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Big Brothers Big Sisters of Athens receives \$16,000 in Community-Police Grant Funding

Columbus - The Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) presented Big Brothers Big Sisters of Athens \$16,403.78 in Community-Police Relations funding for its Youth in Leadership Program.

Over the next year, Ohio is awarding more than \$400,000 in grants to strengthen community-police relations. Examples of programs awarded include: community-policing initiatives; training; juvenile-mentoring programs; education and awareness tools; and evidence-based policing strategies.

All agencies receiving grants have agreed to become certified through the Ohio Collaborative Law Enforcement Agency Certification through the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board. Within the first few months of the certification process, nearly 150 Ohio law enforcement agencies have applied and are now undergoing review to fully adopt and implement the state standards established by the Ohio Collaborative. To date, more than 30 agencies have been provisionally or fully certified.

For more information on the Ohio Collaborative or the OCJS Ohio Community-Police Relations Grant Program, please visit the [OCJS website](http://www.ocjs.ohio.gov).

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