

MAGNOLIA HEART SAFE PROJECT

HISTORY AND INCARNATION

The year was 2004 when a new ROTARY Club was formed in Magnolia. The motto of Rotary is: *Service Above Self*. In living out that motto, one of the founding members had a vision to have our Community of Magnolia be a safer place to survive a Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA). This was the birth of the Magnolia Heart Safe Project. To increase the survival rate of SCA, the plan to place Automatic External Defibrillators (AED's) in vital locations in the community was born.

The membership of the Rotary Club of Magnolia and its Board endorsed the vision of a *17 Heart Safe Community*. An informational booth was established at the Magnolia Farmers' Market for purposes of raising the awareness of the need to have AED's placed in our community. The initial goal was to raise \$25,000 to purchase twelve Automatic External Defibrillators and train at least 60 people in their use. The initial funds came from a couple of dedicated Club members and were then matched by a matching grant of \$5,000 from District 5030 of Rotary. A generous contribution of \$10,000 was made by the Advisory Council of The Magnolia Community Center. A total of over \$23,000 was eventually raised to fund the *Heart Safe project*.

The next major task was to determine and then obtain permission to install the AED's in vital locations throughout the community. A committee was formed and twelve locations were established. At each location the owner/operators agreed to accept the devices and provided a list of their people to be trained. The Seattle Fire Department provided the training and certified each trained person as a *Heart Saver AED*. To date over 70 people in our community have been certified.

June 2007 a non-profit foundation was formed in the name of: The Magnolia Heart Safe Foundation. Ownership and management of the devices were turned over to this foundation. The MHSF was formed to carry on the vision to create and maintain a community that is Heart Safe. The commission of the MHSF is to care for the existing AED's, and to add other devices to Magnolia and other communities, such as Ballard and Queen Anne. The Magnolia Heart Safe Foundation has a 503c ruling from the IRS. For more information: www.magnoliaheartsafe.com.