

PUBLIC SAFETY CHAPLAINCY NEWSLETTER



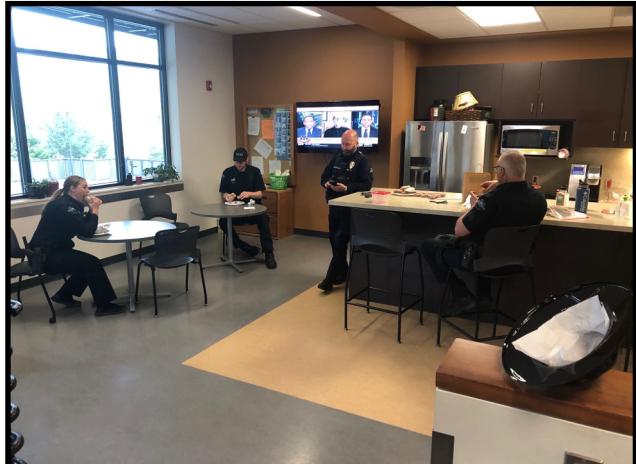
Date: April 2020

The new world order with COVID-19 has made life challenging for our First Responders. They are trying to still maintain law and order and serve the community, while also maintaining a safe distance when possible from individuals. With the elevated risk of contracting the virus being very real, there is also incremental stress and worry from the First Responder family members about the health of their loved one. We are seeing a rise in suicide attempts as economic and isolation depression set in for some individuals. As well, we are experiencing an increase in non-violent crimes and domestic violence as the policing environment has been modified.

In the midst of this chaotic environment, some of our Chaplains are busier than ever while others are having to resort to virtual communications with their First Responders and the community members. Whether connecting in person or via phone, text or Zoom, the role of the First Responder Chaplain has never been more important. The First Responders really appreciate having an advocate at their side who is praying for them, checking in on them and encouraging them. We feel very blessed to have our 40 PSC Chaplains available to support their Fire Fighters and Police Officers.

Speaking of blessing First Responders, PSC was the fortunate recipient of a \$25,000 grant from the Murdock foundation specifically targeted at supporting and blessing the First Responders we serve. Our Chaplains are actively working on unique and local ways to support their agencies. We are coordinating activities ranging from free meals and food trucks, reduced cost grocery service, free Black Rifle coffee and free haircuts for those in uniform. We have also been able to help out a few volunteer Fire Fighters throughout the state who have lost their jobs and are struggling to get enough food to feed their families. We are getting resoundingly positive feedback from the First Responder agencies and they really appreciate the support.





Our PSC Community Assistance Fund has also been very popular lately as our Chaplains have found many opportunities to help support those in the community who are in desperate need of short-term assistance. Our Community Assistance Fund is currently almost \$7,000 negative and we are having to borrow to support the ongoing demand for this highly sought-after program. We would really appreciate any incremental contributions you would be able to make to help us get fully funded again so we can continue to allow the Chaplains and their First Responders to bless the community. Go to our website and read one small example that got picked up by the news of how the Community Assistance Fund was used to help a young mother in need.

TO DONATE

If you wish to support our Community Assistance Fund, our General Fund or a specific Chaplain, please give online at <https://www.publicsafetychaplaincy.com/donate> or send a check to Public Safety Chaplaincy, 1500 NW 167th Place Beaverton, OR 97006.