

D.A.R.E.

D.A.R.E. Officer Deb Martin

Boone County Sheriff's Office

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D.A.R.E. Indiana: Why did you decide to become a D.A.R.E. Officer?

D.A.R.E. Officer Martin: When I joined the Department my goal was to work with children. D.A.R.E. gives me the perfect way to work with kids.

D.A.R.E. Indiana: Were you a D.A.R.E. student?

D.A.R.E. Officer Martin: No D.A.R.E. was not around when I went to school. I wish it were. My son is a D.A.R.E. graduate.

D.A.R.E. Indiana: How many years have you been a law enforcement officer?

D.A.R.E. Officer Martin: 18 years.

D.A.R.E. Indiana: How many years have you been a D.A.R.E. Officer?

D.A.R.E. Officer Martin: 14 years.

D.A.R.E. Indiana: Which D.A.R.E. curriculums do you teach?

D.A.R.E. Officer Martin: K-4, 5th grade and Middle School.

D.A.R.E. Indiana: How many students do you teach each year?

D.A.R.E. Officer Martin: 1,200 students.

D.A.R.E. Indiana: What is the most rewarding thing about being a D.A.R.E. Officer?

D.A.R.E. Officer Martin: I've been doing this long enough to have kids come back to see me after High School Graduation and tell me that because something I told them in D.A.R.E. class they made a choice to do the right thing and now they are doing great and are doing well. I love getting a note from one of my D.A.R.E. students telling me what they are doing, some are in the military, some in college and I've even had some bring their babies to see me. That's what's so rewarding about teaching D.A.R.E., knowing that I've made a positive impact on these kids.

D.A.R.E. Indiana: What are the most important aspects of the curriculum? Why?

D.A.R.E. Officer Martin: I think it's the decision making model because if we can teach kids to start making good decisions not only about drugs but day to day decisions they will have a better chance for success. It's when they make poor decisions about the daily things, doing school work, who they hang out with, being respectful, that leads to poor choices in everything they do.

D.A.R.E. Indiana: What is your favorite part of the D.A.R.E. program?

D.A.R.E. Officer Martin: All of it! Working with other D.A.R.E. Officers is so much fun and I've made some of the best friends I have ever had. The teachers I work with are amazing and have also become good friends. Probably my favorite part is the D.A.R.E. kids, I can be having the worst day and stop into one of my elementary schools and within minutes that changes! You can't have a bad day when kids are smiling at you and asking for me to "give them five" or hugging me. I can walk into the Jr/Sr High School and have kids stop by to ask how I'm doing or tell me what's going on with them or just give me a smile and a wave, that's when I realize I have one of the best jobs ever.

