Model Performance in Fire Prevention

SYMPOSIUM 2016

Fire Sprinklers in Rapid City

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https://prezi.com/7qb71ufo_xcd/fire-sprinklers-in-rapid-city/
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES
Goal:

To eliminate fire-related deaths
Ensure egress of occupants
Enhance the safety of responders
Objectives:

• Fire Sprinkler protection is second nature and expected
• Emphasis on residential occupancies
• Increase opportunities for Fire Sprinkler Installations.
FORMATIVE EVALUATION
Beginning in 2000:

- 2 fire deaths/year, on average
  - Most should have had working smoke alarms
- Deaths/1000 population ~ 2X Midwest communities our size.
- Few healthcare facilities with sprinklers.
- Many aging high-risk buildings
We focused on:

- Healthcare, Assisted Living, and Senior Independent Living
- Historic and high-risk commercial buildings
- Multifamily housing
- Low-income motels
- Student housing
- Fire Fighter homes
Our Fire Plan

1. Get outside.
2. Go to outside meeting place.
3. Call 911.
4. Let the sprinklers handle it.
• Code amendments expanding Fire Sprinkler application
• Developer / Builder options
• Fire and Life Safety Loan program
• Phased Retrofitting
• Creativity
30 displays

- 6,000 3rd & 4th graders
- 1,000 people through business and home safety classes

One-on-one education for voluntary retrofits.
Customer Service!
DIY Home Fire Sprinkler Installation is HERE!
IMPACT EVALUATION
100% nursing homes, assisted living facilities

1,044 fire sprinkler systems (50,000 firefighters)

75% of private senior independent living

125 units transient low-income – all retrofits
100% dorms, 2/3 Greek

28 single family homes, 80 in process

60% of the historic downtown
6 department members live in protected homes.

The National Park Service cabins for disabled veterans
OUTCOME EVALUATION
• 7.6% average annual increase of fires
• 2% of all structure fires had a fire sprinkler activation
• 33 fire sprinkler saves 2004-2015
  – 12 in residential structures, 491 units
  – 1 fire resulted in occupant displacement
  – 1 civilian injury (4% of all Civilian Injuries)
  – 0 civilian deaths
  – 0 fire fighter deaths
Recommendation

- Just Get Started
- Never miss an opportunity
- Create opportunities
- Educate / promote (Kids – Governor)
- Don’t be discouraged or intimidated
- Baby steps; a little gain is better than no gain