



CRIMESTOPPER INFORMATION

Crime Stoppers was formed in 1976 in Albuquerque, New Mexico by a homicide detective named Greg MacAleese. He was working the homicide of a service station attendant, who was killed during an armed robbery. The police had no leads at all. Det. MacAleese had ties to the media and convinced the police chief to let him do a re-enactment of the crime. This re-enactment was viewed by a person who contacted the police and this information led to the arrest and conviction of two men that had committed not only that robbery and murder, but had also committed several other armed robberies in the area.

Since that time, the Crime Stoppers program has expanded to an international level; there are over 1700 programs in 23 countries.

The program in Grant County was started in May of 1987. Since that time:

Over 3250 calls have been received.

Over 600 cases have been cleared.

Over 550 subjects have been arrested.

Over \$320,000.00 worth of stolen property has been recovered.

Over \$11,150,000.00 worth of drugs has been seized, that will not be sold on our streets.

Over \$60,000.00 in reward money has been paid.

There are three essential parts of a Crime Stopper program – the community because the citizens make up the board of directors (all volunteers) that oversee the program and conduct fundraising activities. The media helps by promoting and broadcasting the "crimes of the week". The third element is law enforcement. They are responsible for taking and processing the tips that are called in.

How Crime Stoppers works:

Subjects in Grant County can call the Sheriff's Department, Marion Police Department, or 1-800-237-7867 (Fort Wayne) to give information.

Subjects can give information 24 hours a day. When they call in, they are assigned a "tip" or code number. This tip number is used in subsequent calls to Crime Stoppers and if and when any reward is paid to the caller. All callers remain anonymous, with no pressure to reveal their identity, and still collect their rewards. The tipster is asked to call back in to check on the disposition of their information.

Their information is referred to the law enforcement agency investigating the crime. If the caller's information results in the felony arrest or indictment of someone, the tipster is eligible to receive a cash reward.

Eligible tips are voted on by board members and the amount of the reward is based on several factors.

Crime Stoppers is a non-profit organization and is funded entirely through fund raisers and donations. Monies raised are used to pay rewards and for operating expenses.