



San Marcos Fire Department News

630 E. Hopkins
San Marcos, Texas 78666

May 28, 2023

Community Partnerships: How State Farm is Helping the San Marcos Fire Department continue its Junior Fire Academy

The San Marcos Fire Department is thrilled to have received the 2023 State Farm Good Neighbor Citizenship Company Grant, which provided them with \$10,000 in funding for their annual Junior Fire Academy summer program. SMFD's Junior Fire Academy prepares young people for a future in firefighting and helps educate the youth in fire safety. It's great to see companies like State Farm investing in the future of the San Marcos Fire Department and in the San Marcos community, as it helps to create a safer and stronger community for everyone.



The San Marcos Fire Department is excited to bring back their Junior Fire Academy after a delay due to COVID. To help provide opportunity, this program has expanded to two one-week sessions and is completely free for boys & girls that have completed 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades. The program includes all necessary materials, lunch, and snacks. It takes place at Station 5 which has plenty of outdoor space for kids to play and learn. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to get an inside look at what the San Marcos Fire Department does daily while having fun at the same time. Junior rookies learn about different aspects of firefighting and the equipment used by the firefighters. The weeklong academy also provides a chance for children to interact with positive role models, lessons in leadership, health, and the importance of making good decisions as they grow. They also make new friends. The overall goal of the program is to teach kids about leadership, teamwork, self-confidence, citizenship, and of course, fire safety.

Through the generous support from State Farm SMFD can offer our summer camp program for free. It's important to note that the median household income for San Marcos residents is \$37,593 a year, which means that most families would have a hard time affording a summer camp program. Our goal at SMFD is to make sure that every child has the chance to attend our camp, regardless of their financial situation. We want to show kids that being a firefighter is a great career choice and teach them about fire prevention in the home. With continued funding from State Farm, this program will be able to keep the momentum going forward for the outreach program.

For additional information, contact San Marcos Fire Department Administrative Coordinator Kimberly Cisneros at 512.805.2660 or email at kcisneros@sanmarcostx.gov

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