

Defibtech, Sudden Cardiac Arrest Association Continue Partnership to Donate AEDs in Critical Areas

WASHINGTON, D.C. – June 1, 2010 -- Defibtech and the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Association (SCAA) have teamed up for the third straight year on a successful community-based partnership to donate Lifeline™ automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in communities with critical needs. This initiative will help further strengthen the “chain of survival” for sudden cardiac arrest, a condition that kills nearly 300,000 Americans each year.

Announcing the effort during National Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Awareness Week (June 1-7), Defibtech CEO Dr. Glenn W. Laub said the success of the three-year partnership is due to Defibtech and the SCAA having a common mission. “Both organizations are dedicated to educating the public about sudden cardiac arrest and to placing easy-to-use and reliable AEDs in public-access areas where they can make the biggest difference,” Dr. Laub said.

SCAA Executive Director Chris Chiames said the association is eager to again work through its local chapters and affiliates to find community organizations that lack onsite AEDs and show financial need. “With Defibtech’s support, SCAA volunteers have been able to donate AEDs and use this initiative to teach community leaders about sudden cardiac arrest and the importance of access and emergency response to save lives from cardiac arrest,” he said.

Chiames praised the initiative of the local SCAA chapters and affiliate volunteers. “The commitment and passion of these volunteers is crucial in the process,” he said. “They recognize a medical crisis in the form of sudden cardiac arrest, and are dedicated to ending preventable deaths and saving lives.”

Over the past two years, the Defibtech/SCAA program provided more than 25 AEDs to local organizations across the country, including the following through SCAA chapters or affiliates:

- Delray Youth Vocational Charter School, Fla. (SCAA South Florida Chapter)
- St. Wenceslas Catholic Church, Iowa (SCAA Affiliate—Iowa AED Access for All)
- Chisholm School, Maine (SCAA Western Maine Affiliate—Med-Care Ambulance)
- My Father’s House Lubbock, Texas (SCAA Lubbock Chapter)
- Huntington Township Recreation Park, Ohio (SCAA Northeast Ohio Chapter)
- St. Peter Claver Catholic Church, Minn. (SCAA Minnesota Affiliate—Minnesota Sudden Cardiac Arrest Survivor Network)
- Warehouse Athletic Facility, Wash. (SCAA Spokane Affiliate—Team Up for Sudden Cardiac Arrest)
- SonRise Equestrian Foundation, Calif. (SCAA San Francisco Bay Area Chapter)
- Fredericksburg Church Council, Va. (SCAA Fredericksburg Chapter)
- Howard Whittemore Library, Conn. (SCAA Connecticut Chapter)

- Greenville Housing Authority, S.C. (SCAA Greenville Chapter)
- Gwinnett Fire Exploration, Ga. (SCAA Greater Atlanta Chapter)

Defibtech Vice President Greg Slusser added that many of the organizations chosen for donations are busy community gathering sites located far from hospitals or where average EMS response is prolonged due to drive time. Having an AED onsite is important because immediate resuscitation is vital. Studies show that more than 70 percent of victims defibrillated within a minute or two after arrest survive. If defibrillation is delayed for more than 10 minutes, only 5 percent live.

About Defibtech

Defibtech relentlessly pursues one goal: making the best AEDs in the world at affordable prices. Defibtech designs and manufactures the Defibtech™ AEDs, which include the Lifeline™ and ReviveR™ models. Defibtech's products are sold through its network of distribution partners in the United States and around the world. Defibtech is headquartered in Guilford, Conn. All Defibtech AEDs are manufactured in the United States in state-of-the-art ISO 13485:2003 certified facilities. For more information about Defibtech and its products, visit www.defibtech.com or call 1-866-DEFIB-4-U (1-866-333-4248).

About the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Association

The Sudden Cardiac Arrest Association (SCAA) is an organization singularly focused on sudden cardiac arrest (SCA). SCAA identifies and unites survivors, those at-risk of sudden cardiac arrest, as well as others touched by SCA who are interested in being educators on SCAA issues in their communities and beyond. The membership is dedicated to promoting solutions to prevent sudden cardiac death, including increased awareness, immediate bystander action, public access to defibrillation (PAD), and access to preventive therapies. To learn more, go to www.suddencardiacarrest.org or call 202-719-8909.

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