

Article from the Post-Standard
“Bike Giveaway expands and partners with Syracuse Police”
by Laura Hand
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Syracuse Police Officer Jenny Terrero was able to replace Carter Everson's stolen bike through the Bike Giveaway program. Now, that program is expanding in an effort to rebuild police relationships with the community. Bike donations are being accepted this weekend

The Central New York-wide bike donation program, which provides bicycles to needy Syracuse residents, is expanding to a year-round effort in partnership with Syracuse Police.

Officer Jenny Terrero says it's a great way to rebuild relationships with people in the community. She reached out to Jan Maloff, who runs the Central New York Family Bicycle Giveaway, and he has gotten funding and help to run the program. He hopes that police mentoring children will also help build more positive relationships in the community.

Carter Everson has already gotten a donated bike, after his was stolen. He's spent much of this summer re-painting and fixing up the donation, and sharing his progress with Officer Terrero. She says that others in the community who've had bikes stolen (over 100 in the past year, according to Syracuse Police records) or needy people, children or adults, can reach out to police working in their neighborhoods to also request bicycles.

Carter told us that one thing he's learned from the experience, is to lock up his bike (he's also gotten a new locking chain with the bike). Syracuse Police encourage all city bike owners to register bicycles at City Hall Commons, as a way of identifying them and getting them returned in case of theft. You must bring the bike in, to be photographed, and there's a \$10 fee, which will be waived for children who are crime victims and part of the new program.

This coming weekend, there's a bike dropoff at East Syracuse Chevrolet (Saturday 9 -4, Sunday 9 - 3) at the Bridge Street dealership. Maloff hopes to get 1,000 donations, which he says will carry the program through the year. He's also welcoming volunteers to help clean up and refurbish the donations. (Maloff can be reached at 446-7570)