



The role of the 112 Foundation

Mike Amarosa, *President of the Board of Directors of 112 Foundation*

Dear Participants,

As President of the Board of Directors of 112 Foundation, I am delighted to conclude this session dedicated to 112 Citizen Education throughout Europe.

112 Citizen Education... It's something for all of you!

This audience represents many, many emergency services and public authorities from across the European Union and United States. It is an ideal way to share stories and collaborate and share ideas on what we can do not only in the EU but internationally. Education on the universal emergency number whether it is 112 or 911 is critical to all. I am honoured that EENA and the 112 Foundation invited me to share this experience in the EU in order to make sure that every citizen knows when and how to use 112.

As the Chairman of the E9-1-1 Institute in the United States, I, along with the rest of our Board of Directors and members of the E9-1-1 Institute have been personally involved in promoting several initiatives regarding 9-1-1 education to the population, in particular children. The E9-1-1 Institute created a collaborative partnership between eight (8) organisations to create National 9-1-1 Education Month. The partners signed like resolutions proclaiming April as National 9-1-1 Education Month. Like Congress (House and Senate) proclaimed April as National 9-1-1 Education Month. This is a month during which school-based activities, conferences and training events for parents, teachers, care-givers are organized all across the country.

There are still 3 out of 4 Europeans that are not aware of the 112 number, the number that can save lives everywhere across Europe. The goal of the 112 Foundation is to share experiences of what has been done and what can be done so that everyone can become an advocate of educating people about 112. We all can effectively contribute to the promotion of the 3 digits - 112 - that can save lives.

Today, I want to encourage everyone to join in the effort to support 112 Education in Europe and the activities of the 112 Foundation.

I encourage you to visit between sessions and during social functions about what you may want to do. Education and awareness can occur every day of the week, every week of the month and every month of the year. Challenge yourselves; get involved, set goals, share ideas with fellow friends and colleagues. This is something that anyone and everyone should do. Together, let's find ways on how we can reduce the number of people that don't know that 112 saves lives.

It's never too early to start planning for February 11, 2011.

Thank you for your participation on this grand effort. We look forward to hearing about your great events.