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UPCOMING EVENTS

- » Salisbury PAL Rhinos Football Season
October 6, 2018 - Wilmington, DE
October 13, 2018 - Princess Anne, MD
October 20, 2018 - Location TBD
- » Baltimore PAL Football Season
Schedule TBD

Hagerstown PAL Hosts National Night Out

On August 7, 2018, Hagerstown PAL hosted the city of Hagerstown National Night Out at Fairgrounds Park in Hagerstown, MD. National Night Out, is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. The night was kicked off with a live saxophone rendition of the National Anthem, followed by proclamations from Mayor Bob Bruchey, as well as Congressman John K. Delaney's office.



Hagerstown Police Department provided free backpacks to youth at the event.

Hagerstown's National Night Out featured over 25 booths and tables, which included organizations such as the Hagerstown Police Department, Housing Authority for the City of Hagerstown, and the Humane Society of Washington Pet Food Bank, who provided a box truck full of free pet food that was given away to the community. Police officers and volunteers had the grill going all night, serving free food and drinks to the community.

The Hagerstown Police Department played a key role in making the event a success. While a DJ played music for members of the community, there was a pause to announce the live police dog demonstration. Many people stopped in their tracks to listen to the K-9 unit discuss a day in the life of a K-9 officer and demonstrate how a canine is used on the job.

To top the night off, Hagerstown Police officers provided free backpacks to youth, just in time for the start of the new school year. There is no doubt that this was the highlight of the event, as lines quickly formed with attendees eager to receive backpacks. The event was a huge success with members of the community, and the Hagerstown Police Department cannot wait for next year's National Night Out.

Former PAL Kid Turned PAL Staff Member

DMV PAL recently had the opportunity to host a training for its affiliate chapters and their staff members on September 12, 2018 at the Under Armour House in Baltimore, MD. During this time, we had the opportunity to meet and talk with Officer Kason Washington from the Cambridge Police Department. Officer Washington talked about how he was a former PAL kid, who participated in PAL from elementary school all the way through high school and mentioned that he and his friends would be at the local PAL site everyday. By having police officers as coaches and mentors, youth were able to see them as individuals they could talk and relate to, and not just as police officers.



Officer Kason Washington from the Cambridge Police Department.

Officer Washington also emphasized the fact that his participation in PAL helped give him experiences in life that he would not have otherwise had at home. "Being a part of PAL really molded me into being the police officer that I am now by doing community policing and helping kids in the Cambridge area," Washington said. Washington is excited to have a PAL Chapter in Cambridge, MD, which gives him the same opportunity to give to kids, that officers gave to him. Officer Washington will help youth establish a rapport with police officers and help them through the PAL programs.

PAL - YES Graduates Innovation 4.0 Participants



Youth entrepreneurs presented to three judges who graded their businesses.

PAL-YES of Baltimore, MD recently hosted their Innovation 4.0 graduation. Innovation 4.0 allows youth to practice and strengthen their leadership and innovation talent, values, and principles, while providing data-driven tools for matching talent to careers, based on hiring processes that are free from bias.

The graduation was held to honor youth entrepreneurship and help youth find their passion. Youth participants were asked to launch their own business with the goal of teaching them how to manage a business. Several youth who have developed and are currently running their business on their own also mentor and serve as role models to younger youth in the community.

One business that came about as a result of Innovation 4.0 implementation is the **Humble Beast Movement**, which has been featured in a local newspaper. This business is run by a 17 year old young man and features clothing and music. The goal of the business is to help kids filter their pain through music; it allows youth to record music in a studio and eventually sell the music for profit.

Confident Cutie is another product of Innovation 4.0 implementation, which a 17 year old young woman aims to uplift elementary and middle school girls. Confident Cutie strives to teach young women to love themselves and that in this age of social media, not everything needs a filter to make you look beautiful. The owner of the business has since contracted with local schools to teach young women about self-love and personal care.

The graduation consisted of three judges who graded the businesses based on several components, the main one being the social component. It is quite clear from these two businesses that this component of the curriculum is effective and that the youth at PAL-YES are not just striving to make a profit, but to make a difference in their communities.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Annapolis & Anne Arundel County's Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation Day of Play



Boys & Girls Clubs of Annapolis & Anne Arundel County's Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation Day of Play.

On July 17, 2018, the DMV PAL team had the pleasure of attending the Boys & Girls Clubs of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County's (a DMV PAL affiliate) Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation (CRSF) Day of Play. It was a beautiful, sunny day at the Wiley H. Bates multipurpose turf field, where different sports stations were set up for Club youth to participate in. Stations included soccer and football exercises, games of dodgeball, and Quickball – a baseball adaptation from CRSF's Badges for Baseball program – run by CRSF staff.

The Day of Play event featured special guests such as Louie and Rocko, mascots from the Bowie Baysox, the Double-A affiliate of the Baltimore Orioles, and Hawkeye, the mascot for the Major League Lacrosse Chesapeake Bayhawks. Hawkeye brought a few special guests of his own, which included several players from the Chesapeake Bayhawks team. The Bayhawks players helped facilitate the sports stations, but eventually found themselves joining along with the youth, as they could not resist the fun that was being had.

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It would not be a PAL event without participation from the local police department. The Annapolis Police Department SWAT Team and K-9 unit hosted a variety of demonstrations for the youth. The officer from the K-9 unit gave youth an up close and personal presentation to show how a canine apprehends a suspect. This was a huge hit as the youth were intrigued by the involvement of an animal in the police department. To cap the event off, youth were provided food and water from the Maryland Food Bank to replenish and rehydrate from a busy day of playing on the field. Additionally, the youth received reusable shopping bags with information on healthy food recipes from the Maryland Food Bank to take home and share with their families.

Salisbury PAL Rhinos Gear Up for the Season

The Salisbury PAL football team, also known as the Salisbury Rhinos, is currently gearing up for the fall football season. The Rhinos are brand new to Salisbury and looking to make their mark as a member of the American Youth Football (AYF) league. The AYF league has over 900,000 athletes throughout the country as well as Canada and Mexico, where student development is promoted through football and support of adult leaders. The Salisbury PAL Rhinos work tirelessly to emphasize the importance of police involvement in mentoring while using football to build communication skills and long-lasting relationships.



Youth from Salisbury PAL participate in football practice with officers from the Salisbury Police Department.

The Rhinos practice three to four days per week and have regularly scheduled games on Saturdays, where they are encouraged and cheered on by supportive officers from the Salisbury Police Department including, Corporal Matt Thompsen and Officer Kevin Carroll. Salisbury PAL intends on expanding to other sports like soccer, lacrosse and baseball as they continue their mission of cultivating positive relationships between officers and youth from the community. The team is excited for the season and hope to see community members at their games!

DMV PAL Chapters

DMV PAL strives to establish positive relationships between youth ages 5 through 18 and police in their community. We currently provide high quality services to youth across the region in the following cities:

- Annapolis, MD
- Baltimore, MD
- Cambridge, MD
- Cecil County, MD
- Hagerstown, MD
- Salisbury, MD
- Washington, DC



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LOOKING TO START A DMV PAL CHAPTER IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

Send an e-mail to info@dmvpal.org to learn more!

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