

Fire and medical emergencies happen at all times of the day and night, and your Sylvania Fire Department is there for you in your time of need. In 2011 the fire department responded to over 3600 emergency medical calls. Of those EMS calls, 13% were reported as cardiac related and 6.6% were patients in cardiac arrest at the arrival of fire department paramedics. Your Sylvania Fire Department has been an EMS leader in Lucas County since 1990 by requiring all full-time fire fighters hired to have paramedic certification. This forward thinking from then Fire Chief Dave Drake gave the Sylvania community a first in Lucas County by having all first response fire engines and trucks staffed and equipped to provide Advanced Life Support care. Currently, 99% of the full-time fire fighters on the line are paramedics. This level of care is enhanced as all Sylvania Fire paramedics are certified to Lucas County EMS standards, which is higher than required by the State of Ohio.

What does this mean for you, the citizens we serve? According to Brent Parquette from Lucas County EMS, the first 6 months of 2011, Lucas County EMS Life Squad #6, (which is stationed at Sylvania Fire Station #1 and is staffed with Sylvania Fire paramedics), had a cardiac arrest (ROSC) Return of Spontaneous Circulation rate 16% higher than the rest of the Lucas County EMS system as a whole. "Let's face it, as a department; you are the elite in Sylvania. The professional attitude, work ethic, and willingness to always strive for improvement in all aspects of paramedicine is quite apparent." Mr. Parquette also mentioned Sylvania Fire and Life Squad 6 as having "A cohesive team (department) approach to cardiac arrest" and "...your department's approach to QA (quality assurance) and run follow up far exceeds what is done in other places. Constant review of your performance and skills, in my mind, will only make you better."

Many Sylvania Fire paramedics are certified by the State of Ohio as EMS instructors, and teach in the Lucas County EMS system. Mr. Parquette further states "It is refreshing to see the Sylvania medics work together within the continuing education program. Watching their performance in skill stations, one would think it was a "real" scenario playing out in front of them. Absolutely - that is the way it should be done. Those critical practiced skills in CE are carried out into the field and make a real difference in the approach to patient assessment and care."

The volunteer fire department of years ago in Sylvania, with first-aid trained fire fighters, transitioned to full-time fire fighters with emergency medical technician certification, then to fire fighters with paramedic certification, provide the Sylvania Community with highly trained and educated fire fighters and the highest level of care when you need it most – your time of need.

The management team of the Sylvania Township Fire Department is proud of and congratulates your fire fighters for their dedication to service in the community of Sylvania.