

This class is a joint effort from the City of Kirkland, Kirkland Fire Department, Local 2545, KFFBA, Kirkland Peer Support, and Stronger Families to welcome all firefighter partners/spouses to the Kirkland Fire Department Family.

Goal:

To have the firefighter's partner feel welcomed to and informed about the Kirkland Fire Department Family.

Objective:

To be educated in the basic understanding of the following: City and Department Structure, Peer Support, Union, KFFBA and Stronger Families.

Attendees:

The class will be open to all firefighters with a spouse/partner. The Firefighter is allowed to bring one person; the preferred person is their partner/spouse. This class is not for extended family or children.

Class Video Recording:

The class will be video recorded by Stronger Families and be shared on a link for any spouse/partner that is not able to attend the scheduled class, for viewing at a later date.

Number of classes:

We recommend a maximum of 20 couples per class. The number of classes would be determined by the Fire Chief.

Fee:

Free for all attending. The cost of the class would be paid for by Kirkland Fire Department, Local 2545, and KFFBA. The estimated cost of the class is \$800 - \$1000 per class.

Location:

The location will be determined by the Fire Chief.

Structure of the Class:

Class duration 3 hours, broken down into the following:

-Working Lunch in Classroom: 30 min. with a catered lunch.

-City Structure: 10 min.

Show a chart of the city structure and who holds those spots. Provide contact information for HR, Finance, etc. Introduce the Fire Department Administration or their representative. This would be an opportunity for the firefighter's partner to meet the leaders of the department and have a better understanding of the career that their partner has chosen. Show photos and contact information of Administrative Staff.

-Department Structure: 10 min.

Who is the Chief, who are the DC, BC and Officers, what are the special operations in the department (Wildland, PPE, SCBA, HazMat, Honor Guard, Paramedic, Truck Operations, Air Unit, Safety Committee, Water Rescue, Training, etc.)

-IAFF Local 2545 and the Union: 30 min.

What is the Local, WSCFF, 7th Dist., IAFF? When did it start? What is the contract? What is a Kelly Day? What is sick leave, baby leave, L&I? What is shift work? How do I read the shift calendar? How does our insurance work? What does our retirement look like? Why don't we pay into SS? Show photos and contact information of Local 2545 Executive Board Members.

-KFFBA: 15 min.

When did it start? What is it, why do we need it, how do I get involved? Show photos and contact information of KFFBA Board Members

-Peer Support Team: 15 min.

When did it start? What is it and why do we need it? Who is on the team? Can I call them? Show photos and contact information of Peer Support Team.

-Spouse panel 45 min.

Hear from partners that have been in the department 5, 10, 15, 30 years.

-Stronger Families: 30 min.

Who are they? What do they bring to the table? What is a Spouse Support Network and how can I get involved?

Class participation certificate, and photo with partners.

Class completion.