



2025 Annual Report

Greensboro Police Foundation

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Introduction

Mission

The mission of the Greensboro Police Foundation is to supplement funding for innovative police programs, equipment, and technology to make Greensboro a safer city to live, work, and visit.

While the city of Greensboro is responsible for providing law enforcement services, our goal is to supplement and enhance existing resources to make our police department better and Greensboro safer.

Focus Areas

Contributions to the Greensboro Police Foundation benefit programs in our three focus areas:

- Cutting-edge equipment, training, and technology to fight and prevent crime.
- Officer safety, wellness, and recognition.
- Community engagement and advocacy.

History

Since our establishment in 2012, we have raised over \$2.5M in support of our police department. Over the years, we have purchased major pieces of equipment including body-worn cameras, a Mobile Command Center, a FireArms Training Simulator, and two Mobile Video Trailers. We have also sustained long-running programs such as Students Overcoming Situations, Operation Yuletide, the Sergeant White Memorial Scholarship, the memorial flower program, and Officer Recognition Luncheons. In 2025, our acquisitions and initiatives demonstrated our three-pronged approach to advocacy for the Greensboro Police Department.

Programs and Services

Officer Safety, Wellness, and Recognition

On December 23, 2024, Officer Michael Horan was shot and killed while responding to a call at a local Food Lion grocery store. Coming so close on the heels of the loss of Sergeant Dale Nix, the killing of Officer Horan once again devastated the Greensboro Police Department (GPD). Officer Horan had served in the GPD since 2017. Prior to that, he was a member of the U.S. Coast Guard for 17 years. He was also a beloved father, husband, son, and brother. The Greensboro Police Foundation is proud to have paid for hotel and dining accommodations when Officer Horan's family traveled to Washington D.C. last May to attend the Annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service and other events during National Police Week.



Through the Memorial Flower fund, the foundation purchased floral arrangements for both Officer Horan's memorial service and the Annual Guilford County Peace Officers' Memorial Service. We also purchased arrangements in memory of beloved members of the extended GPD family who were lost in 2025.

Quality time with family is critical to the well-being of GPD staff. Last year, we introduced an initiative with this goal in mind. We donated a block of tickets to a Greensboro Swarm game against Mexico City. GPD families that attended the game took part in awesome fan experiences including a meet-and-greet with Swarmy, the Swarm's mascot, a High Five Tunnel, and Anthem Buddies, where kids were invited to stand next to players during the national anthem. On June 27, we partnered with Howell Homes to purchase a block of tickets and Babe's Bucks when the Greensboro Grasshoppers faced the Winston-Salem Dash, giving the GPD staff another opportunity for a fun evening out with their families.



The Officer Recognition Luncheon program is a longstanding and successful initiative. In 2025, we held three luncheons at the Sheraton Greensboro Hotel. Over time, the luncheons have become family affairs. Honorees are often joined by their spouses, parents, and children who come to see their loved ones recognized for their outstanding achievements in law enforcement. We also continued our

tradition of being a Platinum Sponsor of the Annual Police & Citizen's Awards Banquet in May. At the banquet this year, we announced the two winners of the Sgt. William White Memorial Scholarship which is awarded to the children of GPD officers and employees. We are so pleased to have awarded a total of \$10,000 in college scholarships since the program began in 2021.

In 2025, 141 GPD officers and employees were honored through our Officer Recognition Luncheon program.



We continued to serve as a hospitality partner for the GPD. We provided refreshments for two Police Academy Family Nights when the families of Academy recruits tour the Public Safety Training Facility. We also teamed up with Guilford Merchants Association to provide hundreds of hot Stamey's barbecue meals to the patrol officers that were activated during NC A&T Homecoming.

Equipment, Training, Technology

In 2025, the Greensboro Police Foundation made two major investments in training and equipment that will have a major impact on the effectiveness of the Greensboro Police Department. In October, the GPD received delivery of a BRINC Lemur 2 drone. The Lemur 2 is a state-of-the-art drone designed

to enter dangerous situations and gain intel, communicate, and de-escalate, all while keeping our officers safe. It features many cutting-edge technologies including two-way communications, a glass-breaking attachment, the ability to create real-time floor plans, a 360-degree position hold, and the ability to live stream off-site.

The foundation has also invested in an innovative leadership development program for sergeants. Chief Thompson views leadership training at the sergeant level as a significant growth opportunity for the GPD. The training will be provided by Performance Protocol. Based in Phoenix, AZ, Performance Protocol is dedicated to identifying and implementing solutions that address the recruitment, development, and retention challenges of policing today. Twenty-five sergeants will participate in the pilot program in early 2026. The sergeants will complete a leadership development boot camp, and then be paired with external mentors who will help them apply their leadership skills in the workplace.



Lemur 2 Drone

Community Engagement and Advocacy

Community engagement is a critical component of crime prevention strategies. We continue to partner with the GPD's Office of Community Engagement (OCE) on their many outreach efforts.

In 2025, students in four Guilford County elementary schools completed Students Overcoming Situations (SOS), a program where a GPD officer teaches weekly sessions on character-building and safety. The officer is accompanied by K9 Porter, a therapy Aussiedoodle who helps to ease the anxieties of children who are nervous around police officers. . We supported this program by purchasing snacks and SOS t-shirts for all the teachers and students who participated in the program.



In the fall, the GPD hosted a series of Trunk or Treats at substations throughout the city. These were very popular events; over 3,000 people came out for the event at Police Headquarters, where they enjoyed a hot dog dinner, decorated cars, and of course, lots and lots of candy! We were happy to supply all the candy for these wonderful events that helped to build community.



We wrapped up an outstanding year with the tremendous success of Operation Yuletide. This year, the GPD adopted 60 families and a senior housing community. With an outpouring of support from the community, the department was able to provide everyday essentials and wonderful gifts to over 500 children, adults, and seniors.

"We lost our home to a fire on Thanksgiving and the Greensboro Police Department showed up at our temporary home and showered us with supplies and Christmas gifts for my two kiddos. It might have been the best Christmas we ever had."

-Mother of an adopted Operation Yuletide Family

Fundraising

Bee Safe Drive Fore Blue Golf Tournament

On May 20, 2025, the foundation held the inaugural Bee Safe Drive Fore Blue Tournament at the beautiful Grandover Resort & Spa. The sold-out golf tournament brought together more than 120 golfers and 54 generous sponsors.



The event was made possible thanks to the outstanding support of Bee Safe Storage and Wine Cellar, the tournament's Title Sponsor, for helping launch the event; Koury Corporation, the Chief Sponsor, for hosting and supporting the mission; and all of the sponsors and supporters whose generosity helps advance the mission of the Greensboro Police Foundation.

The Blue Salute

The Blue Salute 2025 was an outstanding success this year with a new venue and a new band. The event took place at the Greensboro Country Club last September. It kicked off with a special benefit for sponsors, the Lights and Sirens Kids' Hour. Sponsors were invited to bring their children or grandchildren to the country club to meet police officers, play with K9 dogs, explore awesome police vehicles, and learn about cool police technology such as the bomb-diffusing robot.

Later that evening, guests of the Blue Salute enjoyed delicious heavy appetizers, specialty cocktails, and terrific music provided by Gipsy Danger. As always, the highlight of the evening was the opportunity to mingle with members of the GPD's specialty teams who demonstrated the latest law enforcement technologies that keep our city safe.



Friends of Safety Town

In April 2024, we cut the ribbon on one of the most impactful projects in our history, Safety Town at Barber Park. Safety Town is an education program where five- and six-year-old children learn safety lessons on traffic, strangers, fire, bicycles, poisons (including drugs), water, and guns. It is staffed by GPD School Resource Officers, and has operated in Greensboro for over forty years. We helped to construct a second Greensboro site of Safety Town at Barber Park, increasing access to this wonderful safety education program.



If you value the work that we do, we hope that you will demonstrate your support by participating in our newest fundraising campaign, Friends of Safety Town. With your 100% tax-deductible gift of \$500 to the Greensboro Police Foundation, you can become a Friend of Safety Town, and your name or business name will be permanently displayed on the Founders' Monument at Safety Town at Barber Park. Please note that contributions made by Friends of Safety Town are added to the foundation's general program fund and are not restricted to Safety Town initiatives. You can become a Friend of Safety Town by visiting our website.

Looking Ahead

Moving into 2026, we are preparing for a change in GPD leadership. Chief John Thompson navigated the GPD with a steady hand through several difficult years when the department suffered the loss of two active officers through gun violence. We wish him all the best in his next endeavors.

At the same time, we will be there to support the vision of the new Chief of Police. We look forward to collaborating with the department on longstanding programs and new projects that will promote the well-being of our hardworking officers and advance the police department on its path to being a national model of exceptional policing.

All of this is only made possible through the generous contributions of our donors like you. Thank you so much for supporting our work, and for being a part of a community that advocates for a safer city.

Mark Wheelihan, George Hoyle, and Jennifer Jacobs
Co-Presidents and Executive Director

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Contact us! We'd love to hear from you!



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