

*Serving the Cities of Kent, SeaTac, Covington, and King County Fire District 37*

*Professionally and Compassionately Helping People*

## The Gift of Life

**Kent, Wash. - May 20, 2015-** The Kent Fire Department Regional Fire Authority would like to cordially invite the public and media to observe this year's Gift of Life presentations scheduled for May 22 and 27, 2015.

The Gift of Life is an annual presentation at local high schools designed to increase teenage awareness of the dangers of drinking and driving. It involves a simulated car crash of teenagers who have just left a high school graduation party where alcohol was available. Student actors play the parts of the victims and witnesses.

In order to increase the realism of the presentation, the Kent Police Department, King County Medic One, and Tri-med Ambulance will also participate. The simulation is conducted to mirror an actual crash scene with firefighters performing an extrication of a victim and treatment of the injured. One of the teens, who plays the part of the drunk driver, will be "arrested" following a field sobriety test conducted by a Kent police officer. The program is graphic and is intended to show teens the reality of a serious crash and what takes place.

The crash simulation is followed by a school assembly where guest speakers discuss drinking and driving and the consequences of making poor decisions. This year's speakers include a judge, police officer, and chaplain.

The Gift of Life is scheduled each spring to coincide with proms and graduation. It also falls during what is known as the 100 Deadliest Days. The 100 days between Memorial and Labor Days will see more teen deaths from vehicle crashes than any other time of the year.

The Kent Fire Department RFA has been conducting the Gift of Life program for over 20 years as we work to help keep our teens and community safe.

Actors and audience members will be available following the presentation for interviews.

**Date: May 22, 2015**

Time: 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Location: Kentridge High School

12430 SE 208 St.

Kent, WA 98031

East parking lot

**Date: May 27, 2015**

Time: 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Location: Kent Meridian High School

10020 SE 256 St.

Kent, WA 98030

West parking lot

For more information, please contact Kyle Ohashi at 206-450-8400.

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