



## **The Yellow Dot – Do you have one?**

Parish Health Ministry, a service of Episcopal Retirement Homes, is now promoting one of its latest initiatives, The Yellow Dot Program. The program places yellow dots on automobiles, which alert First Responders (EMS, paramedics, FD) and Emergency Room personnel to vital medical information in case of an automobile accident. When rescuers have access to this information, it saves time during the crucial “golden hour” of treatment immediately following an accident.

The Yellow Dot Program could mean the difference between life and death. Research has established that a victim’s odds of survival are greatest if they receive care within a short time after a severe injury. The Yellow Dot Program targets seniors and others who deal with chronic health issues, so they receive the critical care they may need in case of an accident or health issue while in their vehicle.

The Yellow Dot Program was presented to the Fire Chief’s Association of Hamilton County and they are supportive of the program. Additionally, Parish Health Ministry has given out over fifteen hundred Yellow Dot Packets to churches in the Cincinnati, Dayton and Columbus area and also to some community senior groups. One of the communities that have been very supportive of the Yellow Dot Program is the First Responders in the City of Reading. Lt. Androne of the Reading Fire Department said, “This is extremely helpful on a vehicle. Knowing the medical condition of the accident victim is very important for treatment, and this (Yellow Dot) gives us this information.” Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church, and St. John United Church of Christ, all in Reading, are on board with the program, also. Rev. Torie Front of St. John’s said, “I am thrilled to be able to offer this program to my congregation.” Rev. David Howard, Pastor of the Reading Pastoral Region of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish and Our Lady of Sacred Heart Parish, is very excited about the program and has a Yellow Dot on his own car.

This program may soon be expanded further in the State of Ohio, as there is a bill that will be re-introduced in the Ohio legislature this fall! The program is currently in use in Connecticut, Illinois, Alabama, and New York.

“We look forward to the growth of this program through the more than 80 churches we work with,” said PHM Program Manager, Jeanne Palcic. “This is vital service that will provide timely information to first responders that could not only save lives, but cut down on potential medical errors as a result of misdiagnosis.”

To learn more about the Yellow Dot Program or any of Parish Health Ministry services, please contact Rose Lindeman at 513.272.5555 extension 4289, or by email at [rlindeman@erhinc.com](mailto:rlindeman@erhinc.com).



Reading Fireman/Paramedic supports the Yellow Dot Program



Rev. David Howard, Pastor of Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church in Reading with a Yellow Dot on his car.