



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Date:** August 22, 2024

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# SOUTH ADAMS COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Reinstated Advanced Life Support (ALS) Program

On Thursday, August 1, 2024, the South Adams County Fire Department reintroduced our improved Advanced Life Support (ALS) program. Our team has worked hard over the last six months to reach this point. All SACFD firefighters are skilled in Basic Life Support (BLS), which is often the first line of response. ALS comes into play when more advanced care is required. While both provide life-saving techniques during an emergency, they have key differences, including the level of care, the training required, the equipment used, and the treatment setting.

On February 1, 2024, our ALS program was temporarily on hold. During this period, we took the opportunity to undertake several crucial initiatives to enhance our EMS capabilities:

1. **Inventory and Equipment Update:** We conducted a comprehensive inventory of all supplies and equipment within the district. As a result, we have issued new Basic Life Support (BLS) medical bags to all apparatus to ensure our responders are equipped with the necessary tools for effective emergency medical care. Additionally, we have added vital ALS equipment to allow our paramedic staff to provide our citizens the highest level of care.
2. **Establishment of Medical Supply Room:** We have successfully set up a new medical supply room, which will serve as a centralized hub for accessing essential medical supplies efficiently and help with inventory control. We are also working on a single point for ordering supplies.
3. **Policy Development:** We have formed a dedicated policy group to recognize the importance of clear policies in delivering high-quality care. This team is tasked with developing new policies tailored to the needs of ALS and BLS providers, ensuring adherence to best practices and standards, working with the medical directors, and de-conflicting any issues with policies, procedures, and protocols.

Additionally, in June 2024, we welcomed Roger Japp as our EMS Captain. He will lead our EMS Division and work closely with our crews and ambulance partners.

South Adams County Fire Department continues to send firefighters to paramedic schools, and our ALS program will continue to enhance our medical emergency capabilities and provide better service to the community. Our mission is to continue "Serving with Pride and Excellence"!