

March 5, 2025

HF 1290

Automated External Defibrillators

WAYFINDING SIGNS

- Sudden cardiac arrest is the leading cause of death worldwide, claiming more lives than all other accidents and illnesses combined.
- Each year, 360,000 people in the United States die from Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA). Among them, 23,000 are 18 years old or younger
- 95% of people who suffer from SCA die before reaching the hospital.
- In the United States, 1,000 people die each day from sudden cardiac arrest (SCA)
- SCA is a heart condition that requires immediate CPR and the use of an AED for survival.
 - Without CPR/AED, survival rates are 5% or less, whereas with CPR/AED, they increase to 75-80%
- Heart attacks are considered a plumbing issue within the heart.
 - Survival rates exceed 90%.

Why are wayfinding signs necessary?

- When someone experiences a Sudden Cardiac Arrest, every moment is crucial. It is essential to have vital information about the nearest Automated External Defibrillator (AED).
- After the first four minutes of a Sudden Cardiac Arrest, the chances of survival decrease by 10% for every additional minute that passes.
- Over 90% of Sudden Cardiac Arrests occur where an AED – an Automated External Defibrillator – was available within a quarter mile of the incident. People were simply unaware of the AED's existence.
- AEDs can be hidden or not easily visible if attached to a building that is set back from the road.
- Over 90% of governmental agencies—cities, counties, and townships—allow the installation of our standard Cardiac ReStart directional signage to guide individuals to life-saving AEDs.
- TOP OF THE MIND AWARENESS – Even if the directional signs are not used on a specific day to locate an AED, motorists become aware of the presence and location of a lifesaving AED for any potential future incidents of sudden cardiac arrest (SCA). These signs also encourage general conversations about AEDs and their life-saving capabilities.