

WHAT IS COPE?

The Grand Prairie Police Department's COPE initiative stands for "Community Outreach Partnership and Education." This information-sharing program allows first responders to have immediate access to helpful information when encountering those in a mental health crisis. Our first responders are dedicated to partnering with our citizens with disabilities, and it is our proactive goal to have a program in place to assist. In the event a person is unable to properly identify themselves, or becomes lost/disoriented, or might act in a manner that could be misinterpreted by first responders, this information could be accessed rapidly.

HOW DOES COPE WORK?

This is a 100% VOLUNTARY program with a registration process online and in-person. Citizens are able to provide demographic information, a current digital picture of themselves or loved one, and emergency contacts along with supporting medical documentation. If a police officer encounters a person enrolled in COPE, the officer can query an in-house confidential database searching by name, location or license plate. Once the individual's information has been located, the officer can appropriately assist the person.

COPE INITIATIVE



WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN COPE?

This program is designed for members in our community who might have difficulty expressing needs or may require assistance from first responders. Disabilities include Alzheimers/dementia, Autism, intellectual developmental disabilities, and mental health disorders.

HOW TO APPLY/ENROLL

To begin the enrollment process, apply for the COPE Program online at <https://www.grandprairiepolice.org/services/cope-program>

To enroll someone other than yourself, you must provide paperwork showing legal representation. Once the application has been submitted, a meeting will be scheduled with the GPPD Crisis Response Supervisor to complete the registration process. We strongly encourage updated photographs of enrolled persons and supporting medical documentation be uploaded with the application.

UPDATING INFORMATION IN COPE

Partnership is important to us. We ask that you update early and often. It is strongly encouraged to keep first responders informed with the most recent information on file. Help us help you by updating photographs of enrolled persons every six months, make changes to addresses, phone numbers, emergency contacts, or other any other important information immediately.

Please submit updates to Crisis Response Supervisor C. Runnels at crunnels@gptx.org or call 972-237-8828.

