Infant choking/suffocation is the fourth leading cause of infant mortality nationwide. Accidental suffocation and death account for cases of sudden unexpected death syndrome with over 905 cases annually of suffocation. In 2019, the North Carolina Office of the Chief Medical Examiner released a report on child fatalities, reporting 1,265 fatalities of which 174 were accidents (13.75%). Drowning and asphyxiation accounted for 59 deaths (4.7%) of those deaths. Asphyxiation deaths predominantly occurred in children under the age of 1, highlighting a need for new parents to understand rescue techniques. In Eastern North Carolina there is an even greater need for CPR classes as it remains a largely rural area with increased response times for first responders. Rural areas have been shown to have increased response times with an average of 14.5 minutes compared to urban and suburban areas at only 7 and 7.7 minute, respectively.

**Expansion and Future Goals**

- Adding instruction on basic AED use in infants and children using DEMO defibrillators.
- Attempting to partner with local CPR programs to incorporate infant and child CPR into their programs and assist in providing education and training to support these programs.
- Outreach to increase registration for the classes and looking for
- Submitting grants to fund additional equipment to increase class sizes to reach more members of the community.

**Recent Accomplishments**

- Expansion of advertising into Pediatric Department clinic rooms with flyers
- Development of handheld postcards to hand out to patients during visits (right)
- Recipient of the ECU Parent’s Grant, allowing us to buy an additional mannequin, advertising A-Frame board and we have started distributing keychain CPR masks to all participants