



THE
GENERAL FEDERATION OF
WOMEN'S CLUBS OF VIRGINIA
SEEKS YOUR HELP TO PROVIDE
SUPPORT FOR
THE VIRGINIA TECH
RESCUE SQUAD

*Recognized nationally for its service to
the university and the community*

Planned Purchase: A Fully Equipped New Ambulance

To Honor the Victims from the Tragedy on April 16, 2007

Giving a Continuing Living Memory

Let's Pass It On

This project is assisted by:



INTRODUCTION

The Virginia Tech Rescue Squad (VTRS) is a completely volunteer organization comprised of student volunteers. The VTRS provides emergency medical coverage to the Virginia Tech community 24/7 all year and provides emergency medical coverage for home football games.

The VTRS is located on the campus of Virginia Tech on Barger Street next to the power plant. The station is a converted mailroom space which was initially occupied by the VTRS in the early 1980's. The station includes about 4,800 square feet of equipment bay and living space and can sleep a crew of seven. The facility is in serious need of being updated.

The VTRS receives most of its funding from the University through Student Health Services. The group is allocated a yearly budget which is used to purchase medical supplies, new equipment, and maintaining the station and vehicles. Typically the needs of the VTRS exceed its allocated budget. The purpose of this proposal is to outline how the General Federation of Women's Clubs can help to bridge the gap between

the VTRS budget and actual needs, especially during the next approximately three-five years while the group waits to be moved to a proposed new facility on campus.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

History

The VTRS was formed in 1969 to provide the best possible emergency medical care to the Virginia Tech community, as well as provide training and experience to those interested in emergency medicine. It is the second oldest collegiate rescue squad in the country and the first in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

In 2000, the VTRS received the highest award presented by the Office of EMS; the Governor's Award for Outstanding EMS Agency in the Commonwealth in recognition for the squad's high training standards.

On April 16th, 2007 the Virginia Tech Rescue Squad provided the emergency medical care in response to the two attacks on the Virginia Tech campus. They have received much recognition and support for their efforts including:

The American Ambulance Association's EMS Stars award

Special recognition at WVEMS awards banquet

Recognition by President George Bush at the commemoration ceremony on April 17th
Recognition from the Board of Visitors (resolution 3A,)

Recognition by Governor Tim Kaine at the first football game of 2007

The tragedy demonstrated the cohesivity of the EMS agencies in the area. Numerous agencies including Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Floyd, Longshop McCoy and many others responded with additional units and personnel, without which transport and treatment of the dozens of injured individuals would have been near impossible. The 16th will remain infamous for the thirty two lives lost and the dozens injured, but the Virginia Tech Rescue Squad can be proud that they responded to the event with professionalism and bravery.

The VTRS is now the oldest student run volunteer emergency medical service in the nation. The squad is among a handful of collegiate EMS agencies offering ALS transport and is slowly becoming one of the

last all volunteer agencies left in collegiate EMS. It has been the model for developing rescue squads at many universities throughout the United States. In the past thirty years the VTRS has grown from four members certified in first aid to a fully equipped Advanced Life Support Agency with three vehicles and over thirty members.

In three-five years, a new combined police/fire/rescue facility station will be built at Virginia Tech to meet the needs of the growing campus. However, meeting the current needs of the Virginia Tech Rescue Squad in their present facility would be a significant way to help everyone this groups serves at Virginia Tech and in the surrounding communities in the meantime.