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April 7, 2006

Morty Henkle  
Executive Director  
Mikey Network  
245 Yorkland Blvd.  
Suite 100  
North York, Ontario  
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Dear Mr. Henkle:

On behalf of Toronto Emergency Medical Services, I am proud to provide the highest recommendation and endorsement of the Mikey Network. Toronto EMS has been involved as a partner with the Mikey Network since its inception and we are proud of the work we have done together to promote the lifesaving benefits of Public Access Defibrillation.

The Mikey Network shows tremendous leadership in its efforts to place Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in as many identified high-risk locations as possible. Generous donations of "Mikey" AEDs means that more than 120 sites across the GTA are equipped to respond quickly and efficiently to sudden cardiac arrests – even before emergency services arrive.

Toronto EMS is the largest municipal EMS service in Canada, responding to over 250,000 emergency medical calls each year. Over 2,300 of those calls are for people suffering cardiac arrest.

Toronto EMS recognizes the importance of the Chain of Survival in saving cardiac arrest patients. Two crucial links in the chain of survival are early CPR and early defibrillation. The time between onset of cardiac arrest and the performance of defibrillation may be the most important determinant for success of the resuscitation attempt. Improved availability and access to AEDs means reduced 'time to shock' which will have a significant impact on survival rates for victims of sudden cardiac arrest who are in shockable rhythms.

In the fall of 1998, Toronto City Council declared the City of Toronto a "Cardiac Safe City," dedicated to improving survival rates for residents, employees and visitors. Council has shown its support by actively encouraging public involvement and training in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), and wherever possible, Public Access Defibrillation.

In 2003, Toronto EMS began its relationship with Heathwood Homes and The Heron Group of Companies to provide education and training, site assessments, and site consultation to implement effective emergency response plans at Mikey locations. Together we have raised public awareness and continued to build on the Cardiac Safe City foundation. Our partnership will continue to improve the survival rate for out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrests. We applaud the extraordinary efforts and commitment of the Mikey Network toward raising the standard of care in our community, when responding to out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrest is second to none. We are proud to be part of the Mikey Network.

Yours sincerely,



Bruce K. Farr  
Chief and General Manager  
Toronto Emergency Medical Services

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