



National Law Enforcement Museum

at the **Motorola Solutions Foundation Building**

FIVE COMMUNITIES

TEMPORARY EXHIBITION

Show Run: October 13, 2018 – Winter 2019

The National Law Enforcement Museum is dedicated to expanding and enriching the relationship shared by law enforcement and the community through educational journeys, immersive exhibitions, and insightful programs. For our inaugural temporary exhibition, the Museum will explore the grassroots efforts in five communities to strengthen the relationship between law enforcement and the people it serves.

This 2,000 square foot exhibition will use original photography, text, and simple interactives to explore the innovative ways in which communities have improved the connection between police departments and community members. The interactive will be based on the programs developed within each of the communities, giving visitors a glimpse into the specific methods used by the community program and a chance for a meaningful social interaction within the gallery space. Visitors will also be asked to actively participate in the exhibition—to vote on the types of innovations they think are the most useful, or to share some of the efforts or experiences they have had in their own communities.

During the last thirty odd years, law enforcement agencies have worked to heal conflicts within their communities and to become more transparent in how they do their jobs. Over the last few years, those efforts have redoubled and across the country programs that have proven successful are spreading to new communities and new initiatives are growing where none had been before.

Somerville, Massachusetts

The Center for Teen Empowerment hires and trains urban youth to lead their peers in a movement to strengthen the relationships between youth, police, and community. The program began in Boston's South End neighborhood in 1992 and had an immediate impact—lowering youth street violence dramatically in a period dubbed "the Boston Miracle." Since then, the program has flourished and spread to two new communities—Somerville, Massachusetts, and Rochester, New York.

Charleston

The 2015 shooting in Charleston's Mother Emanuel Church that resulted in the death of nine parishioners was the catalyst for the Illumination Project. Police Chief Greg Mullins, Pastor Kylon Middleton, lifelong Charlestonian Margaret Seidler, and many others felt an obligation in the face the tragedy to expand the department's existing community outreach and create a program that would make their community even stronger

Cleveland

The Partnership for a Safer Cleveland brings together all the agencies, organizations, and community leaders to make Cleveland's neighborhoods safer. For 37 years, it has worked with the Cleveland Police Department to protect Cleveland's young adults and prevent youth violence.

Dallas

Project Unity was begun by Pastor Richie Butler in response to the July 7, 2016 killing of five Dallas police officers. To build a stronger community, Project Unity focused on creating dialogue around race relations in Dallas, connecting officer with youth in practical learning experiences, and fostering a "pulpit swap" among the houses of worship in Dallas.

Oakland

Oakland's Trust through Reform project uses trainings co-led by law enforcement and community members to refocus the conversation about community-police relations. The program addresses the history of policing and its continued impact on community relations. It also emphasizes the importance of hiring, equipment, accountability, and training in creating a public safety system that everyone can trust.

Five Communities will explore the unique aspects of each of these programs—what worked, what didn't, what specific problems the community faced, and what principles drove the approach that they took. It will introduce visitors to the people whose dedication and inspiration made the project a reality. It will examine the community itself—what problems existed and how they have changed, what resources were available to draw from, and the history of the community (and the multi-layered perspectives within that community) that challenged the success of the program or from which it drew strength. Most of all, *Five Communities* will show how average people who care about their neighbors and the place that they live can help solve difficult problems.