

2010 ANNUAL REPORT



897 Parsons Road, Traverse City, Michigan 49686

www.gtmetrofire.org

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the Chief	3
The Department	4
Mission Statement	5
Fire Stations	5
Statistical Summary	6
Operations Department	7
Medical Response	7
Suppression Highlights of 2010	7
Fire Prevention Bureau	11
Mission Statement	11
Statistical Summary	11
Inspections	11
Plan Reviews	12
Investigations	12
Public Education	13
Recognition Awards	19
Community Participation	21
Juvenile Fire Setter Program	22
Summary	22
Organizational Chart	23
Departmental Roster	24

Report created by Capt. Troy Holliday with information received by the Fire Administration.

Photos shown in this document are special to the Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Services Authority.

Access to this department via the Internet has been achieved through the continued use of the fire department website at www.gtmetrofire.org. The site has pages posted for the Fire Administration, Fire Operations, Fire Prevention Bureau, contact information, station pages, and links to our monthly newsletter as well as our annual reports. A “links” page exists for direct connection to addresses of interest to this department such as the township websites and the county website. The development of this site allows for the taxpayers and other interested persons to learn who we are and what our fire department is all about.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

It is my pleasure to present to you the Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Services Authority's 2010 annual report. On behalf of the 87 men and women of the department, we thank you for your continued support. Our department is filled with dedicated individuals who are committed to enhancing community safety and the quality of life in the communities of Acme, East Bay, and Garfield Townships. This report cannot possibly capture all of their individual efforts but does represent an overview of their collective accomplishments.

As you will read, in 2010 the department responded to 3,781 calls for service. This is a 9% increase over 2009 and is the highest number of alarms in the department's history. Medical calls continue to lead our responses with 73% of the calls.

On July 6, the department broke ground on its 5th station. We were the recipient of a stimulus American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant for 2.3 million dollars. Due to the thoughtfulness of Garfield Township, this station is being built in their Silver Lake Recreation Area. This station will be open in spring 2011 and will be staffed with two firefighters 24 hours a day. An open house is scheduled for the summer of 2011. This station will greatly improve response times and customer service.

Meeting the challenges of a declining economy continues to play a part of the department's strategy. The department continues to look for cost savings where possible and strives to bring value to the citizens we serve. In the coming year we will be looking to improve our ISO insurance rating from a 6 to a 4. We are also in year 1 of a 2 year endeavor to become accredited. We will continue to deliver the highest quality services to all we serve in a very efficient and effective manner.

The department is committed to its mission: to care for, protect, and serve the community. Our dedicated members spend countless hours training and responding to emergencies. We attempt in all of our endeavors to perform our jobs safely, so we all can go home to our loved ones. Our motto is "Omnis Cedo Domus," Latin for "we all go home!"

We are proud to be your fire department and we stand ready to serve you at any time. We look forward to hearing from you if you have any thoughts or ideas on how we can serve you better. Please contact me at 947-3000 ext. 1235 or at pparker@gtmetrofire.org. You can also check us out on the web at www.gtmetrofire.org.

We sincerely thank you for your continued support.

Patrick Parker – Fire Chief



Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department

Chief: Patrick Parker



THE DEPARTMENT

Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department provides services to Acme Township, East Bay Charter Township and Garfield Charter Township. Each township supervisor (or designee) makes up the Grand Traverse Metro Fire Board who governs the GT Metro Fire Department. On September 11th, 2008 former Chairman and Supervisor Lee Wilson (Garfield Twp), Supervisor Glen Lile (East Bay), and Supervisor Wayne Kladder (Acme) adopted Act 57 which created the Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Services Authority. The three townships believe in the concept of a regionalization and the economies of scale by sharing resources. The Authority creates a business model that could incorporate all modes of emergency services from Police to EMS. Our business will continue to operate as Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department with the Authority as its employer and owner of equipment and property.



GTMESSA Fire Board: From the left: Garfield Township Clerk Kay Schumacher, Garfield Township Supervisor Chuck Korn, Acme Township Representative Frank Zarafonitis, East Bay Township Supervisor Glen Lile, Acme Township Supervisor and Board Chairman Wayne Kladder, East Bay Township Representative Butch Strait. Not pictured, Bob Featherstone who replaced Kay Schumacher half way through the year.

Metro Fire is organized into two divisions: Operations and Fire Prevention. The Operations Division is the largest and is responsible for delivery of all emergency services. Those include such things as suppression, EMS, hazardous materials, water rescue, vehicle extrication, wildland interface, homeland security, and many others. The Fire Prevention Bureau is responsible for community fire prevention efforts and focuses on plan reviews, inspections, education, and fire investigations.

MISSION STATEMENT

To Care For, Protect, and Serve the Community

Code of Ethics

- We are committed to the protection of life, property, and the environment.
- We believe that the community is the reason for our presence.
- We will foster and sustain the trust of the community, and will protect that confidence through our attitude, conduct, and actions.
- We believe that all members of the community are entitled to our best efforts.
- We will strive for excellence in everything we do.
- We will serve the community with honesty, fairness, and integrity.
- We will pursue safe, effective, timely, and economical solutions.
- We will provide professional, skilled, and courteous customer service at all times.
- We will be sensitive to the diverse and changing needs of the community.

FIRE STATIONS

Station 1 (843 Industrial Circle, East Bay Township)



Station 8 (6042 Acme Rd, Acme Township)



Station 9 (110 High Lake Rd, East Bay Township)



Station 11 (3000 Albany, Garfield Township)



Opening Summer 2011 - Station 12

2025 East Silver Lake Rd, Silver Lake Park
Garfield Township

(Read more on page 7 of Annual Report)



STATISTICAL SUMMARY

The Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department responded to 3,781 incidents in 2010.

	Station 1	Station 8	Station 9	Station 11	Metro	2009 +/-	
Fire	25	26	12	53	116	-5	3.07%
EMS/Rescue	507	270	159	1,837	2,773	+158	73.34%
Hazardous Condition	12	8	13	19	52	-30	1.38%
Service Call	28	29	26	97	180	+77	4.76%
Cancelled En Route	80	23	18	176	297	+52	7.86%
False Alarm	57	32	12	190	291	-10	7.70%
Weather Related	10	15	12	35	72	+68	1.90%
	719	403	252	2,407	3,781	+310	

2010	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Metro	258	265	276	274	312	292	346	349	356	398	319	338
Station 1	49	60	47	64	59	47	63	70	69	85	52	55
Station 8	29	34	24	20	27	30	56	37	30	49	30	34
Station 9	16	15	15	19	27	27	15	27	20	31	16	24
Station 11	164	156	190	171	199	188	212	215	237	233	221	225
Acme TWP	28	30	23	20	23	26	52	37	29	44	30	32
East Bay TWP	35	49	38	46	67	53	53	66	49	82	47	56
Garfield TWP	195	182	213	204	219	211	241	247	277	271	239	249

Statistics for last 5 years shows our growth of incidents in the Acme, East Bay, and Garfield Townships.



	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Metro	2,384	2,344	2,935	3,449	3,471	3,783	
Station 1	-	-	-	652	777	720	
Station 8	326	280	384	366	340	400	
Station 9	586	516	532	318	268	252	
Station 11	1,550	1,548	2,019	2,113	2,086	2,411	
Acme TWP	274	239	318	318	302	374	
East Bay TWP	600	536	572	658	678	641	
Garfield TWP	1,328	1,479	1,954	2,350	2,420	2,748	

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Of the GTMESA's emergency calls, 73% are for medical response. In 2009, our services upgraded from a Medical First Responder level to a Basic Life Support level, which allows our members to provide a higher degree of medical attention to the community. The suppression personnel are certified as Medical First Responders, Emergency Medical Technicians, and Paramedics. East Bay Township operates a township-operated ambulance service that responds with members from both East Bay EMS and Metro fire personnel. The other three stations operate rescue units that respond and assist North Flight EMS, an Advanced Life Support agency.

Rescue units at each station respond to all motor vehicle accidents with injuries and are equipped with extrication equipment to free victims from entrapment. In 2010, rescue units responded to 134 motor vehicle incidents, which at least eight of them required extrication of victims.

SUPPRESSION HIGHLIGHTS OF 2010 by Asst. Chief Terry Flynn



ACCREDITATION

GTMESA is starting to progress through the registration process. We are in the 1st phase of the process and currently are completing the required Standard of Cover component of the accreditation. In 2010 GTMESA completed the Strategic Plan phase and in 2011 we will be performing a self-evaluation of the department to fulfill this requirement.

ISO RATING

The current ISO rating is at a level 6 for GTMESA area. In 2010, GTMESA was preparing for the reevaluation of the Metro ISO grading which is expected to improve greatly. Our department made great strides in this effort by increasing training, staffing and the addition of an engine for Station 11. In 2011 GTMESA will improve again with an additional apparatus and new station along with three additional full-time firefighters. This improved ISO rating is expected to result in lower insurance costs for both residents and business owners.

TRAINING

The GTMESA once again increased its training requirements for all personnel in 2010. Because many of the fire calls in the Metro area are initiated by a fire alarm or fire sprinkler system, all personnel are required to attend a two hour fire protection systems class annually. In addition to this class, all personnel are required to complete a two hour Medical Skills practical training annually, to fine tune their skills. In 2011 the training requirements will be increased again for the fifth year in a row to bring all members in GTMESA to a higher competency level. The results have exceeded expectations.

STATISTICS

GTMESA saw an increase of 9% in its call volume for the 2010 year. Medical calls account for 73% of all calls while fire incidents account for 3% of all calls. Station 11 came in with the most calls in the district with 2411 calls and if the new Station 12 was in operation at the beginning of 2010, it would have logged 744 calls for the year.

What may seem ordinary in an emergency may turn into a clandestine drug lab. Units were dispatched to a strong smell that turned out to be a methamphetamine operation in an apartment complex.



STAFFING

GTMESSA has increased the station staffing in 2010 in an attempt to get the most appropriate and timely response to the scene of an incident. Station 8 has increased its manned station hours and we hope they will be a 24/7 manned station soon. Stations 1 and 11 have at least two personnel on duty 24/7 and Station 11 has three persons on 8 hours a day. Station 9 has increased its staffing to every weekend for 8 hours throughout the year instead of just the summer months. We anticipate staffing the new Station 12 with two personnel 24/7 starting this spring.



May 2010 we graduated eight new firefighters from the NWRTC Fire School. Congratulations to the new firefighters who spent 7 months in school.

NEW APPARATUS

New Engine 11 arrived in February 2010 from Spencer Manufacturing.



The Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Services Authority has recently taken delivery of a new 16' inflatable watercraft for Ice & Water rescues. This watercraft will replace the existing 14' V-Hull aluminum boat. The new boat provides a much safer and stable working platform for our rescuers to work from. The boat is equipped with rescue ropes, tethers, victim retrieval net, and is built with reinforced "armor" to withstand the toughest of conditions. The boat was placed into service in mid February and will be housed at Metro Fire House # 1. It will respond to all Ice & Water rescue incidents within the Metro Fire District. Training is already underway with the new boat. It was used during Ice Rescue training on March 7th on East Grand Traverse Bay. "This boat will truly be a great asset not only to our Search & Rescue team and this department, but also to our community in general" stated Capt. Tony Posey. The new boat was purchased with the assistance of a \$3,000 grant received from the Cherryland Cares Program through Cherryland Electric Cooperative. A special thank you to G.T. Metro Fire & Life Safety Educator Meredith Hawes and The Cherryland Cares Program board for their assistance in securing this much needed grant.



NEW FIRE STATION - 2010

The Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Services Authority (GTMESSA) was successful in procuring an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant for construction of a fire station. GTMESSA will receive \$2,813,034 for the construction of a new fire station to provide service to the west side of Garfield Township in Grand Traverse County. On October 2, 2009, the offices of US Senator Carl Levin, US Senator Debbie Stabenow, and US Representative Dave Camp confirmed that the Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department will be among four fire departments in the state to receive ARRA grants for fire station construction. All three legislators were instrumental in the grant by writing letters of support, along with State legislators Senator Allen and Representative Schmidt. The Grand Traverse County Board and the township supervisors of Acme, East Bay and Garfield also wrote letters of support. "We couldn't be more pleased with being one of the successful applicants for this grant," said the Metro Fire Chief Patrick Parker.



"This grant will allow us to build a badly needed station for the citizens on the west side of Garfield Township. We have been planning a station in this area for several years, but we have been holding back due to the bad economic conditions. Without the grant, we would have had to go to the voters for a tax increase to build the station and now is not the time to raise taxes. With this grant, we will be able to increase our services to the citizens by substantially reducing our response times." Garfield Township Supervisor Chuck Korn is thrilled! "I am happy for the citizens of our area who will all benefit from quicker emergency response and likely lower insurance rates. This is a great day for the

Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department!” The fire station will be built on a 3 acre parcel located within the Silver Lake Recreation Park off East Silver Lake Road. The park is owned by Garfield Township and the Township is leasing the land to the Fire Authority on a long-term lease agreement. The station will be a single story building, approximately 10,400 square feet, designed by Jack Knol of Advantage Design in Traverse City.



July 6, 2010 was the Ground Breaking Ceremony for Station 12. GTMESA Fire Board, Fire Officers, Fire and EMS personnel, State and Local officials, friends and families attended this event. After the pledge of allegiance, comments were given by GTMESA board chairperson Wayne Kladder, Chief Parker, Garfield Township Supervisor Chuck Korn, Gabe Schneider (Senator Levin’s Aid), and finally Chairman Derek Bailey from the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians. As soon as the comments were finished, the Metro board adorned the white hard hats, grabbed the shovel and took the first ceremonial scoop of dirt. This was followed by all of the Metro firefighters taking their turn. Moments later, the chainsaws began and a bulldozer was seen moving dirt. A big thanks goes out to Asst. Chief Brad Schnaidt for his involvement in the process thus far. Brad wrote the successful American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant we are enjoying for financing this project. We have been working on this prototype station since July of 2008. Brad will act as our “Owners Representative” on the project as well as overseeing the mounds of federal paperwork required when using government project dollars.



Projected opening will be April / May of 2011. An open house will be scheduled for the summer.

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU *by Asst. Chief / Fire Marshal Brad Schnaidt*

MISSION STATEMENT

The Grand Traverse Metro Fire Prevention Bureau, through education and inspections, strives to safeguard the life and property of the citizens in Grand Traverse County from the hazards of fire, explosion and hazardous materials in new and existing buildings, structures or premises used for habitation, work, and recreation.

The Fire Prevention Bureau continued to strive to achieve the goal of *no fires* in inspected occupancies. We did not meet that goal in 2010. We had 7 fires in the occupancies that we inspect in the Metro area, which equals the same total as last year.

STRUCTURE FIRES

There were 3,781 reported incidents in 2010 in the Metro area, with 40 being actual structure fires. This represents an increase of 17 structure fires over 2009. To compare over the last 18 years, in 1992 we experienced 143 structure fires as opposed to the 40 that were experienced in 2010. The structure fires in 2010 resulted in \$1,504,000.00 in losses and \$5,514,000.00 saved in a total value of \$7,017,800.00. The total percentage lost was 21.43% and the total percentage saved was 78.57%.



Of the 7 fires that occurred in inspected occupancies, two were from cooking in the kitchen of an apartment structure, one from burned food in a microwave at Goodwill Inn, one in the commercial kitchen hood and duct system of a restaurant at Cherryland Center which was extinguished by the automatic fire suppression system, one from the use of a hot plate at a local motel room, one from an electrical short in a lighting fixture in a department store and one in Travino's.

No civilian deaths related to fire in the Metro jurisdiction were recorded in 2010. No firefighter Line of Duty Deaths reported in 2010 but we did sustain 10 firefighter injuries.

INSPECTIONS

A total of 1642 inspection activities were performed on existing occupancies, with an average of slightly more than 1.4 hours per inspection which includes travel time, as well as the time for inspection of the premises. A total of 7382 violations were reported. The most numerous violations noted were use of extension cords in place of permanent wiring, exit/emergency egress lighting malfunctions, means of egress obstructions, lack of required fire safety plans and evacuation plans, Knox Box infractions, electrical wiring hazards and violation of fire-rated assemblies. There were 2828 occupancies identified in the Metro database for 2010. Approximately 2152 were in Garfield Township, 377 in East Bay Township, 299 in Acme.



PLAN REVIEW

Site and building plan reviews had a slight increase and totaled 116. This was up 5 from 111 in 2009. A majority of these projects were within the confines of the City. A total of 215 new construction inspections were completed in 2010. These inspections included fire sprinkler systems, fire alarm systems, other suppression system inspections, fire pump installations and acceptance tests, and means of egress and exiting inspections.

A continued down-turn in the economy led to a reduction in new construction activity and site plan review work in 2010. The only large projects occurring were with Munson Healthcare, the 6 story office/residential complex at Park and E. Front Streets that started in 2009 and continued into 2010, which are in Traverse City. In Garfield Township the construction of Fire Station 12 was the large project. In East Bay, the Auto-Owners complex project was the large project. In Acme there were no large projects started. This current development trend is expected to continue at the same or slightly increased pace for 2011.

Continuing education requirements for all of the inspectors were on-going in 2010. All inspectors met the requirement to apply toward qualifying for re-certification as fire inspectors. Seminars attended included the 4-day Fall MFIS seminar in Lansing, various NMCOA seminars in Gaylord and Traverse City, Code Officials Conference of Michigan seminars in Lansing and Traverse City, National Fire Sprinkler Association on-line seminars, Nation Fire Protection Association on-line webinars and training and the IAAI seminar.

The Grand Traverse Metro Fire Prevention Bureau continued an agreement with the Grand Traverse County Board of Commissioners to serve as the plans review and inspection agent for all fire-related requirements that are referenced in the State of Michigan Building Code. We also provide this same service in Garfield Township as a part of the Garfield Township Fire Prevention Ordinance.

To date, approximately 30,000 blue print pages have been scanned and entered into our database. The project is approximately 99% complete and is also on-going. The goal is to eliminate all storage of paper blueprints and have all prints submitted for review by electronic media in the future.

We are also continuing the process of identifying and updating the Hazardous Sites within our jurisdiction through the ARCVIEW program, which interfaces with the GIS program in the county. This allows us to electronically store and track the necessary information on these sites that we are required by State and Federal statutes to maintain. This information is also used for pre-planning purposes by the suppression forces to familiarize them of the potential hazards that they could face in the event of an incident at one of these sites.

2010 brought about continued progress and recognition in the area of Fire Prevention Education. Meredith Hawes has created a very effective education coalition to present Risk Watch in two TCAPS elementary schools and is further continuing to gain other elementary schools. Meredith has achieved state and national recognition of her efforts and programs for GTMESA. Her report is forthcoming.

INVESTIGATIONS

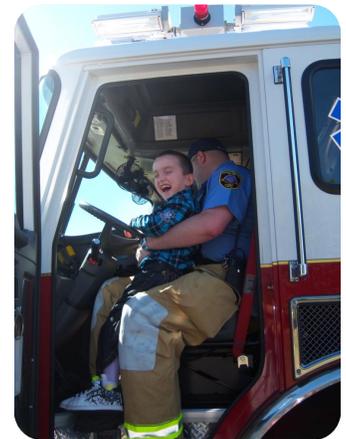
Brian Belcher and Mike Lince have completed training as fire investigators and are currently sharing the fire investigation duties to determine origin and cause. Continuing education will be on-going for these employees to maintain and enhance their capabilities as well as to maintain their Investigator certifications.

FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY – PUBLIC EDUCATION *by Meredith Hawes*



The Fire and Life Safety Public Education Program provides outreach to all citizens of Grand Traverse County, with special emphasis on those segments most “at-risk”. The program involves all fire departments in Grand Traverse County in a collaborative effort of standardized fire and life safety messages and programs. A cooperative effort among fire service partners continues to ensure success through utilization of existing programs, area fire personnel/resources, and established communication pathways.

Target groups continue to include; youth ages 4-14, people within the retirement ages of 60 and over, and the disabled. Further expansion within each target group has allowed for the development of additional programs and additional populations served. Statistical response information indicates that these population segments are “at risk” target groups for fire and life safety education. The fire service continues to emphasize both fire and life safety since 73% of emergency calls are medically related.



Youth Outreach:

While burns and fire-related death are 2 times more likely for a child under the age of 5, for children ages 14 and under, the number-one health risk is injuries. Each year, unintentional injuries kill more than 6,000 kids and permanently disable more than 120,000.

The Fire and Life Public Educator has served to coordinate the unintentional injury prevention program of Risk Watch as presented by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). The curriculum is divided into five age-appropriate teaching modules (Pre-K/Kindergarten, Grades 1-2, Grades 3-4, Grades 5-6, and Grades 7-8), each of which addresses the following topics:

- **Fire and Burn Prevention**
- **Motor Vehicle Safety**
- **Falls Prevention**
- **Firearm Injury Prevention**
- **Water Safety**
- **Bike and Pedestrian Safety**
- **Choking, Strangulation, and Suffocation Prevention**
- **Poisoning Prevention**



This program is a comprehensive, school-based program, intended for classroom delivery by the teacher with supplemental support by community “Risk Experts”. This program serves to expand the scope of unintentional injury education and prevention among young people grades pre-K through grade 8 by providing a safety platform by which community organizations and agencies can provide expertise in their subsequent areas. A Grand Traverse Risk Watch Coalition has been developed and includes the following agencies:

Meredith Hawes - Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department – Fire and Burn Prevention

Keith Fritz - Traverse City Fire Department – Fire and Burn Prevention

Chief Jim Carroll - Blair Township Fire Department – Fire and Burn Prevention

Mike Stinson and Thom Bennett - Grand Traverse Rural Fire Department – Fire and Burn Prevention

Peninsula Township Fire Department – Coalition Member

Jennifer Ritter - Safe Kids North Shore / Munson Trauma Services – Motor Vehicle Safety/Fall Prevention

Tammie Budrow - Munson Medical Center - Chill Out Winter Safety Program

Rob Hentchel - Grand Traverse County Commissioner – Coalition Member

Roy Meis / Olga Topash, Josh Salyer - North Flight EMS Grand Traverse – Falls Prevention

Jim Bock – President / Michele Cosgrove - Pharm D. - The Prescription Shops/Whitney Health Care Services, Inc. - Poisoning Prevention

Sgt. Chris Oosse - Grand Traverse Sheriff’s Department – Water Safety / Firearm Safety

Pam Darling and Lee Maynard - T.A.R.T. Trails – Bike and Pedestrian Safety

Misty Youngson - The American Red Cross of Northwest Michigan – Choking/Suffocation/Strangulation Prevention



The end of 2010 marks one full year of the Risk Watch program implementation to Blair Elementary School. Approximately 500 students have received both classroom lesson delivered by their teachers and supplemental presentations from Risk Experts over the past year. Risk Watch School Champion and teacher, Jodi Scott, offered additional support to the program both inside and outside Blair Elementary by traveling along with Fire & Life Safety Public Educator, Meredith Hawes, through support from the N.F.P.A. to a Risk Watch State training in the state of Illinois, and then accompanying Meredith

once again to provide a Michigan Train the Trainer 2 day conference along with Terry Campbell from the National Fire Protection Association. The program at Blair continues to set the bar for our area and for the State.

Additionally Cherry Knoll Elementary teachers kicked off their Risk Watch program in January of 2010 with all lower and upper elementary teachers being trained in the program implementation, and Kingsley Elementary School has embraced the Risk Expert side of the program and will be welcoming safety guests into the school on a monthly basis.

In conjunction with the on-going development of the local Risk Watch programs, fire and burn safety education has continued traditional in other local schools, daycares, and youth serving organizations, local businesses and neighborhoods. Approximately 5,641 local young people were served through Risk Watch and in the following locations:

Grand Traverse Academy, Blair Elementary School, Courtade Elementary School, Kingsley Elementary School, Fox Motors – Kids Day, Silver Lake Recreation Center, Long Lake Elementary School, YMCA, National Cherry Festival, A Little School House, Mt. Holiday, Oak Park Elementary School, and East Bay, Garfield, and Acme neighborhoods.



Youth Outreach Projection:

Risk Watch programming will continue to develop with the implementation in Blair Elementary School and an additional pilot site. School year 2010-2011 will expand to include 2-3 additional elementary sites, requiring approximately \$8,000 in start-up funding per school and local Risk Expert support for each school.

Traditional Fire and Burn Education will continue at surrounding schools, daycares, youth serving agencies, businesses, and neighborhoods with consistent messaging across county departments. Public Education volunteers will continue to be engaged from each department.

Older Adult Outreach

At age 65, older adults are twice as likely to be killed or injured by fires or fall compared to the population at large. Thirty percent of people age 65 and older are involved in falls each year, the leading cause of death from unintentional injury in the home. In the U.S. and Canada, adults age 65 and older make up about 12 percent of the population – and are the fastest growing segment of the population.



The Fire and Life Safety Public Educator continues to coordinate the delivery of the Remembering When Program as presented by the NFPA and the Center for Disease Control. *Remembering When* is centered around 16 key safety messages – eight fire prevention and eight fall prevention – developed by experts from national and local safety organizations as well as through focus group testing in high-fire-risk states. The program was designed to be implemented by a coalition comprising the local fire department, service clubs, social and religious organizations, retirement communities, and others. Coalition members can decide how to best approach the local senior population: through group presentations, during home visits, and/or as part of a smoke alarm installation and fall intervention program.



In 2010 presentations were made to the Area Agency on Aging of Northwest Michigan and the Grand Traverse County Commission on Aging to once again educate home health care workers on fire and life safety for their clients, and to provide them with *Remembering When* education packets for clients.

Additionally Grand Traverse Metro has worked with and participated with many other local agencies and businesses including; The Village at Bay Ridge, Glen Eagle Retirement Community, Bay Area Senior Advocates Board and Senior Expo, Catholic Human Services, the Traverse City Senior Center, and East Bay Calvary Church.

The Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department continues to grow the outreach to the elderly through the Remembering When program and reached approximately 2,100 older adults in the Grand Traverse County in 2010.

Outreach to Disabled



Hearing, sight, mobility, and cognitive impairments all increase the layers of fire and safety risks for the disabled. By raising the level of fire and life safety awareness for the disabled community, and for the surrounding population, we can eliminate many risks.

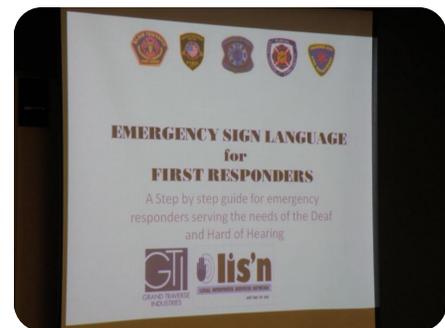
In 2010, Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department was awarded the Rolf H. Jensen Memorial Public Education Grant. Along with funding through the Quota International Club of Traverse City, this \$5,000 grant helped to support the fire department's fire and life safety public education initiative for people with disabilities, called Customized Outreach Project. The Customized Outreach Project is a fire and life safety public education initiative which focuses on customized fire and fall prevention messages and home escape plans for those facing the obstacles of mobility impairment, hearing loss or deafness, sight impairment or blindness, and/or cognitive impairments. The program recognizes that the typical and traditional fire safety messages that are delivered through public education do not always reach or fit every audience. Grant monies received through the Rolf Jensen Award in 2010 allowed the Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department to provide both small and large group educational presentations that delivered customized information to local residents with mobility impairments and individuals who are Deaf or have Hearing Loss.



Presentations were made to the areas Parkinson's patients reaching approximately 550 people. Both large and small group presentations were provided for those attending the Grand Traverse Area Parkinson's Support Groups Annual Summer Forum and additional small group presentations to support groups, including the "Young Onset Group". Remembering When materials were supplied, along with additional customized information on home escape plans, residential home sprinkler systems, and the use of Knox Boxes.

Presentations were held once again for approximately 40 individuals from the Deaf community in which a sign language interpreter and captioning system was made available through partnerships with the Disability Network, Grand Traverse Industries – List'n Program, and the Quota Club International. Remembering When Fire Prevention materials were used and included larger images and larger print specific for the audience.

In addition to those presentations, Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department was also able to further expand the scope of the grant in two other areas. In response to the request from the Deaf community for improved communication with First Responders, an emergency sign language class was developed for Firefighters and First Responders with the existing partnership agencies. The course was



offered in four 2.5 hour classes and allowed for 10 medical continuing education credits. Content included the manual alphabet, American Sign Language for emergency situations, the use of facial expressions and gesturing, and additional options such as writing as a form of communication.

The course was attended by 23 individuals including area firefighters and participants from outside agencies such as the American Red Cross, Safe Kids, and North Flight Ambulance Services. Additionally approximately 20 local community members who are Deaf helped through videotaped interviews or attended the class to aid in the First Responders in their learning.



Lastly networking opportunities became available for a similar fire safety initiative to reach those with cognitive impairments or disabilities. If funding remains available a course will be designed to reflect the educational and safety needs of this particular segment and offered in 2011.

Through outreach to the Grand Traverse Area Parkinson's Support Groups, the Disability Network, and Grand Traverse Industries, approximately 640 disabled individuals were served in 2010.



Community Outreach

Community outreach was provided throughout the year to include Fire Prevention Week activities, The Grand Traverse County Wellness BBQ, Target, Sam's Club, Meijer, Home Depot, Lowes, Family Video, The National Cherry Festival, Kmart, Optimist Club, and East Bay Calvary Church. On average community events reach over 1,500 individuals with fire and life safety messages.

The volunteer program continues to grow and includes 3 part time volunteers for the Fire & Life Safety Public Education Program. Volunteers aid with tasks ranging from clerical to program delivery with hours from 2 to 20 per week.



RECOGNITION

The Michigan Fire Inspector's Society awarded Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department's Fire & Life Safety Public Educator, Meredith Hawes, with the *Public Fire Educator of the Year* for the State of Michigan in 2010. The award is given to a Public Educator in the State in *recognition of commitment, dedication, and untiring efforts of providing fire safety education to their community and the State of Michigan to make it a safer place.* Hawes received many letters of support, speaking to her achievements over the past year and the success and impact of the public education



programs in the community. "Hawes is very adept at grant writing", states Metro Fire Department's Chief Parker. "In addition to that, Meredith has assessed needs, developed priorities, initiated programs, developed coalitions, and implemented educational opportunities in schools, civic groups, and senior groups. We are very proud of what she has accomplished".

GTMESA would like to congratulate Chief Patrick Parker for his achievement and accomplishment of earning the Executive Fire Officer designation through the National Fire Academy in April 2010.

Chief Parker has spent the last four years working hard to reach this goal. Seen to the right is the Superintendent of the National Fire Academy Dr. Denis Onieal awarding Chief Parker his official Executive Fire Officer Achievement Award.



The Commission on Professional Credentialing



has conferred upon

Terry J. Flynn

Designated March 9, 2010

the designation of

Chief Fire Officer (CFO)

for demonstrating a high level of competence, as witnessed by your peers, by documenting professional, educational, technical, and community service achievements and fulfilling prescribed standards of performance, ethics, and conduct required for CFO.

Ronald B. Bruggeman
President, CPSE Board of Directors

Tim Williams
Chairman, Commission on Professional Credentialing

The GTMESA is pleased to announce that Chief Terry Flynn has successfully completed the process that awards him the professional designation of "Chief Fire Officer" (CFO). The Commission on Professional Credentialing met on March 9, 2010, to officially confer the designation upon Chief Flynn. Chief Flynn is one of only 680 CFO's worldwide.

The CFO designation is given only after an individual successfully meets all of the organizations stringent criteria such as applicant's education, experience, professional development, technical competencies, contributions to the profession, and community involvement. In addition, all applicants are required to identify a future professional development plan. His knowledge of the emergency services profession far surpassed the critical core competencies of personnel serving in senior fire officer positions.

Asst. Chief Terry Flynn awarded Grand Traverse Sheriff Deputy Chris Halleck a firefighter helmet award for his efforts in assisting our department on numerous calls throughout the year. Thank you Deputy Firefighter Halleck for your support!



CHILD PASSENGER SEAT SAFETY INSPECTIONS



Motor vehicle accidents are the leading cause of accidental deaths among persons living in Michigan between the ages of 1 – 24 years old. Did you know that 9 out of 10 child passenger seats for children are installed incorrectly? Captain Tony Posey joined Captain Troy Holliday as our certified technicians for GT Metro Fire Department through Safe Kids Worldwide and the National Child Passenger Safety Seat Program. Station 11 hosts a monthly car seat check station for the community through the Safe Kids North Shore coalition program. Approximately 100 car seat checks were completed and corrected at Station 11 alone for 2010.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION



The Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department continues to help out with the Toys for Tots program every year at Meijer's. Making sure children have a merry Christmas.



Station 11 members assisted in building hundreds of bicycles for the Bikes for Tikes program at VFW Hall next door.



GTMESSA Honor Guard in the 2010 National Cherry Festival Parade.

FIRE CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

When firefighters respond to a burning building and focus attention on saving life and protecting property, the fire chaplain responds alongside but is focused on ministering to the needs of the firefighters and the needs of the crisis victims. Victims of an emergency crisis may be the family who has just been burned out of their home, or the scared and confused spouse of a heart attack patient. They could be the frightened children whose parents are being transported to the hospital after a tragic traffic accident. Firefighters are trained and able to deal with the varied emergency crisis in our modern world. Fire chaplains are equipped and called to deal with the people being affected by those same events. The fire chaplain is a spiritual presence in the world of fire department and emergency services. Alongside of Jude Younker, the chaplaincy program added another chaplain to the roster. GTMESA welcomes Wayne Kiser.



JUVENILE FIRE SETTERS PROGRAM

The Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department's Juvenile Fire Setter (JFS) Program was created in 1985 and combines family intervention sessions with information on burn injuries and the consequences of fire setting. The JFS Program is a regional program consisting of cases in Grand Traverse and adjoining counties. Children of all ages are referred from local schools, courts, agencies, and by parents. Since its inception, over 500 families have participated in the program.

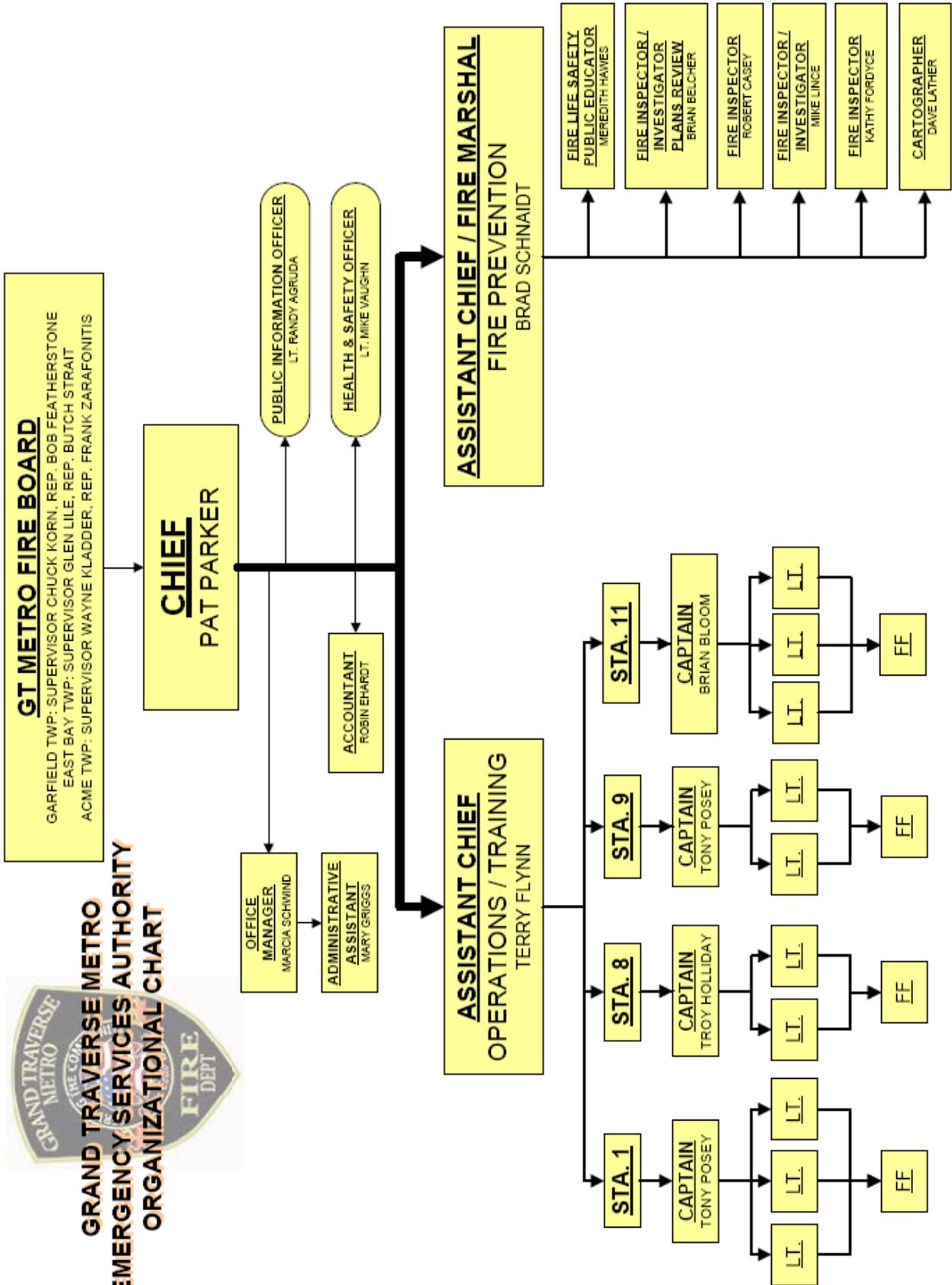
In 2006, the JFS Specialists intervened with 26 juveniles involved in 68 fires. In 2007, the JFS Specialists intervened with 23 juveniles involved in 73 fires. 2008 saw a drop with only 13 fires involving 9 juveniles with an approximate dollar loss of \$128,600. In 2009, the number of fires increased to 17 with only 3 fires being in the GTMESA district. 2010 JFS reports intervention with 13 juveniles resulting in 29 fires with 6 fires in the GTMESA district with a low dollar loss of \$19,000. Approximately 1/2 of the juveniles were handled with an educational meeting and were of little concern while the other 1/2 had a definite concern and required educational and psychological intervention.

SUMMARY

The progress that this bureau has achieved in the past year is exemplary. The goal of the Fire Prevention Bureau is to have no fires in occupancies that are inspected. This is very close to being achieved but more work is necessary to make the goal a reality. The on-going support of the Metro Fire Board has been the most important key to the success of the Bureau. Without this continued support, the success that has been achieved would not have been possible. The Metro Board has endorsed and accepted the proposal and goal of hiring a full-time Fire and Life Safety Public Educator for 2009 and to implement and develop prevention education programs that target the elderly, the infirm and the school-age children in our community. It is hoped that, in the economically challenging times, the Bureau can continue to receive the enthusiastic support of the Metro Board, so that the goals of no fires in inspected occupancies and continued public education can be achieved.



**GRAND TRAVERSE METRO
EMERGENCY SERVICES AUTHORITY
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**



DEPARTMENTAL ROSTER

at end of year

Full-Time – Administration

Fire Chief Pat Parker	Office Manager Marcia Schwind	Inspector Robert Casey
Asst Chief – Operations Terry Flynn	Administrative Asst Mary Griggs	Inspector Kathy Fordyce
Asst Chief – Prevention Brad Schnaidt	Insp / Investigator Brian Belcher	Public Educator Meredith Hawes
Lt. /HSO Mike Vaughn (part-time)	Insp / Investigator Mike Lince	Accountant Robin Ehardt (part-time)
		Cartographer Dave Lather (part-time)

Full-Time Suppression

Captain Brian Bloom (Sta. 11)	Lieutenant Gary Francisco (Sta. 1)	Firefighter Nick Lemcool (Sta. 11)
Captain Tony Posey (Sta. 1 & 9)	Lieutenant Andy Doornbos (Sta. 1)	Firefighter Rob Harvey (Sta. 8)
Captain Troy Holliday (Sta. 8 & 12)	Firefighter Jeremy Draper (Sta. 1)	

Fire Department Chaplains

Glen Walters Jude Younker Wayne Kiser

Part-Time – Suppression and Support Members

STATION ONE

Lt. Adam Drewery	FF Jeremy Metcalf	FF Greg Walker	Probationary Tim Black
FF Scott Allman	FF Hal Miller	FF James Walker	Probationary Tyler Campbell
FF Joe Byrne	FF Josh Morgan	FF Dan Watkins	Probationary Stephanie Day
FF Matt Gerkin	FF Shawn Stinson	FF Curtis Walters	Explorer Lucas Mitchell

STATION EIGHT

Lt. Wayne Mervau	FF Brian Haskin	FF Adam Mervau	Probationary Cory Hammond
Lt. / PIO Randy Agruda	FF Nick Hawkins	FF Frank Rutherford	Probationary Ryan Watrous
FF Mike Courson	FF Tom Henkel	FF John Sanborn	Probationary Joe Wood

STATION NINE

Lt. Jeff Carpenter	FF Cory Ellis	FF Rick Osburn	FF Mikie Parker
FF John Baker	FF Jack Ferris	FF Mike Wilkins	FF Sara Posey
FF Kyle Clute	FF Chris Kolinski	FF Doug Carver	FF Karen Robinson
FF John Ehardt	FF Tim Newton	FF Terrie Olson	

STATION ELEVEN

Lt. Mike Scanlon	FF Chris Doornbos	FF Rick Worm	Probationary Derrick Perry
Lt. Chris Childers	FF Bryan Ferguson	FF Tim Wrede	Probationary Josh Salyer
Lt. Mark Shaul	FF Cody Lipe	Probationary Lee Bailey	Explorer Spencer Scanlon
FF Mike Bryan	FF Daren Mansfield	Probationary Eric Chryst	Probationary Zak Yanska
FF Bill Brodin	FF Marcus Plessner	Probationary Nick Haines	
FF Keith Bugai	FF Randy Rittenhouse	Probationary Jake Frank	
FF Pablo Cevallos	FF Eric Seaburg	Probationary Anthony Hoffman	
FF Chris Comeaux	FF Brent Strom		

