Volunteers from the FBI's Washington Field Office and from FBI Headquarters greeted students on the first day of school at J.C. Nalle Elementary School.



JSA oath, administered by an FBI executive, and receive a certificate of completion and a JSA badge.

The success of the JSA depends on the participation of FBI volunteers.

"The JSA is an invaluable tool to increase awareness of the FBI, its activities, and its people," Trela said. "Developing and strengthening our relationships with the area's youth will bear fruit down the line — hopefully, these students will consider the FBI for future employment!" ■



FBINCAA National Leadership Conference Stressed the Power of Partnership

The FBI National Citizens Academy Alumni Association held its 2023 National Leadership Conference in Boston, Massachusetts, in June. With more than 200 FBI Citizens Academy alumni, FBI National Citizens Academy Alumni Association board members, affiliate chapter leaders, and FBI partners in attendance, this year's conference provided three days of educational programs and events to showcase successful community outreach strategies.

The National Leadership Conference is the FBI NCAAA's largest annual education and networking event. It serves as the official forum where leadership training and peer-to-peer collaboration converge to share innovative ideas and best practices for outreach initiatives in communities served by the association's 58 chapters and their respective FBI field offices.

Robert Brown, executive assistant director for the FBI's Science and Technology Branch, delivered the opening keynote speech, emphasizing the FBI's priorities in addressing the global surge in cybercrime and its threat to national security. He stressed the power of partnership and the importance of building community trust to protect our communities and national infrastructure. Cathy Milhoan, assistant director of the FBI's Office of Public Affairs, welcomed attendees to the conference and acknowledged the value of the FBI Citizens Academy program and alumni association in creating meaningful community connections and engagement.

Other FBI speakers presented case studies of high-profile crimes investigated by the FBI as well as information on the FBI's capabilities to recognize, focus, and fight both foreign and domestic threats. Additionally, a panel of private industry cyber experts shared insights on trends, risks, and solutions in addressing cybercrimes.

Other workshop topics and panel discussions included:

- Community outreach best practices

- The power of advocacy as volunteer ambassadors
- Building strong, strategic partnerships
- Human trafficking, elder fraud, child advocacy, and incident response case studies
- Increasing membership growth and engagement
- Strategies and tactics for successful fundraising
- Creating high-performing chapter boards

The primary goal of the annual conference is leadership development. Faculty and presenters are chosen from affiliate chapters that have demonstrated leadership in FBI advocacy, innovations in community outreach, and excellence in chapter operations.



The annual meeting of the National Citizens Academy Alumni Association offered several special events and networking opportunities, allowing attendees to share success stories and discuss ways to collaborate in the future.

In addition to education and training programs, the conference hosted several special events, such as a ceremony for the annual Celebrating Excellence Awards to recognize chapters and individuals for outstanding achievements in outreach, education, and service projects in support of the FBI. Special networking events for attendees, guests, and sponsors were held at the USS Constitution Museum

and the University of Massachusetts Club at the top of Boston's Beacon Hill.

Each year, the National Leadership Conference is planned and produced by the all-volunteer National Board of Directors and members of the host city chapter. Board members and other volunteers from the FBI Boston Citizens Academy Alumni Association aided in registration, production, and securing sponsors for the event.

Plans are already underway for the 2024 National Leadership Conference, which will be held in Detroit, Michigan, with the FBI Detroit Citizens Academy Alumni Association as the host chapter.

Investment in training, education, and collaboration is key to developing exceptional leaders and high performing chapters that serve to support the FBI's mission. The FBI NCAAA's annual leadership conference provides purposeful, robust programming to achieve those goals. ■

Bureau Staff Travel to San Salvador to Teach at the International Law Enforcement Academy

“Bom dia,” “bonjour,” “buenos dias,” and “good morning” is how the students were typically greeted during a week-long Law Enforcement and Community Outreach course in July. The course was held at the U.S. Department of State’s International Law Enforcement Academy in San Salvador, El Salvador. According to Department of State’s International Law Enforcement Academy website, the program aims to advance anti-crime efforts by building the capacity of foreign criminal justice partners of the U.S. and connecting these partners to one another and to U.S. law enforcement to address shared threats.

FBI instructors Lorie Campbell, Sharon Mentkowski, and Chiquanda Tillie shared information on the Bureau’s community outreach programs and its practical value. Law enforcement officials from Brazil, Chile, Columbia, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay learned about the importance of ethics, communication, and leadership to lay the foundation for a successful community outreach program. Presenters also discussed diversity within communities, effective ways to engage community leaders, efficient uses of social and mainstream media platforms, and the value of leveraging existing programs and partnerships with other law enforcement agencies. As a final project, students



Instructors from FBI Headquarters, FBI Buffalo, and FBI Columbia traveled to San Salvador, El Salvador, to provide information on the Bureau’s community outreach efforts.

focused their learning on developing programs for strategic outreach to youth and adult groups to create an actionable community outreach program or event to implement upon returning to their countries.

The week ended with 37 law enforcement officers successfully completing the course, while instructors gained a better appreciation for the unique challenges law enforcement face—such as voodoo practitioners becoming victims of violent crime, the disabled and impaired community underreporting crimes, and addressing a huge gang problem inadvertently causing new issues in a community. Students and instructors acknowledged we all are connected, despite geographical distances, through the necessary work of community outreach. ■

HACU Members Tour the FBI Experience at FBI Headquarters



Members of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities visited FBI Headquarters during their trip to Washington, D.C., to commemorate National Hispanic-Serving Institutions week, which was observed Sept. 11-17. HACU, founded in 1986, represents more than 500 colleges and universities in the United States, Latin America, Spain, and school districts throughout the U.S. HACU is the only national association representing existing and emerging Hispanic-serving institutions.



HACU
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See Yourself in the FBI: Awesome Con

The Human Resources Division is thinking outside the box with its strategic recruitment strategy and meeting potential applicants where they are. In June, HRD attended Awesome Con, one of the largest pop culture conventions on the East Coast with over 70,000 attendees over three-days. Awesome Con provided a unique opportunity for the FBI to showcase an interactive virtual experience.

HRD partnered with the Training Division, Weapons of Mass Destruction Directorate, and Laboratory Division to give attendees multiple interactive sessions to experience FBI casework. Visitors could also take the FBIJobs career quiz and engage with recruiters about the results and how to apply for opportunities in the Bureau.

FBI employees provided the following activities:

- The Training Division hosted “Burden of Proof,” an interactive crime-scene simulation that helps law enforcement personnel practice the 12 steps of processing a crime scene. The cognitive trainer allows users to practice making decisions without the need to set up a mock crime scene and without the need for a full team. Audiences were able to experience FBI roles on a crime scene team.
- The Chemical Biological Countermeasures Unit of the Weapons of Mass Destruction Directorate developed a one-of-a-kind virtual reality tool that allows law enforcement and other professionals to train on the dangers of weapons of mass destruction. Through this virtual reality simulation, audiences get a better understanding of various tools used to detect WMD and how they are used to prevent mass casualties.
- The Operational Projects Unit of the FBI’s Laboratory Division designed an interactive trial exhibit depicting a specific crime scene based on evidence provided during the Nicholas Firkus trial last February in Minnesota. Awesome Con audiences were able to walk through the virtual crime scene. This interactive experience was used during an actual trial, which led to a first- and second-degree murder conviction, with a sentence of life without parole.

The Bureau continues to set itself apart by focusing on purposeful, thoughtful, and interactive ways to engage with potential applicants. Each interaction encourages audiences to see themselves at the FBI. ■



The Human Resources Division partnered with multiple divisions to provide event attendees with interactive sessions to learn about the FBI and the different career opportunities offered.



The Human Resources Division was excited to help audiences see the FBI as an employer of choice and a place where employees can have a unique career with purpose.

THE OUTREACH

Community Outreach in Action



The Minneapolis chapter of the FBI Citizens Academy Alumni Association packed and distributed dozens of rescue bags — valued at \$70 — to victims of trafficking and survivors of trauma in the local community.



FBI Philadelphia participated in the Strawberry Mansion Community Day. The event featured a basketball tournament, fitness camp, music, food, entertainment, and family resources.



On Aug. 2, staff from FBI Detroit and members of the Detroit chapter of the FBI Citizens Academy Alumni Association participated in the Detroit Police Department 2nd Precinct's National Night Out event.



FBI Charlotte Division's Fayetteville Resident Agency participated in a National Night Out event at the Hope Mills Police Department. The annual national events help build bridges between law enforcement and the communities they serve and protect.



In July, more than 80 teens completed a two-week Teen Academy program at FBI New York. The program, open to students aged 14 to 17, allows participants to interact with FBI agents, professional staff, and Bureau leaders to learn about evidence gathering, investigative techniques, and crime prevention.



FBI Tampa hosted approximately 100 high school students at the Federal Teen Academy. Bureau personnel and staff from several other federal law enforcement agencies taught students about forensics, firearms safety, drug enforcement and prevention, human trafficking, and cybercrime.



FBI Newark and members of the Newark chapter of the FBI Citizens Academy Alumni Association attended the New Jersey Asian American Law Enforcement Officers Association Recruitment and Outreach Picnic in Edison, New Jersey. FBI staff provided information on community outreach programming and Bureau careers.



FBI Richmond supported six locations for this year's National Night Out events. Attendees at the Eastern Henrico Recreation Center got to tour a high-flying piece of Bureau equipment.



FBI Newark held a domestic terrorism awareness event in Teaneck, New Jersey, at Congregation Keter Torah. The Teaneck Police Department, the Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey, and the Community Security Service discussed how to stay vigilant.

THE OUTREACH

Community Outreach in Action



More than 20 volunteers from FBI Cincinnati attended National Night Out events alongside U.S. Attorney Kenneth Parker and local law enforcement partners. Together, the group participated in 11 different events in three cities.



FBI Buffalo participated in the National Federation for Just Communities Agents of Change Summer Camp. The camp, in its 41st year, gave high school students in Western New York the opportunity to interact with staff from different law enforcement agencies. Students were able to complete hands-on STEM work by using forensic techniques to create cast impressions of their shoes in sand.



FBI Los Angeles held its first in-person Teen Academy in over four years. After a highly selective process, 50 students were selected. Students spent the day with FBI employees and learned about cybercrime, the Evidence Response Team, and behavioral analysis. The hands-on activities like fingerprinting and blood analysis were a huge hit.



On Aug. 19, FBI Norfolk and FBI Richmond attended the 35th Annual Nansemond Indian Pow Wow in Suffolk, Virginia. During the event, staff shared information on the FBI's various outreach programs, the Honors Internship Program, and FBI career opportunities. Bureau staff is pictured alongside Chief Keith Anderson of the Nansemond Indian Nation.



On July 28, employees from the Criminal Justice Information Services Division celebrated "FBI Night" at the West Virginia Black Bears game in Morgantown, West Virginia. Volunteers from CJIS staffed informational booths around the stadium, where even the Black Bears' mascot "Cooper" got a copy of his paw prints.



FBI Baltimore participated in 12 National Night Out events in Maryland and Delaware. This year marks the 40th year for National Night Out, which aims to strengthen ties between residents and law enforcement agencies.



More than 100 people participated in the Northwest Equity Summit, which encouraged all attendees to continue to advocate for equity and inclusion. Staff from FBI Portland attended to learn how to better incorporate diversity into the workplace.



Lorie Campbell, a member of the Community Relations Unit at FBI Headquarters, participated on a panel at the 2023 Blacks in Government Conference at National Harbor in Oxon Hill, Maryland. Attendees, mostly high school and college students from across the country, were participating in two days of leadership and career development training.



WHAT WE DO

The better we know our communities, the better we can protect them. **FBI community outreach specialists in field offices across the country** create and strengthen relationships locally and nationally with minority groups, religious and civic organizations, schools, non-profits, and the American people.

The Community Relations Unit at FBI Headquarters in Washington, D.C., partners with national organizations to share information, support threat awareness, and develop meaningful initiatives.

WHY WE DO

These partnerships have led to a host of crime prevention programs, enabling families to stay safe from fraudsters and cyber predators, businesses to protect themselves from hackers and economic espionage, schools, and workplaces to safeguard against violence and illegal drugs, and all citizens to become alert to potential acts of terrorism.



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OUR PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

Citizens Academy

The Citizens Academy Program fosters a greater understanding of the role of federal law enforcement in the community through frank discussion and education. Business, religious, civic and community leaders participate in a multi-session program, giving them an inside look at the FBI.

Youth, Teen, & Collegiate Academies

Middle school, high school, and college students are provided presentations on topics including terrorism, cybercrime, public corruption, polygraph exams, evidence response, SWAT, and the day-to-day operations of a typical FBI office. Students also learn about career paths and internship opportunities.

Community Awareness Presentations

This shorter, more focused version of the FBI Citizens Academy program is conducted in partnership with a specific community group. Community groups identify topics that are of concern to their organization for FBI subject matter experts to address.

Community Engagement Councils

These Councils are generally composed of community ethnic, religious, and minority leaders who help the FBI better understand the cultures and committees they represent. Participants discuss issues and concerns within their communities and collaborate with the FBI to identify solutions.

Junior Special Agents

The Junior Special Agent Program aims to provide elementary school students with the information, skills, and discipline necessary to stay away from gangs, drugs, and crime. Students also take a course in civics and learn about the FBI and ways in which law enforcement helps to serve and protect their communities.

Director's Community Leadership Award

Since 1990, the Director's Community Leadership Award has been the principal means for the FBI to recognize individuals and organizations that make extraordinary contributions to education and the prevention of crime in their communities.

There are FBI outreach specialists in your community eager to partner with you.

Contact them today by visiting [FBI.gov/contact-us/field-offices](https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices).

Call your local FBI field office and ask to speak with a community outreach specialist.