



[www.AEDPetitionNow.com](http://www.AEDPetitionNow.com)

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## Parents Turn Tragedy into Action to Save Lives

### ***St Marys, Georgia, July 26, 2011***

When Harold and Becky Cohn lost their 15-year-old son Andrew last year like many others they didn't know anything about automated external defibrillators (AEDs). Later they found out that had an AED had been available at the baseball field where Andrew lost his life, he would most likely be alive today. That realization changed everything for the Cohns. They turned their grief into action, starting the AED Petition Now Alliance with the mission to have at least one AED in every public school by 2014. It's a bold goal.

Today the AED Petition Now Alliance is announcing the launch of the website [www.AEDpetitionNow.com](http://www.AEDpetitionNow.com). The website is a gathering point for parents, coaches, children and individuals to work together to get support nationwide for their goal. The organization is holding a kick off party at Camden County Rec Center for parents and children in the community.

The event is also a kick off for the Key Club project sponsored by Kiwanis International making Survival Bracelets to raise funds for AEDs. This program is the start of a nationwide effort to include Key Clubs all over the U.S. to help get AEDs in schools.

Every year in the US there are about 3,500 deaths caused by fires but about 276,000 deaths caused by out-of-the-hospital cardiac arrest. According to the American Heart Association about 5,900 children 18 years old and under suffer out-of-hospital cardiac arrest each year.

"All schools have fire extinguishers, because the law requires it. Isn't it time we get a law that mandates AEDs in schools too?", says Harold Cohn.

Sudden cardiac arrest can hit anyone, anywhere at anytime - even a healthy child. Sudden cardiac arrest causes an abnormal heart rhythm which leads to death within minutes unless normal heart rhythm is restored. An AED can do that - CPR alone can't.

### **About AED Petition Now**

AED Petition Now Alliance is a 401(c)3 nonprofit organization working to get at least one AED in every public schools by the year 2014. The nonprofit has already been instrumental in getting AEDs placed and also help start the first borrow AED program with Fire & Rescue in Camden County in its first year. More information is available on the website at [www.AEDpetitionNow.com](http://www.AEDpetitionNow.com)

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For more information about AED Petition Now Alliance, Inc, please contact Harold & Becky Cohn by calling 912-882-6869, or e-mail [info@aedpetitionnow.com](mailto:info@aedpetitionnow.com).

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