

# RESPONDER\$



*Helping emergency responders establish and maintain funding sources*



## TAKING COMMAND

By Dave Wolfe  
Southwestern PA TIM  
Staff Support

**Statewide effort aims to breathe new life into dormant Unified Incident Command Training**

Not long before the COVID-19 pandemic swept in, an effort was getting underway across Pennsylvania to revive a Unified Incident Command (UIC) training program that had gone quiet for many years. How many years you ask? Well, when UIC training was in its prime you could get gas for about \$3.00 per gallon, a movie was about \$6.00, the Pittsburgh Steelers were Super Bowl XL champs, and Pluto was unceremoniously stripped of “planet” status. Fast forward to 2020, and consider the irony of retooling a training program that relies on face-to-face encounters while a global pandemic was sending everyone into isolation. But, knowing that emergency responses don’t pause for pandemics, the dedicated team working on a new, more streamlined UIC program soldiered on. The goal was (and still is!) to get responders with different missions and objectives at traffic incidents to communicate, collaborate, and coordinate to clear incidents faster, reduce secondary crashes, and **keep themselves safe!**

The UIC team is now on the road throughout Pennsylvania presenting the new training program content and collecting valuable feedback to develop a final version of the course. On May 24th, this road show made a stop in North Strabane Township and in the friendly confines of a sleek new firehouse presented the updated UIC concepts to a large and eager crowd of multi-disciplinary first responders. That presentation was followed by tabletop exercises to further the discussion.

These regional meetings will continue throughout the balance of 2022, so stay tuned for more information on this course and start thinking about how you can incorporate it into **your** agency’s training program!



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## Monthly training may not be just a dream...

By Chuck Yorks  
Southwestern PA TIM Facilitator

With a recent return to in-person training (Aspinwall, West Mifflin, North Strabane Township, e.g.), we are putting a bunch of heads together to coordinate added TIM responder safety classes, and perhaps a train the trainer session as well for those who want to teach others. Conceptually, the Southwestern PA Commission region could be host to one training per month. The PA Turnpike Commission is another provider, and those sessions can be opened to more than just turnpike personnel and contractors. These classes would rotate through different locations each month, and would also accommodate virtual sessions as well.

SPC would be looking to touch the PennDOT District 10 counties (Butler, Armstrong, Indiana) each quarter, and the southern PennDOT District 12 area (Westmoreland, Greene, Washington, Fayette counties) each quarter. Locations will be as available, but be chosen based as much as possible on making the sites reachable from other areas. District 11 includes Allegheny, Beaver, Lawrence counties, and the Tunnels. Day and night meetings would be held whenever possible, and it is possible there could be different locations for daylight and evening on the same day. Trainers will be offered opportunities to teach modules or an entire class.

Share your thoughts on monthly training plans by reaching out to SPC's Josh Spano at [jspano@spreregion.org](mailto:jspano@spreregion.org)



## June Is Busting Out All Over!

By Chuck Yorks  
Southwestern PA TIM Facilitator



**Tuesday, June 21st, from 1 to 2:30 p.m.**, Pennsylvania State Police Allegheny will be hosting all at their facility at 449 McCormick Road, Moon Township, PA 15108.

Station Commander Lt. Steven

Dowlin has invited us back for the first time in many years allowing attendees to get an inside look at the operation. Many responders have questions about how PSP Allegheny is staffed, scope and area of responsibility, and how we can work better before PSP arrival and on scene. Many of those we can answer in advance, but there are sure to be other questions on site.

**Wednesday, June 22, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.**, we will have dogs, burgers, and cones courtesy of our friends at the Cranberry Township Public Safety Training Center. If you plan to attend bring a dish, chips, drinks, or all three!

The program that night will be hands-on, basic traffic control reviews surrounding cones (you did not think ice cream, did yinz?) and safe tapers using whatever cones you have on hand. We may even have a little game (competition) testing your knowledge of setting great tapers.

Our ability to be back in action face to face can't be overstated from the benefits standpoint. Please be sure to share the location information with all of your towing buddies, your fellow firefighters, police officers, emergency medical practitioners, and others excited about keeping each other safe.

Be there in June! And beyond! Stay safe, train often.

**Traffic Incident Management team meetings are set for the third week of June. Plan your attendance now!**

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## Grant Calendar

We do the research so you don't have to! Responder\$ is happy to provide you with an updated list of funding sources that could potentially benefit your organization. We've organized this list to put the most immediate grant opportunities first, but always check the organization websites for deadlines and other important information.

### **PENN NATIONAL GAMING FOUNDATION (PNGF)**

**Due Date:** Quarterly January 1, April 1, July 1, October 1

**Website:** <https://www.pngaming.com/community/charitable-giving>



Funding is intended for community development, human services, education, cultural affairs and diversity, and health. Foundation grants shall generally fall in the following categories:

- **Community Development:** Projects and programs related to community infrastructure improvements, public safety, economic development, housing, historic preservations, citizen involvement, civic leadership training, and other general community activities.
- **Education:** Programs which support pre-school, elementary, secondary education, post-secondary education, and special education programs.
- **Human Services:** Programs which address the needs of children and youth, senior citizens, and disadvantaged populations, especially in times of natural or man-made disaster.
- **Cultural Affairs and Diversity:** Programs and facilities designed to foster an understanding, appreciation, and celebration of different cultures and encourage participation among individuals of different cultures and belief systems.
- **Health:** Local health and medical-related programs.
- **Veteran and Military Support:** Programs that provide support and services to veterans, active members of the military and their families.

Applicants must have tax-exempt status under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and must be physically located in the city, town or region where Penn National Gaming has a business interest.



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## ERIE INSURANCE COMPANY

**Due Date:** Under \$10,000 can submit any time. Amounts over \$10,000 should be submitted by July 22, 2022, or September 16, 2022



**Website:** <https://www.erieinsurance.com/givingnetwork/funding-guidelines>

Erie believes in investing in its communities and in the lives of others in three key focus areas - Community Building, **Safety**, and Environmental Responsibility. Your agency can submit a funding request under \$10,000 for consideration at any time.

## LAUREL FOUNDATION

**Due Date:** October 1 for December decision



**Website:** <http://laurelfdn.org/apply/>

Concentrating its grantmaking primarily in Pittsburgh and southwestern Pennsylvania, the principal funding areas include arts and culture, environment and conservation, vocational education, and community development and beautification.

## BROTHER'S BROTHER FOUNDATION

**Due Date:** Applications are reviewed quarterly. See website for additional details.



**Website:** <https://brothersbrother.org/join/donations/requesting-donations/>

The Pittsburgh-based Brother's Brother Foundation promotes health and education through efficient and effective distribution of medical, agricultural, educational and other resources. The grant will fund increased demand for PPE for health care facilities and **first responders**.

## STAUNTON FARM FOUNDATION

**Due Date:** Letters of Inquiry (LOI) are accepted year-round  
 March Award: LOI due by November 15 for December 1 application deadline  
 September Award: LOI due by May 15 for June 1 application deadline



staunton farm  
foundation

**Website:** <https://www.stauntonfarm.org/how-to-apply/>

The Staunton Foundation is dedicated to improving the lives of people who live with mental illness and/or substance use disorders. The Foundation works to enhance behavioral health treatment and support by advancing best practices through grant making to non-profit organizations in ten southwestern Pennsylvania counties.

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## CHALLENGED ATHLETES FOUNDATION

**Due Date:** Ongoing

**Website:** <https://www.challengedathletes.org/programs/operation-rebound/>



CAF provides grants to USA **first responders**, military personnel, and veterans with disabilities for sports and fitness programs that enhance their physical and mental well-being. The funding source supports programs that provide opportunities for community re-integration for personnel who have a permanent illness or physical injury that affects their mobility. The CAF Operation Rebound program is for active duty United States military, veterans and **first responders** who have served honorably. The Foundation aims to distribute meaningful grants that will make a difference in their pursuit of physical fitness and sports.

Each person may submit a request in any or all different categories:

- 1. Equipment Grant
- 2. Coaching/Training Grant
- 3. Competition/Travel Grant

## SOUTHWEST AIRLINES

**Due Date:** Refer to website for more information



**Website:** <https://www.southwest.com/html/southwest-difference/southwest-citizenship/charitableGiving.html>

Funding consists of donations of complimentary, roundtrip travel to approved organizations for fundraising or transportation purposes. Southwest Airlines is especially interested in supporting organizations that serve their communities within its areas of strategic focus. These areas of focus include: Placemaking, Families Facing Serious Illness, Military and their Families, **Disaster Preparedness and Response**, and the Environment.

## FIREFIGHTERS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION (FFCF)

**Due Date:** Ongoing

**Website:** <https://www.ffcf.org/>



Grants to USA organizations and **fire departments to respond to fires and disasters and offer assistance to victims**. Individuals impacted by a fire or disaster may also apply for financial assistance. Organizations may request funding for services to victims, as well as educational programs. **Fire departments may request funding for equipment, supplies, maintenance, repairs, educational programs, and aid to fire victims.**

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## SHELL OIL COMPANY

**Due Date:** Refer to website for more information

**Website:** <https://www.shell.us/sustainability/request-for-a-grant-from-shell.html>

Focus areas for funding are:

- **Community:** Focus on civic and human needs in the community while promoting healthy lifestyles, major and cultural arts that promote access to under-served students and communities, and **disaster relief efforts**. Shell funds a broad array of community outreach projects ranging from local neighborhood improvement efforts to **regional nonprofit organizations**.

- **Education:** Focus on energy awareness with special publics, increasing interest in technical careers among students and professional development in science and math among educators. Shell supports K-12 programs that boost math and science skills, as well as university programs that aid engineering and geoscience students and departments.

- **Environment:** Focus on biodiversity initiatives with support to programs that restore critical ecosystems, address water, air quality research, preserve wetlands and sponsor wetlands initiatives.



## JETBLUE AIRLINES

**Due Date:** Ongoing

**Website:** <https://www.jetblue.com/jetblue-for-good/giving>

# jetBlue

JetBlue supports giving in the areas of youth and education, community and the environment, and continues to encourage customers, crewmembers and business partners to become advocates for charitable giving in the communities it serves.

## DSF CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

**Due Date:** See website for details

**Website:** <http://www.dsfcf.org/aboutus/>

## DSF Charitable Foundation



The Foundation seeks to promote excellence in three program areas: Health, Human Services, and Education. The grant program focuses on southwestern Pennsylvania, primarily Pittsburgh, where the Foundation is based.

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## TRANSCANADA

**Due Date:** See website for more information



**Website:** <https://www.tcenergy.com/community-investment/>

Program areas include education and training, environment, community, and safety. The funding source supports activities, initiatives, and events that generate community engagement, make a positive community impact, and offer TransCanada employee engagement opportunities. In communities throughout North America, TransCanada supports initiatives that **help emergency personnel respond to local needs and familiarize themselves with its operations so they can effectively respond should an incident occur.**

## THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF WESTMORELAND COUNTY

**Due Date:** Ongoing



**Website:** <https://cfwestmoreland.org/>

Established in 1995, The Community Foundation of Westmoreland County (CFWC) provides grants that support a wide variety of charitable organizations, and serves as a community leader. In 2017, the CFWC provided \$10,000 in planning funds which allowed 60 fire departments to apply for a SAFER grant valued at \$4.3 million to boost regional training and recruitment. CFWC's resources comprise endowments funds established by individuals, businesses, and organizations with a passion for charitable giving and a deep commitment to strengthening and celebrating the Westmoreland County community. CFWC currently has more than 220 individual donor funds, valued at \$23 million, and has granted over \$14 million to local nonprofit organizations.

## GIANT EAGLE

**Due Date:** See website for details



**Website:** <https://www.gianteagle.com/about-us/in-your-community>

Annually, Giant Eagle, its Team Members and Customers contribute to communities through a variety of means. These include sponsorships and direct donations, product support and volunteer commitment. Focus areas are hunger relief, health & wellness, education and community enrichment.

## SPIRIT AIRLINES

**Due Date:** Ongoing



**Website:** <https://customersupport.spirit.com/hc/en-us/articles/202097916-How-can-I-request-a-donation->

Spirit Airlines is committed to giving back to the community it serves and is pleased to contribute to worthy causes. Spirit's primary focus is on events in the Health/Medical fields, Education and Military.



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## SCHNEIDER FOUNDATION

**Due Date:** Ongoing



**Website:** <https://schneider.com/about-schneider/corporate-social-responsibility>

Funding may be awarded for capital campaigns, **disaster relief**, memorial funds for associates or family members, and customer and vendor requests. The Foundation will consider requests for a host of resources including:

- Direct contributions
- Volunteer time for programs, board memberships and projects
- Services such as transportation, facilities, and equipment
- In-kind contributions such as used equipment and company store items

## JEFFERSON REGIONAL FOUNDATION

**Due Date:** See website for details



**Website:** <https://jeffersonrf.org/apply-for-grant/>

The mission of the Jefferson Regional Foundation is to improve the health and well-being of the community served by Jefferson Hospital through grantmaking, education and outreach. The Foundation will serve the community with integrity and transparency.

## ROY A. HUNT FOUNDATION

**Due Date:** See website for details

# Roy A Hunt Foundation



**Website:** <https://rahuntdn.org/our-approach/>

Since inception, the Hunt Foundation mission has been to support organizations that strive to improve the quality of life through proposals invited by the trustees and through the Foundation's three main special initiatives. The foundation strives to make an impact in many facets of the community – from building stronger networks for healthy, thriving neighborhoods to working toward a greener, cleaner environment – and believes in the importance of strong leadership, community-driven partnerships, and innovative ideas.

If there's something you'd like to see in Responder\$ or simply have a question, please contact **Josh Spano** at [jspano@spcregion.org](mailto:jspano@spcregion.org)





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## TIM

### AFTER DARK

Want to talk  
TIM with others?

Want to start a  
TIM Team in your area?

Join the Southwest Pennsylvania Commission for "TIM After Dark",  
a monthly virtual meeting where you can collaborate  
with responders and other TIM practitioners!

Meetings occur via Zoom on the  
third Tuesday of each month from 6:00pm to 7:00pm.

For more information and to get the meeting link, contact Josh Spano at  
[jspano@spcregion.org](mailto:jspano@spcregion.org).

#### Upcoming Meeting Dates

- June 21st
- July 19th
- August 16th
- September 20th
- October 18th
- November 15th
- December 20th