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Providing Communities With A Blueprint For A Resuscitation Improvement Program

Maryland counties share best practices with communities across the region



THE CHALLENGE:

Two Maryland counties – Charles County (in the Washington, D.C. region) and Howard County (in the Baltimore region) – have a strong history of working to improve survival rates from sudden cardiac arrest, but an innovative approach was needed to share their best practices with other communities across the state and region.

THE RESPONSE:

Supported by the HeartRescue Program, the Maryland Resuscitation Academy formed a partnership with the Charles County and Howard County Departments of Emergency Services and the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System (MIEMSS). The group:

- Developed a training program emphasizing core cardiac arrest interventions focused on timeliness and quality.
- Engaged EMS agencies across the state and the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast regions to share quality improvement programs building or enhancing telecommunicator CPR (T-CPR) and high-performance EMS CPR services.
- Provided a basic blueprint for communities interested in implementing their own programs to improve resuscitation care and outcomes.

These efforts produced a consistent, high-level of care that utilized best practices in resuscitation across the region. As a result, many jurisdictions improved cardiac arrest care and survival, led by Howard and Charles Counties.

The Maryland Resuscitation Academy engaged several states through its Train-the-Trainer program, adding fully trained faculty in those states to continue to train and increase survival rates:

