



## POLICE-YOUTH DIALOGUES TOOLKIT

# Icebreaker for Police Officers: Time Warp

*Icebreakers can help participants be prepared to consider issues and concerns from different points of view. This icebreaker can be used with police during the preparation sessions to begin considering the mindset of the young people they will be working with during the dialogue.*

### Directions

Ask officers to go back in time to when they were 14, 15, or 16 years old. Guide them through some questions to help them remember their experiences as a teen. Suggested questions include the following:

- How did you spend your free time?
- What was something you were proud of?
- What was something you struggled with?
- What adults were most important in your life, and why?
- What encounters did you have with police officers at this age?

Then ask the officers to introduce themselves as their teenage selves, sharing their name, school, and favorite recreational activities.

This project was supported by cooperative agreement number 2012-CK-WX-K032 awarded by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, U.S. Department of Justice.

Recommended citation:

Center for Court Innovation. 2015. "Icebreaker for Police Officers: Time Warp." *Police-Youth Dialogues Toolkit*. Washington, DC: Office of Community Oriented Policing Services.

Published 2015