

The American Red Cross

"The American Red Cross supports legislation and other government action at the local, state and federal levels to encourage mandatory training in Automatic External Defibrillation (AED) for individuals who have legal responsibility to provide emergency care, including fire fighters, police, emergency medical personnel and lifeguards. AED is an automatic device used to recognize a fatal heart rhythm that requires a shock and either delivers the shock or prompts the rescuer to deliver. In addition, the American Red Cross supports the expansion of AED training to the general public for people that may have a need -- such as individuals who have family members with cardiac problems. The Red Cross supports legislation to ensure access to emergency medical services and that AEDs should be available at public access sites such as office buildings, stadiums, arenas, and other sites where large numbers of the public gather."
December 1997.