



## Response to Questions on the 2016 LOBs

**Request By:** Supervisor Storck

**Relevant LOB(s):** LOB #224

**Question:** Provide information on the Fire and Rescue Department's prevention activities, specifically as it pertains to the *Safety in Our Community* and *Wellness in Our Community* programs.

**Response:**

A key cornerstone of the Fire and Rescue Department (FRD) mission is to create a safer community, thus enhancing the quality of life for the residents of Fairfax County. Community outreach is a core value and an integral part of this effort. Two of the largest outreach efforts, *Safety in Our Community* and *Wellness in Our Community*, have proved highly successful and are highlighted below.

***Safety in Our Community (SIOC):***

Fire and Rescue personnel interact face-to-face with residents while delivering the SIOC Program to communities throughout the County on Saturday afternoons, from mid-March through early December.

Primary focal points are:

- Assure homes have at least one working smoke alarm; personnel install alarms where needed at no charge to the resident.
- Assure outside/portable cooking appliances are positioned a safe distance from the home.
- Deliver timely educational information on injury prevention, including offering a home safety inspection, all with the mindset to "Prevent the 911 Call."

In March 2015, FRD implemented a new reporting tool, the Emergency Data Gathering Repository (EDGR), which has allowed the agency to better track the number of homes visited as part of the SIOC program. This past calendar year, FRD reached 10.0 percent of housing units. The following chart illustrates what has been achieved as part of the SIOC program:



SIOC ACTIVITIES							
<i>Year</i>	<i>Houses Reached<sup>1</sup></i>	<i>Alarms Installed</i>	<i>Batteries Supplied</i>	<i>People Educated</i>	<i>Door hangers Left</i>	<i>Housing Units<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>Percent of Housing Units Reached</i>
CY 2013	44,982	4,180	3,006	16,515	28,944	409,072	11.0%
CY 2014	54,841	4,636	3,110	20,827	38,515	409,979	13.4%
CY 2015	41,391	5,786	2,079	18,865	34,336	412,198	10.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>141,214</b>	<b>14,602</b>	<b>8,195</b>	<b>56,207</b>	<b>101,795</b>		

<sup>1</sup> Data prior to March 2015 is based on an intranet form. From March 2015 forward, data captured through EDGR.

<sup>2</sup> Source: Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services.

### ***Wellness in Our Community (WIOC):***

The WIOC initiative, started in April 2015, has been developed to complement the SIOC program, furthering the mission of creating a safer community and enhancing the quality of life for the residents of Fairfax County.

Primary focal points are:

- Promoting community wellness;
- Improving the quality of life for residents, citizens and visitors; and,
- Saving lives via emergency response.

All aforementioned focal points act as force multipliers to “Prevent the 911 Call.”

The File of Life (FOL) is the cornerstone of the WIOC initiative. The FOL, usually located on an occupant’s refrigerator door, allows first responders to obtain a quick medical history when the patient cannot offer one. If a patient is unconscious and unresponsive, a completed FOL can provide important, detailed medical information that otherwise would be unavailable.

Since the introduction of the EDGR application personnel have reported distributing over 40,000 FOLs. Additionally, the FOL has been used as a resource over 1,000 times on Emergency Medical Services events.