

Community defibrillators fund opens

A total of 180 new Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) will be delivered over the next two years in Tasmania to help save lives.

Member for Lyons, Guy Barnett, said applications are now open for the fund which is the biggest single investment in community defibrillators the state's ever seen.

"When a heart suddenly and unexpectedly stops beating, having a defibrillator deliver an electric current within the first few minutes is critical" said Guy Barnett.

"The chance of survival after a cardiac arrest declines by up to 10 per cent a minute, so early access to an AED is live-saving".

"We are committed to making Tasmanians' lives better, and we believe those living in rural and regional areas in every corner of our state should not be disadvantaged".

The cost of an AED is often outside the reach of many not-for-profit and community-led organisations.

Online applications to host an AED are open to individuals, community organisations and not-for-profit organisations at www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/ambulance/community_defibrillators