



To Whom It May Concern,

The children in our community **NEED YOUR HELP!**

**On Saturday, October 20, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**, Deborah Heart and Lung Center is hosting a Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) screening for children between the ages of 12 and 19 years old. We need your assistance in spreading the word and helping us get up to 300 children registered.

SCA is the #1 health-related cause of death -- among all age groups -- in the United States. It is a result of an undetected and undiagnosed heart abnormality and tends to happen before the age of 20, often striking healthy young teenagers with no warning or symptoms. In the United States, approximately 424,000 people experience SCA every year and 9 out of 10 of them die. More people die each year from sudden cardiac arrest than from Alzheimer's disease, firearms, breast cancer, cervical cancer, colon cancer, car accidents, diabetes, HIV, house fires, prostate cancer, suicides, flu, pneumonia, and strokes COMBINED!

The screening is quick and includes: blood pressure, heart auscultation (listening for a heart murmur), electrocardiogram (ECG) and, if needed, an echocardiogram (sonic heart imaging). Confidential results will be delivered to each parent -- before you and your child leave -- after review by one of Deborah's board certified Cardiologists. All screenings are scheduled by appointment only and you must register online at [www.deborahfoundation.org](http://www.deborahfoundation.org) or [www.demanddeborah.org](http://www.demanddeborah.org).

SCA does not discriminate -- whether an athlete, in the marching band, or a member of the chess club, your children could be at risk of experiencing a SCA. Unfortunately, Pediatricians do not perform routine cardiac screenings on students during basic annual or sports physicals. So, as part of the Children of the World® program and the Children's Heart Center at Deborah, we are proud to offer this incredible program to your children, at no cost to you. Since 2015, Deborah has screened nearly 1,000 students and found approximately 5% needed additional testing by a Pediatric Cardiologist.

Please distribute the enclosed flyer to every student, coach and teacher at your school. We'd also appreciate if you could e-mail it to all your parents, the PTA and send event info via text blasts. This is truly a life-saving event, and we at Deborah are proud to be able to offer it to the community. Do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Yours in health,

Christy Hemmes, LPN

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