Kiwanis Aktion Club District Single Service Project Entry: 2025-26

Aktion Club of Santa Maria Blue Envelope Program

Identified a Service Need

Interactions between law enforcement officers and individuals with developmental disabilities or other conditions affecting communication many times are not positive encounters.

The Kiwanis Aktion Club of Santa Maria researched the Blue Envelope Program which is designed to foster inclusivity and enhance communication between law enforcement and individuals with disabilities. The Blue Envelope Program aims to create a safer, more informed encounter for everyone involved.

Created a Service Project Plan

The Blue Envelope Program was reviewed by the Kiwanis Aktion Club of Santa Maria members. Members discussed the need in their community and the desire for them to be part of implementing a Blue Envelope Program in Santa Maria. The first step was for the Kiwanis Aktion Club of Santa Maria to contact the Santa Maria Police Department and request a partnership to implement the Blue Envelope Program in Santa Maria.

During the month of December 2025, The Kiwanis Aktion Club of Santa Maria and the Santa Maria Police Department established a partnership that would implement the Blue Envelope Program to start on February 1, 2026.

- Blue Envelope items were purchased by the Kiwanis Aktion Club of Santa Maria. In addition to receiving donations, members assembled and sold designer pens to raise funds. The annual cost to purchase items is $3,000
- Distribution sites were established and items delivered for distribution
- Brochure developed in English and Spanish and printed by the Santa Maria Police Department to include both SMPD and Kiwanis Aktion Club logos
- Social Media page developed and maintained by Santa Maria Police Department to include both SMPD and Kiwanis Aktion Club logos
- Power point, display case and handouts created by the Kiwanis Aktion Club of Santa Maria
- Kiwanis Aktion Club of Santa Maria along with Santa Maria Police Department provided orientation of the Blue Envelope Program to all Santa Maria Police officers and Santa Maria City Rangers

Engaged Others

The Kiwanis Aktion Club of Santa Maria and the Santa Maria Police Department began the promotion of the Blue Envelope Program and the distribution of the Blue Envelope items. The Kiwanis Aktion Club of Santa Maria gave presentations and distributed Blue Envelope items through

- Kiwanis Aktion Club of Santa Maria events such as dances and socials hosted for adults with disabilities
- Kiwanis Clubs in our division as guest speakers. Requested and received donations
- Kiwanis Club Division Counsel Meetings. Provided information about the Blue Envelope Program
- Kiwanis CalNevHa two Mid-year conferences. In addition to hosting a session, Blue Envelope information was distributed at the Atkion Club booth
- Kiwanis CalNevHa annual Educational Conference. In addition to hosting a session, Blue Envelope information was distributed at the Atkion Club booth
- Hosted a booth at the Walk for Autism Awareness event
- Hosted a booth at the Walk and Roll event
- Santa Maria Police Department social media page
- Kiwanis Club of Santa Maria social media page
- Local television news report on the Blue Envelope Program in Santa Maria



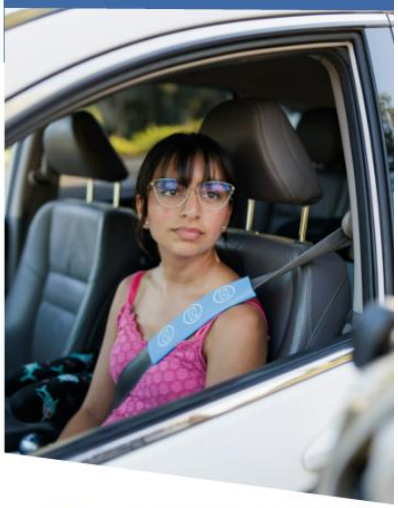
PURPOSE

The program's purpose is to assist community members with a condition or disability communicate with law enforcement or other emergency service personnel where additional accommodations or awareness could be needed.

COMMUNITY PARTNER

AKTION CLUB KIWANIS

BLUE ENVELOPE



SANTA MARIA POLICE
Our Community... Your Police

To pick up your free Blue Envelope Program material, visit:

Santa Maria Police Department:
1111 W. Betteravia Rd.
Santa Maria, Ca 93455
M-F 7:30 am- 4:30pm

Minami Community Center:
600 W. Enos Dr.
Santa Maria, Ca 93458
M-F 9am-2pm

BLUE ENVELOPE OUTREACH MATERIAL

The following items are available for free at participating locations:

- Blue Envelope
- Bracelets
- Lanyards
- Stickers
- Key Chains



BLUE ENVELOPE

HOW IT WORKS

The Blue Envelope Program allows individuals to readily display a Blue Envelope logo or present a Blue Envelope upon contact with law enforcement or other community personnel.

The Blue Envelope branded products can contain the individual's identification and contact information, or pertinent vehicle operating documents, such as vehicle registration, proof of insurance, and/or additional information.

The Blue Envelope Program does not have a registry component. Therefore, all components of the program are voluntary and self-implemented.



Impact on Member Learning
The members of the Kiwanis Aktion Club of Santa Maria learned that they can make a difference in their community. Partnering with the Santa Maria Police Department allowed the members to be part of an inclusive and valuable program.

The Blue Envelope program provided the opportunity for the members to demonstrate that the Kiwanis Aktion Club of Santa Maria is an important part of the Kiwanis family and the community.

Impact on the Community
The Blue Envelope Program is designed to foster inclusivity and enhance communication between law enforcement and individuals with disabilities that affect verbal or nonverbal communication.

For individuals with disabilities driving a vehicle, the program provides a blue envelope to place essential documents such vehicle registration and proof of insurance. The envelope also includes guidance for officers on how to reduce stress and provide accommodations during interactions, such as allowing extra time or using clear instructions.

For individuals with disabilities not driving a vehicle, other Blue Envelope items are available such as a lanyard, bracelet, sticker or key chain. Wearing/displaying any of these items while in the community will provide guidance for officers on how make the encounter a positive one.

The Blue Envelope Program partnership with the Santa Maria Police Department allows for a safer and more informed encounter where additional accommodations or awareness is beneficial.

Although the exact number of people who have benefitted is difficult to determine, the Blue Envelope Program has provided information to hundreds of individuals with disabilities and their families. Even though an encounter with law enforcement may not have occurred since learning about the Blue Envelope Program, adults with disabilities can now feel safer and more confident that if an encounter does occur, the communication will be enhanced.

The Kiwanis Aktion Club of Santa Maria has committed to an on-going partnership with the City of Santa Maria Police Department to ensure the future of the Blue Envelope Program. In addition, the Kiwanis Aktion Club of Santa Maria is in the process of expanding the Blue Envelope Program to other cities in Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties.