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October 7, 2010

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Medic One Foundation Auction Launches Paramedic Fundraising Campaign

Auction raised over half of the funds needed to train 18 new paramedics, but more is needed

(SEATTLE – Wash.) – More than 500 people gathered at the Seattle Sheraton Hotel for the Medic One Foundation’s “Lights, Sirens, Auction!” event on Friday, October 1 which kicked-off the Foundation’s campaign to urgently raise the much-needed funds to train 18 new paramedics for communities throughout the Puget Sound region. Proceeds from the event totaled \$203,000, up from \$150,000 last year.

“Our auction guests were extraordinarily generous, but we have much more to go,” said Jan Sprake, Medic One Foundation executive director. “In order to continue training world-class paramedics who provide the nation’s gold standard for paramedic care, it is crucial that we continue to raise these funds. King County has one of the highest survival rates for sudden cardiac arrest in the nation at 46 percent, compared to between 2 and 25 percent nationally. This life-saving success is in large part due to the unmatched training each paramedic receives as a result of the Medic One Foundation’s support.”

Auction proceeds netted more than half of the foundation’s goal of \$387,000. These funds are needed to cover paramedic training costs, including physician instructors, emergency drills and supplies, lab equipment, and medical text books.

This week marks the beginning of the paramedic students’ intensive 10-month training program at Harborview Medical Center. Communities sending students to the training program this year include Bainbridge Island, East Jefferson County, Everett, Marysville, Seattle, South King County, Shoreline, Lynnwood, and Whatcom County.

For more than three decades, the Medic One Foundation has provided the primary support for the research, paramedic training, and medical review behind our region’s Medic One response system. Medic One Foundation funding ensures that paramedic students acquire 2,500 hours of instruction, nearly twice the national standard. Students experience more than three times the national average of patient contacts during training and as this learning extends into the field, they work alongside many of the same medical professionals they learned from in the classroom.

About Medic One and the Medic One Foundation: *Seattle and King County’s Medic One system is a national leader in providing effective care to cardiac arrest victims prior to hospital treatment, with one of the nation’s highest survival rates for sudden cardiac arrest at 46 percent, compared to between 2 and 25 percent nationally. A major reason for this life-saving success is the Medic One Foundation, a local non-profit organization that ensures the quality of our region’s pre-hospital emergency care by funding world-class paramedic training, innovative research in new methods of patient care, and intensive medical review of paramedic performance. For more information and to get involved go to www.mediconefoundation.org.*

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