



Xenia City Hall  
101 N. Detroit Street  
Xenia, Ohio 43585

CITY OF XENIA, OHIO

# PRESS RELEASE

**Contact:** Lee Warren, Public Relations  
City of Xenia  
101 N. Detroit Street  
Xenia, OH 43585  
(937) 376-8904

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
(May 25, 2016)

## **City of Xenia Fire Division receives American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline EMS Recognition Award**

Xenia, Ohio (May 25, 2016) – The City of Xenia Fire Division (XFD) will receive the American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline EMS Bronze Award for implementing quality improvement measures for the treatment of patients who experience severe heart attacks. The award will be presented at City Hall on Thursday, May 26, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. during the City Council meeting.

The award will be presented by Mr. Alexander Kuhn, Senior Director, Quality and Systems Improvement for the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association, Columbus, Ohio.

Every year, more than 250,000 people experience the most deadly type of heart attack, a ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction also known as STEMI, caused by a blockage of blood flow to the heart that requires timely treatment. To prevent death, it's critical to restore blood flow as quickly as possible, either by mechanically opening the blocked vessel or by providing clot-busting medication. Mission Lifeline seeks to save lives by closing the gaps that separate these patients from timely access to appropriate treatments. Mission: Lifeline's recognition program recognizes emergency medical services for their efforts in improving systems of care and improving the quality of life for these patients.

Agencies that receive the Mission: Lifeline Bronze award have demonstrated at least 75 percent compliance for each required achievement measure for a minimum of one quarter. "EMTs and paramedics play a vital part in the system of care for those who have heart attacks," said James Jollis, M.D., Chair of the Mission: Lifeline Advisory Working Group. "Since they often are the first medical point of contact, they can save precious minutes of life-saving treatment time by activating the emergency response system that alerts hospitals. We applaud the City of Xenia

Fire Division for achieving this award that shows it meets evidence-based guidelines in the treatment of people who have severe heart attacks.”

The City of Xenia Fire Division is dedicated to making our service among the best in the country, and the Mission: Lifeline program is helping us accomplish that by implementing processes for improving systems of care with the goal of improving the quality of care for all acute coronary syndrome patients,” said XFD Fire Chief Ken Riggsby. “We are pleased to be recognized for our dedication and achievements in emergency medical care for cardiac patients.

###