

Sheriff's Message

The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office is proud to be associated with the Police Athletic League (PAL) program. Since the inception of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Police Athletic League, hundreds of youngsters have enjoyed competitive sports of all description, educational after-school programs, and one-on-one help from dedicated mentors. PAL programs help shape the future of our children, many of whom need the guidance and positive support from adult role models.



Sheriff Jim Coats

Pinellas County deputy sheriffs are very active as event coordinators, coaches and sports camp counselors. These deputies value their time with our PAL youngsters and do their best to provide caring leadership and a positive experience with law enforcement for many children who are at-risk.

Thank you for your interest in PAL. There are many opportunities for citizens to become involved with our Police Athletic League. To learn more, please call the office of our PAL Director, at 582-5854. Remember, there are children waiting for you.

Sincerely,

James Coats
 Jim Coats, Sheriff
 Pinellas County



The Pinellas County Sheriff's PAL hockey program takes to the ice.

PAL Programs

- **After School Care:** Homework assistance, arts and crafts for ages 5-12.
- **Baseball:** T-ball for the younger children and competitive baseball for teen boys.
- **Basketball:** Basic fundamentals, recreational and competitive basketball plus workshops for ages 7-17.
- **Boxing:** New program offering fundamentals, recreational and competitive boxing.
- **Flag Football:** Girls Flag Football, Junior Flag Football, and competitive Flag Football for middle and high school students.
- **Golf:** Year round sport for ages 8-15; recreational and competitive.
- **Ice Hockey:** Teaching fundamentals of skating, basics of hockey, and competitive games for ages 8-10.
- **Night Programming:** Swimming, sailing, cooking, "Girl Power", movie night, video games, etc. for ages 6-17.
- **Soccer:** Competitive and recreational programs for ages 8-15.
- **Step Team:** Year round dance group for ages 7-17 which practices for competitions.
- **Special Events:** Back to school concerts, All-Star Football Game, circus, state fair, etc.
- **Summer Camp:** For ages 5-10 Monday through Friday. Includes arts and crafts, swimming, field trips, and more.
- **Tennis:** Year round program for 8-15 year olds. Competitions for beginners and intermediate players.
- **Youth Leadership:** Teen council group for ages 11-17 which performs community service, develops leadership and life skills, and takes college tours.



Information

Pinellas County Sheriff's PAL
 10750 Ulmerton Road
 Largo, FL 33778

Emergency 911
 Pinellas County Sheriff's Office 727-582-6200
 Police Athletic League 727-582-5854

www.pinellascountypal.com

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Service by calling toll free 1-800-436-7352 with the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state.



Pinellas County Sheriff's Office

PAL

Police Athletic League

"Leading The Way For A Safer Pinellas"

PAL History

The first Police Athletic League (PAL) was founded in New York City in 1914 to offer inner-city youth some positive experiences, which involved law enforcement. Today the PAL serves more than one and a half million young people, ages 5 to 18.

The organization has over 300 law enforcement agencies servicing over 700 cities and 1,700 facilities throughout the United States including the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, as well as Canada.

PAL began knowing that the program would influence the youngsters significantly. Police involvement and supervision at children's places of play and classrooms helped to position police officers as friends.

Pinellas County PAL is a volunteer-driven organization and depends in large part on support from the private sector through donations. We are a 501 C-3 charitable organization.

The Pinellas County PAL opened its doors in 2001. Since then, PAL programs have grown to fill five recreation facilities countywide and serve several thousand children. Generous business partners and other supporters have all contributed to the success of this program in Pinellas County.



Deputy Craig Corry congratulates the PAL team at the tennis Rallyball Tournament.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Pinellas County PAL is to offer the youth of Pinellas County alternatives to violence, gang involvement and substance abuse. Our education, recreation, community service and sports programs serve as the foundation for the development of leadership skills, good citizenship and good sportsmanship. They also introduce opportunity, motivation and direction for the children.

The Pinellas County Sheriff's PAL serves all children even though our main target is the at-risk youth from a low-income to poverty level family. We offer recreation, sports and education though law enforcement. Our goal is to keep reaching out to as many children as we can so they may have the opportunity to have fun, grow, and learn from our programs.



This PAL group had a great time at the circus.

Be A Sponsor

Whether it is baseball, basketball, hockey or any one of our mentoring programs, PAL welcomes the support of our volunteers and partners in the business community. Thanks to the generosity of our citizens, PAL is able to provide a variety of services to children who need guidance, enjoy sports, or after school help. If you, your business or civic organization would like to learn more about becoming a Pinellas County Sheriff's PAL sponsor, please contact the Director's Office at 727-582-5854, or visit the PAL website at www.pinellascountypal.com.

Through A Child's Eyes

By joining The Pinellas County Sheriff's PAL, at-risk children often enjoy experiences and opportunities they would not otherwise have in their home environment.



"Through A Child's Eyes" recounts experiences by children who had never been to a restaurant or who, without PAL, would not have enjoyed a traditional Thanksgiving Day meal.

One pint-sized track and field competitor was overhead telling his mother about the trip he took with other PAL children to a track meet away from home. He was excited about traveling in a big van, and staying overnight in a hotel with his PAL friends. But the best part, he said, was going to the restaurant for breakfast. "There was a big long table with lots of different food, and we could eat anything we wanted," he said.

In another story, one Thanksgiving Day would have come and gone for some children had it not been for the arrival of donated turkeys at the PAL After School Care Program. The program counselors recall the bright-eyed youngsters waiting in line to receive their turkey. Some of the children had no transportation home, but managed to carry the turkey in their backpacks, or while riding their skateboards. One five year old struggled to carry his prize in a bag slung over his back – but he was determined to bring home Thanksgiving dinner.



The PAL motto is "Youth, Sports, Recreation and Education Through Law Enforcement". PAL makes an impact in the lives of these children by affording them a positive experience with the world outside their own.



Friendships are formed at PAL.