

## **Youth & Blue Engagement Project Video**

### ***A Prelude to an Encounter: A Perspective Taking Video Vignette***

The ***Youth & Blue Listening and Learning Exchange*** was co-designed under the direction of Brian Williams, Associate Professor of Public Policy at the University of Virginia Frank Batten School, with the assistance of City of Promise, the Charlottesville Police Foundation, and the Charlottesville Police Department. These governmental and non-governmental entities provided input on establishing ways to explore, formulate, and ultimately implement a series of activities to encourage and enhance law enforcement engagement with secondary students (middle and high school) and improve police-community relations. Participants in the ***Youth & Blue Listening and Learning Exchange*** included 14 middle and high school students from the Charlottesville City School System and two police officers from the Charlottesville Police Department.

The purpose of the ***Youth & Blue Listening and Learning Exchange*** was to facilitate discussions between middle and high school students in the Charlottesville City Schools with local law enforcement officers, leveraging the national conversation on police-community relations. This allowed for the surfacing of opportunities that enhanced the partnership between younger members of the community and local law enforcement.

Three goals were associated with the ***Youth & Blue Listening and Learning Exchange***:

- to enhance understanding
- to improve communication, and
- to encourage a better working relationship between community members and local law enforcement professionals.

## Discussion Guide Dialogue Questions

The following questions have been designed to be used to facilitate a perspective taking dialogue – an effective way for people to speak across their differences in lived and professional experiences. The questions allow you to think about this prelude to an encounter from 4 perspectives: the kids, the officer, the mother, and the caller.

1. What could the kids have done differently?
  - a. What do you think the kids would want the officer to do?
  - b. What do you think the kids would want the caller to do?
  - c. What do you think the kids would want the mother to do?
2. What could the officer have done differently?
  - a. What do you think the officer would want the kids to do?
  - b. What do you think the officer would want the caller to do?
  - c. What do you think the officer would want the mother to do?
3. What could the mother have done differently?
  - a. What do you think the mother would want the kids to do?
  - b. What do you think the mother would want the officer to do?
  - c. What do you think the mother would want the caller to do?
4. What could the caller have done differently?
  - a. What do you think the caller would want the kids to do?
  - b. What do you think the caller would want the officer to do?
  - c. What do you think the caller would want the mother to do?
5. Whose behavior was the most appropriate?
6. Whose behavior was the least appropriate?
7. What issues are at the core of this video? What other issues exist behind the situation in the video?
8. What are some barriers to change?
9. What are some possible solutions to the issues we've identified?

- a. How do we address other issues that may be causing these problems?
10. What are some assets in our community that can help us understand the problems here and solve them? Please identify them.
  11. Where do we go from here and how do we get there?