



HEART TO HEART

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WORKING TO CONQUER SUDDEN CARDIAC DEATH

VOL. VII FALL 2014



The mission of the Steven M. Gootter Foundation is to save lives by defeating sudden cardiac death through increased awareness, education and scientific research.

The Steven M. Gootter Foundation works to increase awareness of sudden cardiac death among those who may be at risk, fosters education among the public and health care professionals, and funds scientific research into the causes of and treatments for sudden cardiac death.



FOUNDATION RAISES RECORD AMOUNT FOR RESEARCH AND LIFESAVING AEDS

More than 400 people celebrated the ninth annual Gootter Grand Slam at a gala dinner on March 16th, 2014 at the Westin La Paloma Resort. Highlights of the annual event included the presentation of the 2014 Philanthropic Award to Czarina and Humberto Lopez by Coach Rich Rodriguez.

To date, the Foundation has endowed the Steven M. Gootter Chair for the Prevention and Treatment of Sudden Cardiac Death. The more than \$500,000 raised at the 2014 Grand Slam will fund research and continue the mission of providing lifesaving Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) to Southern Arizona schools and other public places. More than 110 AEDs have been placed all over Tucson and surrounding areas.

The 2014 Gootter Grand Slam Tennis Tournament and Pro Exhibition featured Tracy Austin, Gigi Fernandez, Murphy and Luke Jensen and UA Football Coach Rich Rodriguez. The Steven M. Gootter Foundation is dedicated to defeating sudden cardiac death by supporting increased awareness, education and scientific research.

**SAVE THE DATE FOR THE
10TH ANNUAL GOOTTER GRAND SLAM:
MARCH 7-8, 2015**



Top left: Andrew and Claudine Messing, Rich Rodriguez, Czarina and Humberto Lopez.

Top right: Melissa Ludgate and Gary Brown, MD candidates at U of A, Class of 2016

Lower right: Kennedy Cooper and Dana Cooper

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FOUNDATION CPR CAMPAIGN TRAINS FANS AT PHOENIX SUNS GAME

On Friday, March 28th the Gootter Foundation, organizers of the “Be a Lifesaver” campaign, trained the Phoenix Suns fans on chest-compression-only CPR. The Suns hosted the New York Knicks at US Airways Center. All fans in attendance received a Gootter Foundation *Check, Call, Compress* 3-point card.

Additionally a new 30 second PSA featuring Suns forward Channing Frye was presented during the game which included a demonstration to train Suns fans on saving a life with the chest-compression-only method. The training campaign is a cooperative effort between the Steven M. Gootter Foundation, the Kaimas Foundation and the UA Sarver Heart Center.

“If someone had known what to do, my brother might be here today,” said Steven M. Gootter’s sister, Claudine Messing. Steven Gootter died

Channing Frye of the Phoenix Suns



of sudden cardiac arrest at the age of 42 while jogging with the family dog. “That’s why we want to teach as many people as we can how to save a life,” Messing said. “A thousand people per day die of sudden cardiac arrest in the United States. That’s one person every 90 seconds. It’s the leading cause of natural death in the U.S.”

THE GIFT OF LIFE: 50 AEDS FOR THE TUCSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

In an unprecedented move, the Steven M. Gootter Foundation presented the Tucson Police Department with 50 AEDs (automated external defibrillators) which were distributed among patrol cars on June 1, 2014. AEDs are lifesaving devices when administered to sudden cardiac victims within the first ten minutes of a cardiac event. One’s survival is often predicated by being in the right place at the right time as every minute is critical.

Police officers are often first on the scene when a cardiac event is reported. Although one can never predict when and where a sudden cardiac event will take place, by placing AEDs in patrol cars with officers who have been trained on how to use these devices, there is a greater chance a sudden cardiac victim can be saved.

“These AED devices could be the equipment that will allow officers to provide life-saving assistance when time is of the essence,” said Tucson Chief of Police Roberto Villaseñor. “We are not usurping the role of firefighters or paramedics, but the fact is that there are situations when police officers are the first ones on the scene when life threatening cardiac episodes are taking place, and any equipment that will help us save lives is appreciated. We are extremely grateful to the Gootter Foundation for supplying this equipment.”

“It is a \$100,000 investment for the safekeeping of our citizens,” said Gootter Foundation President Andrew Messing. “It makes sense for our police cars to be equipped with these lifesaving devices. Hopefully, Tucson will become a model city for the rest of the country when this program is implemented.

The more AEDs we place in our community, in locations where they are most likely to be used, the better the odds are that lives will be saved”.

Tucson Mayor Jonathan Rothschild is thrilled with the donation. “These AEDs will be a tremendous benefit to our police department and our city,” said Mayor Rothschild. “Seconds count when you’re dealing with cardiac arrest, so it’s important to get these devices into the hands of whoever is first on the scene - paramedic or police officer. I am very grateful to the Steven M. Gootter Foundation for this most generous gift.”



GOOTTER FOUNDATION SUPPORTS PROMISING RESEARCH PROJECTS AT UA AND STANFORD

The Steven M. Gootter Foundation has, for a second consecutive year, funded the UA Sarver Heart Center Resuscitation Laboratory, led by Dr. Karl Kern. This support will allow the laboratory to pursue the newest techniques to improve survival from Sudden Cardiac Arrest. The lab is exploring new methods for aggressive post-resuscitation treatments including hypothermia and emergent opening of coronary blockages.



Karl B. Kern, MD
Co-Director,
UA Sarver
Heart Center



Joe Wu, MD
Director, Stanford
Cardiovascular
Institute

INVESTIGATOR AWARDS

Dr. Christopher Pappas, a Postdoctoral Research Associate in the Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine at the University of Arizona Sarver Heart Center, will study a structural defect that has been discovered in hearts of mice as well as in biopsies of human patients that have dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM) which is the cause of 1/3 cases of human congestive heart failure. The goal of the study is to understand the consequences of this defect on cardiac function and how it might contribute to the pathology of DCM. It is the hope that molecular tools, recently developed in the U of A lab, can be used to prevent the mice from developing or attenuate the progression of DCM.

Dr. Curt Scharfe, Senior Scientist at the Stanford Genome Technology Center and Dr. Kitch Wilson, an MD with a PhD in Bio-engineering, are developing a genetic test for the early detection of heart defects on individuals with no symptoms using cost-effective tests for Sudden Cardiac Death (SCD) gene mutations. The goal is early intervention for patients before the disease strikes, and establishing the assay as a critical tool in the cardiologist's toolbox for identifying patients at risk for SCD. "After validation of the SCD gene test, it will be made available to physicians around the globe," said Dr. Joe Wu, Director of the Stanford Cardiovascular Institute.

Dr. Marco Perez, Director of the Stanford Inherited Cardiac Arrhythmia Clinic, is working on improving the diagnostic accuracy for hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) and standardizing preventative measures for athletes. He will compare electrocardiogram (ECG) readings of HCM patients against those from student athletes to identify the ECG criteria that best distinguish normal athletes from athletes at risk for HCM and sudden death. ECGs from both groups will be analyzed to develop criteria to maximize diagnostic accuracy and minimize false positives.

FOUNDATION WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBER MARC FLEISCHMAN

We are very pleased to announce that Marc Fleischman has recently joined the Gootter Foundation Board of Directors as Treasurer. He is the President of BeachFleischman, PC, the largest locally owned CPA firm in Arizona.



Marc Fleischman

TUCSON CARE CARD

For the second consecutive year, the Gootter Foundation will be the beneficiary of the Tucson Care Card.

TCC
TUCSON
CARE CARD

Every time shoppers use the card at participating retailers and restaurants from October 3-12, they will receive a 20% discount. The Care Card costs \$30, all of which will go directly to the Gootter Foundation. To buy your card or for more information please visit www.tucsoncarecard.org.

FOUNDATION EXPANDS AED DISTRIBUTION

The Steven M. Gootter Foundation has provided over 110 Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) throughout Southern Arizona since 2009. AED recipients include:

Amphitheater High School
Amphitheater Middle School
Arizona Theater Company
BASIS Tucson North
Beat Cancer Boot Camp
Benson High School
Bisbee High School
Canyon Del Oro High School
Casa de los Ninos
Cornerstone Christian Academy
Congregation Anshei Israel
Desert Christian High School
Desert Son Community Church
Desert View High School
Emerge! Center Against Domestic Abuse
Empire High School
Fenster School of America
Flowing Wells High School
Fox Tucson Theatre
Green Fields Country Day School
Ironwood Ridge High School
Jim Reffkin Tennis Center
Keeling School
The Loft Cinema
Manzanita Elementary School
Marana Police Department (6)
MOCA (Museum of Contemporary Art)
Primavera Foundation
Pusch Ridge Christian Academy
Rialto Theatre
Salpointe Catholic High School
San Miguel Catholic High School
Sonoita Hills Community Church
Sporting Chance Center
Sunnyside High School
Sunrise Drive Elementary School
St. Augustine Catholic High School
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish
St. Francis Cabrini Church
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish
Tanque Verde High School
Temple Emanu-El
Tucson Aztecs Soccer Club
Tucson Boys and Girls Clubs (6)
Tucson Children's Museum
Tucson Museum of Art
Tucson Senior Softball League
Tucson Police Department (50)
Tucson Soccer Academy
Tucson Urban League
Vail High School
Valley Union High School
Willcox High School
Yuma High School
YMCA Ott Branch

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SAVE THE DATE!

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GOOTTER GRAND SLAM
STEVEN M. GOOTTER FOUNDATION

MARCH 7-8, 2015

If you would like to receive this **newsletter and other communications electronically** please email gootterfoundation@gmail.com.



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9TH ANNUAL GOOTTER GRAND SLAM



Czarina Lopez, Bishop Gerald Kicanas,
Humberto Lopez



Luke Jensen, Gigi Fernandez, Murphy Jensen,
Rich Rodriguez, Tracy Austin



Dev and Olivia Sethi, Andrea and Gary Malis,
Sally Cooper and Cary Ridenour



Rob Aronoff, Sherry Downer, Jeff Edmonds,
Joe Forster, Randy Downer



University of Arizona Football Coach
Rich Rodriguez



Eric Styrmo, Terri Kessler,
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