

SUCCESS STORIES



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AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS (AEDS) AND CPR TRAINING

Daytona State College

Emergency managers at Daytona State College in Florida decided that teaching CPR and the installation of and training on using automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) should be high priorities in their emergency management program. Their goal was to place the AEDs in high-traffic areas and those areas around campus deemed higher risk (e.g., a swimming pool that offers classes to older residents). Using their 2007 Emergency Management in Higher Education (EMHE) grant funds, they purchased nine AEDs. As of November 2010, they have approximately 60 AEDs located within the 120 acres and 50 buildings that comprise their campus.

At first, they scheduled 10 trainings on the use of the AEDs, but due to high demand they increased this to 14 trainings, redirecting available funds in their EMHE grant. The trainings were taught by certified faculty members from the College of Health, Human and Public Services (the largest program and the biggest building on campus) and the American Heart Association (who certified participants and gave them course completion cards). The collaboration was made even easier because the college already had a close relationship with the American Heart Association (Association representatives are part of the local emergency management The training was advertised campuswide, was offered free of charge, and was open to students, staff, and faculty.

In a two-week period in May 2009, in two separate instances, AED and CPR training participants saved the lives of two campus employees by using AEDs. These participants (a fitness center employee and two campus safety officers) were subsequently honored by the campus community with framed certificates, postings on the college's "Wall of Fame," and were recognized during 2010 Campus Security Day.

Overcoming Challenges

Because the goal of administering CPR or using an AED is to save a life, the courses were "an easy sell." Locating adequate grant funds to meet demand was a challenge, but the department was able to redirect grant funds, allowing them to add more classes to meet the demand. The campus safety department is paying close attention to sustainability of the program and will continue to fund this program with grant funds and other funds as necessary.

Replicating Success

For those who wish to replicate this type of program, it is important to first identify individuals in the community who are qualified to conduct the training. "We were fortunate enough to have qualified instructors working here," said Bill Tillard, director of campus safety at Daytona State College. Organizations should also conduct some type of needs

assessment before dedicating resources to the program. Because of the success of the program and the two recent lifesaving events, now when the campus facilities planning team sits down with an architect to build a new building, they consider where to install the lifesaving equipment.

Because we were a community college first, "community" is still the largest word in our mission statement. Community service is a high priority for us.

—Bill Tillard, director of campus safety,Daytona State College

For More Information

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American Heart Association http://www.heart.org

This Success Stories publication was written with the assistance of Bill Tillard and Nicole Whetstine, Daytona State College, during the winter of 2010.

The REMS TA Center was established in October 2007 by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools (OSDFS). The center supports schools and school districts in developing and implementing comprehensive emergency management plans by providing technical assistance via trainings, publications, and individualized responses to requests. For additional information about school emergency management topics, visit the REMS TA Center at http://rems.ed.gov or call 1-866-540-REMS (7367). For information about the REMS grant program, contact Tara Hill (tara.hill@ed.gov).

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