

Mike Wombacher

The Cedar Rapids Police Protective Association has been in existence since the 1930's. The CRPPA originated as a widow and orphan's fund. The CRPPA now helps not only the needs of officers and their families but also extends to community needs. We want the community to know that our officers keep the community safe, care about what happens here and take an active part in the community.

Tim Davis did not ask for this to happen or for him and his family to be in the center of the limelight. The CRPPA was not prepared for what happened to Tim or what his family had to go through both emotionally and financially. But we did learn a valuable lesson and are taking corrective actions.

As Stephanie said, we are establishing a Downed Officers Fund. The idea behind this fund is to help the CRPPA support officers when they are injured in the line of duty. In the past, we have had a number of officers that have been injured for extended periods of time and have suffered financial losses due to these injuries and there was nothing available to help.

The fund will try to help bridge the gaps between the officer's wages or earnings and their expenses they will incur. For example, while Tim was at the University of Iowa Hospitals, a portion of the money raised by the fundraisers was used to help pay for Stephanie's stay the Rossi House.

The CRPPA was truly overwhelmed by the public's support in all of the fundraisers. The CRPPA is a non-profit organization comprised of current and retired officers that sponsors other fundraising events as well. Some of these events include the annual Shop with a Cop and Santa Cop. This has allowed kids to shop with a cop for back to school clothes and supplies and then again at Christmas for winter clothing and a toy. Among some of the other programs, we support the Rabner Ranch in Ft. Dodge and Families Helping Families here in Cedar Rapids. We try to bring the community and police officers together, making them allies instead of enemies.

As I said earlier, Tim Davis did not ask for this to happen and the CRPPA was not prepared for this, but with the Downed Officers Fund, we will be better prepared if an officer is seriously injured again and with Tim and Stephanie's donation, we are off to a great start.

We appreciate your past support and look for your support in the future.