

**PINELLAS COUNTY FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION
August 6, 2009, Regular Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by President Lewis at 12:40 PM, no roll call was taken due to the Secretary/Treasurer's absence. No Treasurer's report was provided due to the absence of the Secretary/treasurer.

Guests /Presentations

Mike Cooksey introduced his guest, Ms. Sandy Brooking who will become the new Contract Administration Coordinator for Pinellas County Public Safety Services.

Jim Millican, Lealman FR (Lealman 801 727-526-5650 ext. 549) and Matt Vines, St. Petersburg FR (St. Petersburg 502) presented on the Safe Kids effort to implement the DOT Safe Routes program. They asked that all of the fire departments participate this year in alerting motorists to the children walking to school. Jim had some signs left from last year and some banners could be made available. Safe Kids is recommending that firefighters perform the events at critical intersections and school crossing zones the day before the start of school and the first day. Since the inception of the program in Pinellas three years ago the numbers of pedestrian accidents in children 14 and under has been reduced 50%.

Joseph Cilano, Director of Health & Safety Services Tampa Bay Chapter of the American Red Cross presented on the articulation agreement between the red Cross and the American Heart Association (AHA) allowing for the crossover of CPR instructors. AHA instructors may become Red Cross instructors after a brief evaluation and skills assessment. They would then have access to other Red Cross course curriculum. Mr. Cilano provided some flyers with information which are attached to these minutes.

Correspondence

President Lewis sent a letter on behalf of the Association to the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board (PCCLB) re-appointing Ernie Hand, St. Pete Beach FR as the Associations representative to the Board.

New Business

None.

Unfinished Business

None.

Committee Reports

Operations Chiefs

Don Sayre, Tarpon Springs FR reported on a presentation to the committee by Hospice on grief counseling services for fire/EMS incident victims. This service may be examined by PALS and system-wide distribution of the availability could be undertaken or a future CME presentation could be developed.

An issue with the NIFIRS reporting has been identified, when units receive a call but never turn a wheel the incident report should be deleted, not filled out with a cancelled en-route. This topic is and will be again covered in the 911 Center delivered NIFIRS training.

911 dispatchers have begun to adjust their interrogation of callers to provide some call nature notes at the time of dispatch.

With the use of the Mobile Data Computers by crews to advise of their responding status the 911 dispatchers have noticed a problem that crews are not adjusting their mobile and portable radios to the proper tactical channel. This causes the dispatchers to spend a lot of time tracking down the units and getting them on the correct channel. Apparatus crews must be diligent in placing the radios onto the appropriate tactical channel.

Fire Marshals

Meeting on August 20.

PALS

Don Sayre, Tarpon Springs FR reported that PALS had sent a letter to the Medical Control Board seeking their concurrence with the PALS recommendation to authorize the use of the Physio-Control LifePak 12 and/or 15 for use by EMS responders. The Medical Control Board meets on August 20.

A committee has been established by the county to review the vendor's proposals on the provision of heart monitor/defibrillator units.

Training Officers

Tim Pilson, Palm Harbor FR reported that the committee has selected an on-line registration company called Event Bright for future Pinellas course offerings. All purchases will require a credit card to complete the transaction. Chief Accetta raised a concern about this method of payment as it related to reimbursements for no-shows. An evaluation of the registration system for effectiveness and use will be undertaken after six months of use.

The committee is planning to host a Positive Pressure Ventilation (PPV) operations train-the-trainer course. No date has been set.

The committee requested the Association's approval to expend funds to send Tim Riley, Dunedin FR Training Chief to attend the Command Officer Blue Card certification training. The estimate for travel expenses and course fees is approximately \$5,000. Chief Meyer made a motion to approve the expenditure of \$5,000 to provide for the travel and course fees. Chief Geer seconded the motion which was passed with a voice vote.

EMS Advisory Council

No report.

Opticom

No report.

Fire District Contract

No report.

Affiliate Reports

Pinellas County Public Safety Services

No report

Medical Director

Dr. Romig reported that OMD is working on building relationships with stakeholder organizations on H1N1 flu contingency plans. OMD will continue to share and act as an information conduit on this issue.

SunStar

No report.

Emergency Management

Sally Bishop sent the following via e-mail: See the EM Newsletter we just sent out.....and a reminder about the EM Coordinators meeting on April 17th at the EpiCenter at 9:30. We're working towards a pretty full agenda for that meeting.....

Communications/911

Jackie Weinreich reported that units using the MDC's to indicate they are responding now have the ability to enter where they are responding from. Updated and improved mapping is now in place for the MDC's. New computer servers have been installed which provide a much faster processing speed than the old equipment.

Chuck Freeman reported that the current analog Z-Tron station alerting system will not function when the radio system migrates to an all digital format. This means that each fire station base radio will need to be replaced in the coming years. Grant funding options are being explored. Chuck will report on this issue again in the near future.

St. Petersburg College Fire

Jim Terry reported that the next fire academy course will start September 21. He thanked St. Petersburg Fire Rescue for the donation of a surplus fire engine for use at the fire academy. An Aerial Practices course is being offered in September, check the college web site for dates and times.

Charlie Caruthers reported that the articulation agreement between the college and the State Fire College has been approved by St. Petersburg College and is now awaiting state approval. The State Fire College is also examining its process for approving CEU's submitted by local agencies to make the process smoother and faster.

St. Petersburg College EMS

No report.

Red Cross

No report.

Good of the Organization

Oldsmar Fire Rescue will be hosting its annual 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony beginning at 09:00 at station 54 225 Pine Av N on Friday September 11. Departments will receive invitations and notices will be sent via the CAD memo account.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 PM.

Next Meeting is September 3, 2009

American Heart Association / American Red Cross Crossover Process

The American Red Cross (ARC) and the American Heart Association (AHA) serve similar audiences and a common purpose - to increase the number of people trained in CPR, first aid and AED usage. A Statement of Understanding has been established between each organization and each party has agreed to inform and update their respective field units and instructors with the terms of this agreement to expedite the process for becoming authorized to teach similar first aid, CPR and AED courses.

For AHA instructors to become ARC instructors, all of the following prerequisite criteria must be met:

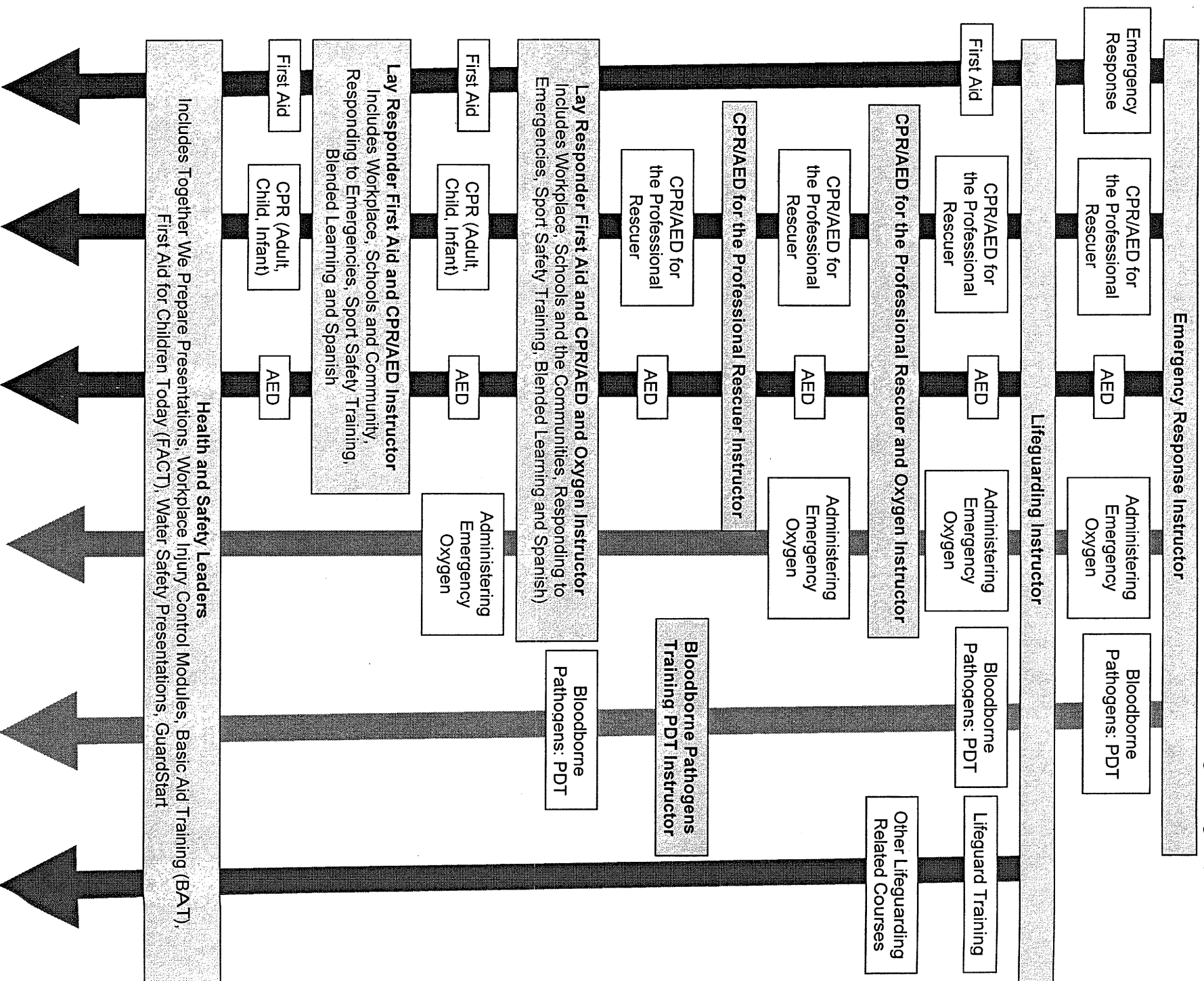
- Show evidence of a current instructor or instructor trainer authorization as an American Heart Association instructor level. These programs include the Advanced Cardiac Life Support instructor and the Heartsaver instructor.
- Complete the Red Cross Fundamentals of Instructor Training, Appendix P-Self-Study Guide for Educators and Trainers.
- Successfully complete the pre-course session of written examination(s) and skill evaluations for the desired instructor authorization.

American Heart Association to American Red Cross Instructor Crossover Process Chart

| AHA Instructor Entry Requirements | Process | New ARC Instructor Authorization(s) | Material Costs (wholesale) |
|--|--|--|---|
| Basic Life Support Instructor | FIT self-study, Pre-course testing, Orientation to CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer course | CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer instructor | FIT textbook \$5.00; CPR/AED participant's manual \$6.50; CPR/AED Instructor's manual w/CD ROM \$12.00; CPR/AED DVD \$75.00. |
| Basic Life Support Instructor <u>and</u> first aid skills as verified by a skills check | FIT self-study, Pre-course testing, Orientation to CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer course, Self-orientation or group orientation to First Aid / CPR/AED Program materials | CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer instructor and First Aid / CPR/AED instructor | FIT textbook \$5.00; CPR/AED participant's manual \$6.50; CPR/AED Instructor's manual w/CD ROM \$12.00; CPR/AED DVD \$75.00; Community First Aid & CPR participant's manual \$9.00; Community First Aid & CPR instructor's manual w/CD ROM \$12.00; Community First Aid & CPR DVD \$95.00 |
| Heartsaver instructor or Basic Life Support instructor <u>and</u> first aid skills as verified by a skills check | FIT self-study, Pre-course testing, Orientation to First Aid/CPR/AED Program | First Aid/CPR/AED | Community First Aid & CPR participant's manual \$9.00; Community First Aid & CPR instructor's manual w/CD ROM \$12.00; Community First Aid & CPR DVD \$95.00 |

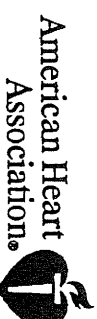
To learn more, contact (813) 348-4820: Jeff Baumgartner, Training Operations Manager, ext. 7621-baumgartnerj@usa.redcross.org; Jose Bueno, ext. 7673 – buenoj@usa.redcross.org; Joe Cilano, ext. 7663 – cilanoj@usa.redcross.org; or Jocelyn Gregg at (727) 446-2358 – greggj@usa.redcross.org.

American Red Cross Instructor Authorizations Hierarchy (First Aid, CPR, Lifeguarding, etc)





Together, we can save a life



Learn and Live™

**STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION**

**AND
THE AMERICAN NATIONAL RED CROSS**

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Statement of Understanding is to continue a working relationship between The American Red Cross (ARC) and the American Heart Association (AHA) for the matters described below and to replace their earlier Statement of Understanding for such matters. This Statement outlines the broad framework for cooperation between the two organizations in providing information to their chapters and affiliates regarding the equivalency of topics and content in First Aid, Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation and Automated External Defibrillators (AED) training programs, as well as other services for which cooperation may be mutually beneficial.

This Statement of Understanding is being established in consideration of the fact the ARC and AHA serve similar audiences and a common purpose to increase the number of people trained in First Aid and CPR. Along with reaching similar populations the ARC and AHA also share similarities in the content of their training programs. This collaboration will allow ARC Chapters and AHA state and local affiliates to provide information and recognition of the other's training to both instructors and to end users.

II. Concept of Operations:

Each party to this SOU is a separate and independent organization. As such, each organization retains its own identity in providing service and each organization is responsible for establishing its own policies and financing its own activities.

III. Mission of The American Red Cross

The American Red Cross is a humanitarian organization, led by volunteers, that provides relief to victims of disasters and helps people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies. It does this through services that are consistent with its congressional charter and the fundamental principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

IV. Mission of The American Heart Association

The American Heart Association is a national voluntary health agency whose

mission is building healthier lives, free of cardiovascular diseases and stroke.

V. **Organization of the American Red Cross**

The national headquarters of the American Red Cross is located in Washington, D.C. National headquarters is responsible for implementing policies and regulations that govern American Red Cross activities, and for giving administrative and technical supervision and guidance to the chartered units. Chartered units include chapters and Blood Services regions. The Board of Governors has delegated to the duly constituted volunteer governing board of each chartered unit the authority and responsibility for: (a) governance of the chartered unit, (b) delivery of authorized services in the territorial jurisdiction of the chartered unit, (c) meeting corporate obligations, in conformity with and subject to the limitations stated in corporate regulations.

The American Red Cross provides services in the following five (5) lines of service: Biomedical Services, Disaster Services, Health and Safety Services, International Services, and Armed Forces Emergency Services.

Each chartered unit has the authority and responsibility for carrying out the purposes of the American Red Cross, for delivering local American Red Cross services, and for meeting corporate obligations within the territorial jurisdiction assigned in conformity with corporate regulations. The chartered units ("chapters") coordinate their work through eight (8) regional service areas.

VI. **Organization of the American Heart Association**

The American Heart Association is the largest voluntary health organization fighting heart disease, stroke and other cardiovascular diseases in communities across America. To prevent, treat and defeat these diseases, the association funds research, educates the public and health professionals, and advocates for healthier communities.

The American Heart Association is a single corporation, divided physically into the National Center located in Dallas, Texas, and 10 affiliate offices that cover the United States. Operations are divided into seven main areas: Office of Chief Executive Officer, Advocacy, Corporate Operations, Field Operations and Development (which includes ECC), Healthcare Markets, Science Operations and Technology, and Customer Strategies.

The American Heart Association is a volunteer board led organization. The Emergency Cardiovascular Care Committee, which formulates scientific standards of care and guidelines for the ECC training programs in the United States is commissioned by the American Heart Association Board of Directors. The ECC Committee has five sub-committees on Basic Life Support, Advanced Life Support, Pediatric Life Support, Education, and the Program Administration Committee. The

ECC Program Administration Committee establishes the training and program standards of all ECC courses.

The Emergency Cardiovascular Care business unit is a National Center operational unit with both National Center and Affiliate-Regional based staff. The ECC program is comprised of 105 ECC field staff covering 43 Regions comprising the 50 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico; the ECC program additionally has international staff providing services to more than 50 countries. Services of the Emergency Cardiovascular Care program include Basic Life Support, Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support, and Neonatal Resuscitation Program (in partnership with the AAP.) The National ECC office provides administrative and technical oversight to the Regional staff and programs.

The ECC program has over 270,000 instructors in BLS, ACLS, and PALS, who teach through 3,500 authorized Training Centers in the United States and throughout the World. Courses are delivered to healthcare providers, corporate workforces, public and parochial schools students and teachers, military servicemen and women, and the general public.

VII. **Method of Understanding**

ARC and AHA agree to recognize the other's student level CPR and First Aid training programs as equivalent in content, as shown in the following table of courses. The recognition is for entrance into an appropriate provider (student) renewal course or an instructor course.

TRAINING PROGRAMS

| American Red Cross | Recommended Audience | American Heart Association |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| CPR—Adult | Lay rescuers | <i>Heartsaver CPR: Adult</i> |
| CPR—Child and Infant | Lay rescuers | <i>Heartsaver CPR: Pediatric</i> |
| CPR/AED—Adult and Child | Lay rescuers | <i>Heartsaver AED (includes adult CPR certification)</i> |
| CPR —Adult, Infant and Child | Lay rescuers | <i>Heartsaver CPR: Adult and Pediatric</i> |
| First Aid or Standard First Aid | Lay rescuers | <i>Heartsaver First Aid</i> |
| CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer | Healthcare providers and professional rescuers | <i>Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers</i> |

ARC agrees to:

- Inform their instructors, chapters, other units or departments, and otherwise widely distribute, this Statement of Understanding and urge full cooperation with the Statement of Understanding.
- Recognize the quality of the AHA's instructors, and expedite the process for AHA instructors to become authorized to teach similar ARC courses in First Aid, CPR and AED usage. The Administrative Guidelines for Crossover Courses which provide a framework for cross training AHA instructors to become ARC instructors will be maintained and widely distributed.
- Recognize the AHA's certification for the same time period as the ARC's equivalent certificate.
- Acknowledge the American Heart Association in bringing together top scientists and researchers to evaluate the latest cardiovascular and resuscitation research and develop the published consensus for the treatment of cardiovascular emergencies.
- Recognize that the American Heart Association is the nation's largest voluntary health agency fighting heart disease, stroke and other cardiovascular diseases. Through donations and fundraising events, the American Heart Association annually funds cardiovascular research throughout the United States.

AHA agrees to:

- Inform their instructors, affiliates, other units or departments, and otherwise widely distribute, this Statement of Understanding and urge full cooperation with the Statement of Understanding.
- Recognize the quality of the ARC's instructors, and expedite the process for ARC instructors to be authorized to teach the AHA's similar courses in First Aid, CPR and AED usage. A Crossover Agenda which provides a framework for cross training ARC instructors to become AHA instructors will be maintained and widely distributed.
- Recognize the ARC's certification for the time period indicated on the certification.
- Recognize that the American Red Cross is the premiere provider of humanitarian disaster relief services. The American Heart Association supports the position of the American Red Cross in conducting special appeals and campaigns for funds during times of disaster.

The organizations will strive to ensure that open communications between the parties is maintained. Communications systems such as meetings, conferences, telephone calls, and email will be utilized.

Recognizing the need for advising the public of the work of both organizations, the American Red Cross and American Heart Association will make every effort through their public information offices to keep the public informed of their cooperative efforts.

The ARC and AHA will actively seek to determine other areas/services within their respective organizations where cooperation and support will be mutually beneficial and to amend this Statement of Understanding accordingly to include such agreements.

The organizations agree that each will be responsible for the costs of its own activities, however any mutual expenses incurred as a result of cooperation or collaboration under the terms of this Statement of Understanding will be apportioned as agreed to in writing by both parties prior to incurring such expenses.

Use of the name and emblem of one party by the other party shall be allowed only in the case of particular projects undertaken and only upon obtaining the prior express written consent.

VIII. Periodic Review

Representatives of the American Red Cross Preparedness and Health and Safety Services Department and American Heart Association, Emergency Cardiovascular Care Programs will meet annually, on or around the anniversary date of this Statement of Understanding, to evaluate progress in the implementation of the Statement of Understanding and to revise and develop new plans or goals as appropriate.

IX. Term of Statement of Understanding

This Statement of Understanding shall be effective on June 30, 2007 and expire on June 30, 2011. Six months prior to expiration, the parties shall meet to review the progress and success of the Statement of Understanding and determine whether it should be extended for an additional five years. Any agreed extension shall be memorialized by the parties in writing. In no event shall any extension of this Statement of Understanding be for a period exceeding five (5) years.

This Statement of Understanding may be terminated at any time by either party upon written notification from one party to the other.

X. **Miscellaneous.**

This Statement of Understanding does not create a partnership or a joint venture, and neither party has the authority to bind the other.



Scott Conner
Vice President
Preparedness and Health and Safety
American Red Cross



Michael C. Bell
Vice President
ECC Programs
American Heart Association

Date: 6/28/07

Date: 6-27-07

