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**Global  
Resuscitation  
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King County, Seattle, WA – AEDs for First Responders

## Police Defibrillation in King County Washington

### CHALLENGE

Convince the King County Sheriff Department to train and equip their officers with AEDs. The goal would be for police vehicles to arrive at the scene of a cardiac arrest prior to EMS personnel

### RESULTS

The Sheriff's Department serves a population of over 100,000. We started the program with 20 AEDs and asked for volunteers among the police officers. An internal champion for the program provided all training and the county EMS medical director authorized the program and provided written protocols. The police provided chest compression only CPR and there were no voice recordings made of the resuscitation. There was a surplus of volunteers. In the first year there were over a dozen cardiac arrests in which the police officer arrived prior to EMS and in 4 instances the patients received a defibrillatory shock by the police and three of these patients survived.

### CHALLENGES

The biggest challenge was providing an AED for every vehicle. But since the program began with volunteer police officers, it quickly sold itself, so by the end of the first year additional funds were allocated to equip additional volunteers with AEDs.



Several million AEDs have been placed as part of AED-Public Access programs. They come most often to use when placed at busy airports and train stations. In Japan AEDs have also been integrated with vending machines.