

TAPS PROGRAM DATES & TOPICS

(WEDNESDAYS FROM 4:00-7:00 PM)

Wed, Nov. 17th

Role of the Police

Wed., Dec. 15th

Drugs & Alcohol

Wed., Jan. 19th

Victimization

Wed., Feb. 16th

Conflict Resolution

Wed., Mar. 16th

Safe Driving

TAPS ACADEMY

What question have you always wanted to ask a police officer?

Come to TAPS Academy to have the chance to have open, honest, and real conversations with Upper

Darby's finest while gaining knowledge about safe driving, alcohol/drugs, conflict resolution, and more.



**3RD WEDNESDAY OF
EVERY MONTH
4:00 - 7:00 PM
MUNICIPAL LIBRARY
(501 BYWOOD AVE)**

**OPEN TO TEENS
IN GRADES 7-12**

PIZZA AND SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED

TAPS ACADEMY is led by officers from the Upper Darby Police Department.

The goal of the program is to reduce the social distance between youth and law enforcement. Through this very interactive program, teens and officers will gain valuable insight about each other and the issues they each face on a daily basis.

In this program, Upper Darby Police officers will work with teens to help them develop the tools they need to reach success and achieve their goals.

DATA & IMPACT

Pre-tests and post-tests from our 11-week TAPS Academy show the following impacts:

- ◆ **64% believe that Police will treat all fairly**
- ◆ **59% believe that Police will respect “me”**
- ◆ **44% felt more connected to Police**
- ◆ **38% reported increased respect for the Police**

TAPS Academy & Center for Research

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THE TAPS STORY

In 2011, Houston Police Department Chief, Charles McClelland, addressed the need to increase focus on police and teen relations. Assistant Chief Brian Lumpkin volunteered to lead the effort with the help of Officer Treva Mott, and reached out to Criminologist Dr. Everette Penn of University of Houston-Clear Lake to partner in this initiative.

In looking at other teen and police relation programs, Lumpkin, Mott & Penn decided try something different. Teen and Police Service Academy would focus on Houston’s most at-risk youth, those who do not come with letters of recommendation, but with juvenile records. The theoretical mission of TAPS would be to reduce the social distance between police and at-risk youth through curriculum, dialogue, interaction, and trust-building exercises.

Several months later, HPD received funding from the US Department of Justice COPS Office to take the Teen and Police Service Academy from concept to classroom.

With great determination, HPD offered the very first TAPS Academy at HISD’s alternative school, Beechnut Academy, in the spring of 2012. Several years later, as the original COPS grant began to come to an end, Dr. Penn saw the impact that TAPS was having on our community and decided to continue carrying the TAPS torch by re-positioning TAPS Academy from a grant-funded program to a 501c3 non-profit in 2015.

Today, TAPS provides programming to youth of all backgrounds, including our TEA Accredited TEEN POL class, TAPS Clubs, Summits & Camps, and is effectively reducing the social distance between police officers and their communities across Texas through our SB-30 Community Safety Education Act class for the public.

Teen and Police Service Academy & Center for Research



A 501C3 NON-PROFIT
REDUCING SOCIAL DISTANCE BETWEEN
POLICE & AT-RISK YOUTH SINCE 2012



VISION:

To create safer communities

MISSION:

To reduce the social distance between law enforcement officers & youth through **research, teaching, training & programs**

OBJECTIVES:

- TAPS Academy
- TEEN POL (TEA accredited class)
- TAPS Clubs
- TAPS Summits
- TAPS Camps
- SB-30 Community Safety Course

**TAPS ACADEMY
CURRICULUM MODULES**

1. Introductions & Pre-Assessment
2. 20-Year Plan
3. Conflict Resolution
4. Team Building
5. Drugs, Alcohol & Gang Life
6. Safe Driving & Traffic Stops (SB30)
7. Health, Fitness & Nutrition
8. Service Learning
9. Active Shooter & Human Trafficking
10. Victimization & Bullying
11. Post-Assessment & Graduation



TAPS Academy Curriculum is certified by Texas Education Agency (TEA) as a for-credit high school course (#N1130025).

**TAPS NATIONAL
STUDENT CREED**

We are going where we have never gone, to do what we have never done, to have what we have never had, and to no longer be an at-risk kid, but an at-risk promise teen!

The TAPS National Creed was written by the Fall 2012 TAPS Academy students from Beechnut Academy, Houston, TX.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY
EDUCATION ACT SB-30**

The CSEA Safe Driving & Traffic stop training is currently required for high school students, peace officers, and drivers education learners.

To learn more or host a FREE class at your location, simply visit www.TexasTrafficStop.org or call our office at 832-525-1560.

