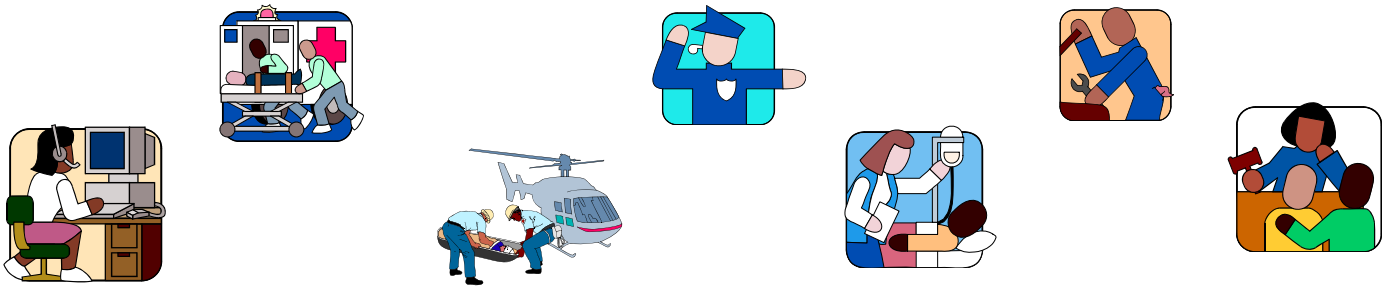


ACCOUNTABILITY PROGRAM



The Accountability Program was developed by the Charlotte County Fire/EMS Public Education/Relations Coordinator, Dee Hawkins and a Lemon Bay High School SADD Student, Amanda Hawkins. This program shows teens how many people in the community are involved when a student decides to abuse drugs and alcohol, drive a vehicle and a death occurs. Members of our community are brought on stage one by one as a reenactment of an accident is presented. The incident starts with the two students out for a fun night. The simulated accident is followed by a trail of community members being brought onto the stage to show their department's participation when a collision occurs with a fatality. Actual members of the community include members from Charlotte County Fire/EMS firefighters and paramedics, dispatchers, emergency room workers, hospital staff, tow truck companies, Florida Highway Patrol, Charlotte County Sheriff Department, funeral homes, attorney offices, judges, probation officers, counselors, teachers, and family and friends of the two students.. Each person on the stage informs students of the number of personnel and the cost to their agency in working an incident of this type. The totals are astounding. The cost of working a collision for each agency is calculated and the amounts leave students in awe. In the year 2000, the number of community members on stage equaled 240 with the total cost of a collision with a fatality costing the community over 2 million.

This is yet another program provided for the youth of our community to make teens aware how important it is to think before they act and to make wise decisions.

