

The Campus Walkway as Classroom: Teaching Belonging Beyond Enforcement



LEHMAN
COLLEGE

CU
NY



Alan Orozco
Deputy Director of Public Safety

Office of Public Safety

“A kind word has the power to change the world.”

Many students don't realize they need support until they cross paths with you again on the walkway.

Take every opportunity to engage, make them feel safe, and guide them toward becoming the leaders of tomorrow through your community approach.”

— Sgt. Ed Freytes

Lehman College PS

“A kind word has the power to change the world. Many students don’t realize they need support until they cross paths with you again on the walkway. Take every opportunity to engage, make them feel safe, and guide them toward becoming the leaders of tomorrow through your community approach.”

— Sgt. Ed Freytes

Lehman College PS





- We are the first faces.
- The walkway is a shared crossroads where visibility, safety, and belonging take shape.



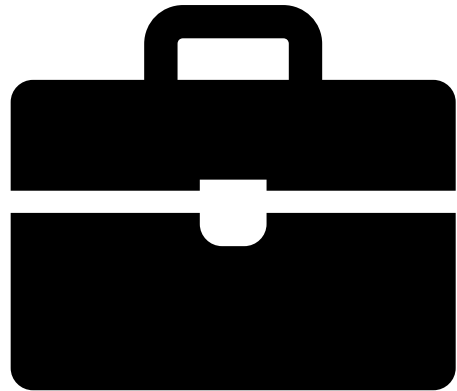
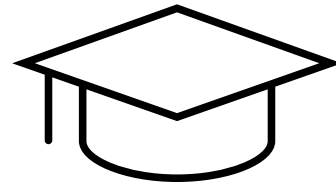
The Walkway as a Living Classroom

The walkway is where belonging is taught.

Did you know that at CUNY, Public Safety Safety Officers are also **students, alumni, or alumni, or faculty members** themselves.

Connection is created; meeting students where they are and reinforcing a culture of of mutual respect and care.





Understanding the Whole Student

Public Safety as Educators of First Contact

Presence

Consistent, visible engagement that builds familiarity and trust over time

Relationship

Genuine connection that transcends transactional encounters

Shared Responsibility

A culture where safety and belonging are co-created by the entire community



From Enforcement to Belonging

Belonging

Increases awareness
Strengthens safety
Builds belonging
Public Safety is essential

The Pillars of Community Policing

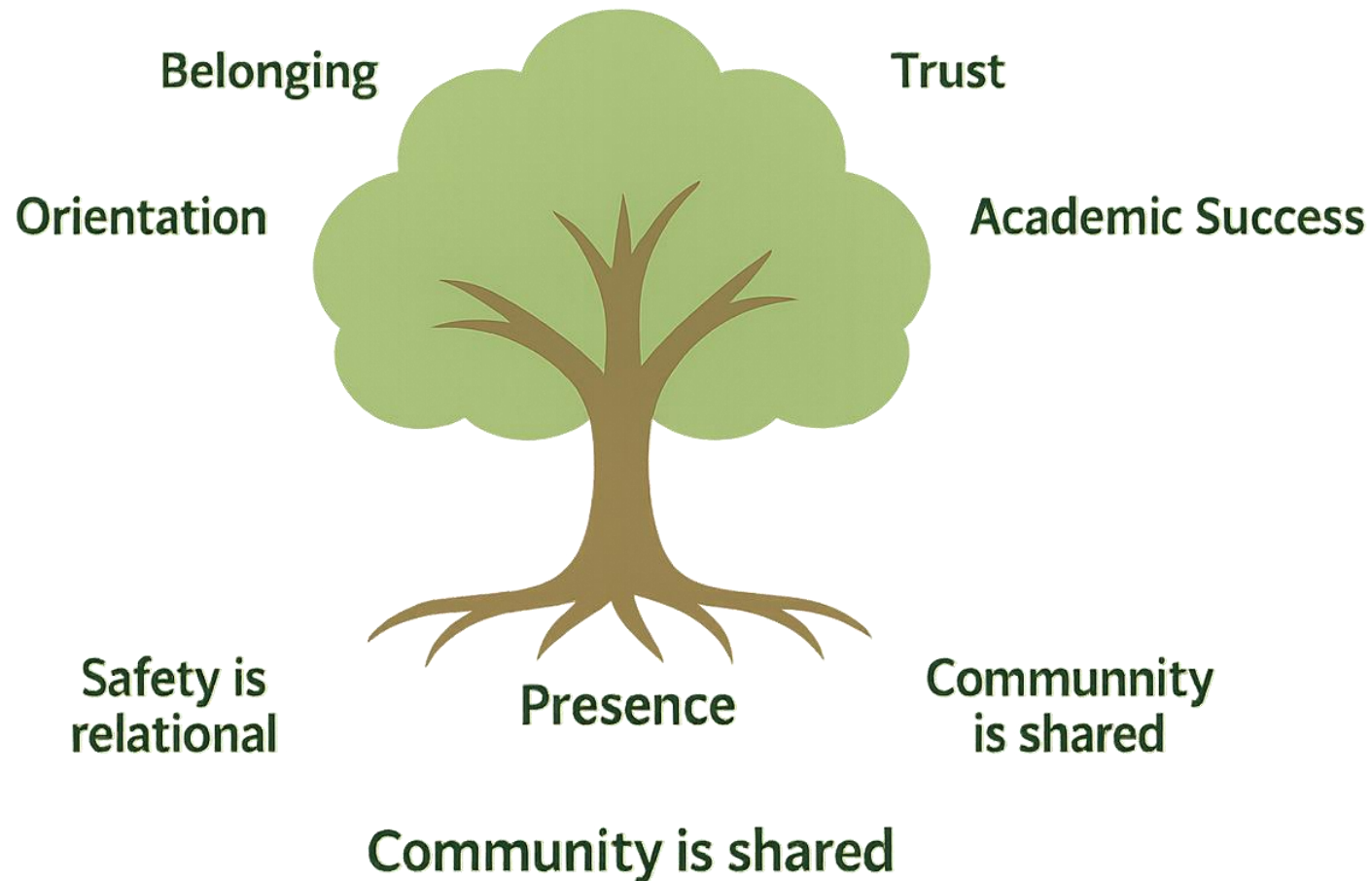


What This Approach Builds



Academic Success Is Rooted in Belonging

Public Safety is not separate from the campus— we are part of the student experience, the community, and the path to academic success.



Questions?

Thank you!