



Meet & Greet

The purpose of a meet & greet is to engage first responders and the autistic community in positive interactions so that during an emergency, each group feels more aware and comfortable. This is typically done after training, and can be repeated as often as possible!

PICK A COMMUNITY LOCATION

Decide where the event will be held. If inside, consider choosing a quiet space with limited doors so that families can come without worry of multiple exits. If outside, again, choose a quiet park that has clear boundaries (fences) for safety.

GATHER SUPPLIES

Be prepared to set up tables of engaging materials for all ages. We suggest police themed coloring pages, sensory play, lego, building/construction, trains, and police themed books. If providing food, consider allergies. We suggest sticking to drinks (coffee, water, juice boxes). We also suggest you have safety materials set up for the autistic community. Ideas of these can be found on our website.

INVITE COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Find ways to engage and invite the autism community in your area. Ensure that police officers or other law enforcement members will come, dressed in uniform. They will need to be briefed on the goal of the event - to mingle, get to know the autistic community, and give everyone a chance to be in the same space.

AT THE EVENT

Encourage interactions between officers and community members. Help autistic community members to sit near or say hello to officers. Have scripts ready so they can practice saying "hello" and giving personal information. Allow families to ask questions and vocalize worries. Enjoy interacting with each other!

Need more help?? PACT team members are happy to consult with you on the details of your own event. Just submit a form on our website and we will reach out to you!