

Promoting the use of recognized emergency medical dispatch protocols and appropriate quality improvement programs among 911 dispatch agencies to assure that bystanders promptly receive effective CPR coaching and support for efforts to train dispatch personnel to provide pre-arrival medical instructions.

Supporting legislation and policies that encourage bystander CPR, including requiring all students to be trained in CPR and AED prior to graduating from high school.

Championing public policy initiatives that promote the development of Medical Emergency Response Plans (MERPS), which includes placing AEDs in public places where cardiac arrest is likely to occur.

Advocating for funding the *Rural and Community Access to Emergency Device Program* at the FY 2005 level of \$9 million annually, so that more lives can be saved each year.

Extending Good Samaritan law coverage to all AED users and program facilitators.

Increasing public awareness of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest and its causes through activities such as CPR and AED Awareness Week each June.¹

References:

¹ Causes of Cardiac Arrest. American Heart Association. 2017. <https://www.heart.org/en/health-topics/cardiac-arrest/causes-of-cardiac-arrest>

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⁸ Causes of Cardiac Arrest. American Heart Association. 2017. <https://www.heart.org/en/health-topics/cardiac-arrest/causes-of-cardiac-arrest>

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¹¹ American Heart Association News. CPR training at school now required in 38 states. American Heart Association. Aug 23, 2020.

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