

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Mississippi Coast CPR Week Events Scheduled for June 6-8**

*The American Heart Association and its partners on the Mississippi Gulf Coast hope to train an additional 2,000 Coast residents in Hands-Only CPR during CPR Week.*

**Biloxi, MS** (May 22, 2017) – With a goal of training an additional 2,000 residents of the Mississippi Coast in life-saving Hands-Only CPR, the American Heart Association and its partners have scheduled a week of CPR events and demonstrations June 6-8.

Nationally, 90% of people who suffer out-of-hospital cardiac arrests don't survive. CPR, especially if performed immediately, can double or triple a cardiac arrest victim's chance of survival. Some 70% of out-of-hospital cardiac arrests happen in homes, meaning that oftentimes, when the need for CPR strikes, trained health professionals may not be nearby. Therefore, citizens should learn Hands-Only CPR in order to respond to cardiac events immediately and increase survival chances for those undergoing cardiac events.

In 2007, the AHA in coalition with the American Red Cross and the National Safety Council worked collaboratively to federally designate a National CPR and AED Awareness Week. On December 13, 2007, Congress unanimously passed a resolution to set aside June 1-7 each year as National CPR and AED Awareness Week to spotlight how lives can be saved if more Americans know CPR and how to use an AED. In the declaration, Congress asked states and municipalities to make AEDs more publicly accessible. During this week each year, CPR/AED classes and demonstrations are conducted, events are hosted and educational information is distributed on the importance of being trained in CPR and AED use. We encourage you to find out about local events in your area!

Locally, the American Heart Association and its partners on the Mississippi Coast have scheduled several events spanning CPR Week to increase accessibility to the quick, 60-second Hands-Only CPR training. The events are as follows:

### **Harrison County**

- Tuesday, June 6 (11 a.m. – 1 p.m.) @ Biloxi Town Green in partnership with the City of Biloxi, the Biloxi Parks and Recreation Department, and the Biloxi Fire Department. Lunch will be provided to the first 75 participants by Newk's.

For more information about Hands-Only CPR, please visit this [link](#). For more information regarding CPR Week events on the Mississippi Coast, please visit [here](#).

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**[About the American Heart Association](#)**

*The American Heart Association is devoted to saving people from heart disease and stroke – America’s No. 1 and No. 5 killers. We team with millions of volunteers to fund innovative research, fight for stronger public health policies, and provide lifesaving tools and information to prevent and treat these diseases. The Dallas-based association is the nation’s oldest and largest voluntary organization dedicated to fighting heart disease and stroke. To learn more or to get involved, call 1-800-AHA-USA1, visit [www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org) or call any of our offices around the country.*