

SARS ACTIVITY REPORT 2024



SARS continues to be very grateful for the support of our local councils. We receive no central government funding and your grants help us maintain and expand our clinical operations across Suffolk. Over the last 12 months, we have managed to bring ten new clinicians into the charity. This significant increase in our resources has enabled us to increase the volume of our team shifts considerably with overall team activity increasing by 13% in the last financial year.

We have also set up two new solo clinicians to increase our individual responder network to fifteen. These new autonomous responders have already had a positive impact by responding to nearly 100 call outs for assistance since going live.

Your support has also enabled us to make further investments in our infrastructure. Last year we purchased major equipment items including ventilator equipment, an ultrasound and three advanced monitoring units. We have also funded numerous other medical equipment and drugs and purchased additional training equipment for our clinical volunteers. This has significantly increased our resilience and is ensuring that we continue to maintain the best possible levels of prehospital care for the patients that we treat. Thank you!

In 2023-24, SARS clinicians responded to 561 call outs mobilising to time-critical medical incidents in multiple locations across all the districts of our rural county. In around 30% of the incidents they attended, SARS volunteer responders were the first medical resource on scene. Our clinicians were able to offer a wide scope of advanced treatment to patients, which would not normally be available outside the hospital environment. These included advanced airway management, anaesthesia and sedation, specialist pain relief (analgesia) and surgical procedures. The presence of a SARS responder helped achieve many positive patient outcomes including genuinely life-saving interventions.



A quarter of our current clinical activity involves responding to patients in cardiac arrest. Therefore, for several years we have offered free sessions to the public to highlight the importance of learning CPR and understanding how to use a defibrillator. Last year saw SARS increase its public education programme delivering sessions to schools, businesses and community groups across the county.

Over 1300 people attended our CPR and defibrillator awareness programmes. We are very proud of this achievement and hope that it will make a difference in encouraging our local communities to understand the value of this basic life-saving skill and through that help save lives. Over the coming months we want to continue to invest in our clinical operations. The new doctors and paramedics who have recently joined the charity will enable us to treat more patients and increase the number of positive patient outcomes in our local community. However this increase in resources does require the funding of more equipment, uniform and training and we hope that you can help us achieve these aims by continuing to support our charity.

SARS volunteer clinicians have been operational across Suffolk for over 51 years and helped save countless lives. This has only been possible through the combination of your support and the commitment of our volunteer doctors and paramedics.

Together we can continue to make a lifesaving difference to so many local people for years to come.

For further information about our activity and impact, please visit our website www.sars999.org.uk or contact us at SARS HQ admin@sars999.org.uk 01359244186.

Our Annual Report and Impact Statement can be found on the Charity Commission website by following this link, <https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/charity-search/-/charity-details/5076117>

