

# Principles of *Policing the Teen Brain*<sup>™</sup> Training



## TRAINING PRINCIPLES

Strategies for Youth (SFY) police officer training equips officers with practical and applicable strategies and scientific and evidence-based information that promote positive interactions and reduce conflict.

## TRAINING APPROACH

Each training is developed with police officers, community-based youth-serving organizations, and local youth. Methods of instruction include interactive discussions with adolescent development experts and psychiatrists, films, and role plays with community youth.

## SFY TRAINING SUPPORTS OFFICERS BY MAKING INTERACTIONS WITH YOUTH

- Easier and faster
- Less reliant upon force and arrest
- Less likely to escalate.

## SFY TRAINING HELPS POLICE DEPARTMENTS

- Demonstrate investment in youth and increases youths' trust and communication with police
- Reduce departments' overtime and court costs by partnering with youth-serving community-based organizations for low level offenses
- Support good community relations and reduce complaints
- Increase risk management and reduce liability.

## CORE TRAINING COMPONENTS

- Developmental Explanation of Normative Teen Behaviors
- Tactics for Working With Compromised Teens
- Juvenile Law for Law Enforcement
- Demographic Factors Affecting Youth
- Cultural Factors Influencing Youth
- Strategies for Asserting Authority & Getting Compliance from Teens
- Recognizing and Addressing Implicit Bias
- Developing Community-Based Partnerships – And Using Them Proactively
- Trying it on For Size – Role Playing with Officers & Youth

## LOGISTICAL ELEMENTS OF TRAINING IMPLEMENTATION

**Class Size:** 35- 50 Officers

**Participants:** Patrol Officers, Juvenile Officers, SROs, Command Staff; Community-Based Youth Serving Agency Staff (3-5/class)

**Duration:** 14-16 hour intensive training program; 6th Month: Booster training of up to 6 hours duration

**Materials:** Power point presentations, videos, films, manual, hand-outs, reading lists, etc.

**Speakers:** Experts in adolescent development, teen psychiatry; attorneys, officers, and teens

**Evaluation:** Baseline survey of officers and youth; Pre/Post assessment of officer understanding