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February 11, 2003

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
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Subject: Update on County of Ventura Automated External Defibrillators (AED) Program/Presentation of Certificates of Recognition—Time Certain: 10:00 A.M.

Dear Members of the Board:

It is my pleasure to introduce a presentation by the Ventura County Public Health Department to update you on the progress of the AED (Automated External Defibrillator) Program in Ventura County. I am very proud of the fact that the Board of Supervisors adopted a progressive and enlightened stance on AED's in this County. In fact, we are one of the only non-federal government agencies to introduce the program--without mandate--for the benefit of the people of Ventura County who not only work in our buildings, but also for those who come to conduct their business here.

The AED Program will undoubtedly save lives in Ventura County as it has wherever AEDs are installed. It goes without mention that a voluntary program like this exists only through collaboration and support from many people and agencies. For this reason, it is my pleasure to present Certificates of Appreciation and Recognition from the Board of Supervisors to those who have made such an effort to facilitate our AED program, immediately following our AED Update.

For your information, the Public Health Department, under the direction of Paul Lorenz, has prepared some background information on the AED's and the County's initiation of the program:

Background:

In the Cardiac Arrest Survival Act of 1999 Congress made the following findings:

- Over 700 lives are lost every day to sudden cardiac arrest in the United States.

- More than 95 percent of these cardiac arrest victims will die, many because of lack of readily available life saving medical equipment.
- With current medical technology, up to 30 percent of cardiac arrest victims could be saved if victims had access to immediate medical response, including defibrillation and cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
- Automated external defibrillator devices have been demonstrated to be safe and effective, even when used by lay people, since the devices are designed not to allow a user to administer a shock until after the device has analyzed a victim's heart rhythm and determined that an electric shock is required. (Attachment A provides information regarding frequently asked questions about AEDs).

Discussion:

In the last twelve months, the County of Ventura responded to more than 300 calls for people who were experiencing cardiac arrest. In most cases, the only cure for sudden cardiac arrest is immediate defibrillation. If cardiac arrest is involved, four to six minutes without having oxygen to the brain and other vital organs can cause irreversible damage. Due to this, it is important to have automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in as many public places as possible.

The Board of Supervisors recognized the need to review the benefit and possible implementation of AED Program for County facilities and directed EMS to convene a workgroup to develop and make recommendations. The resulting program was presented to the Tobacco Settlement Program Oversight Committees, who recommended \$155,000 for an initial implementation phase of 50 defibrillators in County facilities in their 2001 funding recommendations. The Board of Supervisors approved this allocation of funding to Public Health – Emergency Medical Services to begin developing and administering the County of Ventura AED Program in September 2001.

County of Ventura AED Program:

The County's AED Program has two components. The first focuses on the AEDs to be placed in County facilities. This part of the program is built on County of Ventura employee participation. Employees who volunteer to participate in the program receive four-hours of training in CPR, the use of AED equipment, and how to react to emergencies. More than 450 employee volunteers have been trained, since April 2002, at almost all sites designated to receive defibrillators in the first implementation phase. Employee volunteers must also participate in skills refresher training at six month intervals during their two year certification period.

Placement of AEDs in this initial phase was prioritized by the following factors: number of persons per day (employees and public) at a County facility; nature of work and duties being performed at the location (e.g. remote location, working around high voltage or hazardous materials); and presence of factors inherent in the reason members of the public are visiting specified County locations, (i.e. medical needs). Defibrillators have been placed at the Camarillo and Oxnard Airports, the El Rio Yard, VCMC Urgent Care Clinics, County

Government Center, County libraries, East County Courthouse, and several Human Services Agency and Probation facilities county-wide (see complete listing in Attachment B). The remaining AEDs will be placed in Sheriff Department locations around the County by the end of the month.

Public Access Defibrillation:

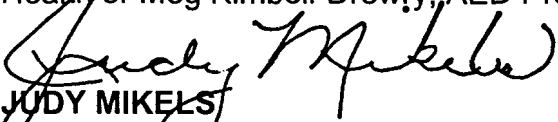
Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) is the second component of the County's AED program, and an important step towards improving the survivability of cardiac arrest victims in other facilities within Ventura County. One of the AED Program Administrator's duties is to determine how many public/private entities already have PAD programs and to encourage and assist other entities in establishing such programs. A listing of known Public Access programs in the County is provided in Attachment C.

The Future:

A website has been developed for the County of Ventura AED Program. This website is used to inform and encourage participation by both employees for the County of Ventura and by other companies to set up their own programs. This website may be visited at <http://www.vchca.org/ph/ems/aed/index.htm>.

Future activities for the AED Program will include continuing to seek funding for the purchase of additional AEDs for County facilities and to provide training for employee volunteers; monitoring employee volunteer participation in skills refresher training; and mailings to public/private employers to encourage them to request additional information from our office on how to start their own PAD program.

If you have any questions regarding this item, please call Paul Lorenz, Director of Public Health or Meg Kimbell-Drewry, AED Program Administrator at 485-9237.



JUDY MIKELS
Chair, Board of Supervisors

Attachment A – FAQs Regarding AEDs

Attachment B - Locations of AEDs at County of Ventura Facilities

Attachment C – List of Known Public Access Defibrillation Programs in Ventura County

C: Pierre Durand, HCA Director
Paul E. Lorenz, Public Health Director
Barry Fisher, Emergency Medical Services Administrator

ATTACHMENT A

Frequently Asked Questions About AEDs

What does AED stand for?

AED stands for automated external defibrillator (or automated external defibrillation).

What's an AED?

An AED is a device used to administer an electric shock through the chest wall to the heart. Built-in computers assess the patient's heart rhythm, judge whether defibrillation is needed, and then administer the shock. Audible and/or visual prompts guide the user through the process.

How does an AED work?

A microprocessor inside the defibrillator interprets (analyzes) the victim's heart rhythm through adhesive electrodes (some AED models require you to press an ANALYZE button). The computer analyzes the heart rhythm and advises the operator whether a shock is needed. AEDs advise a shock only to ventricular fibrillation and fast ventricular tachycardia. The electric current is delivered through the victim's chest wall through adhesive electrode pads.

Why are AEDs important?

AEDs are important because they strengthen the Chain of Survival. They can restore a normal heart rhythm in victims of sudden cardiac arrest. New, portable AEDs enable more people to respond to a medical emergency that requires defibrillation. When a person suffers a sudden cardiac arrest, their chance of survival decreases by 7% to 10% for each minute that passes without defibrillation. AEDs save lives.

Who can use an AED?

Most AEDs are designed for use by non-medical personnel such as police, firefighters, flight attendants, security guards, and other lay rescuers who have been properly trained. Having more people in the community who can respond to a medical emergency by providing defibrillation will greatly increase sudden cardiac arrest survival rates.

Why does someone having a heart attack need an AED?

When a heart attack becomes a full cardiac arrest, the heart most often goes into uncoordinated electrical activity called **fibrillation**. The heart twitches ineffectively and can't pump blood. The AED delivers electric current to the heart muscle, momentarily stunning the heart, stopping all activity. This gives the heart an opportunity to resume beating effectively.

Will an AED always resuscitate someone in cardiac arrest?

The AED treats only a heart in ventricular fibrillation (VF), an irregular heart rhythm. In cardiac arrest without VF, the heart doesn't respond to electric currents but needs medications. The victim needs breathing support. AEDs are less successful when the victim has been in cardiac arrest for more than a few minutes, especially if no CPR was provided.

Locations of AEDs Installed in County of Ventura Buildings

AGENCY	PROGRAM/TENANT	SITE ADDRESS	SITE CITY
VC Library	Camarillo Library	3100 Ponderosa Dr.	Camarillo
Sheriff	Heliport (Rescue Unit)	375 Durley Ave.	Camarillo
Probation	Work Furlough	500 Eubanks	Camarillo
Airports	Dept of Airports	555 Airport Way Suite B	Camarillo
Sheriff	Lockwood Valley Station	15031 / 15051 Lockwood Valley Rd.	Frazier Park
HCA-VCMC	Moorpark Family Care Center/Urgent Care	35 West Los Angeles Ave.	Moorpark
VC Library	Moorpark Library	669 Moorpark Ave.	Moorpark
VC Library	Ojai Library	111 E Ojai Ave.	Ojai
Sheriff	Honor Farm	370 W Baldwin Road	Ojai
HCA-VCMC	Magnolia Family Health Center	120 W. Magnolia Ave.	Oxnard
Multiple Agencies	Oxnard Intake	1400 Vanguard St	Oxnard
HCA-PH	Oxnard Family Planning & Public Health WIC	2500 S. "C" Street, #E,A,D	Oxnard
Airports	Oxnard Airport	2889 W. Fifth St.	Oxnard
HCA-VCMC	Las Islas Family Medical Group/Urgent Care	325 W. Channel Islands Blvd.	Oxnard
Harbor	Main Lifeguard HQ	3900 Pelican Way	Oxnard
Harbor	Maintenance Facility then to Fisherman's Wharf	3900 Pelican Way	Oxnard
HSA	Oxnard College Job and Career Center	4000 Rose Ave	Oxnard
Multiple Agencies	El Rio Yard Bldg complex	682 El Rio Dr.	Oxnard
HCA-VCMC	Piru Family Medical Center	4061 E. Center St.	Piru
VC Library	Prueter Library	510 Park	Port Hueneme
HCA-VCMC	Santa Paula Family Care Clinic/Urgent Care	1334 East Main St.	Santa Paula
Sheriff	Todd Road Jail	600 S Todd Road	Santa Paula
HCA-PH	Santa Paula Public Health Nutrition & Clinic WIC prgm	620 W. Harvard Blvd.	Santa Paula
H.S.A.	East County Intake & Eligibility	2003 Royal Ave.	Simi Valley
VC Library	Simi Valley Library	2969 Tapo Canyon	Simi Valley
Courts / H.S.A.	Simi Valley Court House	3855 F. Alamo St.	Simi Valley
HCA-VCMC	Sierra Vista Family Care/Urgent Care	4531 Alamo St.	Simi Valley
HCA-PH	Simi Valley Public Health Nutrition & Clinic WIC prgm	660 E Los Angeles Ave., Ste B2	Simi Valley
Sheriff	East County Sheriff	2101 Olsen Road	Thousand Oaks
HCA-VCMC	Conejo Valley Family Care Center/Urgent Care	223 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd., #102	Thousand Oaks
HCA-VCMC	West Ventura Family Care Center/Urgent Care	133 W. Santa Clara St	Ventura
HCA-VCMC	Inpatient Unit and Crisis Team	200 Hillmont	Ventura
HCA-EMS	EMS Response Vehicle	2323 Knoll Dr.	Ventura
HCA-multiple	HCA Admin & Public Health	2323 Knoll Dr.	Ventura
HCA-PH	Public Health Nutrition & Clinic (2 trailers) WIC	3147 Loma Vista	Ventura
HCA-VCMC	Anacapa Surgical Assoc. (Tower Surgery)	3170 Loma Vista Road	Ventura
HCA-VCMC	Family Care Center	3291 Loma Vista	Ventura
HCA-VCMC	Hospital Lab	3291 Loma Vista	Ventura
Probation	Clifton Tatum Youth Center	380 N. Hillmont	Ventura
Multiple Agencies	Department of Child Support Services	4651 Telephone Road	Ventura
HSA	Transitional Assistance, Adult Services	505 Poli St.	Ventura
VC Library	Helen P. Wright Library	57 Day Road	Ventura
Multiple Agencies	Grand Jury, DA, Area Agency on Aging, Library Admin	646 County Square Drive	Ventura
VC Library	Foster Library	651 E. Main St.	Ventura
HCA-BH	Ventura Senior Outreach	738 & 744 E. Main St.	Ventura
GSA	Government Center Service Bldg.	800 South Victoria Ave.	Ventura
Multiple Agencies	Government Center Hall of Admin	800 South Victoria Ave.	Ventura
Multiple Agencies	Government Center Hall of Justice (Courts/Admin)	800 South Victoria Ave.	Ventura
Multiple Agencies	Government Center Hall of Justice District Attorney	800 South Victoria Ave.	Ventura
Sheriff	Records Public Window	800 South Victoria Ave.	Ventura
Sheriff	Government Center PTFD	800 South Victoria Ave.	Ventura

Public Access Defibrillation Providers in Ventura County

Business	Address for AED	City
Ventura County Fire Dept.	165 Durley Avenue	Camarillo
Leisure Village	200 Leisure Village Drive	Camarillo
Camarillo Christian Church	327 Bent Twig Avenue	Camarillo
Rockwell Science Center	5212 Verdugo Way	Camarillo
River Ridge Golf Club	2401 West Vineyard Avenue	Oxnard
Ronald Reagan Presidential Library	40 Presidential Drive	Simi Valley
Rockwell Science Center	1049 Camino Dos Rios	Thousand Oaks
City of Thousand Oaks	2100 Thousand Oaks Blvd.	Thousand Oaks
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City of Thousand Oaks	2100 Thousand Oaks Blvd.	Thousand Oaks
City of Thousand Oaks	2100 Thousand Oaks Blvd.	Thousand Oaks
City of Thousand Oaks	1401 E. Janns Road	Thousand Oaks
City of Thousand Oaks	2331 Borchard Road	Thousand Oaks
City of Thousand Oaks	1993 Rancho Conejo Blvd.	Thousand Oaks
City of Thousand Oaks	Hill Canyon Treatment Plant	Thousand Oaks
City of Thousand Oaks	1385 E. Janns Road	Thousand Oaks
City of Thousand Oaks	299 S. Moorpark Road	Thousand Oaks
City of Thousand Oaks	2 Mobile Units for Community Events	Thousand Oaks
Southeast Ventura County YMCA	4031 N. Moorpark Road	Thousand Oaks
Southeast Ventura County YMCA	3200 Cochran Street	Simi Valley
Ventura Harbor Patrol	1603 Anchors Way	Ventura
Aera Energy, LLC	Cable Canyon Road	Ventura
Aera Energy, LLC	1800 School Canyon Road	Ventura
Lost Arrow Corp. (Patagonia)	259 W. Santa Clara Street	Ventura
Olivas Park Golf Course	3750 Olivas Park Drive	Ventura
Pierpont Racquet Club	500 Sanjon Road	Ventura
Buenaventura Golf Course	5880 Olivas Park Drive	Ventura