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The Essex Foundation Helps First Responders Ready for Medical Emergencies *Awards \$10,000 grant to Essex Fire Department for cardiac event equipment*

The Essex Foundation recently answered a call for support from the Essex Fire Engine Company #1 (EFD). A \$10,000 grant was awarded to help fund the replacement of 12 automated external defibrillator (AED) units and two Lucas chest compression systems needed to respond to heart attacks and other cardiac events that happen each year in Essex. The total cost of the equipment and service contracts is \$68,111 which falls outside of the department's normal operating budget. As first responders providing medical support to the entire community, and to the Essex Ambulance Association, EFD made a town-wide appeal asking individuals and community organizations for help in closing the gap. According to Bruce Glowac, President of The Essex Foundation, "It was an easy decision by the board to make the award and support

the vital services provided by the fire department. We are happy to help assure they are well-equipped and ready to respond."



Each EFD vehicle as well as the personal vehicles of six EFD emergency medical responders has an AED on board. The Lucas chest compression units are carried on the department's two light rescue trucks. The Essex Foundation grant was a significant contribution toward the equipment purchase. "Heart disease affects

one in four Americans, and is the leading cause of morbidity," commented EFD Chief Aron Schumacher, "At Essex Fire we take cardiac emergencies seriously and we try to have the best equipment possible. Thanks to generous private donors and organizations such as the Essex Foundation this has become a reality."

The Essex Foundation, Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to making a difference in the lives of Essex residents by providing funding for needs not met by other organizations or sources. The Foundation relies on donations from individuals, businesses and other community groups to fund special community projects and needs that benefit Essex residents. More information can be found online at www.theessexfoundation.org or by emailing contact@theessexfoundation.org.

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Pictured Above (from left to right): Essex Fire Department Treasurer and Emergency Medical Responder Robert Parkerson and Assistant Chief Ethan Goller demonstrate the use of the Lucas chest compression system to Strick Hyde and Judy Bombaci of The Essex Foundation.