

FBI Citizens Academy Foundation of Cleveland – Annual Report 2017

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Highlight

May 2017 – In May, members of FBICAF of Cleveland orchestrated a “Chasing the Dragon” Poster Contest in conjunction with our FBI, DEA partners and Robby’s Voice. Students were asked to design posters that best illustrated the central theme of the FBI’s documentary “The Cost of the Dragon.” Over 175 posters were created, submitted, and judged – culminating in an awards ceremony held at FBI Cleveland Division, a night sponsored by the FBICAF. During the poster awards ceremony, six awards were given to students in grades 7-12. Much like the documentary, the poster contest was created to help local students gain a deeper understanding of the dangers of opioid addiction. In addition, three \$1,000 student scholarships were awarded.

Summary of Events – July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

July 2016 – In July, FBICAF of Cleveland implemented the first-ever Future Agent In Training (FAIT) Alumni Association. Similar in ways to FBICAF, the FAIT Alumni Association strives to provide aid and service to those in need, while fostering comfortable relationships between law enforcement and young people. Following the formation of the FAIT Alumni Association, board officers were elected and committees formed to engage in community outreach programs.

August 2016 – In August, FBICAF participated in an educational, innovative pilot drug court with Judge Joan Synenberg of the Cleveland Municipal Court. The purpose of this mock court was to provide FBICAF with more extensive legal knowledge regarding opioid offenses. In addition, FBICAF expanded its Little Free Library “Cops, Community and Kids” program to eight Northern Ohio law enforcement agencies, with one library in each of FBI Cleveland’s eight Resident Agency’s AOR.

October 2016 – In October, FBICAF graduates engaged in post-RNC analytical panel discussions featuring leadership from FBI Cleveland, US Secret Service, Cleveland Division of Police and Cleveland Convention Center. Later, FBICAF hosted the Fifth

Annual Honoring Hometown Heroes event, designed to pay tribute to individuals who have made significant contributions to local communities.

December 2016 – In December, FBICAF organized holiday community service programs, implemented fifteen Coats for Kids drop-off sites, and caroled at local hospitals and “A Special Wish” homes in the community.

January 2017 – In January, FBICAF members engaged in the Annual Board Strategic Planning Retreat designed to mold a more advanced community outreach approach in 2017. Similarly, members of the FAIT Alumni Association held a planning meeting in order to brainstorm and share their thoughts on future service opportunities.

March 2017 – In March, FBICAF presented two Little Free Libraries to the Akron Police Department. In addition, FAIT Alumni Association members presented thank you candy bags to Cleveland Division of Police District 1, in memory of Officer Fahey – a Cleveland Police officer who lost his life in the line-of-duty in January. Later in March, FBICAF organized an area business leaders meeting that gave leaders a “Glimpse inside the FBI” – to foster a more productive working relationship with private sector partners.

May 2017- In May, 21 members of the first Student Academy Class graduated the 14-week program at Cleveland State University. The student academy – like Citizens Academy – is an in-depth educational program responsible for teaching students about the FBI, as well as sparking their interest in a law enforcement career. In addition, FBICAF with Robby’s Voice sponsored an evening awards ceremony given to winners of Cleveland’s first “Chasing the Dragon” Poster Contest.

June 2017 – In June, FBICAF hosted Assistant Director of Counterintelligence, Bill Priestap, as he provided a top-tier educational program for FBICAF graduates and more than 200 community guests at Cleveland Botanical Garden. Also in June, FBICAF sponsored FAIT program, featuring 50 students from 44 Cleveland area schools. The foundation directly aided toward the program by assisting with planning and coordinating the program’s agenda; providing training materials, supplying refreshments and helping with transportation.

Submitted by:

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