

## **Personal Emergency Preparedness Programs: Knox boxes and File for Life documents**

The Parish Health Ministry Board would like to share two great programs for our families and friends. They are relatively easy to implement. We will be available between and after services in October to provide samples of the documents and answer questions regarding these valuable programs.

1. Knox Rapid Access Solutions has been trusted by thousands of fire and law enforcement agencies for over 40 years. Knox boxes have provided first responders with immediate access into secure buildings, campuses, residences and commercial properties. Removing barriers to entry reduces injuries to the first responders and also minimizes property damage. Check which type is authorized for your home. You can find out which local Fire Department covers your home by checking your tax statement. Check the website for more information at <https://www.knoxbox.com>.

2. File for Life documents are attached to refrigerators where first responders will look for valuable information to help treat you during medical emergencies. If you are unconscious or otherwise unable to communicate and no one is available to provide information about you, the form is very useful as it contains a list of your medications, medical history, your physician contact information, allergies, etc. It is recommended to place a copy in your glove compartment with your registration and insurance information as well. Please contact the Sarasota County Contact Center Customer Service Department at 941-861-5000 for more information.

\*Please note: If one would like first responders to honor Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) wishes, Form 1896 (Multilingual) must be printed on yellow paper and be signed by a licensed physician pursuant to chapter 458 or 459 of the Florida statutes in order to be legally valid. The Florida Legislative Division can be contacted for assistance at 1-800-342-1827.

Please contact Mary Luecke or Christine Gruschkus-Wright for more information.