

Be the Help *until Help Arrives*

AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) AT THE GATEHOUSE

October 14, 2022

Our gatehouse now has an **AED** [automatic external defibrillator] available for anybody to use in the event of a cardiac emergency. AEDs are easy to use devices that when applied to a patient's chest can determine if a life threatening arrhythmia [disorganized heart beats] exists. The machine then 'talks' to the user and gives clear and simple instructions that amount to pushing a button or not. They are routinely available in public spaces all over the country and have saved countless lives. No formal training is necessary for their use.

Any Member, Staff or Guest having a medical emergency must first call 911 so that formal EMS is activated. TAI security or any other staff are NOT to be considered 'first responders' to render emergency care. Rather, the AED is simply stored at the guard house due to it being open 24/7. It is with this understanding that our liability carrier and legal counsel signed off on our purchase. Now that we have it, let's hope we never need it!

Specific instructions in the case of a cardiac emergency:

1. **Call 911.** Give them a description of the emergency and **your 911 address** – not the house name or lot number!
2. The gatehouse staff hears 911 calls, so they will know about your emergency and you don't have to do anything else to get help.
3. Gatehouse staff has a list of volunteers who have agreed to come to the gatehouse, pick up the AED, and bring it to you. Gatehouse staff will call the numbers on their list until they reach someone who will do it.
4. Unlock your door and turn on outside lights if it's nighttime.