



Richfield Township Fire Department

*Berkey, Ohio – Lucas County
Serving the community since 1943*



11450 Sylvania Ave. • Berkey, Ohio 43504

Business Phone: (419) 829-2055
Emergency: 911 or (419) 829-2222

Fax: (419) 829-8637
Chief@richfieldtwfire.org

2/06/2017

RICHFIELD TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

Mr. John Hassen, Chairman
Mr. Andy Bick, Vice Chairman
Mr. Steve Bettinger, Trustee
Ms. Linda Decker, Fiscal Officer

Gentlemen and Madam,

I am pleased to submit the following report, detailing the activities of the Richfield Township Fire Department during the calendar year of 2016:

In 2016, we answered **(210) Emergency Calls**-involving **930.48 man-hours** that resulted in an annual **Fire Loss** for Richfield Township of **\$59,200.00**. Our personnel attended **(52) Training Classes and Drills** involving **906 man-hours**. Work Details and Meetings involved an additional **998.75 man-hours**. All totaled, our personnel dedicated an impressive **2835.23 man-hours** to the department and township. I wish to congratulate all of these professional men and women on a job well done.

I have provided within this report, several detailed reports with breakdowns by activity, event and personnel activity for each of the above mentioned areas. These breakdowns provide a comprehensive look at the runs, training classes, work details and other activities by those who proudly serve as Richfield Township Firefighters/EMTs.

The past year was highlighted with many events that improved the services we provide the residents of Richfield Township and the Village of Berkey:

- We continue to staff our station Monday thru Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm with two (2) responders comprised of one (1) one full-time (short-shift) Firefighter/EMT and one (1) part-time Firefighter/EMT. This has proven to be our most challenging time for staffing with most volunteers working their regular jobs during these times. These individuals also have many other station duties including regular vehicle and equipment checks, equipment maintenance, cleaning and maintaining the station and station grounds, etc. This staffing allows for immediate response of these two (2) while any additional volunteers respond with a second out vehicle. We have gained



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additional paramedics and as we hope to continue this trend it often allows us to staff as an ALS (advanced life support) crew. This has proven to be the ultimate set-up currently for Richfield Township and the most “bang for our buck”. By using funds generated through EMS soft billing we improved protection and services for our residents without increasing taxpayer dollars. We studied call volumes vs. time of day and it appears we would benefit even more by extending our coverage in the afternoon by two additional hours. Our day crew hours of staffing would be from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM (from 8 hr shifts to 10 hr shifts). We recognize a definite manpower shortage during this time. I look forward to working with you to expand these hours of coverage accordingly as funding becomes available to further enhance our services for our community.

- We continue to provide a residence and home base through a lease agreement with Mercy Health Partners for housing their new state of the art Mobile Stroke Unit. Dispatched by and under Lucas County EMS protocols, this unit responds to all reports of possible strokes in Lucas County that are within 15 minutes of response time from the unit’s current location. A GPS link between the county CAD and the vehicle’s automatic vehicle locator (AVL) automatically monitors their availability and dispatches them accordingly. This unit is staffed by (1) Critical Care Nurse, (1) Paramedic and (1) CT Scan Technician. The vehicle is equipped with among other things; an on board CT Scanner, Special Lab capabilities, life saving thrombolytic drugs including TPA along with many other life saving drugs not available through our county EMS system’s Life Squads. Furthermore, state of the art Telemedicine technology brings a neurologist to the patient in high definition. This allows the neurology interventionalist to participate on scene in real time with diagnosing and treating a stroke patient aggressively very early on after an onset. This has been shown to be very effective in improving the outcome for these patients and their families.

This unit was only the **third** in the country to be put in service. It was the **first** Mobile Stroke Unit in the country to be staffed 24/7. We feel fortunate to have this service stationed here in Richfield Township and the benefits it offers to not only our own residents but, more so the benefits it offers our entire region including much of Lucas County, Fulton County and southern Lenawee County, Michigan. Our station location allows for this entire region to be better served with early definitive stroke care as a complement to each respective EMS agency and fire department. We are proud of Mercy’s Stroke Team as they have introduced the new concept of bringing the stroke team to the patients’ homes improving and complimenting on how our current EMS system had previously handled stroke calls.



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- We were awarded (1) one grant this past year from Allstate Insurance in the amount of \$500.00. This is a grant Allstate provided us in support of one of their employees; Lt. Keith Clonch for volunteering his time. I am told we will receive this grant every year Keith volunteers for us.....nice!
- We sponsored several fire prevention programs for children including programs for our (2) two local preschools and Evergreen Elementary. These programs are an important part of the fire service as fire prevention and safety are discussed with children at a young and impressionable age. We also gave away several smoke detectors to those area families unable to afford them.
- We welcome the following new applicants/members in 2016:

Casey Maupin (FF-2/EMT-B currently in paramedic school)
Tyler Houck (currently testing EMT-B)
- Station and Equipment improvements in 2016 included purchasing and installing a new commercial grade engine room air compressor. This is a critical item as each of our trucks that have air brakes are plugged into this system to keep our braking systems up to pressure allowing instant response. We also rebuilt the fire pump on Engine-58 as we face the fact that this engine is now nearly 20 years old. The Living Quarters received much needed window treatments; we installed blinds and shades throughout including special blackout shades in the dormitories that helps the Stroke Team with sleeping during the daylight hours if they are out on calls all night.
- We congratulate Kyler Omev on passing his Paramedic National Registry in 2016; he has also been approved by Dr. Brookens to function as a Lucas County Paramedic with us.



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I hope you find this report informative and acceptable as I try to summarize another year of great advancements in the services we provide our residents. Thank you all for everything that you do and have done for us and ultimately the residents of Richfield Township.

I look forward to working with all of you in 2017 to further enhance our emergency services of today for tomorrow. Together we make a difference in the lives of those we serve.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald L. Tate, Chief
Richfield Township Fire Department