FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT



Dear Firehouse Subs, October 3, 2024

The Lauderhill Fire Rescue Department was established in 1959 to protect lives and property of the citizen and its guests. The Lauderhill Fire Rescue Department encompasses 121 highly trained fire professionals serving a residential population of over 76,000 in Broward County, Florida. Our Fire Department houses four fire stations (57, 73, 30, & 110) and provides services that include fire suppression, Advanced Life Support Emergency Medical Services (EMS), fire prevention, dive-rescue, community paramedicine and public education through community risk reduction.

Firehouse Subs' mission statement is "Our mission is to impact the <u>lifesaving capabilities</u>, and the lives of local heroes and their communities by providing <u>lifesaving equipment</u> and prevention education tools to fire responders, non-profits and public safety organizations." This statement goes hand-in-hand with our vision of achieving this grant for public education.

The Lauderhill Fire Department responds to approximately 150 fires each year, with many incidents involving residents attempting to use fire extinguishers but doing so unsuccessfully. This highlights a critical gap in public knowledge and proper technique when it comes to using extinguishers during an emergency. Often, residents either misjudge the size of the fire or fail to follow the necessary steps for effective extinguisher use, which can lead to delayed response times and increased fire damage. Strengthening education on fire extinguisher use could significantly improve early fire suppression efforts, reducing the severity of these incidents and potentially saving lives and property.

A fire extinguisher simulator trainer is essential for educating the public on the proper use of fire extinguishers, as it provides hands-on experience in a safe and controlled environment. By allowing individuals to practice extinguishing different types of fires without actually discharging chemical agents, the simulator not only builds confidence and familiarity with the equipment but also helps save lives in real emergency situations. Additionally, using simulators protects the environment by eliminating the need to release harmful chemicals into the air during training sessions, reducing waste and environmental impact while still delivering effective, realistic training.

Thank you for taking your time and dedication towards the public sector.

Robert Torres
Fire Chief of Lauderhill Fire-Rescue Department