

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Course To Improve Treatment For Injured Children And Infants Now Available At St. Croix Rescue

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St. Croix Rescue, Inc. has announced it will conduct American Heart Association (AHA) Pediatric Emergency Assessment Recognition and Stabilization (PEARS) training, a course designed to help healthcare providers develop the necessary knowledge and skills for emergency evaluation and treatment of critically injured or ill infants and children.

The training will take place at the St. Croix Rescue Academy at Five Corners on March 10 and 11 from 7 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. each night.

According to AHA's [website](#), "PEARS teaches providers how to recognize respiratory distress, shock and cardiac arrest, and provide appropriate lifesaving interventions within the initial minutes of response until the child is transferred to an advanced life support provider. The goal of PEARs is to improve the quality of care provided to seriously ill or injured infants and children, resulting in improved outcomes."

St. Croix Rescue Chief Gregory Richards is urging emergency medical technicians (EMTs), medical and surgical nurses, school nurses and any other healthcare provider who regularly sees critically ill infants and children to register for PEARs.

"This training will expand the knowledge base of emergency responders and healthcare providers," Richards said.

According information made available by St. Croix Rescue, the training includes pediatric assessment, assessment and management of respiratory problems, recognition and management of shock, identification and management of cardiac arrest, and resuscitation team concept.

Upon completion of the two-day training, participants are expected to have "competency in pediatric basic life support, reinforced essential skills, and enhanced skills in recognizing shock, respiratory failure and cardiopulmonary emergencies," St. Croix Rescue says.

Those that complete the course will receive AHA's PEARs certification valid for two years.

To register, please call (340) 718-6358.