

Engaging Youth through Volunteerism Video Now Available

In April, the National Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) Project Director and video production staff visited the Eugene Police Department to tape interviews with staff and youth volunteers, and to film volunteer activities. The video, *Engaging Youth through Volunteerism*, has been completed, and is now available in DVD format and electronically at www.policevolunteers.org/resources/VIPSvideos.cfm.

The purpose of the video is to provide information to law enforcement executives and volunteer coordinators about how to better involve youth in law enforcement volunteer programs. Also featured in the video are police departments in Helena, Alabama and Redlands, California.

Youth volunteer opportunities at the Eugene Police Department include assignments in the Records Section, the neighborhood substations, the Volunteers in Policing office, disaster/emergency preparedness exercises (as role players), the Cadet Post, the Police Activities League and Safety Town. The department also offers a summer youth academy for youth age 15-18 interested in learning about law enforcement.

The National VIPS Program is managed and implemented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police in partnership with and on behalf of the White House Office of the USA Freedom Corps. They are funded by a grant through the Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice. The goal of the National VIPS Program is to enhance the capacity of state and local law enforcement to utilize volunteers.

For more information, contact Volunteers in Policing Program Coordinator, Carrie Chouinard at 682-5355 or carrie.f.chouinard@ci.eugene.or.us.