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Article published - Mar 14, 2007

HEALTH CARE DISTRICT HELPS TO FUND AED UNITS

The Petaluma Health Care District is donating \$1,000 to help fund automatic external defibrillator units in all Petaluma police patrol cars, schools, senior centers and many other public buildings.

The money is being donated to Cruisin' the Boulevard, a local nonprofit group that is sponsoring the Save-a-Life program, which aims to make the AED units widely available. Research has shown that the units increase the likelihood of survival in the event of a heart attack, and one study found that 74 percent of the people who collapsed survived when they were defibrillated within three minutes. "Save-a-Life is a great program. AEDs are very accurate and easy to use with a simple training that is available from Healthquest. Anyone can learn to operate an AED safely," said Daymon Doss, CEO of the health care district. Healthquest is a PHCD program that offers classes in cardiac pulmonary resuscitation with AED and first-aid training. Anyone interested in signing up for one of these classes should call 766-9226.

Last changed: Mar 13, 2007 © Argus Courier 2007