

"We Have
Tomorrow —
Bright Before
Us, Like A
Flame."

Langston Hughes



City of Lawrence

The Flame | August 2016

Lawrence Police Department and Bert Nash Mental Health Center Coordinate Efforts to Develop Training Program

For as long as anyone can remember, Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center and law enforcement have had a working relationship.

Since the early 2000s, that relationship has changed. For the better.

"I see it as a partnership," said Amber Rhoden of the Lawrence Police Department. "We want to understand what they do, and they want to understand what we do and why we do it. Everybody is like let's break down the walls and move forward."

To celebrate that partnership, Bert Nash recognized the mental health efforts of all local law enforcement agencies with the Pioneer Award.

"We are successful in this community because of our partnerships," said David Johnson, the Center's CEO. "One of the ones that I'm proudest of is our partnership with Lawrence and Douglas County law enforcement. Our partnership really allows both us and law enforcement to do what we do best to the benefit of the people who we are serving."

Bert Nash provides mental health training to law enforcement as part of a training program called Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), which equips officers with skills for intervening with people who are experiencing a mental health crisis. As part of that training, law enforcement personnel go through an eight-hour class called Mental Health First Aid, which is sort of a mental health version of CPR. In 2008, Bert Nash was one of seven pilot sites in the nation that began offering Mental Health First Aid training.

Rhoden of the Lawrence Police Department is chairwoman of the local Crisis Intervention Team Council and works closely with Bert Nash staff on coordinating the training curriculum.

"I think it's great that our department champions mental health training from the get-go," Rhoden said. "I honestly believe having that training upfront helps. Some officers might not think it's our job, that it's Bert Nash's job. But we're the first responders, so teaching officers that we can help people with mental illness is huge."

Rhoden has a passion for CIT training.

"While we're not required to be therapists in blue, it is kind of what we are," she said. "We spend a lot of time dealing with the mentally ill population, trying to figure out what we can do to help. If we have a chance to divert them from the criminal justice system, that's our main goal."



Officer Amber Rhoden leads the local Crisis Intervention (CIT) Team, a program for local law enforcement which provides training to assist members of our community experiencing a mental health crisis.

Photo and story were used with permission from Bert Nash Mental Health Center.



Live a Healthy, Active Lifestyle with Parks & Recreation

Be sure and get signed up for fall classes through Lawrence Parks and Recreation to continue living a healthy, active lifestyle. LPRD offers a wide variety of programming with more than 550 programs each season. Whether its to try something new, learn a new dance or get in better shape, LPRD is here to assist you in keeping active all year long. Sign up today at www.lawrenceks.org/lprd.

City info available online at lawrenceks.org and on cable Channel 25.

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RECYCLING REMINDER



Glass 101



Glass is a remarkable material made from quartz sand, soda ash and limestone. Glass is so versatile that it is also completely recoverable, meaning that it can be recycled over and over again without losing its original properties.

Glass is recycled both through the city's single-stream recycling program (blue carts) and the city's drop-off Ripple Glass recycling program (purple bins). Glass in the single-stream recycling program is separated at the Hamm Material Recovery Facility (MRF). The MRF currently has two viable outlets for beneficial reuse of glass - Ripple Glass and Hamm Mining. At Ripple Glass, it gets used for fiberglass insulation. At Hamm Mining, it gets used for road aggregate material.

Be sure to follow the City of Lawrence glass recycling guidelines:

YES - Accepted Glass: Food & beverage bottles & jars, all colors accepted.

NO - Prohibited Glass: Pyrex & cooking dishes, glass & ceramic serveware, window & mirror glass, vases, ceiling light covers.

www.LawrenceRecycles.org



Safety on the Road

Everyone using the road needs to look out for each other.

To help keep everyone safe on the road, the City of Lawrence recommends the following for motorists:

- Stop for pedestrians at crosswalks and be careful when passing stopped vehicles
- Be mindful of pedestrians when pulling into and out of driveways – especially when you are backing up. Pedestrians can easily enter your path without your knowledge.
- Yield to pedestrians and bicyclists when turning.
- Look out for pedestrians at all times, even in places that they are not supposed to be found.

Pedestrians must also follow the rules of the road including these additional tips for safety:

Be Safe and Be Seen: Make yourself visible to drivers

- Wear bright colors or reflective clothing if you are walking near traffic at night. Make sure to carry a flashlight.
- Stand clear of buses, hedges, parked cars, or other obstacles before crossing so drivers can see you.



Be Smart and Alert: Avoid dangerous behaviors

- Avoid distractions and remember that your eyes and ears are your best tools for staying safe as a pedestrian.
- If you have to walk on a road that does not have sidewalks, walk facing traffic as this increases your visibility.

Be Careful at Crossings: Look before you step

- Cross the street only at intersections. Do not jaywalk. Use marked crosswalks where available. Do not cross in the middle of the street or block unless a marked mid-block crossing is provided.
- Don't rely solely on pedestrian signals. Look before you cross the road.



For more information visit: www.lawrenceks.org/share_the_road.

Now Seeking Phoenix Award Nominations

Nominate an outstanding Lawrence artist, arts educator, arts administrator, arts advocate or arts volunteer for the 2016 Phoenix awards!

2016 marks the 21st anniversary of the Phoenix Awards and members of the public are invited to make nominations. Eligible nominees include artists working in the visual, literary, musical, theatrical, and media arts. Arts educators, administrators, advocates, and volunteers are also eligible.

Nominations can be done online at www.lawrenceks.org/cmo/arts-and-culture. The deadline for nominations is September 6.



Compost and Woodchip Sale Set for September

On Thursday through Saturday, September 8, 9, 10 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. the City of Lawrence Solid Waste Division will sell compost and woodchips at the city's Compost Facility located at 1420 E. 11th Street, which is east of 11th and Haskell Avenue, over the railroad tracks. The sale will be held rain or shine. The city will load trucks and trailers (\$10 per bucket load / two cubic yards). Cash only. Compost and woodchips are not intended for commercial applications but rather for the citizens of Lawrence. The city cannot load trucks with ladder racks. For additional information, visit www.lawrenceks.org/swm.

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