



*Special Needs Tracking and Awareness  
Response System*



Dear District Resident:  
Parents or Guardians of a Special Needs Child:

We want to inform you of a program we have implemented at Rock Township that will enable us to be more prepared to care for children with complicated or special needs ages 0-21 years old should an emergency arise. The program is called S.T.A.R.S (Special needs Tracking, and Awareness Response System). Each child that is entered into S.T.A.R.S. has a form detailing his or her medical history, medications, allergies, baseline vital signs, baseline neurological status, and common medical emergencies. This form is then kept in each of our ambulances accessible to our paramedics. A number is assigned to each child that matches the form. Should you need to call 911, the caller would give the dispatcher the child's number which is then relayed to the responding ambulance. Having this information at hand can prove vital, especially when a regular caretaker is not present.

Please contact us if you feel your child would be a candidate. Children who especially benefit are those with significant developmental delay, seizure disorders, cardiac history, cerebral shunts, tracheostomies, and any atypical diseases or syndromes.

If you are interested, please contact me and I will set up an appointment for a paramedic crew to come to your home, or you may come to one of the district's engine houses, to discuss your child's needs. We will fill out the S.T.A.R.S form and answer any questions you may have about our services. At this time, if your child has any anxiety about the ambulance and would like to tour it or see any equipment, he or she is encouraged to do so. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

*Nikki Bain*

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