

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



Sun City Hilton Head

Ten Lives Saved with AEDs

(Bluffton, SC, - January 12th, 2011) - Over 13,000 active residents enjoy many of the amenities at Sun City Hilton Head (SCHH) and have the peace of mind that emergency procedures and equipment are all around them. At least ten lives have been saved at SCHH in the last nine years specifically because a well managed and executed Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Program is in place.

An AED is a small, portable device that analyzes the heart's rhythm for someone in cardiac arrest and delivers a defibrillation shock if it determines one is needed. SCHH has an AED Program with AED Authority® and they have partnered for several years to maintain the preparation, training requirements and administration of all the AEDs throughout SCHH's facilities. Cherie Bronsky, Director of Fitness at SCHH, believes "People feel more secure and safe when they invest in a retirement community that takes lifesaving procedures seriously in their organization."

CJ Wilcox agrees. A resident of SCHH and active competitive tennis player, CJ was getting ready to serve in the 3rd set for a tie breaker match and he said "everything got foggy and distant". CJ collapsed and went into cardiac arrest. CJ's teammate, Lou, started CPR while a call was made for someone to bring an AED. A Sun City Fitness Supervisor, Alison Gariti, administered the shock from their LIFEPAK CR® Plus AED that restarted CJ's heart.

"I came to when I was on the stretcher going to the ambulance. I heard my teammate calling my name" said CJ. "I feel really blessed." CJ's cardiac arrest occurred in February and by April he returned to tennis and went on to win the state title in May for their division.

Since his own cardiac arrest emergency in 2006, CJ witnessed and assisted in another SCHH emergency. He ran to get the closest AED for a fellow resident that needed it and helped save their life. Cherie Bronsky says, when considering placement of their AEDs, "we put them in buildings where 500 or more people congregate, placement close to phones and athletic areas like tennis courts and fitness areas".

CJ calls the defibrillators his "guardian angel".

With over 13,000 residents and 7,000 homes, Sun City Hilton Head is the largest, active adult community in the South Carolina lowcountry. It is governed by a seven member Board of Directors and is professionally managed by Wentworth Property Management Company, Inc. Wentworth manages over 950 residential properties, comprised of more than 300,000 homes in 14 states and Washington D.C.

AED Authority® is a service provider of Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Management Programs. Headquartered in Morrison, Colorado, AED Authority manages the design, purchase, implementation and administration of thousands of AEDs across North America. www.aedauthority.com.