

*(To translate this text, copy/paste into [Google Translate](#).)*

UVA HR

Employee Spotlight

University Police Department

I'm Dani Lawson, the Community Engagement Specialist for University of Virginia Police Department. And so my experience with the tutoring program has been nothing short of amazing. Um I think it's been a great experience. I had a student named Sophia. She was very shy at first, very similar to my personality which is really interesting. And as we, you know, continued to do the tutoring program, she opened up a bit more so that was a really cool experience as well. It's been a humbling experience which you realize is that Greer, well what's interesting about Greer is that it's a very diverse elementary school, so there are a lot of international students. These students don't speak English. That's not um their first language. And so just being able to teach them and guide them, I think I learned a lot as well. I learned a lot of Spanish. So I think that it was this two-way street in terms of learning. I got to learn not only my student, but kind of where they come from. And then I got to share some of my personal experiences and was able to teach them through that. I think I was just really excited for the opportunity. I think it kind of caters to what we want to do at UPD, which is community-oriented policing. And so a lot of our officers, as well as myself, just had a lot of fun doing something that was outside of the traditional punitive measures that comes with law enforcement. So this is just our opportunity to fill that gap and help the community where they're needed.

UVA HR

UPD Tutoring Program

For more information, please email [police@virginia.edu](mailto:police@virginia.edu). Attention Sue Dootson.