



NEWS RELEASE

\$12,000 Donation Provides Vital Tool for Cardiac Arrest Patients at Mercer Health

Mercer Health recently obtained the LUCAS® Chest Compression System which is designed to help improve outcomes of sudden cardiac arrest victims and improve operations for medical staff. Physio-Control, the company that produces the LUCAS® Chest Compression System, indicates, "For an emergency department or nurse manager, LUCAS is a vital tool in the treatment of cardiac arrest patients. LUCAS delivers effective, consistent, uninterrupted chest compressions and can help effectively manage the code scene while helping the patient to maintain good circulation. Emergency department staff, relieved of the need to perform manual compressions, can more efficiently assess the patient's condition and determine the best treatment plan. This can reduce crowding and chaos in the emergency department, which can help to maintain calm and focus amongst the staff, and potentially free up resources for use in other emergencies. In addition, using LUCAS in the emergency department can help maintain circulation without interruptions which is crucial to improving patient outcomes."

The LUCAS Chest Compression System was obtained through a combined donation totaling \$12,000 from Mercer Health's Volunteer Association, the MED Foundation and the Yaney Heart Fund managed by the Mercer County Civic Foundation. Jenny Conn, Director of Emergency Services at Mercer Health, is grateful for the donation which was received in June. Conn states, "Performing at least 100 compressions per minute, LUCAS can be deployed quickly with minimal interruption to patient care. It is designed to provide automated compressions from first response in the field to ambulance transport. Plus, it is portable so we can use it throughout the hospital. By maintaining circulation it is proven to improve a patient's chance for a successful outcome. We are so grateful for this gift to our patients."

"The LUCAS System has already paid for itself," shares Dr. Craig Dues, a physician at Mercer Health's Emergency Room. "We have already saved one life with it. As far as I know, we are the only emergency room and hospital in the area utilizing a LUCAS Chest Compression System."

About Physio-Control

Physio-Control has pioneered defibrillation technology since 1955 when it was founded by Dr. Karl William Edmark, a cardiovascular surgeon from Seattle who invented the DC defibrillator when he started experimenting with electronic means to halt death during sudden cardiac arrest. This first DC defibrillator became the prototype for medical

devices used by emergency medical services and hospitals around the world. Ten years later Physio-Control dramatically changed the face of emergency medical care forever with the introduction of the first portable defibrillator / monitor. For more information, visit: <http://www.physio-control.com/>

Attached: Pictured with the LUCAS Chest Compression System (from left to right): Chris Knapke, Volunteer; Glenn Hux, Mercer County Civic Foundation Executive Director; Jane Stammen, Director of Volunteer Services; Dr. Craig Dues, Emergency Room physician; Sandy Tebbe, Emergency Department Manager; Mauri Cron, President of the Mercer County Civic Foundation; John Hoying, MED Foundation Director; Amy Nietfeld, RN in Emergency Department; Betsy Beckman, RN in Emergency Department; and Jenny Conn, Director of Emergency Services.

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