



# NEWS

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

VALERIE A. ARKOOSH, MD, MPH, CHAIR  
KENNETH E. LAWRENCE, JR., VICE CHAIR  
JOSEPH C. GALE, COMMISSIONER

### Contact:

Kaitlyn Foti, Press Secretary

610-278-3062 [kfoti@montcopa.org](mailto:kfoti@montcopa.org)

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### **PulsePoint App Assists in Life-Saving Measures in Limerick Township**

**Norristown, PA (July 6, 2017)** –A 56-year-old man received CPR during a cardiac arrest in Limerick Township on July 1, along with the application of an automated external defibrillation, during a call that triggered the county’s new PulsePoint Respond mobile application.

The alert that the app sent out received a response by five bystanders in the area, one of whom was an off-duty paramedic from Lehigh Valley. The paramedic provided assistance to the first responders. The victim is currently recovering.

“We launched the PulsePoint application less than six weeks ago, firmly believing that it would help save lives in Montgomery County,” said Val Arkoosh, Chair, Montgomery County Board of Commissioners. “We already have our first example that nearby citizens trained in CPR are using the app and willing to jump into action to save their fellow residents.”

The PulsePoint Respond mobile app was launched in Montgomery County in May to strengthen the chain of survival for cardiac arrest victims. The PulsePoint Respond App is connected to the Montgomery County Department of Public Safety 911 call center and will alert those who have the app and are CPR-trained whenever an ambulance is dispatched in response to a Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) in a public area within a ¼ mile of their location. The app will also show the location of the nearest Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) if it is registered with PulsePoint.

Early application of bystander CPR and defibrillation from an AED dramatically improves a person’s chance of surviving a Sudden Cardiac Arrest. According to the American Heart Association, CPR, especially if performed within the first few minutes can double or triple a person’s chance of survival.

The Montgomery County Department of Public Safety has reached out to first responders and residents trained in CPR to download the PulsePoint Respond app to receive alerts about nearby cardiac arrests. The department has

also asked for assistance from residents to crowdsource the locations of AEDs throughout the county.

In addition to announcing the first PulsePoint-assisted save in Montgomery County at the Board of Commissioners meeting July 6, Arkoosh also participated in CPR training of Montgomery County employees that afternoon. Members of the commissioners' office received a two-hour training in hands-only CPR. Following the training, those employees were encouraged to download the PulsePoint Respond app.

**Cutlines:**

**PulsePoint Map:** This map shows the PulsePoint users who were alerted to the cardiac arrest July 1 in Limerick Township. Five PulsePoint users were within the ¼ mile vicinity of where the victim suffered cardiac arrest.

**IMG\_3870 (L to R):** Montgomery County Commissioners Ken Lawrence Jr., Val Arkoosh, and Joe Gale practice CPR on dummies during an employee training Thursday afternoon at One Montgomery Plaza.