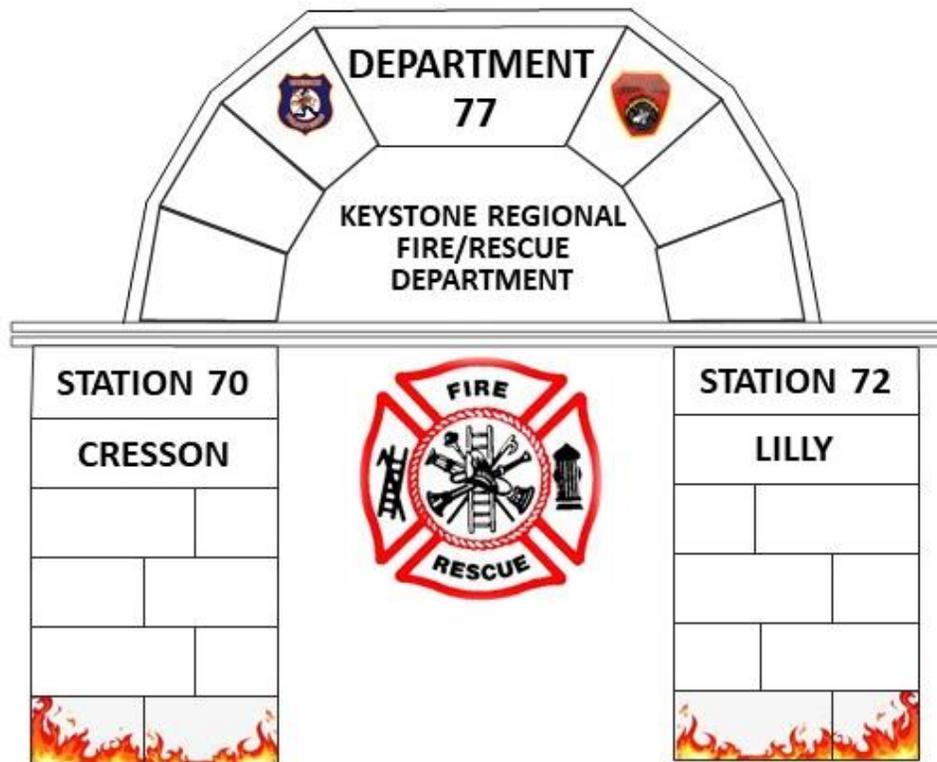

KEYSTONE REGIONAL FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



LOYAL TO OUR DUTY

*PROVIDING UNLIMITED
EMERGENCY FIRE, RESCUE AND QRS SERVICE
TO ANY PERSONS IN NEED*

Dear Reader:

The membership of the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department (KRFRD) is pleased to provide this report to you as an interested party to our organization. By publishing this annual report, we are attempting to provide you with our accomplishments of 2021, along with the goals and objectives we have developed for 2022.

The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department wishes to express our gratitude to the elected officials of the municipalities that we serve and to the residents and businesses of our emergency service coverage area who have supported all of our current and past accomplishments.

The members of the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department wish to extend an invitation for you to visit, become an active member, or at any time to query us on any matters that pertain to the Department.

The progress made by the Department has always been the result of your continued support and assistance, and is done with the total benefit of the residents of the coverage district as our main objective.

As always, we would like to **thank you** and all municipal staff for the continued support in providing this valuable service to all persons who may need assistance while in your municipality.

The only free items in your
Keystone Regional
Fire Rescue Department
are our
VOLUNTEER MEMBERS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION	TOPIC
1.	Articles of Corporation and Mission Statement
2.	COVID-19 Impacts
3.	Membership
4.	Certifications and Memberships
5.	2021 Donated Volunteer Hours
6.	Required Annual Expenditures
7.	Safeguarding of Assets
8.	Apparatus/Equipment/Major Assets
9.	2021 Infrastructure Improvements
10.	2021 Achievements
11.	Community Involvement
12.	2021 Cost Savings and Donations
13.	2021 Grants
14.	2021 Response Statistics
15.	2021 Fire Loss Statistics
16.	2021 Fire Prevention
17.	2022 Goals and Objectives
18.	2022 Fund Raising Schedule

SECTION 1.

ARTICLES OF CORPORATION AND MISSION STATEMENT

KEYSTONE REGIONAL FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

ARTICLES OF CORPORATION

The purpose of the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department is for the purpose of Protecting and Preserving the lives and property of all citizens and the traveling public.

KEYSTONE REGIONAL FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department is to provide unlimited emergency fire and rescue service to any persons in need.

The Department recognizes that persons in need are not in a position to mitigate their problem.

This will necessitate the intervention of the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department to render.

This intervention will be provided to the best of the ability of the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department to whoever needs the assistance, without regard to the background of the person who has requested it.

SECTION 2.

COVID-19 IMPACTS

The worldwide Covid-19 pandemic continues to have an impact upon the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department in 2021. Our fundraising events are a vital part of the volunteer fire service and these events are also an intricate element of our local communities. These interactive events provide our patrons and community members, the ability to mingle and interrelate with family and friends, all while supporting their volunteer fire service. This section addresses some of the personnel and financial impacts that we are addressing during this pandemic.

Personnel:

- ✓ Members were offered the availability to obtain a free Covid-19 vaccination under the first responders' category in March 2021.
- ✓ Firefighters continued to respond to all requests including emergency, non-emergency, Quick Response Service (QRS) and ambulance assist.
- ✓ Firefighters followed applicable Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines for first responders.
- ✓ All apparatus and station equipment were sanitized.
- ✓ Fire prevention trainings restarted on a limited basis (*Refer to Section 16 for additional details*).

Financial:

- ⌘ The cost of all general operational supplies, servicing and maintenance of the stations and apparatus increased significantly, directly impacting our long-term financial stability.
 - These impacts to the Department are wide-ranging, as funds are currently expended that would normally be placed in reserve for future purchases such as apparatus.
- ⌘ Our annual Golf-a-rama was postponed and eventually reconfigured to a virtual public drawing of the listed prizes for our patrons. Our fund-raising profit for this event was .07% of normal for this event.
 - Funds are normally used to pay approximately one-third of our annual insurance premiums.
- ⌘ All rentals of our community social hall and pavilion resumed in May 2021, with limited capacities to comply with CDC guidelines. Full rental operation resumed in late June.
 - Contract revisions were extended until June 2021 to comply with Commonwealth and CDC guidelines.
- ⌘ Fund raising events such as Gun-a-ramas, Ticket Tournament and weekly BINGO saw fewer patrons.
 - Fewer patrons result in less income and profit for the Department.
 - The operational costs for each event rose significantly, resulting in less profit for the Department.
- ⌘ Food costs and related supplies for fund raising events increased 5-50%.
 - These higher costs reduced our overall fund-raising profit.
 - The availability of food commodities also impacted each event held in 2021.
- ⌘ Donations to the KRFRD Annual Fund Drive declined approximately 11% from the previous year.
 - This impacts current apparatus and equipment repairs plus future firefighting purchases.
 - *Refer to Section 12 for additional details*

SECTION 3.
MEMBERSHIP
2021 MEMBERSHIP

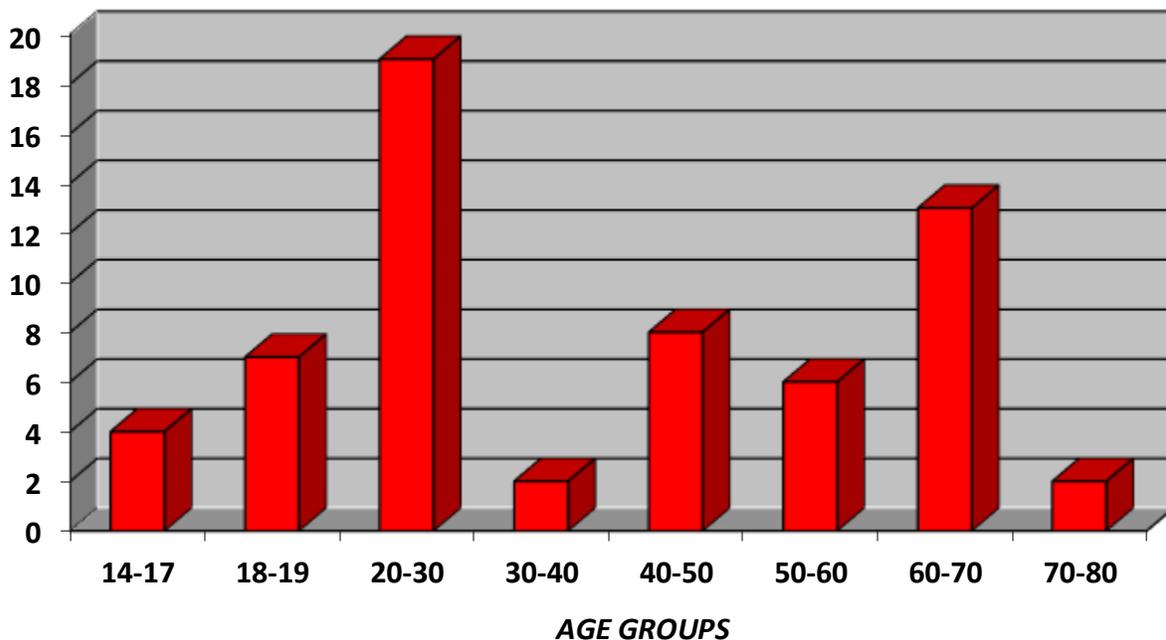
TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS	182
<i>Below is a breakdown of the 182 members</i>	
Members who respond to Fire/Rescue/QRS Incidents	40
Members who participate in fundraising and/or other non-emergency duties	15
Contributory Members (non-participating)	127

The average age of KRFRD members who respond to Fire/Rescue/QRS incidents:

YEAR	AVERAGE AGE
2021	43
2020	38
2019	41
2018	42
2017	41
2016	41
2009	36

This average age has steadily increased, due to fewer people committing to the volunteer fire service in our communities.

2021 Number of Active Members by Age Group



Section 4.

CERTIFICATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department has many staff certified, holding memberships in, and involved in many agencies. This brings about much expertise and prestige to the Department.

Professional Backgrounds:

- Accident and Illness Prevention Service Provider
- Business owner
- Certified Public Accountant
- Certified Occupational Safety Professional
- Career Firefighter
- Correctional and Probation Officer
- Certified Safety Health Manager
- Commercial Driver License Operator
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Heavy Equipment Operator
- Industrial Hygiene
- Information and Technology (IT) Networking and Security Specialist
- Licensed Physician Assistant
- Licensed Physical Therapist
- Licensed Occupational Therapist
- Licensed Real Estate Agent
- Multiple Trades Staff
- Naval Hospital Corpsman
- Paramedic
- PA State Fire and Emergency Service Training Instructors
- Physician Assistant
- Physical Plant Director
- Professional Administrator
- Registered Nurse
- Safety and Environmental Director
- Security and Loss Control Specialist
- 911 Dispatcher

Other Emergency Service Roles of Departmental Members

- Cambria County Emergency Management Agency On-Scene Coordinators
- Cambria County Fireman's Fire School Training Committee Members
- Cambria County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee
- Cambria County Local Emergency Planning Committee Members
- Local Emergency Management Agency Coordinators
- Local EMS responders

Emergency Service Certifications held by various members of the Department

- Asbestos, Lead, and Radon, Abatement and Inspection Certifications
- Assistant State Police Fire Marshal
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
- Certified Life Safety Code Reviewer
- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
- Emergency Vehicle Operator
- First Aid

- Fire Arson Investigator
- Fire Inspector
- Fire Inspector I
- First Responder
- Fire Suppression Instructor
- Hazardous Material Operations and Technician
- Local Emergency Management Agency Staff
- National Vehicle Rescue Awareness, Operations and Technician
- PA Firefighter 1 & 2
- PA Fire Officer 1 & 2
- PA. Department of Health Vehicle Rescue Technician
- Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support Instructor
- Pro-Board Hazardous Material Operations Technician
- Pro Board-Certified Fire Instructor I and Fire Instructor II
- Registered Nurse
- Various other backgrounds

The Fire Department is also a member of the following organizations:

- Cambria County Regional Firefighters Association
 - Central District Firemen's Association
 - Firemen's Association State of Pennsylvania
 - *Western Pennsylvania Firemen's Association
- *The Department terminated membership with this Association effective July 31, 2021*

Fire Department members also represent the following Professional Associations:

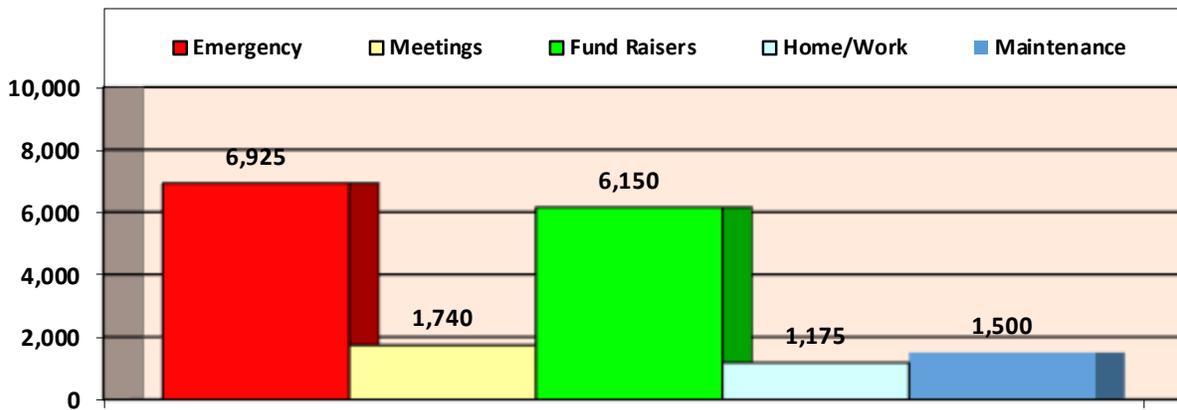
- American Society of Safety Engineers
- International Association of Firefighters (IAFF)
- International Society of Fire Service Instructors
- Keystone Chapter of Fire Service Instructors
- National Fire Protection Association

SECTION 5.

DONATED VOLUNTEER HOURS

{All total hours are close approximations}

In 2021, Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department members donated approximately 17,490 volunteer hours



- **6,925 volunteer hours** operating at emergency incidents and required trainings
- **1,740 volunteer hours** conducting business and committee meetings
- **6,150 volunteer hours** conducting fundraising events
- **1,175 volunteer hours** working at home or place of business on administrative, fund raising and/or line-item tasks
- **1,500 volunteer hours** of maintenance/cleaning of apparatus, facilities and groundskeeping

FINANCIAL VALUE OF VOLUNTEER HOURS

According to the *Independent Sector*, a national company establishing the value of volunteer time in Pennsylvania, the hourly cost value for a volunteer in 2021 was **\$28.54**.

Utilizing this data, in conjunction with the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department donated volunteer hours (17,490), the cost saved for all municipalities by our volunteers was **\$499,164.60**.

FUND RAISING EVENTS

The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department sponsored approximately **110** days of fund-raising events/sessions in 2021. Based upon these events/sessions, the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department conducted an average of one (1) fund-raising session ***every 3.5 days of the 2021 calendar year.***

These are the “actual” days of fund raising to enable the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department to continue the endless and arduous struggle to meet the challenges of the rapidly escalating costs of providing emergency services and general operational costs. This **DOES NOT INCLUDE** pre-planning of the events, organizational meetings, advertising, set-up and clean-up, supply ordering and numerous other related tasks.

SECTION 6.

REQUIRED ANNUAL EXPENDITURES

The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department is required to obtain and hold numerous certifications, insurance coverages, registrations, licenses and permits to legally operate the corporation.

\$33,813.00 was required to be expended in 2021 by the KRFRD for: Testing/ Certification of Apparatus and Equipment; Annual Insurance Costs; Licenses/Permits/Registrations and other costs.

TESTING/CERTIFICATION OF APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT

The expenditures listed below **DO NOT INCLUDE** any required repairs, replacement and/or upgrade costs to meet certification. These repairs, replacement and/or upgrades often add several hundred to several thousands of dollars to obtain certification. Some replacement cost, such as an apparatus water pump, can exceed \$60,000.00.

1. Apparatus water pump test/certification (8 pumps)
 \$ Annual cost average-- \$5,000.00+
2. Aerial testing (Tower 70) and all Department ground ladders test/certification
 \$ Annual cost average-- \$2,300.00+
3. Hose test/certification (approximately 21,000 feet of hose)
 \$ Annual cost average-- \$6,400.00+
4. SCBA test/certification (39 units)
 \$ Annual cost average-- \$2,220.00+
5. Air Compressor quarterly test/certification
 \$ Annual cost average--- \$750.00
6. Kitchen Fire Suppression system (North station) test/certification
 \$ Annual cost average--- \$300.00
7. Apparatus PA Vehicle inspection (11 vehicles)
 \$ Annual cost average----\$550.00+

ANNUAL INSURANCE COSTS

1. Apparatus insurance (11 vehicles)
 \$ Annual cost average--\$7,000.00
2. Property insurance
 \$ Annual cost average--\$5,000.00
3. General liability insurance
 \$ Annual cost average--\$1,500.00
4. Other insurance (Equipment, Bonding, Crime, Officers, etc.)
 \$ Annual cost average-- \$2,000.00

LICENSES/PERMITS/REGISTRATIONS:

1. PA Small Games of Chance License---Annual fee is **\$125.00**
2. PA BINGO License---Annual fee is **\$100.00**
3. PA Dept. of Labor & Industry Boiler license (*both fire stations*) ---Annual fee is **\$162.00**
4. PA Liquor Control Board Interim Liquor License---Fee per each licensed event is **\$30.00**
5. PA Department of Agriculture Kitchen License (*both fire stations*)—Annual fee is **\$96.00**
6. PA Charitable Contributions License---Annual fee is **\$150.00**
7. Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) and Bradstreet business number
 - a. A unique nine-character number used to identify the organization for federal fund tracking
8. Employer Identification Number (EIN):
 - a. Cresson Volunteer Fire Company (DBA) Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department
 - b. Cresson Volunteer Fire Company Relief Association
 - c. Community Volunteer Fire Company of Lilly
 - d. Lilly Volunteer Fire Company Relief Association
9. Fire Department Identification Number/Department (Federal Issued) FDID/FDINS
10. Systems Applications and Products (SAP) Vendor ID:
 - a. PA Issued Vendor Number required for State grants/Contract using entities
11. System for Awards Management (SAMS)
 - a. Federal Business registration annual renewal
12. QRS License—Issued by the PA Department of Health

ANNUAL REQUIRED REPORTING:

1. PENNDOT Fleet Registration- for all fire apparatus
2. PENNSFIRE-incident reporting system used by the Commonwealth of PA and Cambria County
3. Pa. State Police Fire Marshal Reports
4. Federal 990 Non-Profit tax returns
5. State Charitable entity report
6. Pa. Dept. of Revenue – Quarterly tax withholdings
7. Pa. Office of State Fire Commissioner-Executive Officers with contact information
8. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)-required for FEMA grant issuance

OTHERS:

1. An average annual fee of **\$2,270.00** is expended to a certified public accounting firm related to completion/filing of:
 - a. Independent Accountant’s Review of KRFRD financial accounts and records
 - b. Federal 990 Not for Profit Tax Return
 - c. BC-10 Application

Various other governmental entities require reporting to comply with mandated obligations. There are indirect costs related to each entity but no direct fee.

SECTION 7.
SAFEGUARDING OF ASSETS

1. All assets are fully insured for current full replacement value.
2. All financial records undergo an Annual Independent Accountant's Review by the certified public accounting firm of SICKLER, TARPEY AND ASSOCIATES.
3. All awarded federal and state grant funds undergo audits by the administering agency.
4. All grant funds are placed into a single financial account (Safety Fund) to ensure the funds are used exclusively for the specific grant award, to avoid inclusion with other Department funds.
5. All municipal, governmental and contract monies are deposited into a single financial account (Municipal Account). The funds of this account can be expended only on the purchase, maintenance, operation, or repair of the fire house(s), or the maintenance, purchase, operation, or repair of equipment, as defined in each written municipal service contract.
6. The Cresson Volunteer Fire Company Relief Association and the Lilly Volunteer Fire Company Relief Association are routinely audited by the Pa. Auditor General's Office.
7. 24/7 video surveillance and recording equipment is in use at both fire stations, community social hall and pavilion.
8. Fire alarm and detection system with an automatic notification is fully operational at North station and community hall.
9. An annual Insurance Assessment is completed for all assets.
10. The Department Treasurer is bonded to provide security of all funds.
11. All apparatus drivers must be a minimum of 21 years of age.
12. All doors to access both fire stations are secured with combination locks, which are changed on a routine basis for added security.

FUTURE PLANS

1. Pa. State Police Vulnerability Assessment Survey to be completed at both sites.
2. Add a fire alarm detection and notification system at the South station.

SECTION 8.

APPARATUS/EQUIPMENT/MAJOR ASSETS

Note to viewers:

All KRFRD apparatus are listed in the “About” -- “Apparatus” dropdown icons of this homepage.

EQUIPMENT

1. HYDRAULIC RESCUE EQUIPMENT (*Electric and Gasoline powered*)



Hydraulic rescue tools are used by emergency rescue personnel to assist in the extrication of victims involved in vehicle accidents, as well as other rescues in small spaces. The Department operates a full complement of powered hydraulic rescue tools on 4 different apparatus to assure availability. These tools include cutter, ram(s) and spreader. Additionally, hand tools, electrical tools and rope rescue equipment are owned and operated by the Department.

2. BATTERY OPERATED RESCUE EQUIPMENT



Each powered rescue tool receives its power from the battery power unit component and generates the output forces of energy used to perform one or more of the functions of spreading, lifting, holding, crushing, pulling, or cutting. These tools include cutter, ram(s) and spreader. These rescue tools are not restricted by wires or hydraulic hoses.

3. AIR BAG RESCUE SYSTEM



The Department maintains 2 sets of air bag rescue systems capable of lifting 134 tons. Air bags can be used in a variety of incidents including building collapses, heavy extrications and industrial entrapments. Air bags can be adapted for many other situations such as to displace, spread or otherwise move objects.

4. AIR MONITORS



The Department has 3 advanced MSA Altair 5x gas meters which are used to detect levels of gas in a building, room or area outside. The meters are specially designed to detect gases you cannot see, smell or taste. All meters are designed to alarm when a certain percentage is reached, alerting the area is unsafe. The meters detect CO, O2, Hydrogen Sulfide, Hydrogen Cyanide and LEL. These were acquired at substantial costs and were placed into service in response to the needs requested by the residents and the environmental hazards of our fire protection area. We also maintain a meter to detect radiation that was acquired through the Anti-Terrorism Act.

5. THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA



The Department operates four (4) Thermal Imaging Cameras (TIC) and are types of thermographic camera used in emergency services. By rendering infrared radiation as visible light, such cameras allow firefighters to see areas of heat through smoke, darkness, or heat-permeable barriers. Additionally, 14 SCBA have integrated TIC's for firefighters' immediate use in a hazardous environment.

6. AIR COMPRESSOR 2011 HYPRESS



This unit is 10 years old. The in-house air compressor has high-pressured capabilities up to 6,000 psi and certified as grade D breathing air as required by the Compressed Gas Association. The unit has a quarterly air sample analysis completed to assure the highest grade of quality breathable air and the proper operation of the unit and to comply with NFPA Standards.

MAJOR ASSETS

HOUSING -The Department currently operates out of 2 fire stations:

Cresson Station (North)- Built in 1973, the Department owns the building and property located on Ashcroft Avenue in Cresson, along with all interior fixtures and equipment. The building serves to house apparatus, equipment, and provides an area to support numerous fundraising activities. The building also serves as a regional disaster shelter that operates from a natural gas emergency generator system in case of power outages. The emergency generator is able to operate all electrical devices, radios, heat/AC and emergency alerting siren.

Lilly Station (South)- Built in 1974, the Department owns the building and property located on Main Street in Lilly, along with all interior fixtures and equipment. The building serves to house apparatus and equipment.

ANCILLARY STRUCTURES

Pfeister Building - Under an agreement with Cresson Borough, the Pfeister Building (formerly the Cresson Borough office/garage) is now used as a training site for our firefighters to practice various aspects of structural firefighting, rescue and interior/exterior fire ground operations. The building is also utilized to store the devices needed to conduct the weeklong major fund-raising carnival and other events.

Pavilion— Located in Lilly, the pavilion is used to host an array of fund-raising events. The pavilion is also used by the public for numerous community activities.

SECTION 9.

2021 INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

1. Both entrance/egress steel doors and framing of the apparatus room at the North station were replaced at a cost of approximately \$13,000.00. The old doors and attached frames had deteriorated to the point that they posed a significant obstacle for firefighters to access the apparatus area. The new doors and frames, with new security combination locks, are more energy efficient and improve security.
2. The Department obtained and installed an emergency generator at the South Station. The 5-Kilowatt diesel fuel generator, along with electrical service line and panel box improvements, enables the station to operate with increased safety and independence during power outages. A \$20,000.00 grant and a \$5,000.00 donation for an emergency generator was secured in 2020 with installation provided by a certified electrician of the Department for free. The total cost for this project was \$25,000.00.
3. The overhead bay doors (3) of the South Station were replaced with energy efficient doors which increases security and enhances firefighter's safety. The old doors required fighters to stop apparatus in the middle of a state highway to manually close the bay doors when responding to an emergency or any time an apparatus was leaving/returning to the station. The new doors enable firefighters to open/close the bay doors remotely. This improves their safety, the traveling public's safety and reduces energy loss.
4. A new water meter and valve were installed at the North station to replace the original meter and valve.

SECTION 10.
ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2021

1. The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department responded to 100% of requests for fire/rescue assistance and QRS requests in a wide array of emergencies from the citizens, businesses, governmental agencies and travelers within our fire service area, fulfilling the mission statement of the Department.
2. The membership of the Cresson Volunteer Fire Company and the Community Volunteer Fire Company of Lilly voted to finalize the **Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department** unification. This action was the culmination of 2 years of cooperation, whereby each membership body worked jointly to finalize the KRFRD unification.
3. In accordance with Commonwealth of Pennsylvania law, the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department follows the requirements to obtain Child Abuse History Clearances and PA State Police Criminal Record Check documents for volunteers with supervision duties of minors, and affidavits for minor members. For applicants and members who did not reside in Pennsylvania for 10 consecutive years, he/she must also provide an FBI clearance check. This covers all of our active members, and junior members. Applicable members are required to obtain renewal certifications every 5 years.
4. Independent Accountant's Review of the financial records of the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department was completed by the certified public accounting firm of **SICKLER, TARPEY AND ASSOCIATES**. The accounting firm reviewed the financial records of calendar year 2020. We are proud to report that the accounting firm's conclusion was:
"...we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the Department financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America".
This report noted no deficiencies or recommendations in our financial practices or policies. We use an Independent Accountant's Review annually to ensure the Fire Department is utilizing the best financial practices to safeguard municipal contract funds, grant moneys, in addition to the wide array of community and corporate donations. While this is not a full audit due to the extreme costs involved, it is a review of all our financial records by an independent agency at a reasonable financial cost.
5. The Department underwent a Financial Monitoring Review of an Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG) \$452,381.00 award in 2015, in which Rescue Engine 70 was purchased. The financial monitoring review was conducted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Grant Programs Directorate, Grants Operations Division, Award Administration Branch. FEMA monitoring activities are proactive grants management initiatives designed to assist detailed review and accounting of the expenditures of the grant funds. We are proud to report the Financial Monitoring Review found no issues that would have prompted corrective actions or questioned costs during our financial monitoring review. This was an extensive review of our entire bidding, vendor selection process, procurement procedures, Bylaws and financial records.
6. The Cresson Volunteer Fire Company Relief Association was audited for the calendar years of 2018-2019-2020 by the Pennsylvania Auditor General's Office. We are proud of the audit findings, as the Auditor General noted only one issue related to an individual municipality oversight of Relief Fund distribution to our Association in a timely manner.

7. Officers attended meetings semi-annually with each municipality with whom we are contracted with to provide fire suppression/rescue services. An update of Department management and operations was conveyed to the elected officials with contact information provided to enhance communication and cooperation.
8. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture completed inspections at the Cresson kitchen and Lilly pavilion kitchen with no deficiencies or recommendations. Both kitchen licenses were renewed and are a vital component of our numerous fund-raising activities.
9. The Department explored numerous avenues of funding sources, including private and public donations/grants, to replace the radio system. The County of Cambria is converting the current countywide Fire/Police/EMS radio system to the 800-megahertz frequency in June 2022. This countywide imposed **mandatory conversion** of the radio system will directly cost the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department more than **\$300,000.00**. All attempts to reduce this cost through numerous federal and state governmental grant applications were denied.
10. The Department explored numerous avenues of funding sources including private and public grants to replace the entire roof of the North Station and community social hall. The current estimated cost is \$75,000.00-90,000.00. This is a reduction from the preliminary engineering estimates of \$120,000.00. This cost reduction process involves the application of a resin over the rubber roof versus removing and reinstalling a new rubber roof. The current rubberized roof has exceeded its material life expectancy and has developed leaks and seam lifting, causing additional damage and costs.
11. Our members volunteered thousands of hours of their spare time to raise much needed financial resources for the Department through more than 110 fund-raising events. The funds obtained through these numerous events are the stabilizing factor to maintaining financial solvency of the Department. These funds augmented municipal contracts, grants, and other private donations.
12. Through a collective collaboration of governmental entities, the Workmen's Compensations costs of our volunteer firefighters remained fairly stable for municipalities.
13. The Department continues to support local businesses with the purchasing of merchandise and materials. The community businesses are one the keys to a strong volunteer fire service and we support our local businesses with municipal funds and private donations from the citizens as much as possible.
14. Firefighters completed the Basic Firefighter and Firefighter 1 certifications. While the Basic Firefighter course focuses on skills and tasks necessary to assure safety on the fire ground, Firefighter 1 prepare the firefighters to perform essential and advanced fire ground tasks as well as allowing entry into all tracks of the certification system.
15. Members participated in multiple certified trainings through FEMA and the Pennsylvania State Fire Commissioners Office with many members attaining certification in Hazardous Materials, Aerial Operations, Safety Officer, Emergency Vehicle Operations, Vehicle Rescue, Fire Pump Operations, and an array of other courses and trainings.
16. The Executive Officers and the full membership body conducted numerous meetings throughout the year to address events and responses to the Covid-19 pandemic and related guidelines.

17. The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department, submitted numerous applications for grants to reduce the financial burden upon the Department, our members and the entire community area (*Refer to Section 14 for additional details*). The grant awards are used to sustain the financial viability of the Department, improve or replace fire/rescue apparatus or equipment, and improve the safety of our firefighters.
18. Apparatus mobile video cameras with audio recording continues to provide video/audio documentation of careless drivers, apparatus driver's skill and/or driving accidents. Additionally, these recordings reduce the opportunities for fraudulent insurance claims.
19. The Department continued to participate in the AMAZON SMILE program which provides all users of AMAZON the ability to designate .05% of purchases to a charity of their choice. Through our Facebook page, we encourage all readers to denote their charitable giving's to the Department. In 2021, we received \$114.55 of donations.
20. The Department apparatus drivers logged thousands of miles driving for emergency incidents, trainings, community events, mechanical servicing and other related driving needs. The driving scenarios and roadway conditions encountered by our apparatus drivers is often hazardous due to weather, traffic congestion, time sensitive deployment for life saving actions., Additionally, numerous radio updates provide the fire and rescue tactics for each incident. During this period (2021), there were no reportable accidents involving the direct actions of our apparatus drivers.
21. Boiler inspections, conducted by the PA Department of Labor and Industry, were completed at both fire stations. A license to operate was successfully obtained at both stations.
22. The Department continues to participate in county-wide initiatives for emergency services by having representation on various county committees inclusive of but not limited to:
 - Cambria County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
 - Cambria County-wide Hazards Mitigation Planning Committee
 - Cambria County Special Hazards Response Team Steering Committee
 - Cambria County Emergency Management On-Scene Coordinators
 - Cambria County Fire Training Committee
23. Several Department members received specialized training to input data and information into our web homepage. The homepage provides viewers extensive information about the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department, contact information, training, fund-raising dates, safety information and printable applications for membership.
24. A new Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) was placed into service on Squad 72, which is based in the South station.
25. The Department license for QRS issued by the PA Department of Health (DOH) was secured for both fire stations. The license application, along with a physical inspection of records, equipment and prior QRS responses, is required by the DOH for licensing.
26. The Department obtained and installed a generator the South Station. The 5-Kilowatt diesel fuel generator, along with electrical service line and panel box improvements (*Refer to Section 9 for additional details*).
27. An Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) was placed at the Lilly Pavilion to enhance the safety of patrons using the facility.

28. The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department accepted and placed into operation a full set of battery-operated rescue tools awarded through a grant to the Department in 2020. The tools were placed onto Rescue Engine 70 based at the North station (*Refer to Section 8 for additional details.*)
29. The Department underwent an Insurance Services Office (ISO) audit. This audit of records, equipment, training and other aspects of the fire service is one of many insurance industry tools used to score a fire department's ability to protect the community. The results of the ISO finding are not available at the time of this report printing.
30. The Department replaced the entrance/egress doors at the North station. The new doors were obtained with in-house fund raising augmented with private grants. (*Refer to Section 9 for additional details.*)
31. The overhead bay doors (3) of the South Station were replaced with energy efficient doors which increases security and enhances firefighter's safety. The new doors enable firefighters to open/close the bay doors remotely. This improves their safety, the traveling public's safety and reduces energy loss.

SECTION 11.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department receives numerous requests for active participation in an array of community events throughout the year. Each request requires various consideration, and participation by our volunteers. Additionally, some have minimal indirect costs, which often the volunteers pay themselves. Listed below are some of the community events we participated in. All events listed below are based upon a community request and authorized by the KRFRD.

1. With a special call from Santa, assistance was provided with firetrucks and supporting elves for Christmas festivities and school treat deliveries.
2. Santa's reindeer were not ready for a pre-Christmas visit by Santa, so he visited the children by riding in a fire truck to visit the children in our primary coverage municipalities.
3. Fire trucks escorted the Easter Bunny who visited the towns in our coverage area.
4. Our members assist the American Legion veterans with their Memorial Day ceremonies.
5. Fire trucks are always present at the local Easter Egg Hunts.
6. Fire Police, firefighters and apparatus provide traffic control assistance to numerous motorcycle Poker Runs.
7. Fire apparatus responded to local schools requesting support as students traveled to or return from various championship competitions.
8. At the request of the Mount Aloysius College Police Department, traffic control assistance is provided for the College graduation ceremony.
9. Participated in numerous community Halloween parades and trick-or-treat night safety patrols.
10. We support the Penn Cambria Homecoming Parade with fire apparatus and traffic control.
11. Our community social hall is used by the Penn Cambria Football Boosters for their annual student dinner.
12. The Department freely provided the use of the community social hall for fundraising events of two local first responders (1-Firefighter and 1-Police Officer), with both battling major health issues and related medical expenses.
13. The Firemen's Pavilion is used by the Lilly Public Library for their summer reading program.
14. Provided available support for the Catholic Community of Cresson festival.
15. Provided aerial assistance to public and private entities for United States of America Flag raising events, banner hangings and technical support.
16. Our members show their gratitude and support of military veterans by freely providing the Department community social hall and kitchen for State Representative Frank Burns Annual Veteran's Appreciation Dinner.
17. Our firefighters brightened the birthday parties of all ages, from small children to senior citizens, during the Covid-19 restrictions. The sirens, horns, lights and waving firefighters added to the birthday celebrations.

SECTION 12.

2021 COST SAVINGS AND DONATIONS

COST SAVINGS

ESTIMATED COST SAVING TO MUNICIPALITIES

Utilizing the *National Volunteer Fire Service Project Calculator*, it is estimated that the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department saved municipalities and residents the following amount of monetary funds during 2021:

Total Volunteer Savings \$1,438,700.00

Savings per Firefighter \$ 55,335.00

Estimated Annual Savings per each municipality address is: \$411.00

DONATIONS

2021 ANNUAL FUND DRIVE (Letter Campaign)

This is our primary fund-raising event for the purchase and maintenance of the fire apparatus and equipment. With fire apparatus and equipment cost rising significantly faster than our income sources, a donation by each residence and business is critical to the volunteer fire service survival.

The 2021 average donation of all 3,319 residences and businesses in the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department primary coverage area was:

\$13.06

This total (\$13.06) shows the **immense financial disparity** between residences and businesses donations and the **\$411.00 estimate annual savings per address** utilizing our volunteer fire service and not a paid fire service.

2021 ANNUAL FUND DRIVE STATISTICS FOR ALL MUNICIPALITIES COMBINED

- **Only 17% or 572** of all 3,319 residents/businesses donated to our Annual Fund Drive
 - Only 13% or 447 donated to an initial letter
 - 2,872 addresses were mailed a donation reminder letter
 - Only 0.5% or 125 donated to the donation reminder letter

- **82% or 2,747** of all residents/businesses **DID NOT** donate to the 2021 Annual Fund Drive

SECTION 13. **GRANTS**

The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department continues an all-out effort to lessen the burden on our residents we write grant applications for any entity that has a cause that would fill any of our needs. Our volunteers do all the research, writing, submission, and monitoring of all grants. We do not employ outside entities for any grant actions.

During 2021, it is estimated a total of more than 400 hours was dedicated to grant related actions. This includes the pre-grant work of research, financial reports, obtaining costs, writing the grant application and finally submission.

If awarded, each grant requires timely submission of expenditures with documentation, financial reports and closeout reports. Many grant awards require semi-annual and/or annual reporting for a specified timeframe. The grant amounts and available grant funding entities vary from year to year, with many successful grants requiring a 2-3-year lapse before reapplication is permitted.

The Department submitted a total of 24 grant applications in 2021, with 14 of the applications being awarded:

- Federal Government—6 applications submitted
 - Two (2) grants awarded
- State Government—6 applications submitted
 - Three (3) grants awarded
- Private entities—12 applications submitted
 - Nine (9) grants awarded

In total, the Department was able to bring a total of **\$94,040.32** in from outside sources to assist in funding the Department operations. This includes, federal, state and private grants.

It is important to note that as the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department unification continues, we are still eligible in some unique circumstances, to apply for grants under both former entities and their associated Relief Associations. The details depend upon the grant, grant administrator, and the time period and geographical regions the grant covers.

SECTION 14.
2021 RESPONSE STATISTICS

Based upon PennsFire records, the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department responded to **328 incidents**. This number does **not** include the total for non-emergency alarms and requests for public assistance.

The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department inputs each request for assistance as an incident into the Pennsylvania mandated statistical database. This system reflects a comprehensive description of the incidents the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department responded to during the 2021 calendar year, but may not include public assistance.

The primary coverage area includes Cresson Borough, Lilly Borough, Sankertown Borough, Cresson Township, Munster Township, Washington Township and portions of Allegheny Township and Gallitzin Township. This primary coverage area is approximately 74 square miles based on registered statistics. The following is a breakdown of the **328 incidents**:

Fires involving a structure	14
Vehicle fires	9
Natural vegetation fires	3
Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (<i>No Fire</i>)	1
Vehicle accidents	56
Rescues	2
*QRS response	48
Hazardous condition (<i>No Fire</i>)	22
Service Calls	73
Good Intent Calls	32
False alarms/calls	27
Severe weather/natural disaster	31
Mutual aid provided/move up	8
Special type	2
An average of 18 volunteer firefighters responded to each incident in 2021	
Based upon the reported incidents, an incident requiring a Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department response occurred an average every 27 hours.	

*QRS stands for **Quick Response Service** and it provides seriously injured or ill individuals with trained emergency medical providers to provide medical treatment at a moment's notice. This generally occurs in a dual dispatch with local EMS providers. The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department is not provided any financial compensation for this service.

SECTION 15.

2021 FIRE LOSS STATISTICS

During the calendar year 2021, the Department responded to 14 fire incidents involving a structure within our primary coverage area (*Refer to Section 14 for additional details*). Of these responses, five (5) were working structure fires. A “working structure fire” is one capable of causing considerable destruction of property or loss of lives.

The other nine (9) fire responses involving a structure were mitigated by the Department prior to causing considerable property damage or loss of life.

There were no fire-related deaths in 2021 within our fire coverage area.

The above statistics are from the Pa. State Police Fire Marshal’s reports that must be submitted for any property damaged by fire.

The PennsFire reporting system was implemented by the Cambria 911 Center in 1998 and was instituted statewide in 2001. This system captures the loss data within the same system as the response data referenced earlier. This is a mandated user component for submission of applications for federal and state grants and low interest loans pertaining to the fire service.

This system was later integrated into the Emergency Reporting System, which the Department currently utilizes to input incident and personnel data.

No statistics are kept of values of vehicles involved in fire if the vehicle was in motion. Under Pennsylvania current laws, this is considered a vehicle accident and is under the auspices of the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction at the time of the incident. This same process is used for wild land fires, which fall under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry.

SECTION 16.
2020 FIRE PREVENTION

Due to Covid-19 guidelines and restrictions, each fire prevention program, safety inspection and/or building walk-thru was tailored to the business or educational facility's Covid-19 protocols.

Each business or educational facility chose from the fire and safety training options available. These included: a fire safety video (optional); tour of the fire apparatus; donning of firefighter Personal Protective Equipment (PPE-Firefighter clothing) and Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA); use of the thermal imaging camera (TIC). To enhance our fire prevention program for school age children, an internet ZOOM session with a tour of a fire station and apparatus was an available option, which proved very popular with the students.

Each session included a question-and-answer session. The average time to present each program is 1 hour to 1.5 hours.

All safety and general facility layout information gathered during on-site walk-thru and presentations, is used to enhance a "Target Hazard" form for initial fire department pre-plans, operations and tactics.

-  ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL- fire prevention program, building safety walk thru, staff training and fire drill
-  ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC PRESCHOOL-- fire prevention program at school and at fire station
-  PENN CAMBRIA PRE-PRIMARY—fire prevention program at school and at fire station
-  PENN CAMBRIA INTERMEDIATE-- fire prevention program at school and at fire station
-  LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE-- fire prevention program at site and at fire station
-  CHILDREN'S EXPRESS-- building safety walk thru and staff training
-  CHILDREN'S EXPRESS-- fire prevention program at site and at fire station
-  JOHN PAUL II MANOR-- staff training, building safety walk thru and fire drill
-  Private day care facilities-- facility safety walk-thru

Additionally, numerous fire safety links are available and utilized on the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department homepage.

SECTION 17.

2022 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Finalization of the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department will continue to progress with numerous legal and technical issues to be completed.
2. The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department will respond to 100% of requests for assistance in a wide array of emergencies from the citizens, businesses, governmental agencies, various emergency services (Police, Fire, EMS), and travelers within and surrounding our primary fire service area and as requested.
3. Cambria County, through the Emergency Operation Center, informed all Fire, EMS and Police departments in Cambria County that the entire 9-1-1 radio system will change in June 2022. The plan is to change the current radio frequencies to the 800-megahertz range. This frequency range also dramatically increases the cost of radios and related items to be purchased and replaced. The new radio system will replace the current system which is 13 years old.

The forthcoming impact upon our Department is **SUBSTANTIAL** in terms of financial costs. With the new radio conversion implementation, the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department will need to purchase and install two (2) base radios with antennas, 10 mobile radios and antennas, 30 portable radios with charging banks, and numerous other related items including installations costs. The estimated total cost is **\$387,00.00**. Our direct Department costs will be in excess of **\$300,000.00**.

The current plan is for Cambria County to only partially fund the new radio system for fire/rescue departments through a county bond. A funding formula was developed whereby Cambria County will pay a basic amount equal for each fire department. Beyond the basic, Cambria County will pay an apportioned percentage cost for each radio item needed.

4. The members of the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department will continue to freely donate our time, talents, and professionalism to provide a local emergency municipal service with no personnel costs, health benefits, or overtime costs for municipalities or citizens.
5. The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department will meet the community expectation by providing highly trained volunteer firefighters with the proper equipment needed to meet the ever-changing fire and rescue responses that our citizens, guests and traveling public request when they need our services.
6. The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department will continue our on-going quest to recruit new members to provide a minimal cost volunteer fire protection. This critical action must be a priority if the long-standing tradition of volunteer firefighters for our communities is to continue. If this issue is not validated and addressed by the fire service and local, state and federal governmental entities, the volunteer fire service within our area will be adversely affected. This would possibly increase financial burden for the citizens and businesses through increased fire insurance rates and/or municipal operational cost.
7. The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department will evaluate multiple avenues to explore increased financial support for private, municipal, governmental, and non-profit organizations. This review of funding sources is vital to the survival of the volunteer fire service.

8. The Department will explore energy savings improvements at the South station by having an additional layer of spray foam insulation added to the ceiling.
9. Our volunteer firefighters will train and study for certifications in Essentials of Firefighting, Firefighter 1, Firefighter 2, Hazardous Material Operations and National Vehicle Rescue certification. This is in addition to a wide array of other in-house and various other trainings and certifications courses.
10. The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department will continue our extensive efforts to improve upon the ISO fire ratings for all municipalities within our jurisdiction. This will be done by building upon the accomplishments previously mentioned and using a list of items provided by the representatives from ISO during their last survey.
11. The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department will support and encourage Federal, State and local legislation that will provide the means for the volunteer fire service to continue. With rapidly diminishing ranks of volunteers and the escalating cost of fire equipment, governmental support (federal, state and/or local) is critical to the survival of this municipal service. The goals of the legislation will be to encourage community members to become volunteer firefighters and improve public safety.
12. The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department will apply for monetary grants administered through the Homeland Department Assistance to Firefighters grant program. This grant will be used to obtain needed fire and rescue equipment.
13. The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department will continue a wide array of fund-raising activities to reduce our debt on the vehicle purchase loan while struggling to maintain the daily operational costs related to a fire department (utilities, insurance, administration, building maintenance, etc.). Our current loan debt balance as of 12/31/2021 is \$62,028.75. With the rapidly escalating cost of fire apparatus and firefighting/rescue equipment, obtaining a positive monetary balance is paramount for the Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department.
14. The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department will continue to examine and scrutinize all cost expenditures on a daily basis. With constant diligence, the Department will continue to survive with fund raising activities supplemented with municipal support, governmental grants, and private donations.
15. The Department continues to pursue reimbursement through insurance coverage for costs related to emergency responses to reduce the reliance on local bodies for emergencies service costs.
16. The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department will continue to submit applications for grants to supplement our in-house fundraising efforts.
17. Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department representatives will continue to participate in Cambria County initiatives and/or committees to assure that local representation exists in addressing county-wide initiatives.
18. The Keystone Regional Fire Rescue Department will continue to support all local initiatives that have occurred in the past such as carnivals, parades, children's events and other activities.

19. Contracts for all operational services are being reviewed and where possible being combined for savings. Some of these include but not limited to: utilities, service contracts, insurances, purchases, etc.
20. The Department will continue efforts to combine reports, federal and state applications and operating licenses, incident reporting systems and permits under a singular name and entity to streamline operations.
21. The Department will continue to meet routinely with each municipal governing body within our primary coverage area.
22. The Department will continue to provide this Annual Report to our municipal leaders to keep them apprised on Department activities. Additionally, this Annual Report will be available on our homepage for public viewing.
23. The Cresson Volunteer Fire Company Relief Association and the Lilly Community Fire Company Relief Association will combine to become one Relief Association following the PA Auditor General's guidelines and procedures.
24. The Department will replace the entire roof of the North Station and community social hall. The current estimated cost is \$75,000.00-90,000.00. A resin-based polymer spray with underlayment will be installed. This method enhances the longevity of the rubber roof while reducing the project cost.
25. The Department will explore options to install a sidewalk canopy type structure over the Ashcroft Street side of the North community hall. This canopy will enable patrons of events to not stand in the exposed weather and also enable annual carnival stands to be erected faster and with less personnel.
26. The Department will replace the boiler at the North station. This is the original boiler unit installed in 1973 and has extensive rust and corrosion.
27. The Department will explore improvements at the South station by painting the exterior of the building. The current building exterior paint is the original from 1974.
28. The Lilly Volunteer Fire Company Relief Association will have a positive PA Auditor General's Audit, which should occur in 2022.

SECTION 18.
2022 FUND RAISING SCHEDULE

Note to viewers:

Each event of the 2022 Fund Raising Schedule is listed in the “Events” dropdown icon of this homepage.