



REPORT

From the office of the...

Emergency First Response Team

TO: Members of the Executive Board
FROM: Samantha Aung
SUBJECT: Emergency First Response Team Report 1
DATE: August 3rd, 2017

UPDATE

As August begins and the summer begins to come to a close, the EFRT is getting ready for a busy September both in call count and in duties as we begin our annual hiring cycle. This report will discuss the progress of the planning for the upcoming month as well as the trials and tribulations of the past month including our response at the North American Indigenous Games.

SERVICE USAGE

Service usage is primarily reflected in the number of instances in which the EFRT is activated during a given period of time. Overall call volume has increased significantly over the past month compared to our July 2016 call statistics. Last July, EFRT received 9 calls, in the past month the team attended 47 calls, five times increased from the last year. This can mainly be attributed to the increased volume and other circumstances related to the North American Indigenous Games (NAIG), which is discussed further in the rest of this report.

Although a typical increase in call count does not mean that the safety of campus is compromised, the increased service usage during the week of the North American Indigenous Games indicated a lack of medical preparation on the part of the NAIG Coordinators. This deficiency of resources and inconsistent medical protocol among NAIG medical volunteers was taken up by the EFRT to help ensure the safety of the athletes and other NAIG-related personnel throughout the week. Our other campus partners from the David Bradley Athletics Center and Campus Security have praised our response at NAIG and further compensation for responders for NAIG coverage is discussed in challenges.

PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

The weekend of July 21st the senior members of the EFRT attended the Advanced Medical Life Support (AMLS) training in Rochester, NY. This course focused on creating differential diagnoses when responding to medical emergencies as well as how to manage these emergencies in the field. While in Rochester the senior responders were able to participate in ride-alongs with local emergency medical technicians and paramedics. This provided a valuable opportunity to learn from these first responders, and to be exposed to a more diverse population than the one we respond to on campus.

After seeing how valuable an experience ride-alongs are to responders, the Training and Public Relations Coordinators will be exploring similar opportunities closer to home with the Hamilton Paramedics Service and/or with alumni responders that serve in other regions.

The North American Indigenous games is heavily featured in this report as it contained the bulk of our responding and efforts over the past month both during the week and in preparation for the event. Overall, the games provided a positive opportunity for responders to gain a great deal of valuable experience and help keep the indigenous athletes on campus safe.

UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

The focus for the upcoming month will be responder retraining prior to Welcome Week as well as the hiring cycle of new responders for the 2017-18 year.

Responder retraining will occur from the 25th to 27th of August to prepare for Welcome Week and the upcoming year. The schedule and guest speakers have been set and confirmed. The most significant change will be the new naloxone protocol, which will be introduced by our medical director at retraining. With regards to Welcome Week, collaboration with the Welcome Week planners will ensure that reps and new students will know how and when to activate EFRT during Welcome Week. We will be creating a series of educational videos in conjunction with the communications officer that will be shown at rep training and online. In addition, EFRT will be present at rep training to speak on our role during Welcome Week and to answer any questions that may arise. We are hoping that our overall public relations efforts will help with recruitment but more importantly increase awareness of our services to individuals that may be in need of them in the future.

Applications have opened and we are excited for the learning and growth for both the applicants and responders during the orientation process. Planning is well underway and efforts are being made to improve the process based on last year's feedback.

BUDGET

EFRT Select Budget Accounts
For the Period Ended June 30th, 2017

Budget Line	Spent this Month	YTD Spent	2017 Budget	
TEAM SUPPLIES	\$2,488.83	20.36%	\$	12,000.00
VOLUNTEER TRAINING	\$689.30	4.92%	\$	16,000.00
COURSE REV.	(\$6,660.00)	25.14%		(\$65,000.00)

The above reflects the EFRT's spending from the most recently available June 2017 monthly statement. This statement reflects an increase in spending towards team supplies that went towards achieving the new standards for CPR courses set by the Red Cross. This increase in spending will help set up our courses for success for many years to come and ensure compliance with current Red Cross First Aid Course Standards. Working with the VP Finance, the Standard First Aid Coordinator and I are working to raise instructor wages to retain instructors and accommodate for the reduction in hours that the implementation of blended learning will present.

The volunteer training expenses reflected above and seen in the upcoming July statement was spent on the Advanced Medical Life Support training that senior team members attended in Rochester July 21st to 23rd.

VOLUNTEERS

The summer and year executive teams have been working together to transition into the upcoming school year. Both teams have been collaborating and meeting regularly over the past few months to ensure a smooth handover come August 25th.

As with every year, the team will lose several active responders in September due to graduation or acceptance into professional schools. We are aiming to fill these spots on the team through our annual hiring cycle. Applications have been opened and are due on September 9th at 11:59pm. Initial interviews will be conducted from the 11th to 14th by the year executive team as well as active and alumni responders. The top 42 candidates will then be invited to an orientation weekend held from the 15th to the 17th of September and will be evaluated on the following weekend, 23rd-24th. This follows the typical hiring process that EFRT has conducted in past years, with small changes made at each step to increase the fairness of the hiring process and to make improvements for candidates and responders.

CURRENT CHALLENGES

From the 17th to the 21st of July, the EFRT were requested to help with medical response at the North American Indigenous Games (NAIG). The original request from games coordinators involved first aid support in the cultural village 10:00AM to 10:30PM. As the week progressed we discovered that the games were unprepared to provide medical coverage to an event of this scale. This resulted in our team taking on more responsibility for the medical coverage of the games than we had been requested of. During the week, we averaged 6 calls per day, which is much greater than our average, resulting in greater depletion of our resources than expected. After speaking with the McMaster liaison with NAIG, we have requested that the games reimburse the extra expenses for supplies and responder reimbursement. Discussions from both McMaster and NAIG sides have been initiated to acquire appropriate reimbursement for the coverage of this event. An updated invoice has been sent to the McMaster head to be included in the total cost for the games.

SUCCESES

Overall, over the past month the team has worked together to respond to a greater number and variety calls while providing coverage for the North American Indigenous games and the Horizons conference while working to prepare for the school year. The team members supported one another well and gained much valuable experience through coverage of these events.

Our senior responders now have another certification and more experience to draw from while responding on campus. Their time at AMLS has also inspired efforts to bring those experiences to all the responders on the team.

Finally, we have released the 2017-18 application and are excited for the interest that has been generated even on the first day! In addition, as the summer comes to a close efforts are being made to prepare for Welcome Week, our busiest week of the year, and create valuable resources for Reps, first years and the general student population.