

# Park District counters cardiac arrhythmias by installing AEDs

Staff report  
9:39 am CST February 26, 2018

Seven heart defibrillators now stand ready for action, should the need arise, at parks throughout Glenview.

The Glenview Park District worked with The Jenny Lynn Snyder Teen Heart Foundation to finalize installation in time for February, which was National Heart Health Month.

The automated external defibrillators can be found at Community Park West, Flick Park and Gallery Park. The first three AED's were set up at Community Park West toward the end of 2016. Installation of the remaining four began this past fall. All seven are in temperature controlled boxes and come with simple onscreen visual and voice commands on how to use them.

Once a box is opened, an alarm notifies park district officials and the alarm company, who in turn alert emergency dispatch services. AEDs analyze a person's heart rhythm and automatically diagnose life-threatening cardiac arrhythmias. If necessary, a shock can revive the heart.

"Thousands of people visit Glenview Park District parks each week, and many of them are involved in strenuous activities like sports leagues, jogging, biking or other fitness pursuits," said Henry Urbina, risk manager at the Glenview Park District. "Providing AEDs in our three most heavily used parks is another way that we can support our community's health, wellness and safety,"

A representative of The Jenny Lynn Snyder Teen Heart Foundation, which raised the funds to purchase the defibrillators, attended the Glenview Resident Open House on Feb. 17 at Park Center to bring awareness about the AED's to the community.

"Most people don't recognize Sudden Cardiac Arrest when it occurs in young people, nor do they know how to respond to it," said Michele Snyder, with the foundation.

"Communities don't realize that with increased access to automatic external defibrillators wherever youth congregate, as well as trained individuals in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, we will save lives."

## **AED locations:**

- Community Park West — Outside Park Facility Services, 655 Zenith Ave.

- Community Park West — Central Pavilion, 795 Zenith Ave.
- Community Park West — North Pavilion, 1001 Zenith Ave.
- Flick Park — South Pavilion, 3600 Glenview Road
- Flick Park — North Fieldhouse, 3716 Lindenwood Lane
- Gallery Park — North Pavilion, 2699 W. Lake Ave.
- Gallery Park — South Pavilion, 2598 Chestnut Ave.