

## AED Program 2023- 2024 Annual Report

### **What is the purpose of The Neighbors helping Neighbors AED Program?**

If you are in cardiac arrest our purpose/ our goal is to keep you alive until professional medical personnel can reach you. While the emergency response time of our EMS and Fire Rescue is very good 4-5 minutes, every minute you are in cardiac arrest your chances of survival drop dramatically. So, if we can get to you or a family member within minutes of receiving an alert and begin to perform CPR, and use the defibrillator to shock your heart if the situation requires it, your chance of attending another social is pretty good.

### **How does the program work?**

A call is made to a 911 operator, if you use your "Land line" area code 352 your call will be answered by a Sumter County operator, if you use your cell phone, your call May and I repeat May be answered by an operator from Lake, Sumter, or Marion County... either way, PLEASE LISTEN CAREFULLY to the operator; "Operator Lake County 911. "What is your emergency" You say "Please transfer me to Sumter County 911. Why do you need to speak with Sumter County? There is no address associated with your cell phone and Lake or Marion might not know the neighborhood. You can't waste a second.

The 911 operator will ask "What is your emergency" if the 911 operator determines a Cardiac Arrest Emergency is in progress, an alert is sent to Ready Alert which in turn sends an alert message to our First responders, then as many of our first responders who are available will show up at your house and perform CPR and if necessary, use the AED to keep you alive until EMS arrives.

### **Brief History of our Program:**

In March of 2013 we began to collect monies from the residents of Buttonwood Heights, we collected \$15,991.00 from 139 of the 166 home owners that's an 84% participation rate pretty incredible, I say; only 27 of the original owners chose not to participate. We purchased 4 AED devices and the necessary peripheral equipment to become operational and installed them throughout the neighborhood.

41 Neighbors volunteered to be trained in CPR and AED operations and they formed our initial primary and secondary group of first responders.

We went operational in August 2013 and are now in our 10th year. We have had 2 call outs to date but unfortunately, as we all get older, I would not be surprised if we don't have more alerts in the future.

Our estimated annual expenses are projected to be \$1,376.00 per year.

In early 2020 we collected an additional \$ 7,365.00 from 145 residence of Buttonwood Heights to fund the program for the next 4 years. 2020- 2024

Our current bank balance is \$2,798.71

Currently we have 27 Primary (active) First Responders, and 8 Alternate Responders. If anyone is interested in being a First Responder, please contact Jim Kale at [jekale@bellsouth.net](mailto:jekale@bellsouth.net)

If anyone would like to receive a copy of our AED Program Account Ledger or any other documents regarding the program, please send an email to me and I will send a copy to you. If you think of something or want more information about our program, please email me or call me. My contact information is on the residence list.