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Starting Hearts and Vail Public Safety Communications Center launch mobile app to save lives in Eagle County
PulsePoint app alerts nearby CPR trained citizens of a victim's location and closest public access AED

Vail, Colorado – With a simple alert from your phone, you could help save a life. Starting Hearts and the Vail Public Safety Communications Center have partnered to launch the PulsePoint CPR/AED mobile application to help increase sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) survival rates in Eagle County. The PulsePoint app helps improve community response to SCA victims by enabling "Neighbor Savers," or citizen bystanders, to provide lifesaving cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and access public access automated external defibrillators (AED).

PulsePoint is tied in to the County's computer aided dispatch (CAD) system and notifies users who have signed up for the app that are within a half-mile of the person in need of emergency intervention. The app then sends the user a map to the location of the person in need of CPR and the nearest AED.

Individuals experiencing SCA have only minutes until death, unless a bystander or trained responder recognizes the symptoms and takes immediate action. Even under the best of circumstances, professionally trained first responders are potentially seven or more minutes away from conducting life-saving measures. Time is of the essence; without intervention each passing minute the odds of survival drop dramatically. When every second counts, the nearest Neighbor Saver could make the difference between life and death.

To receive notifications and help save lives:
1-Download the free PulsePoint app
2-From the agency list, find and follow Vail Public Safety Communications Center
3-Go to settings and select the "CPR" notification box

SCA is a leading cause of death in the United States, accounting for an estimated 325,000 deaths each year or 1,000 deaths per day. The American Heart Association estimates that effective bystander CPR, provided immediately after sudden cardiac arrest, can double or triple a person's chance of survival. However, only about one quarter of SCA victims receive bystander CPR and even fewer receive a potentially lifesaving therapeutic shock from a public access AED. Improving bystander CPR rates and access to AEDs is critical to survival.

Ab**out Vail Public Safety Communications Center:**
The Vail Public Safety Communications Center is the multi-discipline public safety communications center serving all of Eagle County.

The Communications Center serves as the public safety answering point for 9-1-1 calls originating from all Eagle County telephone exchanges, including 9-1-1 call from cell phones in Eagle County. These calls can range from life or death assistance, to requests for road conditions, to animal control calls. As each

call is received, the dispatcher makes a determination as to the urgency of the call; the jurisdiction responsible for response, and takes action on it.

The Communication Center is primary dispatch for twelve public safety agencies.   The agencies are: Avon Police Department, Eagle County Airport Fire Department, Eagle County Paramedic Services, Eagle County Sheriffs Office, Eagle Police Department, Eagle River Fire Protection District, Greater Eagle Fire Protection District, Gypsum Fire Protection District, Minturn Police Department, Rock Creek Volunteer Fire Department, Vail Fire and Emergency Services, and Vail Police Department.

About Starting Hearts:
Starting Hearts is an Eagle County nonprofit dedicated to saving the lives of Sudden Cardiac Arrest victims in our community. We provide outreach and education to empower individuals to step in and assist while medical professionals are en route.

To save more lives in Eagle County, we provide three primary programs: Call-Push-Shock, which provides basic CPR training and AED use; Nearest AED, which is working to develop a broader network of the devices that play a critical role in the survival from SCA; and Neighbor Saver, which will connect willing volunteers trained in CPR and AED use with a nearby victim in need via the Pulsepoint app.