

Beat Cop Andy Kunding



I have been with the Sheboygan Police Department for 14 years. Before being transferred to the Beat Officer Position, I was the School Resource Officer at Sheboygan South High School.

In 2016, the Sheboygan Police Department received a grant to create a Beat Officer position. I was selected to develop this position in four South side neighborhoods including King Park, Franklin Park, The Flats, and Indiana Corridor. One of the main goals in the first year of this program was to build community trust and develop neighborhood associations while increasing community involvement.

In 2016, the Beat Officer position helped guide the way for new neighborhood groups in King Park, The Flats and Indiana Corridor. In addition to monthly meetings these neighborhoods have begun to organize community events such as neighborhood clean ups and block parties. I have seen firsthand the growing number of residents involved in these neighborhoods and the effort by those residents to take more pride in the community.

One of my main goals is to connect with the youth of our community. This year I have been able to spend many hours at Longfellow Elementary School and the Boys and Girls Club building these relationships. This position has allowed me to be innovative and has provided me with the freedom to create new programs. One of my favorites is "Reading with Beat Cop Andy." This gives me the opportunity to stress the importance of reading while teaching our youth about police officers and other important social issues.

The Beat Officer position was also instrumental in the creation of two new annual community outreach events. The first "Cops and Bobbers" event was held on June 25, 2016. This event included 20 children ages seven to 13 and their families getting to fish alongside SPD Officers at the Kohler Andrae State Park.

In addition, the first annual "Operation Blue Santa" was held on December 10, 2016. Four families with 12 school age children were provided with needed gifts by Blue Santa and families were provided a Christmas meal delivered by SPD Officers.

In 2016 the Beat Officer Position has been greatly supported by community stakeholders and its success is a true indication of how our community cares for each other.

For more information on the position and Beat Cop Andy please friend me on Facebook at [@BeatCopAndy](https://www.facebook.com/BeatCopAndy)