

## **Another Year of Rebuilding Shattered Lives**

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Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.) mission since 1984 has been to “rebuild the shattered lives” of the surviving family members of law enforcement officers who have made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty. C.O.P.S. helps the officers’ survivors by providing emotional support and healing programs needed to cope with a sudden, and often violent, death. C.O.P.S. aids the surviving family members through grief retreats, conferences during National Police Week, scholarships, and strong peer support...survivors helping survivors, the foundation on which the organization was built.

C.O.P.S. provided seven hands-on programs in 2009 for just about every category of survivor. C.O.P.S. Kids Camp was held for surviving children ages 6-14, Outward Bound® for surviving teens ages 15-20, and retreats for adult children, siblings, spouses, parents, and in-laws. Starting in 2010, C.O.P.S. will host an inaugural affected co-workers’ retreat. All programs provided by C.O.P.S. are free of charge; the price paid is already too high.

In 2009, C.O.P.S. spent \$307,500 on hands-on programs and \$327,850 at National Police Week. A total of \$635,350 was spent in 2009 for C.O.P.S.’s healing grief retreats and counseling. C.O.P.S. also awarded \$102,788 in scholarships.

C.O.P.S. Kids Camp was held July 27-August 2, in East Troy, Wisconsin, at the Salvation Army Lake Camp. Kids Camp had 206 survivors and a staff of 44 with an average cost of \$609 per person. Outward Bound® was held July 26-August 3, white-water rafting in Grand Junction, Colorado. Outward Bound® had 42 attendees and 4 mentors with an average cost of \$1,733 per person. The adult children, siblings, spouses, and in-laws retreats were all held in Potosi, Missouri, at the YMCA Trout Lodge. The Adult Children’s Retreat was held June 26-29, 25 were in attendance with an average cost of \$624 per person. The Siblings’ Retreat was held September 11-14, with 64 in attendance and an average cost of \$542 per person. The Surviving Spouses’ Getaway was held September 18-21, with 90 spouses attending and the average cost per person was \$500. The In-Laws Retreat was held October 16-19, with 25 attending and the average cost of \$558 per person. The Parents’ Retreat was held in Little Rock, Arkansas at the C.A. Vines Arkansas 4-H Center, October 30-November 2, there were 196 parents at the retreat with an average cost of \$391 per person. At these retreats, survivors attend grief seminars led by mental health professionals and find great support from their peers. The afternoon programs provided at the retreats help the survivors to learn new outdoor skills and rebuild self-esteem which is often destroyed with the sudden, violent death of a loved one. The vast majority of survivors attending C.O.P.S.’ programs say the weekends initiate positive change in their lives.

C.O.P.S. also holds a two-day grief conference each May during National Police Week in Washington, DC. In 2009, C.O.P.S. spent \$327,850 to provide support to the nation’s law enforcement survivors during National Police Week. Over 2,000 survivors attended that event.

C.O.P.S. is a national, nonprofit 501(c)3 organization with 50 chapters throughout the United States. C.O.P.S. membership is comprised of more than 15,000 surviving families; and, unfortunately, that membership continues to grow as 140-160 law enforcement officers are killed every year in the line of duty.

Visit C.O.P.S.' website, [www.nationalcops.org](http://www.nationalcops.org), for more information on the organization and the programs offered to America's surviving law enforcement families.