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March 2010



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Latest News

Police, Probation and Detention: A Case Study in Collabora

(August 6, 2009)



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by [Jamaal Abdul-Alim](#)

If you run a youth-serving agency in Portland, Ore., the police really are they're probably a lot friendlier than you might find in other jurisdiction

What else to make of an initiative where, so far this year, some 40 new-recruits are handing out muffins instead of donning sets of handcuffs?

This is what's happening under a new initiative where officers-in-training local agencies, such as after-school program and food distribution sites.

One of the rules? The cops-to-be cannot look like cops when in service

Sgt. David Virtue of the Portland Police Bureau's Training Division said community-based agencies is helping them build better relationships th their police work. But he didn't pretend that everyone is always 100 per arrangement. On the CBO side, he said, some people wonder, "What ar from the police perspective, he said, officers sometimes question wheth based agency is "real" police work.

Getting soon-to-police officers to serve muffins at transient centers? "T Virtue said.

In Portland, other panelists at the same workshop said, they're also worl young girls involved in prostitution as victims instead of perpetrators. T after the real perpetrators - the pimps - the system isn't designed to hold compassionate enough to lead the young girls to cooperate with the pro:

But things are beginning to turn around, because at least now officials r when the only way to get a girl to testify against a pimp is to put a "mat keep her in detention, says Multnomah County Judge Nan Waller.

"Instead, we're working on a way to resolve the issue without having to young women in a way that hopefully they will recover from the traum: Waller said.

Along those lines, the judge said, officials are working on creating shel young girls who've been prostituted and, at the same time, are effective in court proceedings against the adults who exploited them.

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