

INDEPENDENT FIRE CO. NO. 1, INC.

ORGANIZED 1884

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28 October 2013

Dear Neighbor,

As we again request your financial support, I want to point out several positive items, along with a critical issue that is facing the Volunteer Fire and Ambulance service in Jefferson County.

During the past year we have responded to 2,423 emergencies accounting for 7,386 man-hours.

Fundraising, including bingo every Monday evening, two Sportsmens' Bashes, Breakfast with Santa and numerous other events by our auxiliary accounted for 4,610 man-hours.

Finally our Volunteers put in 3900 other hours that included training and miscellaneous activities.

This year we purchased two new ambulances at a cost of over \$400,000 minus the trade-in values of our old units of approximately \$100,000. Normally we replace one every three to five years but our ambulances had unacceptable mechanical problems so we had to break from our normal pattern.

We also purchased an air compressor to fill our breathing air bottles. This unit cost approximately \$61,000 and was made possible by significant donations from the Jefferson County Tuberculosis Society.

An issue that is very concerning to our Company is the recent Ambulance Fee that was implemented by the Jefferson County Commission. It is critical that you, our supporters understand that none of this fee will be designated to our Company. The total amount will be received by the Jefferson County Emergency Services Agency for the addition of personnel. We will probably receive one or two additional personnel to assist with our emergencies, but no additional funds for our operational expenses. This is occurring at the same time that the Commission is warning us to expect a 5% reduction in the funds that we receive annually from the County Budget.

With this fact, it is critical that neighbors such as you continue your donations.

The Independent Fire Company has a history of financial responsibility and being frugal with our expenditures. We are committed to continue this practice and promise full accountability of all expenditures.

Thank you,

Ed

Edwin D. Smith
President

Please detach the top of this letter and return with your Donation.

We **do not** do door to door or telephone solicitations so please report anyone representing us attempting this method.

This mailing is done at Independent by your volunteers, to save on the cost.