

Portland Police Bureau



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East Portland ESL Driver's Education Program



Sgt. David Abrahamson

- PPB is currently responding to a large volume of crashes from Immigrants/ Refugees/New Portlanders (IRNP's)



- Most are self-taught drivers and are not familiar with local laws & not properly equipped to drive



- ODOT subsidy for driver's education only applies to students under 18 and is usually only taught in English
- IRNP's over the age of 18 do not have the opportunity to learn traffic safety with accessible training



It is estimated that 15% of hit and run suspects in Portland are IRNPs

Multnomah County Court in 2013:

- 8106 requests for interpreter service
- 17 different languages



Oregon Judicial Department & 2012 US Census Bureau Study indicate:

- 14 – 24% in Portland Metro Area actively speak a foreign language in their home
- As many as 17% were foreign born



They need to drive, because transportation options are severely limited in East Portland

Out of necessity for employment, many immigrants start driving in their early 20's – the majority unlicensed



Grants Obtained



Addressing Disparity



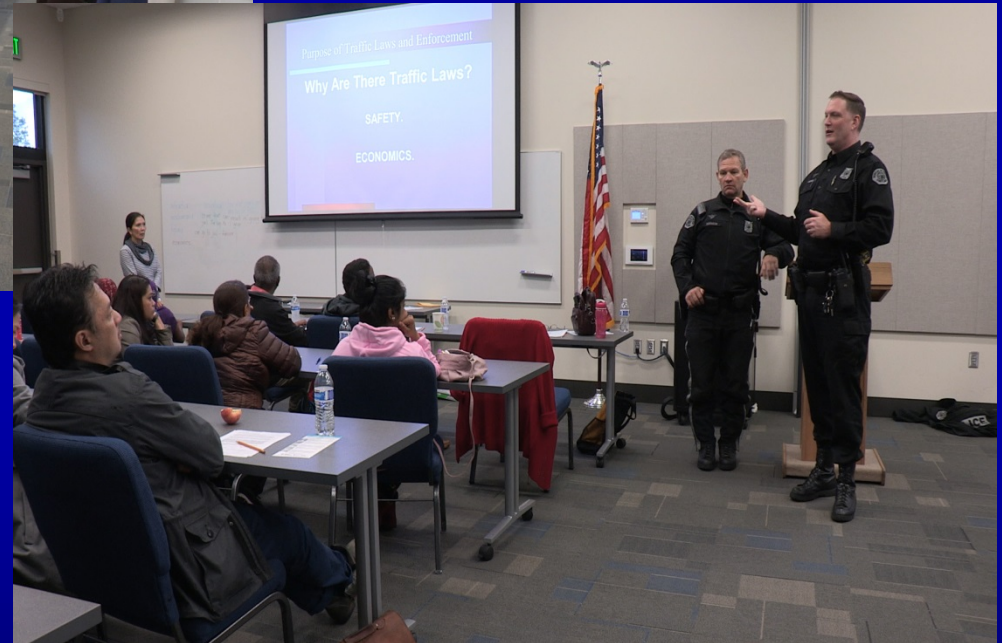
Equipping



Creating Safer Roadways



25 Nations represented



Relationships Built

The ominous presence of the police uniform has been broken down and pre-dispositions removed between police and IRNPs



Our hope is that students who complete the course will take the training back to their families & communities



... and that a ripple effect will occur within their culture



This project has equipped IRNP's from our diverse East Portland ESL communities with resources, services, and the skills required to drive safely in our community

This grant will act as a catalyst and created more equitable opportunities for IRNP's



Contact Information

