

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GRAND TRAVERSE METRO FIRE DEPARTMENT and GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING are selected for national training conference.

October 29, 2015-The Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department and Grand Traverse County Commission on Aging have been elected as winners of the 2015 NFPA "Remembering When" Scholarship. The team will attend a training conference on fall and fire prevention sponsored by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

The conference "*Remembering When* TM: A Fire and Fall Prevention Program for Older Adults," is being held November 4-6, 2015. NFPA has selected teams from 30 communities across the United States and Canada to travel to Orlando for the training. Teams are composed of at least one member of the fire department partnered with an individual from an agency within the community that serves older adults. Lieutenant Kyle Clute from the Grand Traverse Metro Fire department is partnering with Director Georgia Durga from the Grand Traverse County Commission on Aging.

Each award covers training, materials and travel expenses, and is valued at more than \$4,000.

Following the conference, the team will return to Grand Traverse County and conduct group presentations and training sessions to prepare additional facilitators. Team members will also personalize the *Remembering When* messages during home visits and help older adults identify changes that will increase home safety.

"These communities are fortunate to have dedicated professionals interested in doing all they can to help older adults live safely in their homes as long as possible. Each team will return home with the ability to facilitate engaging fire and fall prevention presentations and personalized home visits for older adults," said Karen Berard-Reed, NFPA senior project manager. "The data is loud and clear that fires and falls are serious problems for older community members. The *Remembering When* program provides teams with the tools to reduce these risks."

The *Remembering When* program has been implemented in communities throughout North America since 1999, to help thousands of older adults learn strategies to help them live safely at home for as long as possible. The program is available online at no cost.

For more information about *Remembering When*, visit www.nfpa.org/rememberingwhen.

About the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)

Founded in 1896, NFPA is a global, nonprofit organization devoted to eliminating death, injury, property and economic loss due to fire, electrical and related hazards. The association delivers information and knowledge through more than 300 consensus codes and standards, research, training, education, outreach and advocacy, and by partnering with others who share an interest in furthering the NFPA mission. For more information visit www.nfpa.org. All NFPA codes and standards can be viewed online for free at www.nfpa.org/freeaccess.

For more information see the Grand Traverse Metro Fire department website at www.gtmetrofire.org.

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