

Civic Engagement - Bring Your Child/Grandchild To Work Day
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Every year, our Human Resources Department coordinates a “Bring Your Child/Grandchild To Work Day”. The recent August 17th event educated 25 children on the functions of County government and showed our youth the experiences of their parents/grandparents work day. The children toured Company 1 Fire Department, witnessed a fire extinguisher demonstration and drone flight, visited the Emergency Communications Center, investigated a mock crime scene (who is eating my candy?), pet Coal the Therapy Dog, and toured the Police Department and Courthouse. After lunch, the group played games in Scott Park and spent some time in the adult’s workplace.

My nine year old daughter participated in this event and I had the opportunity to attend most of the functions. An interesting thing happened as I mingled with the co-workers and spouses, they began asking me questions about various County projects and activities occurring within our community. The day formulated for children gave me the opportunity to interact with adults related to our team but, not necessarily on the County government’s working front line. From information on fiber broadband construction to new businesses to summer activities, the time spent interacting with the public was a one-to-one opportunity that I did not anticipate.

There will be times when we do not expect the questions, especially at an internal event. For me, this was a reminder that we are always on call for the public. Sometimes, the best civic engagement opportunities are with our own team and their families. It reinforces the positive local achievements and allows a chance to show the employee’s family how their County worker continues to contribute to our success.