Improving Police and Minority Community Relations

The LECC is currently partnering with CJPRI and the Salem Police Department to develop a guidebook for Oregon law enforcement on building community relations efforts. The guidebook is being developed in a collaborative manner, seeking input from citizens, law enforcement professionals, and community organization leaders, in order to ensure that all perspectives are taken into account. This guidebook will be a comprehensive booklet that will discuss the importance of police-citizen relationship building and address issues such as: assessing inner department support and readiness for community outreach efforts, gaining support from city managers or commissioners, the role of the media, identifying department resources and key people, identifying concerns and the best strategies for communication in individual communities, and evaluating progress. This guidebook is expected to be complete and available in early 2011.

For more information about this effort, please contact Emma Covelli at (503) 725-5221 or narr@pdx.edu.