

Local Memorandum of Understanding
Between the
St. Louis County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®)
A voluntary emergency and public service communications organization
sponsored by the American Radio Relay League, Inc.
and
Bellefontaine Habilitation Center (BHC)

Extension of this MOU 1 / 25 / 12

Bellefontaine Habilitation Center in St. Louis County, Missouri; here after referred to as BHC responsible for the care and treatment of mentally retarded and developmentally disabled persons. and the St. Louis County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) group in St. Louis County, Missouri; here after referred to as St. Louis County ARES®, responsible for the St. Louis County area and representing public-service oriented radio amateurs within this area, have agreed to enter into these local agreements which have formed the basis for this memorandum.

Purpose

This agreement between St. Louis County ARES®, the local Amateur Radio Emergency Service group and BHC establishes a framework of cooperation and a close working relationship with volunteer radio amateurs organized under the authority of the ARRL Emergency Coordinator and officials of the BHC. It is intended through joint cooperation of the local resources available to both signees, the public will best be served under disaster, emergency or public-service related situations. This document is not meant to be considered legally binding; it is a statement of cooperation between the two parties.

Recognition

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service consists of federally licensed radio amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment for communication duty in the public service when disaster strikes pursuant to Federal Communications Commission Rule 97.1 (a) which states that a "fundamental purpose" of the Amateur Radio Service is: "Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications."

The American Radio Relay League Inc, comprising more than 156,000 radio amateurs in the U.S. sponsors the ARRL Field Organization. More than 8,900 amateurs are registered as members of this national field organization which is divided into 71 geographical sections. The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) is one segment of the ARRL's commitment to service the public in time of need. Local ARES groups are established components within ARES®. "ARES®" and "Amateur Radio Emergency Service" are registered service marks of the American Radio Relay League, Incorporated, and are used by permission.

The ARRL Missouri Section leadership within the Amateur Radio Emergency Service is exercised by the Section Emergency Coordinator (appointed by the elected ARRL Section Manager) with the Section Emergency Coordinator appointing District Emergency Coordinators and Emergency Coordinators within the section.

The local Emergency Coordinator is the key person within the ARRL Field Organization to provide an ARES response in a given locale.

The St. Louis County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) is organized in the following manner:

Steve Wooten, KC0QMU: Emergency Coordinator (EC)
Gary Hoffman, KB0H: Assistant Emergency Coordinator (AEC) – Operations

Recognition

The BHC recognizes that the Amateur Radio Emergency Service is the ARRL sponsored emergency/public service oriented communications organization. ARES® consists of more than 35,000 licensed U.S. radio amateurs nationwide and can be of valuable assistance in providing critical communications during emergencies and disasters when normal lines of communication are disrupted.

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service recognizes that BHC is committed to enhancing the quality of life for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities through choices and opportunities within community standards while maximizing all possible resources.

Method of Cooperation

For the communications resources of the St. Louis County ARES® to be coordinated and used to the fullest advantage during disasters and emergencies, and to the extent permitted or required by law and regulation, St. Louis County ARES® and BHC have agreed to the following:

1. The points of contact between St. Louis County ARES® and the BHC office are:
 St. Louis County ARES
 Steven J Wooten, Emergency Coordinator
 Gary Hoffman, Assistant Emergency Coordinator of Operations

 BHC
 Rebecca Post, Superintendent
2. St. Louis County ARES® will identify an individual as the key contact within the BHC. This individual will provide the closest possible cooperation and direct operational assistance to St. Louis County ARES® in emergency communications planning and in coordination of amateur radio communications facilities during an emergency.
3. St. Louis County ARES® and BHC will engage in an on-going dialog on emergency preparedness with each other. They will urge both staff and volunteers to create and maintain appropriate communications and effective relationships at all levels of both organizations.
4. St. Louis County ARES® will cooperate with BHC in pre-emergency planning, drills, exercises, and training programs at the level designated by BHC
5. St. Louis County ARES® and BHC will work together to develop operating plans such that communications services, equipment, and facilities of the Amateur Radio Service may be suitably used.
6. Whenever there is a disaster requiring amateur radio communications, BHC will request the assistance of St. Louis County ARES®. This assistance may include:

- Alerting and mobilizing St. Louis County ARES® members in accordance with the St. Louis County ARES® Emergency Plan
- Establishing and maintaining fixed, mobile, and portable station emergency communication capabilities for local amateur radio coverage and point-to-point contact between BHC and remote locations, as required.
- Maintaining the continuity of communications for the duration of the emergency period or until normal communications channels are substantially restored.

Implementation

This memorandum shall take effect upon its signing by authorized representatives of the local Amateur Radio Emergency Service group and their ARRL Section Leaders and representatives of BHC. This memorandum may be amended by mutual agreement of both parties, and it is understood by both parties that at any time this Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by written notification from either party to the other. Six months prior to the termination date of this MOU, which is 6 / 25 / 13 (a two year term), the parties shall meet to review the progress and success of this MOU and determine whether it shall be extended for an additional two years and in no event shall any single extension of this MOU be for a term exceeding two years.

Miscellaneous

This Statement of Understanding does not create a partnership or a joint venture, and neither party has the authority to bind the other.

Date _____ Title _____

Date 1/25/12 Rebecca M. Test, Supt.
Title

Date 1/25/12 ARL Wood EC
ARRL Emergency Coordinator

Date N/A Renewal see previous MOU
ARRL District Emergency Coordinator

Date N/A Renewal see previous MOU
ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator

Date N/A Renewal see previous MOU
ARRL Section Manager (Required for Recognition by ARRL Field Organization)