

Madeira and Indian Hill Joint Fire District

2021

ANNUAL REPORT



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Madeira & Indian Hill Fire District is to deliver to the citizens we protect the highest level of fire and emergency medical services, which will make a positive difference in the outcome of an emergency.



Madeira and Indian Hill Joint Fire District

CHIEF

Stephen C. Oughterson

CAPTAINS

Francisco Caceres

Kevin Scheuerman

John Lynch

Brandon Linne

LIEUTENANTS

Nick Stiens

Patrick McCall

Sean McCarthy

TRUSTEES

Beth Wright

PRESIDENT

Jeff Evans

VICE PRESIDENT

John Hassan

SECRETARY

Jim Gulick

TREASURER

David Ellis

William Higgins

Jennifer Lightcap

Dave Parlin

Sam Robinson

Joe Weil

Chris Hilberg

Don McGraw

March 1, 2022

Board of Trustees

Madeira & Indian Hill Joint Fire District

Mrs. Beth Wright

As we close the historic year that was 2021, I present the Madeira & Indian Hill Joint Fire District 2021 Annual Report to the Board of Trustees. It was a great year for the JFD despite the continued challenges of COVID-19. The health of our staff continues to be a focus as we care for those affected by the pandemic.

We experienced the busiest year for run volume in the history of the JFD. We executed several operational changes which include housing a medic unit at each fire station to improve service to the community as our staffing increases to meet and exceed the needs of our residents and visitors. We closed out the year under budget, received two new E.M.S. vehicles, put them in service and ordered an engine to replace the 2001 Boise. We were fortunate to have a low fire loss, highlighted most importantly with no civilian injuries as a result of fire.

The annual report will highlight all of our programs for 2021 to include a look inside the year regarding the administration and operations. The report also details how our firefighters spent the year in the community in a proactive and preventative way as well as our reactions to incidents in our district and surrounding cities.

Respectfully,

Stephen C. Oughterson

Fire Chief

6475 Drake Road
Cincinnati, OH 45243
P: (513) 561-7926
F: (513) 561-7733
www.mihjfd.org



Organizational Chart

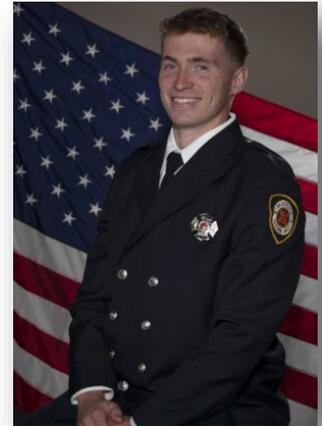




Personnel

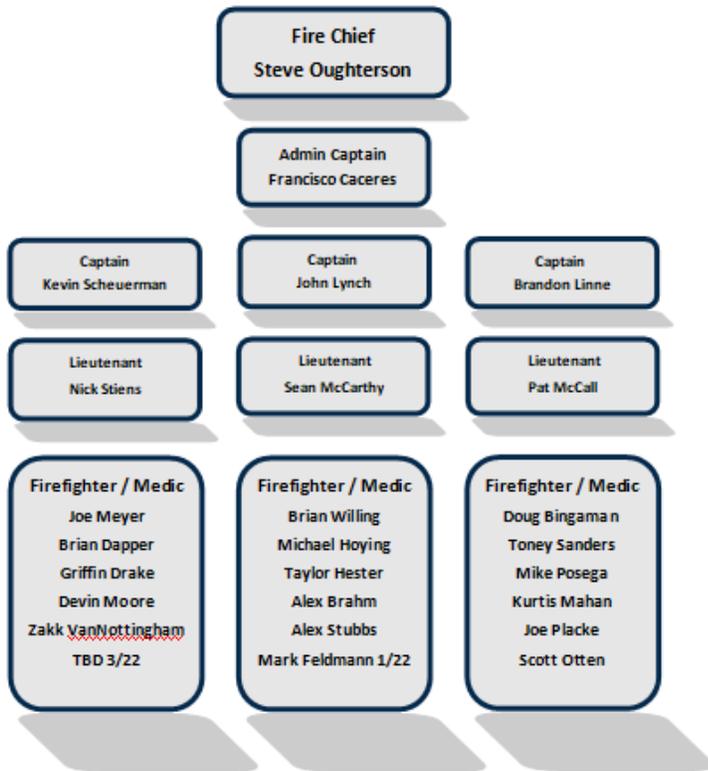
2021 New Career Personnel

One of the 2020 career hires resigned to pursue a career with the Cincinnati Fire Division. As a result, we had an internal hiring process and hired one of our part time paramedics, Zakk VanNottingham. Zakk joined Unit 1 in July, 2021 as a career member. He was initially hired in 2019, successfully completed paramedic school and became eligible to compete for a career position.



Zakk VanNottingham

2022 Organizational Chart



In 2021, we focused our attention towards improving service to the community by reorganizing the officer structure as well as justifying Position 8 to our Board of Trustees and to both cities. The proposed changes were contingent upon their approval, including the 2022 MIHJFD Budget. Preparation included holding a process to promote two Lieutenants and two Captains. The budget was approved at the end of 2021 and the proposed changes will take affect in the first quarter of 2022.

2021 Years of Service Awards

- 20 Years:** Kevin Scheuerman, Denny Parry
- 15 Years:** Doug Bingaman
- 10 Years:** Michael Hoying
- 5 Years:** Alex Brahm, Brian Dapper, Joe Meyer, Mike Posega

2021 Resignations

Carrie Cayse (1997-2021)

2021 New Part-time Personnel

- | | | | |
|---------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Trevor Fluehr | Johannes Gabauer | Glenn Hansen | Alex Kessen |
| Olson Reider | Brandon Schleibaum | John Schwettmann | |

IAFF Local 2236

Our local consists of firefighters and lieutenants that continue to look for ways to improve lives throughout the community. The MIHJFD Bowling Tournament, founded in 1985, was not able to occur due to COVID; however, the local found a way to give by holding a Bourbon Raffle. Funds raised were in excess of \$5,200 and MDA was once again the benefactor. They also participated in two other fundraisers to support firefighters.



Health and Wellness

Health and Wellness focused on keeping our fire department staff healthy despite a global pandemic. We were relatively fortunate, no employees reported major illness due to COVID. We provided all our firefighters the wellness physicals. TriHealth partnered with the fire department and provided extensive physicals to all career members. The physicals are completed annually and they are specially designed for firefighters based on NFPA 1500. The physicals track their health over the course of their career to provide early warning of major health issues that affects firefighters, such as heart disease and cancer. Fitness challenges throughout the year also helped motivate our personnel to stay fit. Challenges included, most steps in a month, most stairs climbed, pounds lost and most pushups. Even our administrative assistant and our police brothers took part in some of our monthly challenges.

The Fire Department Family

We celebrated several family events despite COVID's strangle-hold, by hosting the Family Picnic, the Retirees Lunch, the Breakfast with Santa and the Holiday Party. The Fire Department operates with support of family and we depend on strong support from home to provide great service to our community. Long shifts and time away from friends and family, especially during weekends and holidays add pressure to home life, so it's important to hold family oriented events to show our support to our families. The Board of Trustees make it possible and put a lot of time and effort to see that they succeed. Breakfast with Santa was a huge success this year because for many kids, this was their first intimate experience with Santa due to COVID.





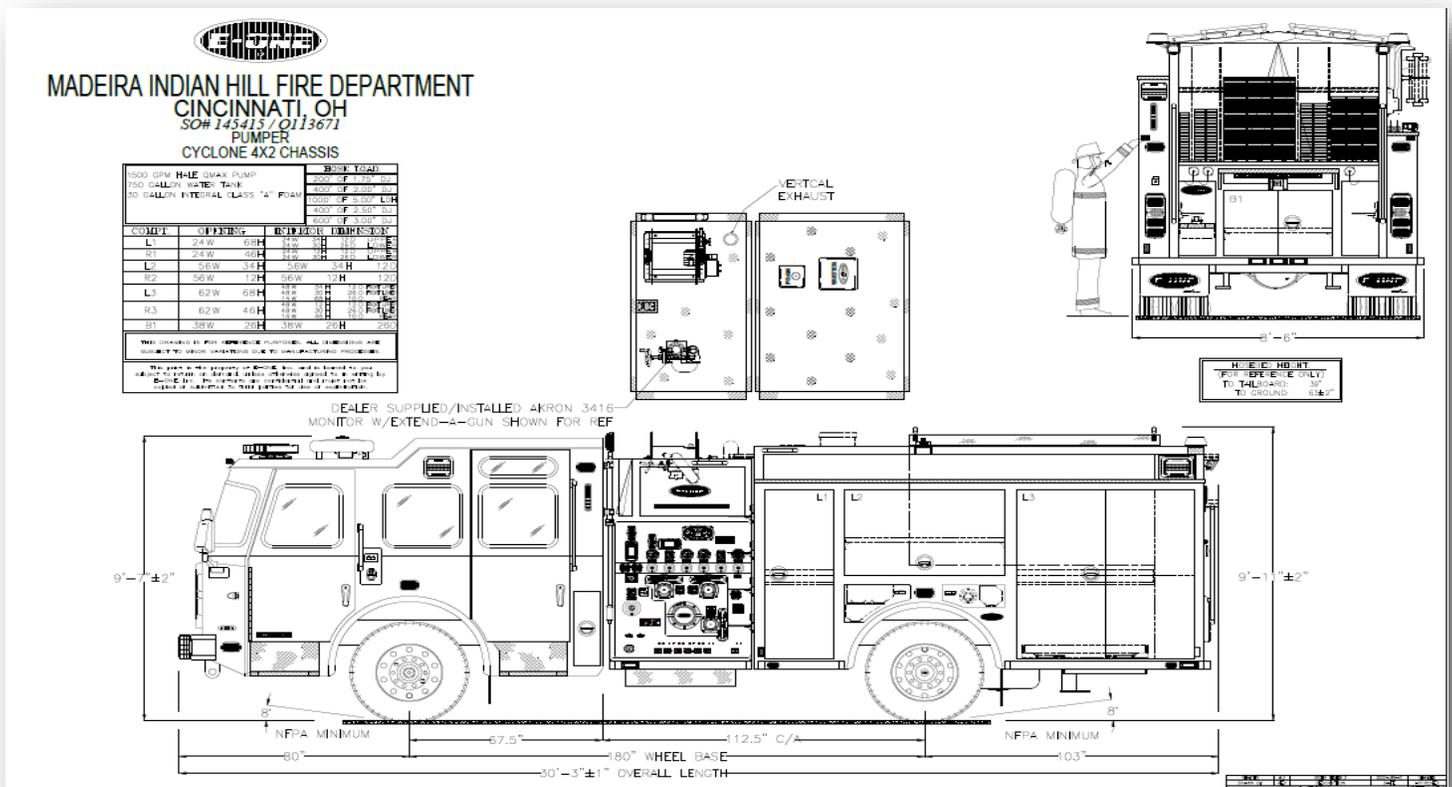
Budget

The JFD completed the year under budget and within the reserve amount agreed upon by both the cities. The JFD strives to retain highly skilled employees, maintain excellent apparatus and equipment while be fiscally responsible to the entities we serve. Given the many unknowns of the pandemic, our budget proposal was aimed at keeping our expenses as flat as possible going into 2021 as compared to 2020. Therefore, our third and final phase of converting part-time positions to career positions was put on hold for 2021. The cities and the board of trustees approved our 2021 budget and were able to fulfill contractual and non-contractual employee raises and we kept other planned expenses as flat as possible.

2021 Budget
\$4,248,648

2021 Capital Purchases

The Fire Chief asked the MIHJFD Board of Trustees to move forward with the purchase of a replacement engine due to several factors from COVID-19 that plague industries across the globe. The fire truck market was no exception to the affects of COVID-19 as manufacturing time increased, raw material availability became scarce and prices increased. In order to combat those factors, we purchased the replacement engine one year ahead of schedule. We spent a majority of the year developing a specification, meeting with vendors and ultimately purchased an E-One Cyclone Pumper. The pumper features a water tank that has 150% more capacity than E64, more hose, is shorter and is more powerful. The order took place in November of 2021 and the build time is expected to be between 14-16 months. We pre-paid the vehicle, which equated to about \$20,000 savings.



After significant delays due to the pandemic, we received our capital purchases from 2020 which were the new support and medic unit. Both units were placed into service at the Madeira Station and were titled Support 65 and Medic 65. The support is a big improvement from the pickup truck we replaced at that station. The support responds to emergency calls in place of the quint where a fire truck is not needed.

The support also responds to non-emergency calls for service, used for errands and hydrant maintenance to name a few. The new medic unit and the support have gas engines, which saved us money up front and we predict will save us in operations and maintenance costs. Both trucks are built on Ford 4 wheel drive heavy duty chassis.



EMS Billing

Our EMS billing is handled by a third party, Medicount. Medicount sends a bill to the insurance companies, Medicare and Medicaid for all patients transported to a local hospital. EMS billing supplements our operational budget and monies collected get credited to Madeira and Indian Hill. EMS revenues increased in 2021 due to decreased non-contractual adjustments, increased patient and facility payments, improved revenues from the VA, Auto and Worker’s Compensation.

2019

Service Level	Total Runs
BLS	366
ALS	336
ALS 2	5
TOTAL	707
Revenue	\$230,648
Avg. \$326 / Transport	

2020

Service Level	Total Runs
BLS	359
ALS	277
ALS 2	6
TOTAL	642
Revenue	\$225,747
Avg. \$351 / Transport	

2021

Service Level	Total Runs
BLS	524
ALS	484
ALS 2	11
TOTAL	1019
Revenue	\$316,866
Avg. \$351.63 / Transport	



COVID – 19

The pandemic continued to affect both the administration and the operation of the JFD, but we were able to adjust and

loosen COVID restrictions as our region permitted the fire service to allow programs to go back to normal, or at least a new normal. With updates from federal, state and local governments, we adjusted our Incident Action Plan monthly.

The most important aspect of COVID-19 in 2021 was the ability of our members and the general public to access an approved vaccination. Three companies were approved to provide a vaccine and our personnel received their shots as early as December, 2020 and then had boosters in the summer of 2021. The MIHJFD vaccination program was voluntary for all career and part time employees in 2021. The vaccines were provided by Hamilton County Public Health, who also provided training to our paramedics.



Homebound Vaccination Program

Our paramedics partnered with Hamilton County Public Health Department and the Council on Aging to provide access to the vaccine to individuals who are unable to go to a clinic or doctor to get the vaccine. The program was called the Homebound Vaccination Program. HCPH provided the vaccine and our paramedics traveled to homebound individual's residences and administered the vaccine.





Public Information

We utilize several platforms to keep the public informed about department events, present safety messages, and to communicate Board of Trustee and Committee meetings to name a few. In 2021, the fire district utilized our new website and other platforms below to provide our customers the latest news and prevention efforts. All of these platforms are updated by our personnel.

MIHJFD Newsletter: The Spring and Fall newsletters provide our residents with relevant information from the fire department and serve as a platform for fundraising for the Madeira and Indian Hill Fire Company. The newsletter is used to publicize our public meetings for the year and provides proxy votes in accordance with our bi-laws as a government body that contracts with the two cities.

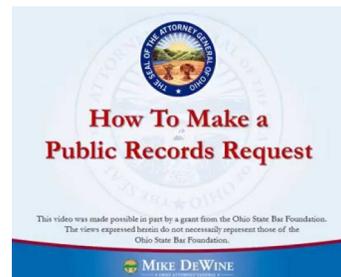
MIHJFD Website: In 2020, we launched a new/improved website at MIHJFD.ORG. We update the website to include safety messages, upcoming events and access to fire department services. New features in 2021 included updated apparatus photos, personnel pictures, community surveys and monthly chief reports.

Facebook/Instagram: We continue to use social media sites to provide up to the minute updates on relevant information including Fire / EMS information on major incidents, public education elements like smoke detector initiatives or other helpful fire safety tips. Several of our employees have access to these sites to provide information to the public without compromising the rights of victims or inadvertently highlighting or glorifying a tragic event. We have reached over 38,000 Facebook users with our page, and have over 4,100 followers.

Public Records Commission: The MIHJFD Board of Trustees utilizes a sub-committee to provide guidance on our public records. This sub-committee is active throughout the year to make sure that records are kept, maintained and distributed according to up-to-date policies and / or Ohio law.

Media Relations: For significant incidents we create press releases that are available to the Media when requested. We enjoy a great relationship with the media and provide accurate information to the public in a timely manner during incidents.

City Newsletters: We provide both Madeira and Indian Hill with information or articles for their individual newsletters. In 2021, we provided articles about various fire prevention initiatives including open burning guidelines and smoke detectors. Look for these articles in the Madeira and the Indian Hill Newsletters in 2022.





Training

FireRescue 1 Academy

We utilize an online training platform called FireRescue 1 Academy. In 2021, we recorded 463 hours of online training. Online training provides an avenue for our employees to achieve continuing education hours at their own pace either on their own or with their crew. The platform is customizable and comes with over 1000 courses.

We are very proud of our members commitment to training. The diversity and quality of training is an important part of our daily routine. We strive to exceed continuing education requirements for our EMT, Paramedic, Firefighter, Instructor and Inspector state requirements. In addition to state requirements, we train in specialty areas including HazMat and technical rescue. Other areas of training include driver's training,

area familiarization, pump operations, ladder operations, policy and procedure and other administrative trainings. The focus of our training is to enhance the service we provide to our customers and to maintain efficiency and effectiveness; in doing so, keeps our firefighters safe.

Top 5 Training Hours Logged

Scott Otten	163
Sean McCarthy	105
Joe Meyer	91
Joe Placke	88
Devin Moore	88

MIHJFD Total Training Hours: 2,471

Swift Water Response

In 2021, the Village of Indian Hill annexed acres of land to include access areas to the Little Miami River. Responses to the river involve multiple units with specialty trained personnel. We partnered with Loveland-Symmes, Milford, Goshen, Deerfield, Miami, and Central Joint FD to improve responses to the river so that our operations are safer, better coordinated and highly skilled. The Swift Water Rescue response is part of Task Force One, the Region 6 Water Team.

USAR (Urban Search and Rescue)

Seven MIHJFD employees are technical rescue specialists that participate in Hamilton County USAR Team. This regional team responds to calls for lost people, trench, collapsed structure, and confined space emergencies throughout the State of Ohio. Training for the team is scheduled every other month. Due to COVID, one training was canceled in 2021. The USAR team responded to two incidents including a structural collapse consult and one team activation for a search for a missing person. The following personnel are rescue specialist for USAR:

Steve Oughterson	Francisco Caceres	John Lynch
Doug Bingaman	Joe Placke	Toney Sanders
Ty Zimmerman		



Loveland Fire Training Tower

Like most of our neighboring fire departments, we don't have a live fire training facility in the district. However, Loveland-Symmes Fire Department partners with several of our neighbors and provides a subscription service to use their training tower whenever we want. Due to the complexities of live fire training, we need our mutual aid partners to facilitate training at the tower in order to train our on-duty crews as well as cover the district. Our goal is to train in the live fire environment once per quarter and with fluctuations in COVID-19, we recorded less hours at the tower in 2021. The highlight of the year at the tower was a hose movement class taught by the retired Cincinnati Fire Division Captain Mike Kirby and his talented associates. Effective hose movement and quick water on fire is something our crews work to perfect in order to save lives and save property.



Acquired Structures

With growth in our community, comes training! We had the unique opportunity of having several residences and a school donated to the JFD in order to provide awesome training for our personnel as well as our mutual aid partners. We had a total of seven homes available for training to include hose movement, search and rescue, breaching, breaking, ventilation, salvage and overhaul techniques. The homes ranged in size from small two bedroom homes to multi-room mansions. We also were afforded training time at the Indian Hill Middle School prior to demolition. Training scenarios are based the structure available and skills we need to perfect. Homeowners are encouraged to contact the fire chief if you are planning to demolish your structure.

Leadership Academy

We participated in the Leadership Academy with our mutual aid partners with other area fire departments. The Leadership Academy is an intensive, interactive, practical, multi-media course using discussion, case studies and hands-on simulations that develop leadership and coaching skills in fire



officers. The year long course applies the most current understanding of how firefighters effectively perform with how leaders and supervisors can best favorably influence the performance of fire firefighters and outcomes for the fire service organizations. Our personnel will be prepared to build performance improvement programs that make fire fighters safer and more effective in the street, while getting the most return from available leadership time and resources. Our graduates also prepared a project that was utilized to justify organizational changes that were approved to take effect in January of 2022. Graduates were Joe Meyer, Sean McCarthy and Toney Sanders under the mentorship of Capt. John Lynch.



EMS Operations

Dr. Rachael Matthews, continues to serves our Medical Director. She currently practices as an ER Physician at Bethesda North Hospital. She provides medical oversight for our E.M.T. and Paramedics and takes an active role in training. She reviews our E.M.S. runs and provides feedback that helps our medics improve their knowledge and skills as well as validate the excellent work that they do.



One of the worst calls, and most challenging, is calls for Cardiac Arrests. When those calls come, it takes a team effort from civilians on the scene, to the EMS providers and great care from nurses and doctors. With early

interventions such as bystander CPR, the use of an AED (Automatic External Defibrillator), access to 911, and a quick response by first responders, the chance of survival improves greatly. In 2021, that team effort resulted in one recorded ROSC (Return of Spontaneous Circulation) event. In 2021, we responded to 27 cardiac arrests, 17 of which were treated on scene, and seven were transported to the hospital. Four of those patients transported to the hospital had a pulse upon arrival to the Emergency Department.



Due to a sudden increase in demand for bariatric treatment and transport in our joint fire district, we purchased some equipment to assist with the movement of bariatric patients. Our transportation capability increased from 500 lbs to 750 lbs due to the purchase of Ferno's Cot Extenders. This piece of equipment allows for a wider base and more secure transport of larger patients.

We also purchased equipment used at the scene to assist our paramedics in lifting and moving bariatric patients. The equipment is called HoverJack and is currently carried on our new Support 65 unit. The new equipment is capable of lifting and assisting in the movement of up to 1,200 lbs.

A good part of the increase in EMS run volume can be attributed to the increase in calls for service to our assisted living facilities, including the build out of Traditions facility on Camargo. Initial projections of 100 runs were accurate, until 2021 as we saw 148 calls for service. Many of these can be handled by private transport services, but their availability forces their staff to call 911 instead of waiting. All of the transports we provide must be transported directly to the Emergency Room except for special cases such as Obstetrics and some Cardiac runs.

2019

NURSING HOMES	TOTAL
5970 Kenwood	156
7885 Camargo	78
7650 Camargo	12
YEARLY TOTAL	246

2020

NURSING HOMES	TOTAL
5970 Kenwood	202
7885 Camargo	116
7650 Camargo	89
YEARLY TOTAL	407

2021

NURSING HOMES	TOTAL
5970 Kenwood	199
7885 Camargo	186
7650 Camargo	148
YEARLY TOTAL	533



The medic units are the busiest apparatus in our fleet and accounts for the majority of the emergency service we provide to the community.

Of the **1533** runs in 2021, we recorded 945 transports to local hospitals with over 81% transports to Bethesda North and Jewish Hospitals. 2021 marked the busiest year in the department history. The busiest hour of the day is 10:00 AM and our busiest month was December.

Mission Lifeline

Cardiac calls are an important part of our emergency services as our paramedics can triage, treat and transmit information directly to the emergency room physician. Telemetry from our cardiac monitors can show the doctor exactly what we are seeing in the field and our 12 lead monitors provide our paramedics a view of the electronic waveform. The characteristics of the waveform help the paramedic see what is going on with the heart. Specially, the paramedic will look for ST elevation which signifies an

active myocardial infarction or heart attack. We can see a heart attack, transmit the data to the E.R., provide life saving cardiac medications and go directly to the Catheter Lab in some applications. Mission Lifeline is a program by the American Heart Association designed to improve cardiac care from EMS contact through in-hospital treatment and release. The Madeira & Indian Hill Joint Fire District participated in the program and was recognized with the Bronze Award. Criteria for the award is as follows:

- ◆ Patients age 35 and older that present with Chest Pain receive an EKG in the field by EMS providers. To earn Plus level, must be within the first 10 minutes of contact
- ◆ If Paramedics interpret the EKG to show evidence of an MI, the EKG is transmitted to the receiving hospital within 10 minutes of interpretation
- ◆ Patients showing evidence of an MI are transported directly to a hospital with 24/7/365 Cath Lab
- ◆ Time from first contact by EMS to device placed in hospital cath lab is less than 90 minutes

EMS RUNS BY IMPRESSION	
Injuries	209
Respiratory	104
Weakness	91
Cardiac	74
Altered Mental Status	69
Seizures	25
Diabetic	23
Drugs / Alcohol	22
Stroke	20
Fever	10

DRUGS GIVEN BY PARAMEDICS	
Epinephrine 1:10,000	83
Fentanyl	45
Zofran	45
Aspirin	40
Nitroglycerin	28
Albuterol / Duroneb	28
Dextrose 50%	11
Narcan	11
Versed	9
Epinephrine 1:1,000	8





Fire / Rescue Operations

2021 was a high-volume year for runs; however, we were fortunate to not record a high fire loss and we had no civilian or firefighter casualties in our district. We responded to thirty-seven structure fire calls for the year, of which, thirty-three were out of our district. The fall was unusually busy with multiple working fires outside of our district. In fact, we responded to three working fires at the same address, all due to arson at a vacant hotel complex. The complex has since been demolished.

FIRE RUNS BY TYPE	
Special Incident /Other	1
Severe Weather /Flood	2
Cooking Fire Contained	4
Vehicle Fire	4
Vehicle vs. Pedestrian Struck w/o Injury	12
Hazardous Condition	12
Outside Fire	12
Odor of Smoke	14
Vehicle Crash w/ Injury	16
Rescue	18
Service Call	20
Other	24
Carbon Monoxide	33
Electrical problem / Power Line	33
Structure Fire	37
Natural Gas or LPG	45
False Alarm	154
Dispatched / Cancelled Enroute	193
EMS	1370
TOTAL FIRE	2010

2021 was a high-volume year for runs; however, we were fortunate to not record a high fire loss and we had no civilian or firefighter casualties in our district. We responded to thirty-seven structure fire calls for the year, of which, thirty-three were out of our district. The fall was unusually busy with multiple working fires outside of our district. In fact, we responded to three working fires at the same address, all due to arson at a vacant hotel complex. The complex has since been demolished.



Our largest fire loss for the year was the result of a barn fire on Blome Rd. The fire occurred late at night and had consumed most of the building before a neighbor noticed the glow. Fire crews arrived on the scene and were only able to extinguish what the fire had already destroyed. The horses in the barn were safe, as they were able to access an outside area as the fire grew. We were able to determine the area of origin for the fire, but were unable to pinpoint the exact cause.

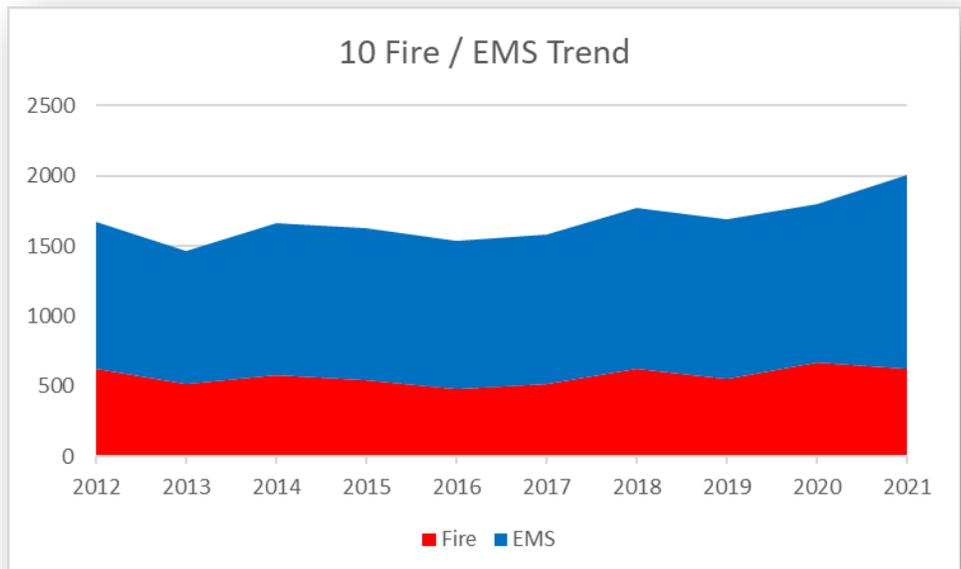
Our crews responded with multiple other agencies to the demolition project at the Indian Hill Middle School for a HazMat call on August 19. A contractor was recovering the coolant from rooftop HVAC units as part of the demolition process and a valve was mistakenly left open, allowing glycol to spill onto the roof. Heavy rain mixed with the glycol, carrying it to the roof scuppers and then to the storm sewers. Neighbors on South Clippinger noticed a red liquid in the creek and our crews traced it back to the school. Clean Harbor responded to the incident and performed all of the cleanup after our crews found the source of the leak. Cleanup was completed and the EPA closed the case thirty days after the event.

2021 Fire Loss

2/15/2021	4325 Drake Rd.	House	\$6,500	Indian Hill
4/25/2021	8525 Blome Rd.	Barn	\$300,000	Indian Hill
6/16/2021	5500 William Henry Harrison	Home	\$20,000	Indian Hill
7/5/2021	8340 Indian Hill Rd.	Home	\$6,000	Indian Hill
10/4/2021	7621 Loannes Ct.	Home	\$6,000	Madeira

We made a significant operational change in 2021 by adjusting our deployment to increase effectiveness in our personnel. We moved a medic unit into the Indian Hill fire station so that each station has a fire apparatus and a medic unit.

When we are at full staff, the quint responds with three personnel and two on the medic unit out of the Madeira station. Similarly, the engine responds with three personnel and two on the medic unit from the Indian Hill station. As staffing improves, this move made sense to provide a transport unit to Indian Hill and it allows each station to handle the details in their district without pulling apparatus or personnel from the other station.





Apparatus Maintenance

The JFD spent less on maintenance than in 2020 as we are investing in preventative maintenance. The two front line fire apparatus compose of 60% of the 2021 maintenance costs. All apparatus, including the spare engine, received N.F.P.A. inspections,

pump testing and ladder testing. We spent less on maintenance from the year before due to the sale of our oldest medic unit, the change in the deployment of our medic units and the addition to two brand new vehicles in 2021, the Support and Medic Units at Station 65. The quint is making less runs as the support is taking EMS runs in its place. The 2010 Ford / Horton was sold to Amberly Village at the end of the year. The two primary medic units are a 2017 and 2021 Ford F550 chassis; however, the 2017 is diesel and the newer unit is gasoline. Both the support and the medic unit that respond from the Madeira Station are gasoline powered in hopes of decreasing maintenance costs in addition to the decreased purchase price between the two engine types.

Unit	Make	2021 Miles	Costs	Cost / Mile
Engine 64	2013 Pierce	4,155	\$6,729	\$1.62
Quint 65	2009 Pierce	2852	\$10,042	\$3.52
Spare Engine 264	2002 Boise	607	\$1,780	\$2.93
OOS Medic	2010 Horton	1,287	\$2,469	\$0.56
Medic 64	2017 Braun	9,752	\$2,819	\$.029
Medic 65	2021 Horton	4004	\$80.00	\$0.02



Our personnel saved the JFD thousands of dollars by diagnosing, resourcing, parts shopping and repairing in-house when possible. Other repairs are made in house by our mobile technicians at Vogelpohl Fire Equipment. Oil changes are a regular part of our maintenance program and throughout 2021, our personnel performed all the routine maintenance and oil changes for the support units, staff units as well as the medic units which saves money for the JFD.

While the financial savings is significant, the value beyond the dollar is the skills and knowledge passed to our young firefighters who don't have mechanical experience. Brian Willing and Lt. Linne took the time to get firefighters involved in routine maintenance which are skills that are rapidly being lost in our younger generation of firefighters.

Engine 64

PREVENTATIVE

- Transmission serviced

REACTIVE

- Rear brake pads and drum replacement
- Coolant leak repairs
- Replaced crosslay plumbing swivels
- Ground lights replaced
- Intake valves replaced

NFPA Inspections

- Vehicle Inspection
- Pump Test
- Annual Service
- Ladder Test

Quint 65

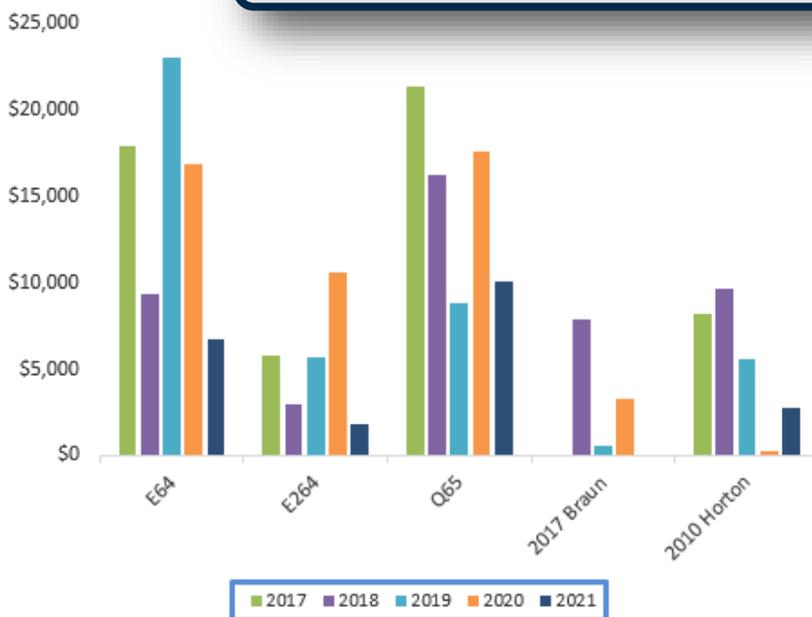
PREVENTATIVE

- Hydraulic system serviced

REACTIVE

- Front tires w/ alignment
- Complete battery replacement (7)
- Leaf spring replacement
- Four inch discharge valve repair / rebuild
- Replaced turbo hose, turbo boost sensor, EGR sensors
- Replaced door sensors / cab and warning lights

5 year Maintenance Chart



The above chart shows the specific maintenance performed on our two primary fire apparatus. The annual NFPA. Inspection is an important part of our maintenance program to always keep our fleet ready for service and to save money on expensive repairs. We track maintenance on a preventative and reactive system as seen above. The Fire Year Maintenance Chart graphically shows our fire and EMS apparatus over a five-year period. The average cost per year for the fleet including staff vehicles is \$48,408 per year.



Fire Prevention & Public Education

Our Fire Prevention efforts are distributed to our duty crews and Captain Lynch is the program manager responsible for the programs detailed below. The pandemic continues to modify our traditional programs, but as businesses are open to the public, we too, are out in the district to provide the safest environment for our citizens and visitors.

Car Seat Safety

Our car seat technicians provided 82 car seat inspections, adjustments and installations in 2021. This program is unique to our fire department as not many fire departments in our area perform these services. Therefore, 34 inspections were completed for non-residents, 48 for residents. Since 2000, the fire district has provided 2,630 documented car seat inspections. There are five car seat technicians and we usually have a technician on-duty as they are spread amongst all three unit days. Griffin Drake, Mike Hoying, Doug Bingaman, Toney Sanders and Pat McCall are our certified technicians.



Knox Boxes

We have approximately 102 commercial Knox boxes in the district. The Knox box contains keys, alarm system information, and contact information. These boxes are checked on an annual basis during fire inspections. In 2021 there were two new boxes were installed to include a temporary box for the Indian Hill Schools. The District has a total of 22 residential Knox box loaners. Residential loaner boxes are intended for short term needs when the occupant may have special needs that may keep them from answering the door during an emergency. In 2021, 14 boxes were on loan. There are several residential driveway gates in which the JFD requires the gates be equipped with a Knox key to override for emergency access.

Hydrant Maintenance

The JFD works with two water providers in our district, the Indian Hill Water Works and Greater Cincinnati Water Works. Both entities had major projects in the district to improve water mains which improves our ability to move water in the event of a fire. Our personnel work with both providers to perform bi-annual service for all our fire hydrants, one in the spring and the other in the fall. Hydrant blasting and painting are another part of the maintenance program which is sponsored by Madeira and Indian Hill who contract the work out to Ellis Maintenance and Blasting.



Fire and Life Safety Inspection Program

Our modified inspection program in 2020 was back to normal in 2021 as the JFD performed 387 fire and life safety inspections for our commercial occupancies. The inspection program is essential to prevent fires and more importantly, save lives and property. Code enforcement and education play an integral role for the JFD as we strive to decrease loss by fire, decrease injuries and eliminate deaths due to fire. Fire inspectors see a variety of code violations including exit signs not illuminated, extension cord abuse and other house keeping issues.

Plan Review

Plan reviews are conducted by fire inspectors for any remodeling or new construction in commercial buildings. During plan reviews, means of egress, emergency lighting and general life safety issues are examined. 70 plan reviews were performed in 2021. Major projects included the plan review for Indian Hill Schools, Madeira Schools, Swingline grill and many more projects. Plan reviews doubled from the previous year.

Public Education

As pandemic guidelines kept many of our public education activities limited to video presentations, birthday parades and other limited educational opportunities, we began to get back to normal as the year progressed. Public education occurred on smaller scales in open areas and restrictions like mask use and social distancing still played a significant role. However, in 2021, we presented 30 safety talks / station tours and participated in block parties and parades to educate the public in fire and life safety initiatives.



Senior Commission

In October, Captain Lynch facilitated a discussion titled "Aging Safely in the Home" with members of the Senior Commission and the community. The discussion focused on general fire and medical safety, tips on avoiding trip hazards, and how to make a home safer. They also were presented with the JFD's Knox Box program, Premise History Program, Address Sign Program. This program generated 19 new Premise History participants!



Cont'd

Smoke Detector Blitz

The Joint Fire District's first Annual Smoke Detector was a success. Our goal is to ensure that all residents within the district have at least one working smoke detector.

This year we focused our efforts to locations where we believe residents could use our help the most. Half of first day was spent knocking on every door within the mobile home park located on Dawson. The remaining half of that day and the following day we covered 20 more streets in Madeira. During the Blitz, our firefighters replaced non-working and out of date detectors, installed new detectors, changed batteries, tested CO detectors, and handed out educational pamphlets related to smoke detector placement and use. In addition, the firefighters gained working knowledge of the district by identifying potential dangers such as hoarder conditions and solar panels on rooftops.

- ◆ 414 Residences Hit
- ◆ 93 Smoke Detectors distributed
- ◆ 23 Batteries replaced
- ◆ 85 Pamphlets handed out
- ◆ 3 CO Detectors Checked



Fireworks Permitting

The JFD is the local regulator of firework activities in the community. Each display of fireworks is state regulated and requires a local permit, authorized by both the fire chief and police chief. In 2021, we issued and inspected fourteen firework events. One event was for an indoor display as part of the Indian Hill High School production of a play. Firework laws changed in 2021 in the State of Ohio to allow certain types of fireworks to be displayed on certain days, including July 4th and New Years. Events in Indian Hill that involve fireworks are announced to residents via Code Red. Both Indian Hill and Madeira brought their firework events back after cancelling their events in 2020 due to COVID19.

Tank Inspections

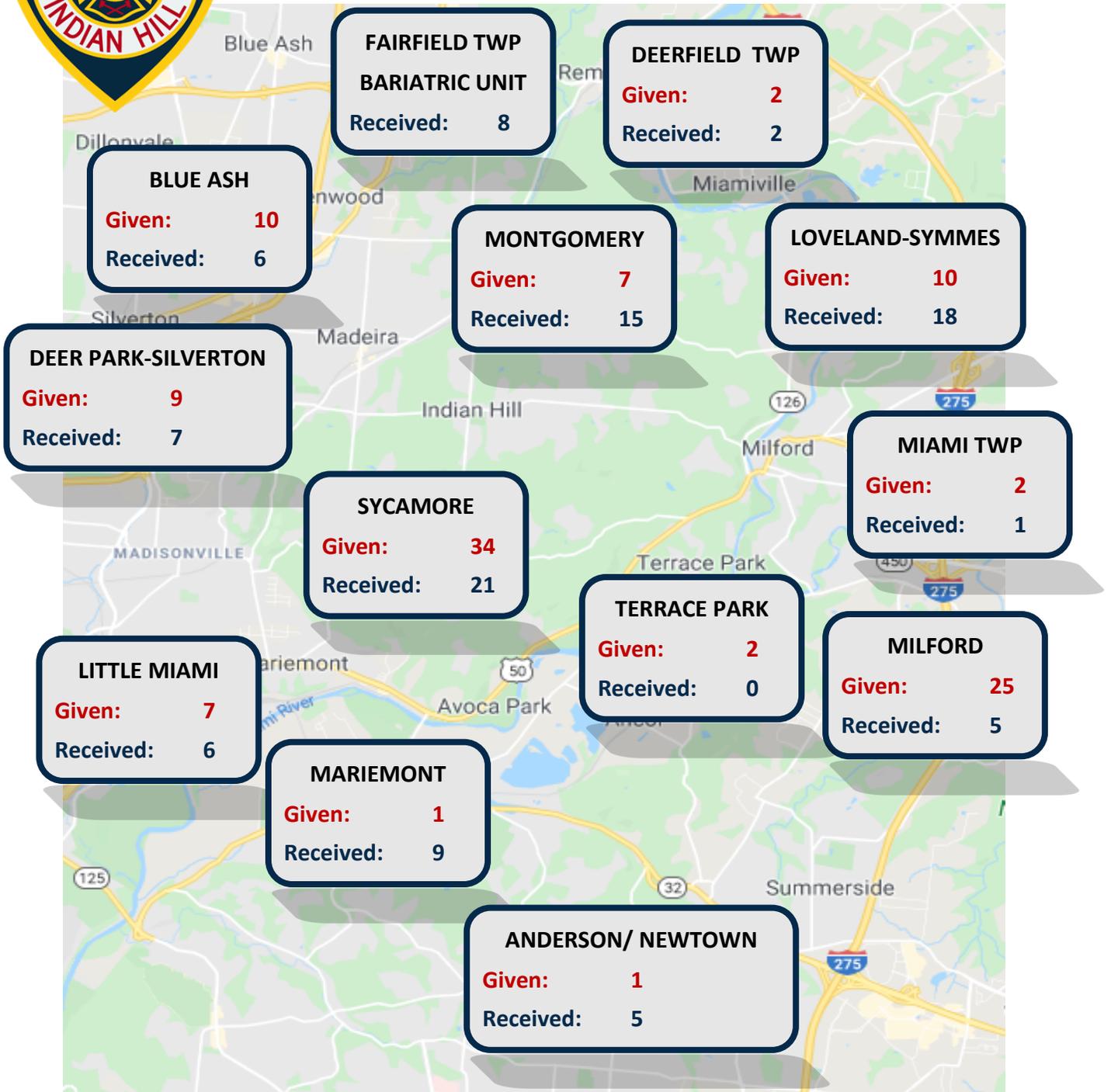
The Fire District conducted 16 combustible or flammable liquid storage tank removal or installation inspections in 2021. The distribution of these inspections included removal of fuel oil tanks due to changes in fuel utilized by the homeowner, tank s that are "abandoned in place" due to obstacles of removal, and installation of additional tanks required for increased fuel demand.

Tent Permits

Working with the Hamilton County Building Dept and the Village of Indian Hill, 60 tent permits were issued in 2021. The fire district sends a fire inspector to each permitted event and briefs the responsible persons on basic fire safety, weather awareness and also provides an AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) for large gatherings on private property. AED are provided by the JFD on a loaner basis, which is new for 2021.



Mutual Aid



Our Mutual Aid partners include all jurisdictions that surround our fire district and expand all the way out to other counties to include Clermont and Warren County as well as across state lines in Kentucky to assist with airport emergencies. However, most of our mutual aid is given and received from jurisdictions that touch our fire district such as Sycamore, Montgomery and Loveland-Symmes Fire Departments. We respond automatically for structure fires to provide the right amount of people and apparatus to handle all the tasks on the fireground as quickly as possible. We utilize the IMAT (Incident Management Assistance Team) to provide or receive chief officers to fulfill command roles and organize fire responses so the Incident Commander is not overwhelmed. The map above shows the distribution of mutual aid given to and received from our neighbors.



Final Words

ESO

Technology is always changing, and our database management system included a large fire / EMS platform and other software programs to assist in the administration and operations of the Joint Fire District. The database, *Firehouse*, was purchased by another company and was scheduled to be discontinued. We researched new software programs that would keep our historic data, merge separate software programs into one platform as well as take us into new software and database management systems to stay ahead of the technology curve. We chose ESO and were able to meet all those objectives and went live with the program in the middle of 2021. We used the second half of the year to train personnel, migrate data and incorporate new technologies into our operations. For example, we utilize bar codes for inventory and scanners to provide an information bridge between our patients and the hospital.

Facility Maintenance

In 2021, a new zero turn lawn mower was purchased for station 64. Annual testing was completed to include back flow testing at both stations. Maintenance of the alarm and sprinkler systems were completed per manufacturer recommendations. Overhead doors were serviced at the stations.

Special thanks to the **Andrews Foundation** for their 2021 financial gift and continued support of the Madeira and Indian Hill Fire Company

Mr. Harold Thomas

1932-2021

It is with heavy heart that we report the passing of our friend Harold Thomas. Mr. Thomas was such a great person, not only to our organization, but to many others. He was a major contributor to Tri-Health, several local churches and schools, local police departments and probably so many more. He was a quiet man and gave without warning or need for recognition. It was not unusual for Mr. Thomas to call the fire chief to go for a drive or to meet him for breakfast, we will miss his friendship. We are eternally grateful for his kindness.

