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**AUTOMATED EXTERNAL
DEFIBRILLATOR PROGRAM
LEGISLATIVE REPORT**



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Office of the Commissioner
445 Minnesota Street, Suite 1000
North Central Life Tower
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-5000
Pam Docken, Grant Administrator
651/297-1697

AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR PROGRAM

Pursuant to the 1998 Minnesota Sessions Laws, Chapter 367, Article 1, Section 9., Subd. 6, the Department of Public Safety (DPS) for the Automated External Defibrillator(AED) Program. These funds will be used to purchase and distribute AED's to law enforcement agencies across Minnesota. Law enforcement officers are often the first responders to medical emergencies. The AED's will have a dramatic impact on emergency responder's ability to save lives.

Program Background and History

In 1990, Dr. Roger White MD, of the Mayo Clinic, found that police cars reach cardiac arrest victims two to three minutes before Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT). The critical minutes from law enforcement's arrival to the EMT's arrival can literally mean life or death to the person in need of assistance.

In response to this finding, in 1991 the Rochester Police Department equipped their police cars with AED's. Their ability to assist cardiac victims increased dramatically. Seven years after the program began Rochester reported the highest cardiac arrest survival rate in the world.

Members of the legislature found out about Rochester's successful program and sought to duplicate the unique program statewide. In 1998, Senator Randy Kelly drafted and introduced a bill to purchase and distribute AED's to local law enforcement agencies. The legislature supported the project and appropriated \$450,000 to DPS to administer the project.

To properly develop the program, the DPS Grants Coordinator attended meetings of the Central Minnesota Emergency Medical Services Council (CMEMSC). The group is a non profit organization comprised of dedicated individuals appointed by local county commissioners in a fourteen county area (appendix 1). This organization is one of eight Emergency Medical Services regions in the state of Minnesota that functions under the direction of the State of Minnesota's Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board (EMSRB). The members of the Central EMS include: county commissioners, emergency response professionals, including a medical director, representatives from ambulance services, fire departments, and representatives from law enforcement. DPS was able to gain valuable insight on the use of AED's from this group of professionals.

Next, the Grants Coordinator began the process to purchase AED's for the grant program. DPS obtained a defibrillator company AED specification sheet and with the assistance of an experienced certified AED trainer, created an original specification sheet. The specifications met FDA medical standards and addressed the needs of participating law enforcement agencies.

Once completed, the specifications were sent to members of the State of Minnesota's Medical Emergency Regulatory Board for review to insure the specifications were medically sound. DPS obtained both verbal and written comments from the specialists and incorporated the comments into the specifications. The medically reviewed specifications were forwarded to the Department of Administration for the purpose of procurement.

Procurement Process and Grant Administration

In July 1998, the AED Request for Proposal appeared in the Minnesota State Register. In addition, the Grants Coordinator sent a broadcast fax to 450 law enforcement agencies across the state, notifying them of the opportunity to apply to receive AED units from DPS. 129 law enforcement agencies responded to the RFP requesting a total of 660 AED units.

Next the process began to establish an AED vendor to purchase the AED's. In August the Department of Administration published an Request for Bid (RFB) to solicit bids from AED vendors. Three vendors responded to

the initial bidding process but, due to a technical defect and inadequate response by two of the three responding vendors, the Department of Administration rejected all submitted bids. The Department of Administration made some minor clarifications to the specifications and then posted a Request for Proposal (RFP) with a response date of early October, 1998. Three vendors responded and their bids accepted for review. All three vendors were FDA approved and met the requirements specified in the RFP.

To assure a successful outcome, staff from the Department of Administration and DPS decided that the final portion of the AED selection process would be made by a group of likely AED end users, such as policemen, deputy sheriffs and emergency responders. The evaluation team consisted of: Sergeant Jay Kimble from the Washington County Sheriff's Department, Bob Dahm, State of Minnesota Fire Marshall, Judson Freed, Director of Emergency Management for the University of Minnesota and Richard Slivik, Administration Manager for the Department of Administration. Three of the four participants had extensive experience working in the areas of law enforcement and emergency response situations.

From the three vendors the manufacturers representatives were invited to present and demonstrate their products to the evaluation team. During each presentation the evaluators scored each of the vendors products based on a variety of discriminators such as ease of use and durability.

After all the vendor presentations were completed, the evaluator's scores were totaled. The Department of Administration chose the vendor that would provide the state with the best value based on the highest score from the evaluation team and the price per unit. Based on the score, the Department of Administration awarded the contract to Heartstream/Laerdahl. DPS purchased 220 AED's at a cost of \$2,045.00 per unit.

Immediately after the contract was awarded to Heartstream/Laerdahl, the grant award process began. A committee consisting of representatives from DPS, the Minnesota Sheriff's Association, the Attorney Generals Office and the Minnesota Police Association reviewed the grant requests and made an award of at least one AED to each law enforcement agency that had applied for the grant. The committee then granted the remaining units to law enforcement agencies that demonstrated the greatest need (i.e. whether ambulance service is available in the applicant's area, population of patrol area, number of patrol cars). After the award decisions were made, letters were sent to each grantee informing them of their agencies award and the need to obtain a physician consultant, as required by statute. The is following is a list of the agencies that received one or more Automated Defibrillator from DPS:

Albany Police Department
Anoka County Sheriff
Anoka Police Department
Appleton Police Department
Atwater Police Department
Babbit Police Department
Belle Plaine Police Department
Beltrami County Sheriff
Bemidji Police Department
Big Lake Police Department
Blackduck Police Department
Braham Police Department
Brooklyn Park Police Department
Brownton Police Department
Buffalo Police Department
Burnsville Police Department
Carver County Sheriff
Cass County Sheriff
Champlin Police Department

Circle Pine-Lexington Police Department
Clay County Sheriff
Clearwater County Sheriff
Cocoran Police Department
Cottage Grove Department of Public Safety
Cross Lake Police Department
Brownton Police Department
Buffalo Police Department
Burnsville Police Department
Carver County Sheriff
Cass County Sheriff
Champlin Police Department
Circle Pine-Lexington Police Department
Clay County Sheriff
Clearwater County Sheriff
Cocoran Police Department
Cottage Grove Department of Public Safety
Cross Lake Police Department
Crystal Police Department

Dakota County Sheriff
Danube Police Department
Dassel Police Department
East Grand Forks Police Department
Eden Prairie Police Department
Eden Valley Police Department
Edina Police Department
Elbow Lake Police Department
Elgin Police Department
Elk River Police Department
Fairfax Police Department
Farmington Police Department
Fergus Falls Police Department
Fisher Police Department
Forest Lake Police Department
Frazee Police Department
Fridley Police Department
Fulda Police Department
Gaylord Police Department
Gilbert Police Department
Glencoe Police Department
Glenwood Police Department
Goodview Police Department
Granite Falls Police Department
Hastings Police Department
Hector Police Department
Hennepin Suburban Regional Park District
Hopkins Police Department
Houston Police Department
Howard Lake Police Department
Inver Grove Heights Police Department
Isanti County Sheriff
Janesville Police Department
Jordan Police Department
Kasson Police Department
Kinney Police Department
Lake Crystal Police Department
Lakeville Police Department
Le Sueur County Sheriff
Lincoln County Sheriff
Lindstrom Police Department
Litchfield Police Department
Long Prairie Police Department
Lyon County Sheriff Mahnommen Police Department
Mankato Department of Public Safety
Maple Grove Police Department
Maplewood Police Department
McLeod County Sheriff
Medina Police Department
Mendota Heights Police Department
MN State Patrol, Capitol Security
Mora Police Department

Morgan Police Department
Motley Police Department
New Ulm Police Department
New Hope Police Department
New Prague Police Department
Nicollet County Sheriff
Nisswa Police Department
Oak Park Heights Police Department
Olmstead County Sheriff
Owattona Police Department
Pine River Police Department
Plainview Police Department
Plymouth Police Department
Preston Police Department
Proctor Police Department
Ramsey Police Department
Ramsey County Sheriff
Red Wing Police Department
Redwood County Sheriff
Renville County Sheriff
Richfield Police Department
Robbinsdale Police Department
Rosemount Police Department
Sartell Police Department
Savage Police Department
Shakopee Police Department
Sherburne County Sheriff
South Lake Minnetonka Public Safety Department
Springfield Police Department
St. Cloud Police Department
St. Charles Police Department
St. Paul Police Department
Steele County Sheriff
Thief River Falls Police Department
Todd County Sheriff
Trimont Police Department
University of MN Police Department
Waseca Police Department
Washington County Sheriff
West St. Paul Police Department
West Hennepin Public Safety
White Bear Lake Police Department
Worthington Police Department
Wright County Sheriff
Wyoming Police Department

Next DPS drafted the grant agreement. During the first week of January, 1999, the agreements were finalized and sent to each grantee for signature.

Status to Date

Currently DPS is working with the medical community and the project vendor to finalize the details of the data collection reporting piece as required in session law. Training for data collection will be done in conjunction with the manufacturer's training of equipment usage. Each law enforcement agency that was awarded AED unit(s) are required to attend this training, in a "train the trainer" capacity, thus insuring proper usage and consistency of data collection through out the state.

The official start date of the program is February 15, 1999. The AED units are in the process of being shipped to DPS for distribution. Distribution of the AED units to grantees will occur within the next few weeks. DPS will collect data for a period of two years and report the findings of the data to the legislature during the 2001 legislative session.

Conclusion

Law Enforcement is very excited about this program and is eagerly awaiting shipment of their AED unit(s). This program shows a strong commitment to the well being of the citizen's of our state. It has been said by Dr. White, that not only is the country watching this pilot program, but the world is watching. The Minnesota State Legislature should be commended for their foresight in making this program possible by supplying AED unit(s) to law enforcement. Lives will be saved because of this appropriation.

ATTACHMENT 1

Central Minnesota Emergency Medical Services Council

Representing the Following Counties

Benton

Cass

Chisago

Crow Wing

Isanti

Kanabec

Mille Lacs

Morrison

Pine

Sherburne

Stearns

Todd

Wadena

Wright