Resolution of the Orange County Board of County Commissioners regarding the Orange County Automated External Defibrillator Access Program

Resolution No. 2003-M-35

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Orange County, (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”) provides Paramedic Advanced Life Support for the citizens and visitors of Orange County through Orange County Emergency Medical Services System (hereinafter sometimes referred to as “EMS”); and

WHEREAS, the Board approved Orange County’s Ordinance No. 2001-09 that established the Citizen’s Based Emergency Response Programs, which include programs for Automated External Defibrillators (herein referred to as “AED”); and

WHEREAS, Section 20-53 of the Orange County Code authorizes the Board to adopt by resolution such rules and regulations necessary and proper to implement programs of Article III Emergency and Non-emergency Medical Care and Transportation of the Orange County Code; and

WHEREAS, the American Heart Association (herein referred to as “AHA”) has determined that a key measure to improving survival rates from sudden cardiac arrest is to reduce the time to deliver defibrillation therapy in a timely fashion; and

WHEREAS, the AHA reports that recent breakthroughs in technology have resulted in the availability of devices that have been proven to be safe and effective in treating sudden cardiac arrest; and

WHEREAS, the AHA has determined that these new devices are virtually maintenance free, safe, easy to use with minimum training, small, lightweight, durable and inexpensive; and

WHEREAS, the AHA has determined that widespread availability of AED’s will make sudden cardiac arrest a truly treatable disease, preventing hundreds of unnecessary deaths; and

WHEREAS, the AHA has determined that it is in the best interest of the public to make AED’s available to the general public, but that the public be trained on the use of the AED’s and immediate activation of EMS system upon use of the AED; and

WHEREAS, the Florida legislature has determined that certain procedures should be implemented to ensure proper use of AED’s and has enacted Section 401.2915 and Section 768.1325, Florida Statutes, outlining these procedures; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of this Resolution to set minimum standards for use and training for Orange County’s AED access program; and
WHEREAS, the Orange County EMS Office will coordinate this program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

Section 1. Title and Citation. This Resolution shall be known and may be cited as the “Orange County Automated External Defibrillator Access Program Resolution,” (hereinafter referred to as the “AED Access Program”).

Section 2. Findings and Purpose. Pursuant to Section 125.01(1)(e), Florida Statutes, the Board finds that it is empowered to provide ambulance and emergency medical services. Pursuant to Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Florida, the Board further finds it has the authority to exercise broad home rule powers and as such finds that it is in the best interest of the citizens of Orange County to enact this Resolution.

It is the purpose of this Resolution to create the rules and regulations of the Orange County Automated External Defibrillator Access Program, which will establish guidelines for use, training requirements and procedures for AED’s.

Section 3. Applicability. Notwithstanding any provisions of any other Orange County zoning or other ordinance to the contrary, this Resolution shall apply to all citizens in Orange County. Hospitals, as defined in Section 395.002(13), Florida Statutes, are exempt from the provisions of this Resolution.

Section 4. Requirements and Procedures. The following shall be the requirements and procedures for use and training of the AED Access Program.

a. No AED shall be used in Orange County without first complying with the requirements and procedures set forth in this section.

b. Each individual, organization, entity, or company will be responsible for the coordination and purchase of the AED(s) through private vendors as well as obtaining required medical prescription.

c. The implementation of an AED may occur only after written notification is made to register the device with Orange County’s Emergency Medical Services Office by the individual, organization, entity, or company purchasing the AED(s). The registration information must contain the facility or business name, street address, specific location of the AED, the approximate number of people who work, live, or visit the location, facility, or business annually, the total number of persons trained or to be trained on the use of the AED’s, name of manufacturer, description, model number, color of each AED. Additionally, the written notification shall contain the name of the program coordinator for the individual, organization, entity, or company and medical oversight physician. This registration information should be reviewed at least annually.

d. Prior to implementing an AED, the individual, organization, entity, or company will obtain standardized training for all intended users of the AED. The training will consist of a course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation that includes demonstrated proficiency in the use of an AED.
e. Any person who uses an AED shall activate the local EMS system by calling 9-1-1 prior to or immediately upon use of the AED.

f. The owner and user of AED(s) will consent to the quality assurance review by the Orange County EMS Medical Director after each use of an AED including the retrieval of clinical data from the device itself.

g. In-service training, of individuals on the AED, will be the responsibility of the owner of the AED and will be done on an annual basis, and shall consist of review of the techniques on the use of the AED and CPR.

h. The owner must have a proper maintenance agreement with the vendor to insure proper upkeep and testing of the device.

Section 5. Conflict and Severability. In the event this Resolution, which is in accordance with Section 20-53 of the Orange County Code and Ordinance No. 2001-09, conflicts with any other ordinance of Orange County or other applicable law, the more restrictive shall apply. If any phrase or portion of this Resolution is held invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.