

Eddie Eagle AND THE WING TEAM

Quarterly Newsletter

Fall 2023

August is National Shooting Sports Month!

It's no secret that we at the NRA are advocates of the shooting sports across all ages and disciplines. One of our main missions is to educate everyone on the responsible and safe handling of guns. As Eddie Eagle volunteers, participating agencies, and community members, you know firsthand the value of this mission. You are the frontline teaching the youngest and most vulnerable among us how to keep themselves and those around them safe. In celebration of National Shooting Sports Month and your continued efforts, we are bringing back a quarterly Eddie Eagle Gunsafe Program newsletter. This will be a simple format for us to share events and announcements that are on the horizon, spotlight some of the great things happening in your communities, share articles that are relevant to Eddie's message, as well as, connecting all of us that strive to achieve this vital mutual mission. We extend our thanks to all of you for continuing to protect the children in our communities.

Get Your Materials!

As schools are starting across the country, we are getting busier with processing orders for Eddie Eagle printed materials! This is a great thing, but it also means that it may take more time to get the orders processed. So, don't wait to order! Please give us 3-4 weeks for your order to be delivered in time for your presentation or event. Materials may be ordered through our [NRA Program Materials Center \(nrahq.org\)](https://www.nrahq.org/ProgramMaterials).

Remember: Law enforcement, schools, hospitals, libraries, fire departments and other non-profit organizations may receive free materials thanks to NRA Foundation grant funds. To receive more information on receiving free materials contact our office at eddie@nrahq.org.



Law Enforcement, Fire Departments, EMS and School Administration

Can now purchase the Eddie Eagle Mascot Costume!

You heard that right! It is no longer restricted to only law enforcement agencies! We want to give you the opportunity to really get the kids excited and involved in your Eddie Eagle message.

Please reach out to us at eddie@nrahq.org for more information.

Hometown Spotlight

Mollie Harris is the Violence Prevention Manager with the Nurturing Children Program through CHI Saint Joseph Health in Kentucky. She works with a grant that focuses on preventing and reducing child related deaths. In the past they have focused on safe sleep, providing education for parents to become more nurturing, ensuring safe storage of medications, etc. Their grant had been expanded. So, they wanted to focus on gun safety, which is yet another important topic. In her search for ideas on how to address this important topic she found the NRA's Eddie Eagle Gunsafe Program. Last year on September 1st, Mollie reached out to us to start the program in her community. She liked that the program doesn't push an agenda. It isn't pro-gun or anti-gun. It just focuses on a simple message of safety, which can resonate with any parent.

She partnered with Knox County Sheriff Department and together they purchased the Eddie Eagle mascot costume for use with the presentations. She started by speaking with a local school agency and presented the material to the Superintendent for approval. They then identified a pilot location to present the program. The success at that location led them into presenting at the rest of Knox County School District. It was so well received that they then approached another nearby district to seek approval from their schools. They will begin implementing Eddie Eagle to all eleven Laurel County elementary schools this school year. This brings the total number of schools to 18 elementary schools receiving this life-saving message. Mollie stated her favorite thing about the Eddie Eagle Gunsafe Program is:

"I love the interaction with the students, teachers, and local law enforcement. We were able to utilize our SROs in the school district, local police department and Kentucky State police to assist with Eddie. It makes for a positive interaction for all. Children have loved the presentation we provide; it's engaging for all ages. We loved partnering with the local schools and seeing prevention education unfold before our eyes."

Her favorite experience presenting the Eddie Eagle program so far is:

"Afterwards having teachers and parents send us videos of the children singing Eddie's song "Stop, Don't touch, Run away, tell a grown up" throughout the halls, in the pick-up lines and days after. We worked at a back-to-school event where Eddie was present, and children were running up to Eddie and singing the song they remembered from 6 months prior."

They plan to continue to expand into even more school and community events. She feels that this is a way to open a conversation with not only children, but their parents and families. We are excited at what they have accomplished in just a year, and we look forward to seeing what they continue to do in the future.



Eddie Eagle in the News

[How to talk to young children about gun safety | kens5.com](https://www.kens5.com)

[Did the Mainstream Media Just Endorse an NRA Program? | An Official Journal Of The NRA \(americas1stfreedom.org\)](https://americas1stfreedom.org)

[Saint Joseph London Nurturing Children Program expands Eddie Eagle GunSafe Program to all elementaries in Knox County School District | Community | sentinel-echo.com](https://sentinel-echo.com)

[NRA Women | Gun Safety and Kids: NRA's Eddie Eagle Did It First—and Best](https://www.nra.org)