

Female Firefighters Fire Up Fundraising

It's hanging in firehouses all over the country. It's even appeared on the hit FX show Rescue Me. Now, the hottest thing to hit the fire service gets even hotter when America's Female Firefighters give a sneak peek of the new 2012 calendar due out September, at Fire Rescue International in Atlanta August 26. The ladies will be in attendance selling and signing special edition posters featuring some of the ladies of 2012.

The lovely ladies that grace the pages of this calendar may clean up well, but they are working on the front lines saving lives and making a difference in their communities every day. The ladies of 2012 are all paid professional firefighters from across the nation. Through their work with the calendar, these firefighters are more than just first responders. The money they raise through the not for profit corporation helps to support burn survivors across the nation through their journey of recovery.

For the ladies of AFF, it is not about being a "Calendar Girl", but being able to "Give Back", making a difference in the lives of burn survivor's one calendar at a time. Throughout the year these women travel to various fire service trade shows to sell and sign the calendars. Their hard work pays off--last year, AFF raised over \$40,000 that went to scholarships and various burn foundations throughout the U.S. including: The Firefighters Burn Children Fund (NC), Southeastern Firefighters' Burn Foundation, Inc. (GA), MUSC Children's Hospital Burned Children's Fund & South Carolina Firefighters (SC), Peoples Burn Foundation of Indiana (IN), Children's Burn Foundation of Florida, Inc., Children's Burn Camp of North Florida, Inc, Wisconsin Alliance Fire Safety (WI), Tampa Firefighters Charity Fund (FL), Camp Hoosier (IN), Fire Engineering Courage and Valor Foundation, and Operation Mend.

Selling the calendars is just one way these firefighters give back. Many of the ladies also volunteer as camp counselors, helping survivors on a more personal level. Martin County Fire Rescue Fire Fighter Priscilla McGill has been involved with the calendar for seven years. Each summer she travels to Indiana where she works with burn survivors at Camp Braveheart.

"It brings it full circle" McGill says. As a first responder, we treat victims and get them to the hospital often not knowing what the end result is. Being here allows you to see the story through. Witnessing the amazing grace and strength these kids possess is life altering." McGill said.

For the past 15 years, AFF has been producing the America's Female Firefighters Calendar. Its mission is simple, to raise and expand funds for the benefit of burn survivors across the United States. Helping to raise awareness and educate the public about fire safety and the treatment of burn injuries. Burns are not only physically painful, they are emotionally damaging for the survivors and their families.

"I've seen the devastation caused by burn injuries in the moments after they happen. It's amazing to witness the strength and courage these kids display as they fight for recovery" said AFF President Capt. Laura Kupinski. "It reinforces why we got into the fire service in the first place" Kupinski said.

Through the charities AFF supports, survivors find the road to healing and a better life.

AFF would like to welcome and thank our 2012 sponsors:

**Elkhart Brass Firefighting Equipment; Paul Conway Shields; Interspiro;
Orlando Fire Conference, LLC; Ft. Lauderdale Fire Expo; Thorogood Shoes;
Emergency Apparatus, Inc.; Off DutyWear; emergency stream;
Safety Solutions, Inc.; Fyrepel; Hard Core Crossfit; and Husqvarna.**

**To purchase your 2012 calendar or for more information,
please visit our website: americasfemalefirefighters.com**



Come join our Facebook fan page at www.facebook.com/americasfemalefirefightersinc

"Making a Difference - One Calendar at a Time"

America's Female Firefighters, Inc., a Florida non-profit 501c3

15757 Pines Blvd., #401, Pembroke Pines, FL 33027 • Email: americasfemaleff@aol.com