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## Marshalltown continues successful social worker program



Updated: 2:40 PM CST Dec 30, 2021

**MARSHALLTOWN, Iowa** — The city of Marshalltown has a program that employs social workers in the city's police department.

The program is called the Marshalltown Police and Community Team, MPACT for short. It began last year after the George Floyd Protests when the Marshalltown Police Department listened to feedback from the community on how to improve their policing.

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MPACT puts social workers in the police department to respond to social service-related calls. The social workers come from the Youth and Shelter Services branch in Marshalltown.

The original funding was approved in September 2020 but was only enough to get them to the end of this year. Now, the department has received a federal grant worth \$206,000 from the American Rescue Plan to keep the program running.

Police Chief Michael Tupper says the social workers have "been a great resource for us to navigate those calls and making sure we're getting people the services they need so they don't have to call 911 for those types of issues."

The social workers served over 400 people in 2021.

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## WATCH: USPS truck catches fire in Florida neighborhood



Updated: 5:23 AM CST Jan 4, 2022

Katie Sivco 

**ORANGE COUNTY, Fla.** — A postal truck caught fire last weekend in an east Orange County neighborhood in Florida and now the U.S. Postal Service is investigating the incident.

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No one was hurt and no packages were lost during the fire.

The video above taken by neighbor Jeff Smith shows the blaze on Dec. 31.

The postal worker pounded on Smith's door and begged him to call 911, Smith says.

Smith said the postal worker pulled bins filled with letters and small packages out of the van so they would not catch on fire.

Smith called her a hero for making sure the truck was out of the way of any neighbors' property.

Sister station WESH is awaiting a response from USPS on what may have caused the mail truck fire.

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