



Summer Recap 2015 In This Issue

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About our program

Project ADAM (Automated Defibrillators in Adam's Memory) began in 1999 after a series of sudden deaths among high school athletes in southeastern Wisconsin. Many of these deaths appear due to ventricular fibrillation, a condition in which the ventricles cannot pump blood into the body.

After Adam Lemel, a 17-year-old Whitefish Bay, Wis. high school student, collapsed and died while playing basketball, Adam's parents, Patty and Joe Lemel, along with David Ellis, a childhood friend of Adam's, collaborated with Children's Hospital of Wisconsin to create this program in Adam's memory.

The project helps schools in Wisconsin and across the nation implement programs to make AEDs available. Our programs accomplish this by supporting schools in being prepared for a cardiac emergency through implementation of cardiac emergency response plans, staff CPR and AED training, student CPR education, fundraising ideas, and support and sudden cardiac arrest awareness education.

Project ADAM's nationally recognized program has affiliate programs in 10 additional states outside of Wisconsin. Hospital systems around the nation have adopted the Project ADAM model in which a medical director and coordinator team collaborate with surrounding schools, communities and organizations to offer life saving cardiac emergency response planning resources. Collaborative national efforts are responsible for saving 98 lives to date, because staff or students responded to SCA with appropriate and timely actions.

www.projectadam.com

Project ADAM medical directors

Note from Christopher Rausch, MD, Project ADAM Colorado, Children's Hospital Colorado

Each year thousands of children in the United States suffer a sudden cardiac arrest (SCA). These events often have little or no warning signs and occur in otherwise apparently normal, healthy children. While routine doctor's visits and sports pre participation evaluations are able to identify some children at risk for SCA, many children at risk remain undiagnosed until a SCA event occurs. Unfortunately, children who suffer SCA outside of a hospital setting are very unlikely to survive unless they receive prompt and effective cardiopulmonary resuscitation and cardioversion/defibrillation.

On average, children spend nearly 1/3 of their day in school and often many more hours afterwards are spent at school related activities. Hundreds or thousands of children, teachers,

administrators, and parents may be on the school grounds from sunrise to well after sunset. This makes schools an ideal place to plan and prepare to respond to emergencies such as SCA. For many years, Project ADAM has worked with schools to educate and train students, teachers, coaches, and others about the dangers of SCA and the importance of an effective and practiced emergency action plan that includes the use of CPR and automated defibrillators (AED). As a result of the efforts of Project ADAM and its affiliates across the country, hundreds of children's lives have already been saved. I am incredibly excited to be a part of an organization that strives continually to make our schools and our children safer and I look forward to the many lives yet to be saved . . . perhaps in a school near you.

Christopher Rausch, MD, Project ADAM Colorado co medical director, director of cardiopulmonary exercise, director of pediatric cardiology fellowship, assistant professor



Project ADAM affiliate programs in the news

Project ADAM Michigan Partnership:

Surviving sudden cardiac arrest: One teen athlete's story

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/what-you-should-know-about-sudden-cardiac-arrest-in-student-athletes/>

Project ADAM Tennessee Partnership:

Alcoa High students & staff get training on AED and practice CPR in case of an emergency

<http://www.wbir.com/story/life/2015/09/01/alcoa-students-staff-learn-teamwork-saving-life/71535618/>

Project ADAM Wisconsin Partnership:

Milwaukee school wins free, potentially life-saving device in national competition

<http://fox6now.com/2015/05/18/milwaukee-school-wins-free-potentially-life-saving-device-in-national-competition/>

What is a Project ADAM affiliate program?

A Project ADAM Affiliate is an organization (e.g. a children's hospital) that has committed itself to providing resources to schools and communities wishing to implement CPR-AED programs. This includes access to AEDs, CPR training for staff and students, cardiac emergency response plans, cardiac emergency response drills and acting as a community resource. Each affiliate program around the nation adopts a unique model to reach schools and communities to support cardiac emergency preparedness needs in their specific community. Our affiliate programs operate with autonomy to cater to community needs. To learn more, email projectadam@chw.org.

Our affiliate program cornerstones:

1. Increasing survivability of sudden cardiac arrest in schools and communities through education, awareness, advocacy and implementation of the cardiac chain of survival.
2. Hospital systems and health care professionals providing community support to improve the well-being of surrounding schools and communities and prevention of sudden cardiac death

3. Project ADAM affiliate programs appoint a medical director and funded program coordinator to provide programming and resources to schools and communities.
4. Our unified programs are in memory of Adam Lemel, a 17-year-old Whitefish Bay, WI, high school student who collapsed and died while playing basketball at school, due to sudden cardiac arrest.
5. All affiliate programs help to ensure a coordinated and practiced response to cardiac emergencies in schools and communities.

Our affiliate programs:

Project ADAM Wisconsin (national office), Children's Hospital of Wisconsin

Project ADAM California, U.C. Davis Children's Hospital

Project S.A.V.E., Georgia, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

Project ADAM Florida, Florida Hospital for Children

Youth Heart Watch, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Project ADAM Texas, Cook Children's Medical Center

Project ADAM Houston, Texas Children's Hospital

Alabama LifeStart, Children's of Alabama

Project ADAM Tennessee, East Tennessee Children's Hospital

Project ADAM Inland Northwest, Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center & Children's Hospital

Project ADAM Michigan, C.S. Mott Children's Hospital

Project ADAM Colorado, Children's Hospital Colorado

Left to right top: Dr Stuart Berger (CA), Gwen Fosse (MI), Barbara Mostella (AL), Richard Lamphier (GA), Ryan Schaefer (WA), Cris Brown (AL), Courtney Zimmerman (CO), Alli Thompson (WI)

Left to right bottom: Laura Friend (TX), Danielle Main Haley (PA), Amber Lindgren (CA), Karen Dean Smith (TN), not pictured Martha Lopez-Anderson (FL)



Call to action: rural and community access to emergency devices program

Dear Fellow Ad Hoc Coalition To Save Lives Through Public Access To Defibrillation Colleagues: Your help is needed today to save the federally-funded Rural and Community Access to Emergency Devices Program. Designed to save lives from cardiac arrest, this program is in jeopardy of being terminated. The U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee proposes to end this life-saving program, but the U.S. House Appropriations Committee recommends \$4.5 million for this initiative.

Soon U.S. Members of Congress will work to resolve differences in the Senate and House health funding bills. So, please click [here](#), today, to send an e-mail to your U.S. legislators, urging them to include the House Appropriations Committee's funding level of \$4.5 million for this program in the final 2016 health appropriation bill.

Funding for the Rural and Community Access to Emergency Devices Program is used to buy automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in bulk, place AEDs in public rural areas where cardiac arrest is likely to occur, and train first responders and lay rescuers in their use. This program ensures that people who live in rural areas have access to AEDs that give them the best chance of surviving cardiac arrest, a leading cause of death. [Please act now to save lives.](#)

Thank you,
Claudia Louis
Senior Government Relations Advisor
American Heart Association

[Sudden cardiac arrest & death headlines, August 1 - September 17, 2015](#)

Aug 6, High School Student Collapses, Dies Following Cross-Country Practice [Read More...](#)

Aug 7, Family, community mourn death of 10-year-old boy one week before his birthday [Read More...](#)

Aug 7, Former Papio South, Wayne State softball star Kaiti Williams dies at 22 [Read More...](#)

Aug 8, Legacy Charter student who died had previously collapsed [Read More...](#)

Aug 21, Lake Norman Charter-Hickory Grove Christian cancel Friday's football game after student's sudden [Read More...](#)

Aug 21, Teen recovering after cardiac event at NKY soccer tournament [Read More...](#)

Aug 21, Broncos signee Uhle, 22, dies in Atlanta [Read More...](#)

August 26, Brianna Is No Typical College Freshman [Read More...](#)

Aug 31, Autopsy results of 10-year-old Omari Chamber's death [Read More...](#)

Sep 4, St. Charles 7th-grader collapses, dies after cross-country meet [Read More...](#)

Sep 5, A Heart Wrenching Blow': NJ Teen Girl Dies at Soccer Team Sleepover [Read More...](#)

Sep 5, Dobie High School baseball player dies days after collapsing at practice [Read More...](#)

Sep 5, Debaters recognized for act of courage [Read More...](#)

Sep 10, Surviving sudden cardiac arrest: One teen athlete's story [Read More...](#)

Sep 10, CPS swim coach hailed as hero after student collapses in pool [Read More...](#)

*Additional news stories can be found at www.parentheartwatch.org under News
About Parent Heart Watch: Parent Heart Watch is the national voice solely dedicated to protecting youth from Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) and preventable Sudden Cardiac Death (SCD). PHW leads and empowers others by sharing information, educating and advocating for change.



[Contact Cris Brown](#)



[Contact Amber Lindgren](#)



[Contact Richard Lamohier](#)



[Contact Danielle Main Haley](#)



[Contact Martha Lopez-Anderson](#)



[Contact Ryan Schaefer](#)



[Contact Karen Smith](#)



[Contact Laura Friend](#)



[Contact Gwen Fosse](#)



[Courtney Zimmerman](#)



[Contact Alli Thompson](#)
Wisc./National Administrator

This email was sent to: projectadam@chw.org

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