

Coral Gables Fire Department Automated External Defibrillator Program Update

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Fire Chief



What Are AEDs?

- **Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)** interpret the heart rhythm and then determine if a shock is required.
- The AED prompts the rescuer to deliver the shock, if necessary.
- An AED **WILL NOT** shock someone who does not need defibrillation.



What is Sudden Cardiac Arrest?

- Cardiac arrest occurs when the heart stops abruptly and unconsciousness follows.
- Usually caused by **Ventricular Fibrillation** (abnormal, chaotic heart rhythm which causes the heart's pumping action to quickly stop).
- Results in death if not treated **immediately!**
The ONLY known solution for ventricular fibrillation is . . .
**EARLY
DEFIBRILLATION**

The Impact of Sudden Cardiac Arrest

- **450,000 people die each year from sudden cardiac arrest - that is about 900 per day!**
- **90% of sudden cardiac arrests occur outside of the hospital**
- **Less than 5% survive**
- **If AEDs were more readily available, approximately 50,000 lives could be saved each year**



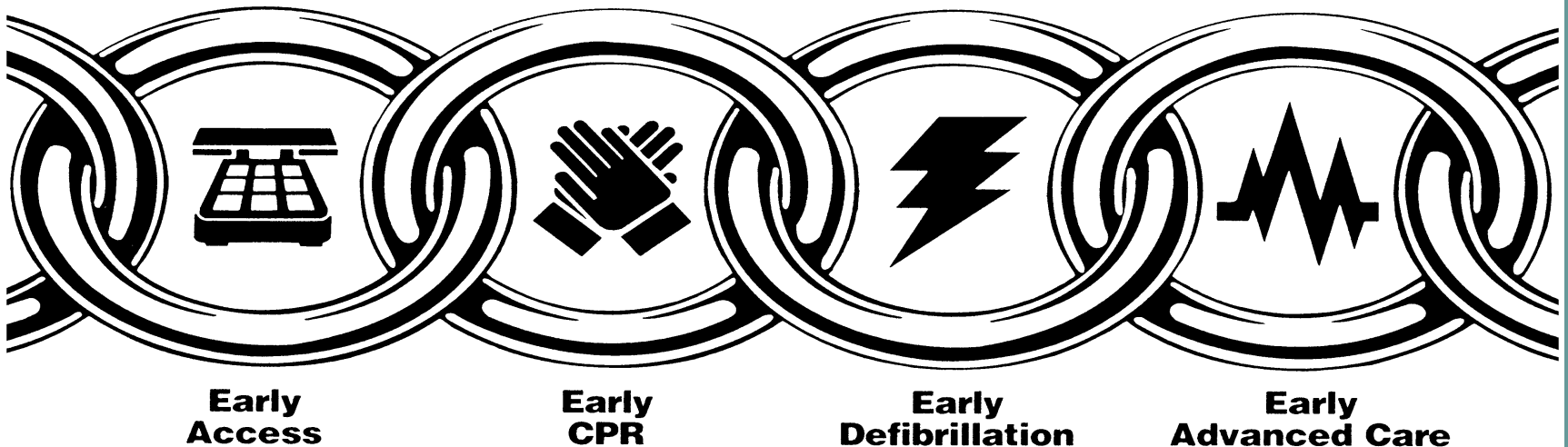
Where Do Most Sudden Cardiac Arrests Occur?

Most sudden cardiac arrests occur in the home, followed by public locations such as:

- **work sites**
- **airports**
- **churches**
- **event locations**
- **anywhere large numbers of people congregate**



What can we do to help?



Be a Strong Link in the Chain of Survival

**Early
Defibrillation**

What About Liability?

Persons using an AED are covered by:

- **Florida's Good Samaritan Act**
- **Federal Cardiac Arrest Survival Act (Federal Buildings)**

City of Coral Gables Initiative

- **Coral Gables Ordinance (# 2007-21)**
requires the installation of AEDs in
 - **places of public assembly**
 - **office building > 20,000 sq. ft.**
 - **gymnasiums, fitness centers & indoor recreational centers > 1500 sq. ft.**
 - **restaurants > 100 seats**
 - **commercial and retail occupancies > 35,000 sq. ft.**
 - **hotels and motels**

Public Accessibility



Current Status of the Program

- **There are 250 buildings (estimated) in the City that meet the requirements for installation of an AED**
- **Approximately 110 AEDs have been installed in the City**
- **15 City owned buildings are AED compliant**

Education and Training

The City has taken the following steps to gain cooperative compliance:

- **distributed information flyers and pamphlets to required businesses and building owners**
- **advertised on E- News and the Coral Gables Television network**
- **provided information on availability of training classes**

Compliance Inspection Process

- **Required buildings are identified**
- **Fire Department inspectors perform the inspection in conjunction with annual fire prevention inspections for compliance and maintenance**
- **Violators are given an opportunity to comply with the ordinance**
- **A follow-up inspection is conducted after a reasonable period of time**
- **If no corrective action is taken, the City's Code Compliance Office is notified for enforcement**

Public Access Defibrillation Video

QUESTIONS?

