

## THE MIKEY YOUNG AT HEART SCHOOL DEFIBRILLATOR PROGRAM

As we all know our children are our future. We love them, we cherish them, and we will do everything in our power to make sure they grow up healthy and strong.

Yet, as much as we try to protect them, even the young can develop unexpected heart problems. Indeed, there are no age barriers to sudden cardiac arrest (SCA), which can happen to anyone, at any time, in any location. Each year in Ontario, children and teens are among the more than 6,500 people who experience SCA. Fortunately, there's hope for a second chance at life for many of those who do.

In 2006, Dr. Joel Kirsh, the chief physician in Cardiology and Critical Care and an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at SickKids® Hospital, called Morty Henkle, Director of The Mikey Network to talk about a way to place defibrillators in schools across the GTA. Considering it an investment in Canada's future, we launched The Mikey's Young-At-Heart School Defibrillator Program.

The MIKEY's installed under this program will be available to hundreds of high school and continuing education students, their teachers and school staff. The life-saving potential is even greater when you consider that schools form the heart of our communities. MIKEYS will also benefit all of the individuals and neighbourhood groups who regularly attend meetings, play sports, vote at their local polling stations, and participate in other special events held on school property.

Through the Mikey's Young-At-Heart Program, we plan to work with EMS and local school boards to eventually place a MIKEY in every elementary, intermediate and secondary school in Ontario – and to ensure the beat goes on for future generations!

For more information visit  
[mikeynetwork.com](http://mikeynetwork.com)



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