
NEWS RELEASE

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LOCAL YOUTH AND LAW ENFORCEMENT BUILD COMMUNITY WITH BASKETBALL IN COLLEGE PARK, MD

COLLEGE PARK, Md. - The CP Dream Team, a University of Maryland initiative designed to showcase relationships between community youth and local law enforcement officials through food, fun, and friendly basketball games, will host its quarterly game on Friday, May 12 at 7:00 p.m. at the College Park Community Center. Local youth will play with officers from University of Maryland Police Department, Prince George's County Police Department and The M-NCPPC Park Police in an effort to build trust, camaraderie and mutual respect.

To recognize [National Police Week](#), the game will begin with a moment of silence to honor those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice. Friday's program will include door prizes and a halftime performance from the Paint Branch Elementary School *Busy Bee Bucket Band*. This ensemble resulted from a collaboration between the University of Maryland School of Music's SHARP program and local elementary schools.

"This is one of the office's best projects ever," states Gloria Aparicio Blackwell, director of the university's Office of Community Engagement. "It has been incredible to see the CP Dream Team grow into a regular event that the participants look forward to attending. We are now in the process of adding an educational component to be implemented in the near future."

The CP Dream Team is a partnership between UMD, The M-NCPPC College Park Community Center, Lakeland Community Heritage Project, Embry Center for Family Life, and local law enforcement agencies and was previously featured on the [BigTen Network](#) and at a [Maryland Women's Basketball](#) game. The initiative is also made possible with the support of Prince George's County Police Athletic League, a new key partner.

For more information about the CP Dream Team, visit: vpaf.umd.edu/current-projects/cp-dream-team

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