



## FY 2022 OJJDP Mentoring Opportunities for Youth Initiative Grantee Profile

# National Association of Police Athletic/Activities League

### Program Overview and Background

As the success of the PAL concept spread, PAL programs developed in other communities across the Country. A little over 70 years ago, six Chapters on the eastern seaboard joined together to form an association to share ideas and resources and compete in several sports. Today, there are over 300 PAL Member Chapters either within law enforcement agencies or operating as a 501 c 3 Not for Profit organization, servicing various cities throughout the United States, including the U.S. Virgin Islands, serving youth ages 5 to 18. It is based on the conviction that young people - if reached early enough - can cultivate strong positive attitudes towards/with law enforcement in their journey through life, with the goal being maturity, inclusiveness, and good citizenship.

The PAL program experience brings youth, under the guidance and positive influence of law enforcement agencies and/or community-based not-for-profit organizations, to expound upon public awareness regarding the role of law enforcement and the reinforcement of the responsible values and attitudes instilled in young people by their parents. PAL programs provide a leadership opportunity for youth to establish positive relations with law enforcement while also allowing them to have a voice heard. Studies have shown that if a young person engages and interacts with law enforcement on the ball field, gym, or classroom, the youth will likely come to respect the laws that police officers enforce. Such respect benefits the youth, the police officer, the neighborhood, and the business community.

### Program Services

- Group activities (in addition to primary mentoring)
- Referral to other services
- Counseling
- Academic support
- Leadership development
- Substance misuse intervention or treatment
- Etc.



- HQ: Charlotte, NC**
- Founded in 1913**
- 5,000 Youth Served**
- 75 Program Locations**
- 75 Sub Grantees**

**Grant:** JJ FY22 Mentoring: National

**Award Number:** 15JDP-22-GG-01747-MENT

**Award Amount:** \$2,000,000

#### Mentoring Model & Structure

- Community-based and site-based
- Peer, group, school-based, community-based, e-mentoring, hybrid (1:1 in a group setting), and combined (both group and 1:1 mentoring)
- Partnering with schools, faith-based organizations, non-profits mentor organizations, and law enforcement agencies
- Programs focus on STEM, Sports, Arts, Community Service, Substance Misuse and Impact, Academics, College Readiness, General, Youth With Disabilities, and Gang Prevention (targeted)



## Target Population

We aim to provide mentoring under this grant to young people with any one or more of the following:

- Single Parent Household
- Academic Challenges
- Juvenile Justice Involvement
- Victimization
- Substance Impact or Misuse
- Rural Location
- Facing Discrimination based on Race, Ethnicity or Gender Identity
- Youth with Disabilities

## Mentor Recruitment & Training

- 5,000 matches and youth served under this grant
- 715 mentors recruited under this grant
- Peer Mentoring included in programming
- For mentor recruitment, we target Peers (Youth), College Students, Adult Volunteers, Athletic Coaches, and Active and Retired Law Enforcement Officers
- Duration of program services: 8-12 months
- Expected intensity of match contact: Minimum of 1 hour a week
- Expected length of a match: 8-12 months
- Expected frequency of match contact: 1 hour a month
- Number of training hours required before a mentor is matched with a youth: 15-20 Minute National Training Form, specific training based on location

## Additional Program Information

The National Association of Police Athletic/Activities Leagues, Inc. assists in preventing juvenile crime and violence by providing mentorship, service, athletics, recreational enrichment, educational opportunities, and resources to PAL Membership Chapters. As a membership-based organization, National PAL seeks to provide its Chapters with resources and opportunities to aid them in their organizational growth and assist them in their pursuits of showcasing their unique programs and enhancing the quality of individual youth engagement experiences. These resources may include funding opportunities through various grants, general liability protection options, programmatic opportunities through partner organizations, as well as via goods and services provided by corporate partners and supporting like-minded organizations. In addition, there are occasions where National PAL provides Chapter members opportunities or access to engage their athletes/youth in select athletic tournaments, clinics, or showcases via the construction of events aimed at providing competitive/championship outcomes, fundamental enhancement, or relationship-building opportunities between Kids, Cops, and community.



## Additional Resources

- [National PAL](#)

*This data is accurate as of April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.*

### **For more information on our OJJDP grant:**

Whitney Bennington | [wbennington@nationalpal.org](mailto:wbennington@nationalpal.org) | 704-909-2841

Julie Redcay | [grants@nationalpal.org](mailto:grants@nationalpal.org)