

South Haven Area Emergency Services Authority



2024 Annual Report

On behalf of all the men and women of the South Haven Area Emergency Services (SHAES), it is my pleasure to submit our 2024 Annual Report. Our department prides itself on the services we provide the communities we live in, work, and play. Annually, we attempt to document our department's progress and acts performed the year prior. A forty-page report simply cannot capture the pride, integrity and dedication SHAES members possess. Listed in this report are statistics, pictures and a glimpse of our accomplishments achieved in 2024.

- New pumper/tanker Truck 6 put into service.
- Four new career members welcomed to SHAES.
- Continued improvements to training and accountability.
- Record number of inspections, site plans, reviews and rental inspections.
- One FF and six cadets added to our POC roster.
- FF/Paramedic James D Quinn was awarded SHAES' FF of the Year Award.
- FF Ron Ridley was awarded SHAES' Leadership Award.
- SHAES Captain/Paramedic Ron Ridley retired after 28 years of career service with SHAES.
- SHAES FF/Paramedic JD Quinn promoted to Captain.
- South Haven City Mayor Annie Brown is welcomed as a new Authority Board member.
- Deceased SHAES members Stan Wakild and Emil Wessling added to the MI FF Memorial.
- SHAES hosted our 24th annual Fire Safety Fun Night.
- Two successful pancake breakfasts were hosted by SHAES members.
- Past SHFD Chief Jerry Bridges passed away logging nearly 60 years in the fire service.
- Past SHAES Lt. Sue Kovach passed away.
- Past Casco FD Captain/SHAES Lt. Ronald Brush passed away.
- Brian Horan Sr. retired after a collective 27 years' service with SHFD and SHAES.
- SHAES responded to a total of 2,699 incidents in 2024. An increase of 20 calls for service.

We are proud to be your fire department and to serve our community! If you have any questions or suggestions about how we can serve you better, or if you have thoughts about how we can make this report more informative, please contact me at (269) 639-1496.

Brandon Hinz,
Executive Director
bhinz@shaes.org
www.shaes.org

*Special thanks to SHAES photographer Tom Renner for the wonderful pictures in this report and to SHAES Lt. Timothy Quinn for his efforts in providing the public with updates on SHAES' incidents and events.

2025 Authority Board Members

Chairman:	Ross Stein	South Haven Township
Vice-Chairman:	Allan Overhiser	Casco Township
Secretary		
Treasurer:	Nancy Whaley	Geneva Township
Administrator:	Kate Hosier	City of South Haven
Member:	Annie Brown	City of South Haven

Meeting Dates 2025

Wednesday	January 8	8AM
Wednesday	February 5	8AM
Wednesday	March 5	8AM
Wednesday	April 2	8AM
Wednesday	May 7	7PM
Wednesday	June 4	7PM
Thursday	July 2	7PM
Wednesday	August 6	7PM
Wednesday	September 3	7PM
Wednesday	October 1	7PM
Wednesday	November 5	8AM
Wednesday	December 10	8AM

Meeting Place: SHAES Station #3, 90 Blue Star Hwy, South Haven

2024 SHAES Recognitions

Swearing in Career FF/Paramedic:

Shy Foster/Paul Pant

Years of service pins:

45 Years: Ronald Ridley

30 Years: Paul Quinn

25 Years: Brandon Hinz

15 Years: Patrick Quinn, Timothy Quinn

10 Years: Steven Cavadas, Johanna Quinn

5 Years: Aaron Sawyer, Amanda Quinn, Jacob Clemons, Phil Poole, Kevin Wildey, Zach Hanner

Fire Officer 1: Corey Capel

Fire Officer 2: Corey Capel, Rex Haner

Fire Officer 3: Brian Horan Jr.

EMT-B: Dawn Nyhof

EMT-P: Kevin Wildey, Jess Trinklein

Rescue Diver: Dawn Nyhof

Rope/Tech Rescue: Dawn Nyhof, Rex Haner, Johanna Quinn, David Griessel, Ron Ridley, Zach Kenreich, Corey Capel, Paul Pant

SHAES Leadership Award: Ronald Ridley

SHAES Firefighter of the Year: James D Quinn



JD Quinn SHAES Firefighter of the Year



Ron Ridley SHAES Leadership Award recipient

2024 Public Education and Fire Prevention

In 2024 our SHAES staff went back to the schools! Visits were made to area schools to educate our young community members of the importance of fire prevention. Our community and local businesses support our organization and our educational programs with generous funding throughout the year.



2024 SHAES Fire Prevention program was a huge success as it has been in years past. Our annual fire safety fun fair was hosted again with a great turnout. Over 1,100 children were visited in our area schools, with over 300 attending our annual Fire Safety Fun Fair.

Many thanks to our staff for all the planning, prepping and execution that goes into our Fire Prevention program.

As always, many thanks to Tom Renner for his diligence in promoting our department and our efforts in educating the public in our community.





2024 Fire Prevention (continued)

In partnership with the American Red Cross and MI Prevention, SHAES staff distributed and installed 336 smoke/carbon monoxide alarms in homes in the community free of charge. This is an on-going service provided to our community by SHAES.





2024 Training

Training in the fire service and EMS has always been key in providing the best for our communities that we serve. SHAES is no stranger to this. In 2024, our training hours increased and we continued to emphasize the importance of keeping our skills current and refined. With the assistance of SHAES' eighteen instructors, Training Officer Smith has raised the level of expertise among our members, both in firefighting tactics and firefighter safety.

Annual requirements for Fire and EMS continuing education takes a considerable amount of time, but necessary to keep our skills honed.



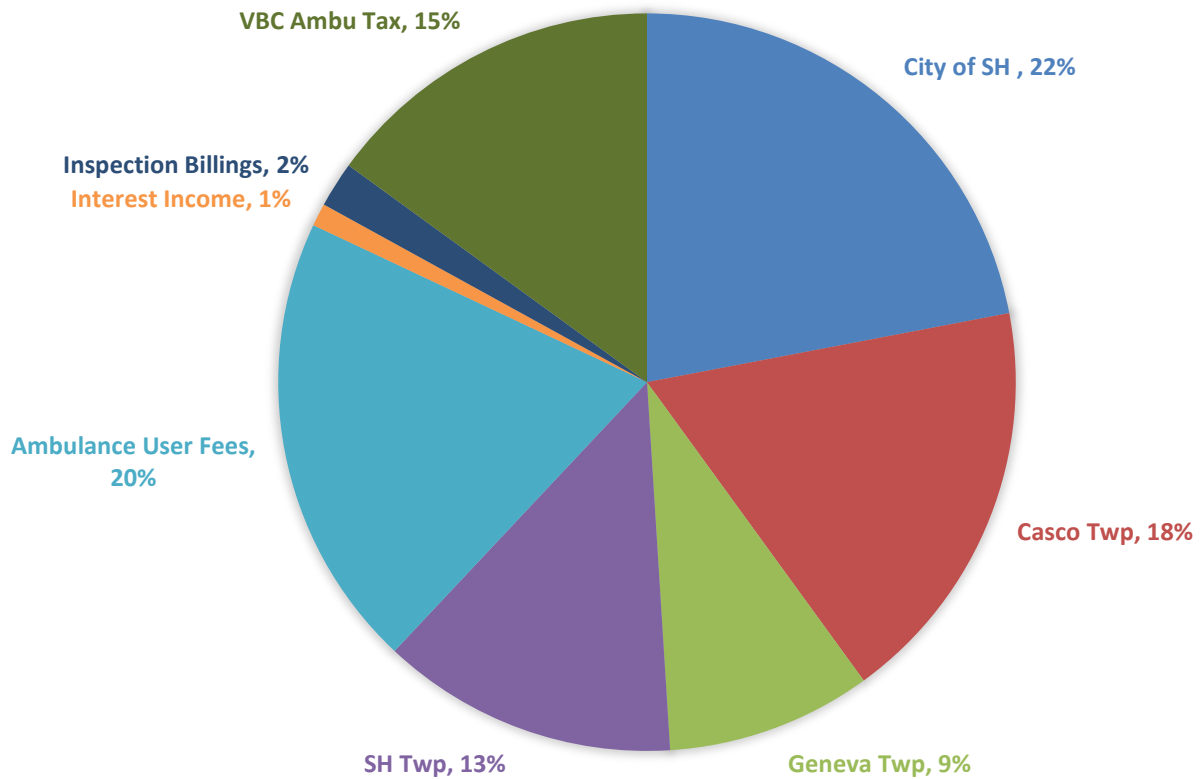


2024 Budget Information

Revenues

Funding Sources:	Amount	Budget Percentage
Casco Twp	\$696,469	18%
City of SH	\$892,844	22%
Geneva Twp	\$370,706	9%
SH Twp	\$500,384	13%
VBC Ambulance Tax	\$603,317	15%
Ambulance User Fees	\$774,900	20%
Interest income/misc	\$ 25,699	1%
Inspection Fees	\$ 78,000	2%
Total	\$3,942,319	100%

FUND REVENUES

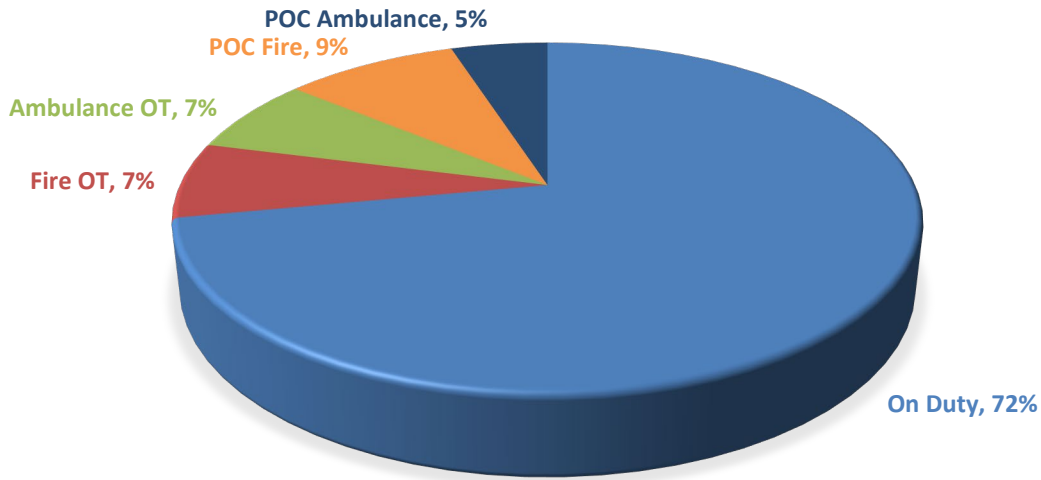




2024 Personnel Hours

Description	Hours	Percent
On Duty	39,203	72%
Fire Overtime	3,829	7%
Ambulance Overtime	3,982	7%
POC Fire	5,101	9%
POC Ambulance	2,711	5%
Total	54,826	100%

2024 PAYROLL HRS



Average response times in minutes	Fire	EMS	Average
Casco Twp	7:12	7:18	7:15
Geneva Twp	6:59	7:14	7:07
SH City	4:09	3:41	3:55
SH Twp	5:27	5:04	5:16
Overall average	5:56	5:49	5:53



FIRE FIGHTER'S PRAYER

WHEN I AM CALLED TO DUTY, GOD
WHEREVER FLAMES MAY RAGE
GIVE ME THE STRENGTH TO SAVE SOME LIFE
WHATEVER BE ITS AGE.

HELP ME EMBRACE A LITTLE CHILD
BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE
OR SAVE AN OLDER PERSON FROM
THE HORROR OF THAT FATE.

ENABLE ME TO BE ALERT
AND HEAR THE WEAKEST SHOUT
AND QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY
TO PUT THE FIRE OUT.

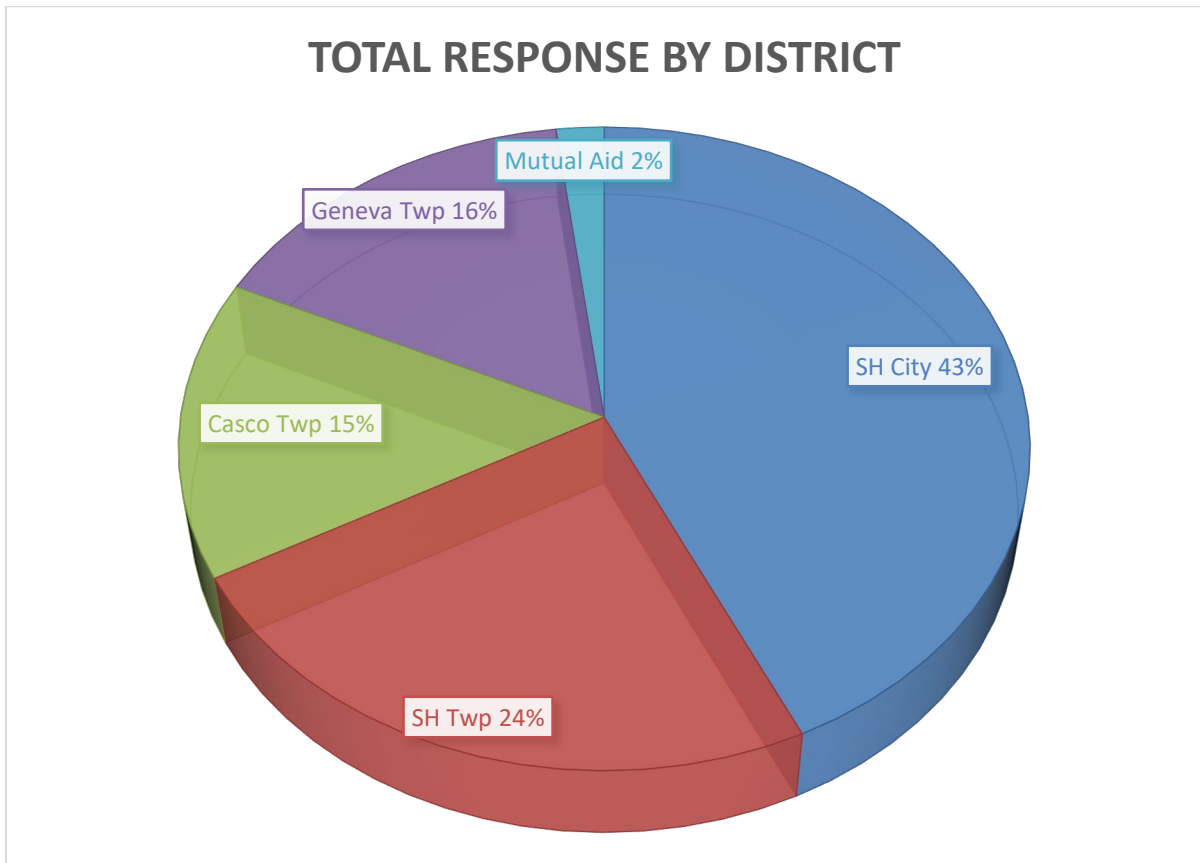
I WANT TO FILL MY CALLING AND
TO GIVE THE BEST IN ME
TO GUARD MY EVERY NEIGHBOR AND
PROTECT HIS PROPERTY.

AND IF ACCORDING TO YOUR WILL
I HAVE TO LOSE MY LIFE
PLEASE BLESS WITH YOUR PROTECTING HAND
MY CHILDREN AND MY WIFE.

2024 Response

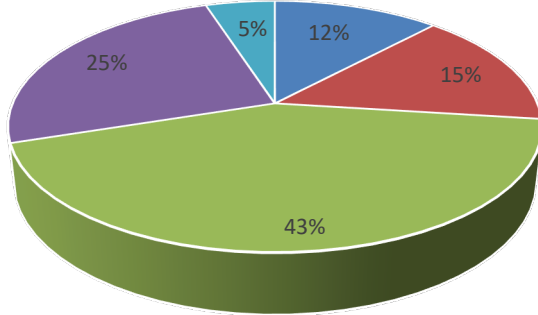
Total Calls by City & Townships

	AMB	Fire	Total
SH City	861	303	1,164
SH Township	431	217	648
Geneva Township	283	133	416
Casco Township	258	170	428
Mutual Aid	25	18	43
Total	1,851	848	2,699



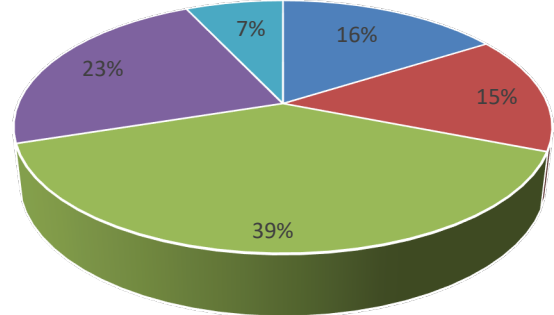


Medical Response by District



■ Casco Twp ■ Geneva Twp ■ SH City ■ SH Twp ■ Mutual Aid

Fire Response by District



■ Casco Twp ■ Geneva Twp ■ SH City ■ SH Twp ■ Mutual Aid

2024 EMS Transport

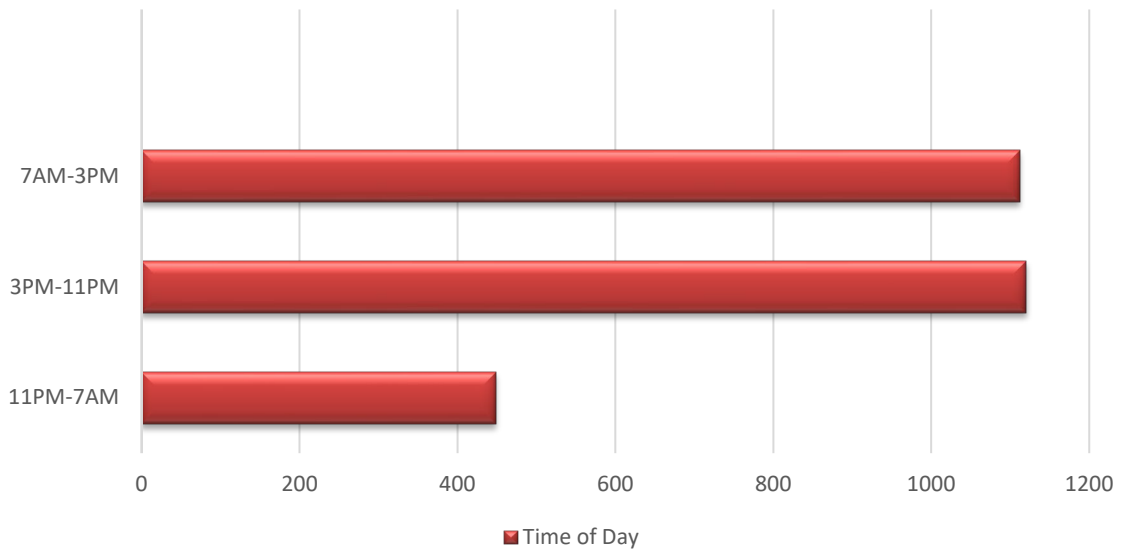


EMS Transports

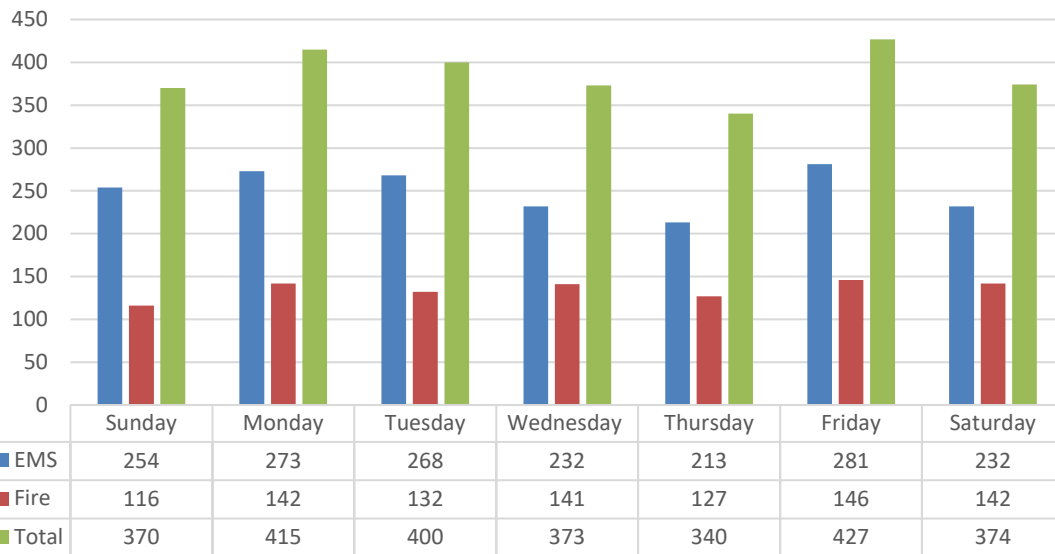
■ Advanced Life Support ■ Basic Life Support ■ No Transport



2024 Alarm Time of Day



2024 Alarm Day of Week



■ EMS ■ Fire ■ Total

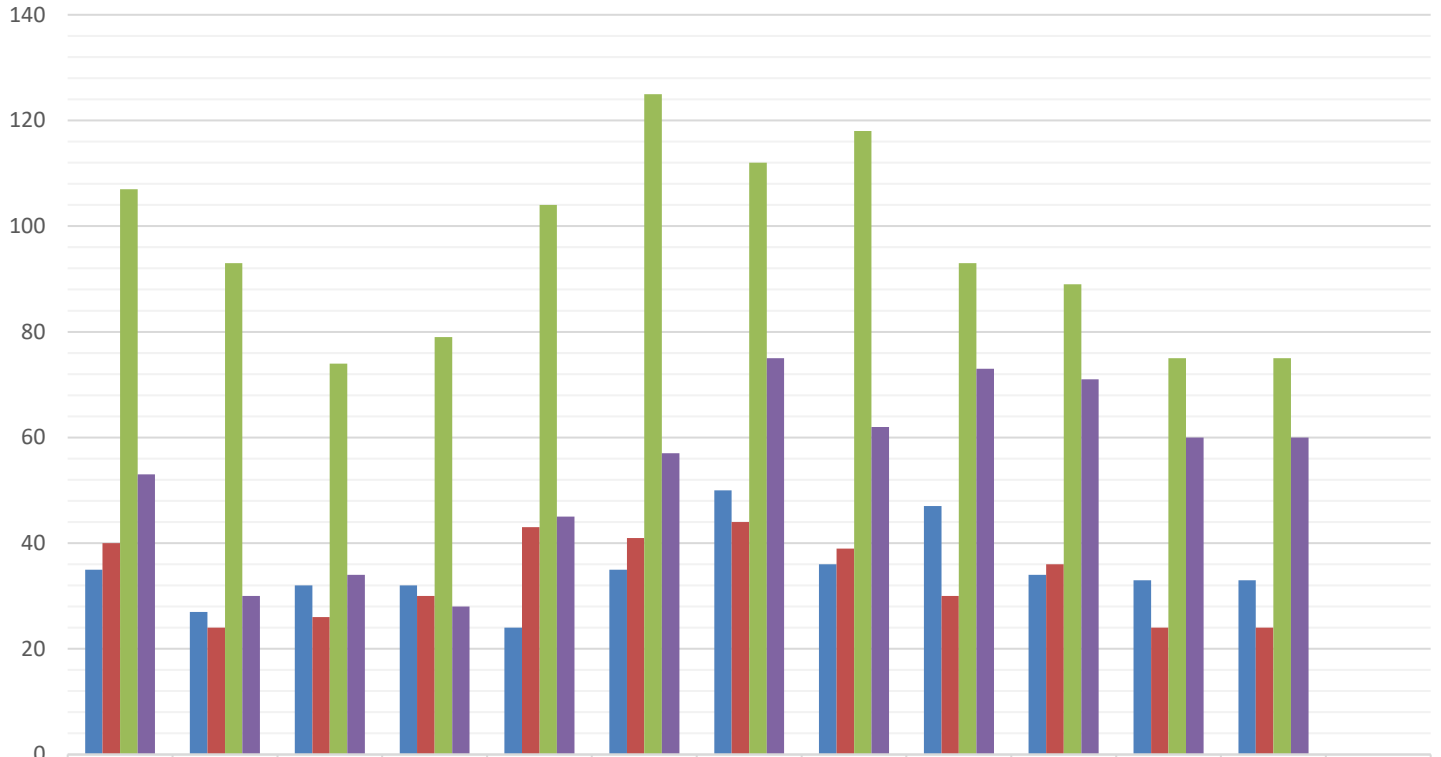
Around the Station

SHAES is known for providing the best fire and medical services for the communities we serve. What is lesser known, are the skills, capabilities and services our members provide on station, while awaiting the next alarm. From daily duties, building maintenance, vehicle maintenance, the list is extensive and always completed. These duties aren't heroic but absolutely necessary to keep our department facilities in top notch shape and our vehicles in excellent working condition. Mopping the floors, emptying the trash, servicing a vehicle, changing light fixtures, we take pride in our facilities, equipment, and it shows.



2024 Alarms by Month

■ Casco ■ Geneva ■ SH City ■ SH Twp



	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
■ Casco	35	27	32	32	24	35	50	36	47	34	33	33
■ Geneva	40	24	26	30	43	41	44	39	30	36	24	24
■ SH City	107	93	74	79	104	125	112	118	93	89	75	75
■ SH Twp	53	30	34	28	45	57	75	62	73	71	60	60



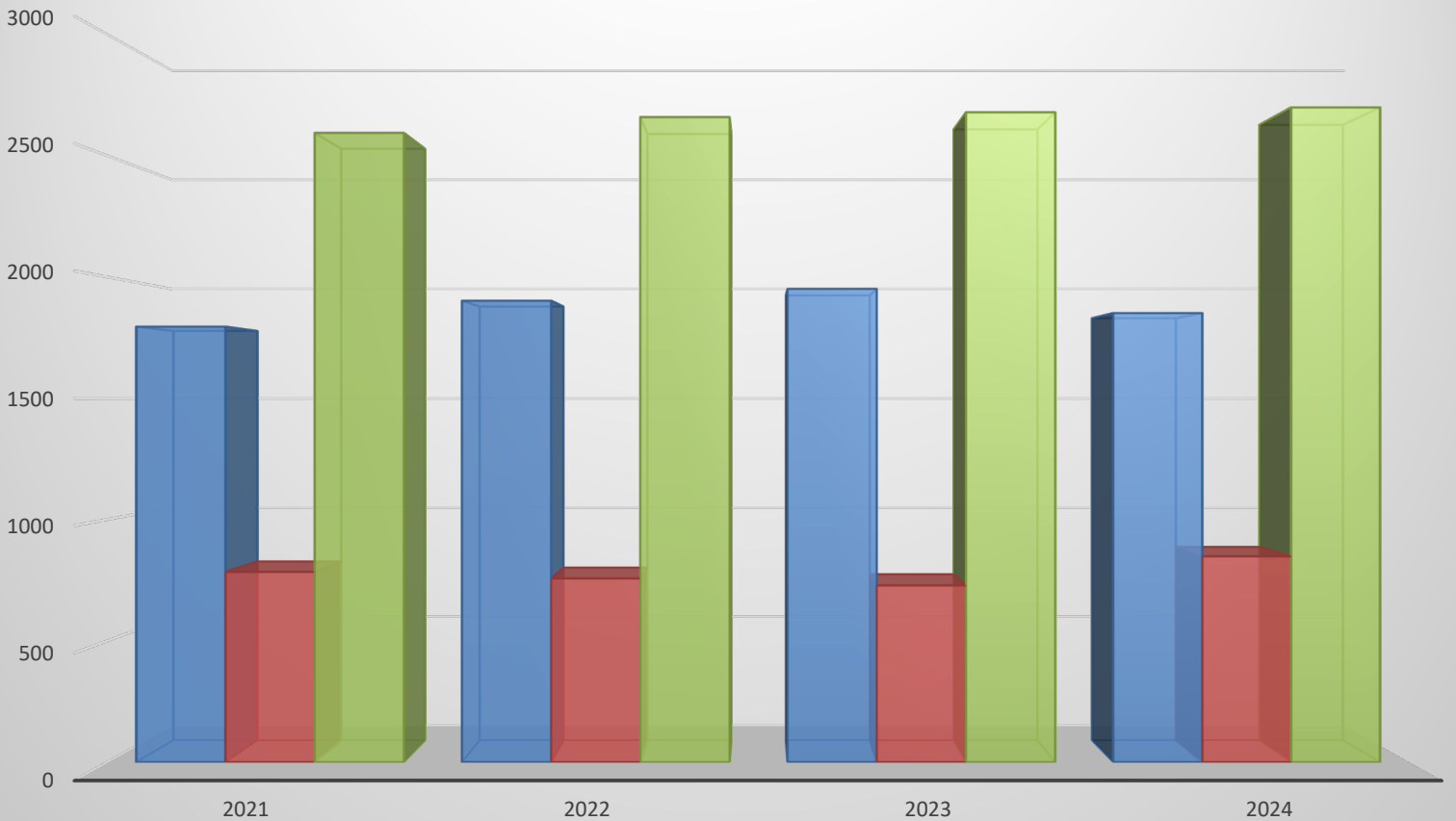
On the Call

SHAES had a record number of incidents once again in 2024. Even with all the obstacles encountered, our extremely dedicated staff kept our community safe. It takes a special person to get respond at 3AM...and do a good job. We are fortunate to have a roster of thirty Paid on Call, nineteen Career, and six Life Members to pull the load. From being dispatched on duty to the fourth call of the night, to leaving Christmas dinner with the family, the alarms do not take a day off. Our members rarely enjoy a true day off. Even when out of town, the responsibility and desire to serve is still present. I commend all of our members for their dedication, service and will to serve the communities we protect.



2024 was the busiest in SHAES’ history with 2,699 alarms. Each year our call volume increases but all of our members contribute, finishing every as a success. 2025 is proving to be another busy year, but I’m confident that with our dedicated staff, support from our Authority Board, and continued backing from our communities, we will submit our next annual report with success stories and pictures to share, as we have the last 28 years.

4 Yr Call History



	2021	2022	2023	2024
EMS	1795	1902	1951	1851
Fire	784	757	728	848
Total	2594	2659	2679	2699

■ EMS ■ Fire ■ Total

2024 Inspection Crew

Inspections, Pre-Plans, Code Inspections, Knox Box Inspections, Short Term Rental Inspections, Hydrant Flow Tests, Training Hour Q.A.

This is just a brief list of tasks performed by our Deputy Chief and Fire Inspectors.

Fire Pre-Plans: 363

Fire Code Inspections: 387

STR (SH City): 786

STR (SH Twp): 14

STR (Casco Twp.): 27

Smoke Detector Installations: 336

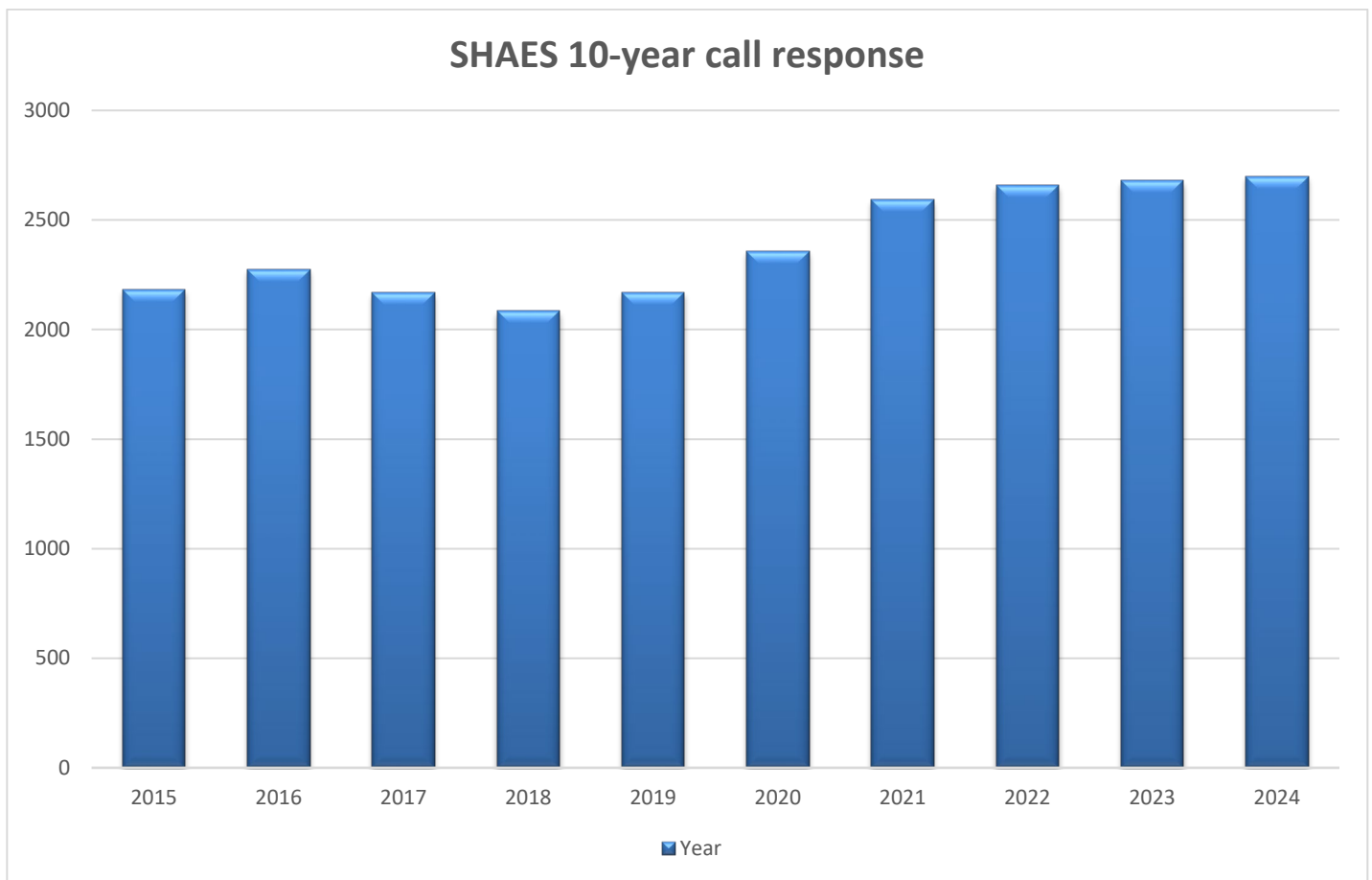
Knox Box repair/update: 220

Food Vender Inspections: 95



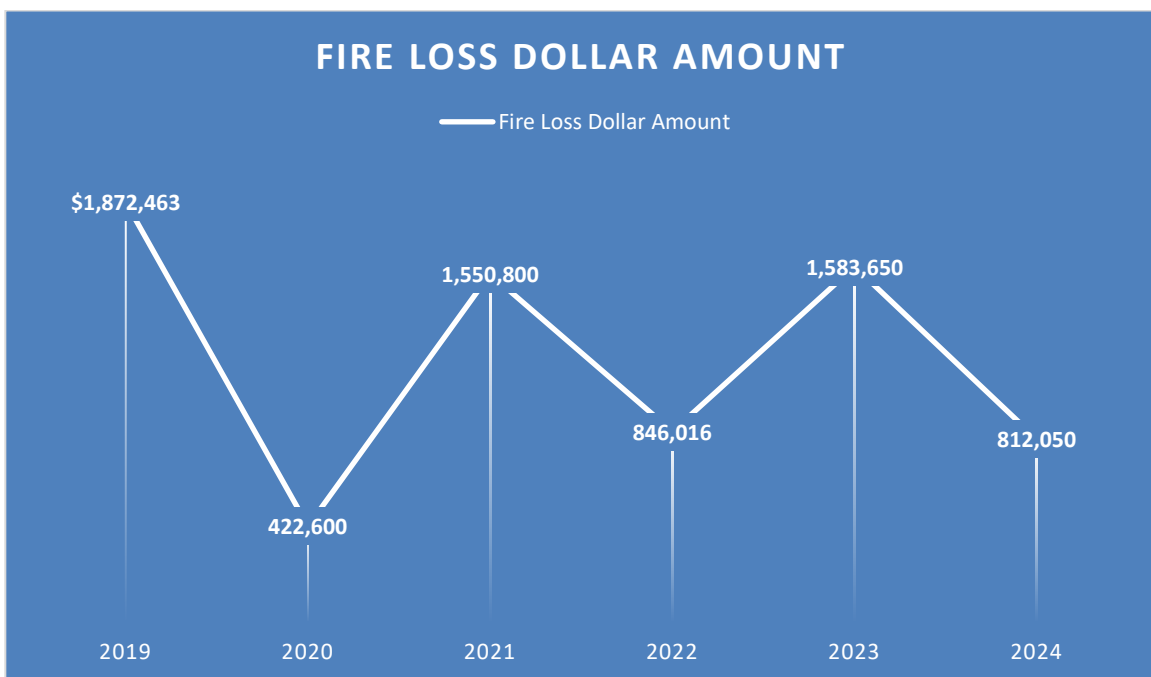
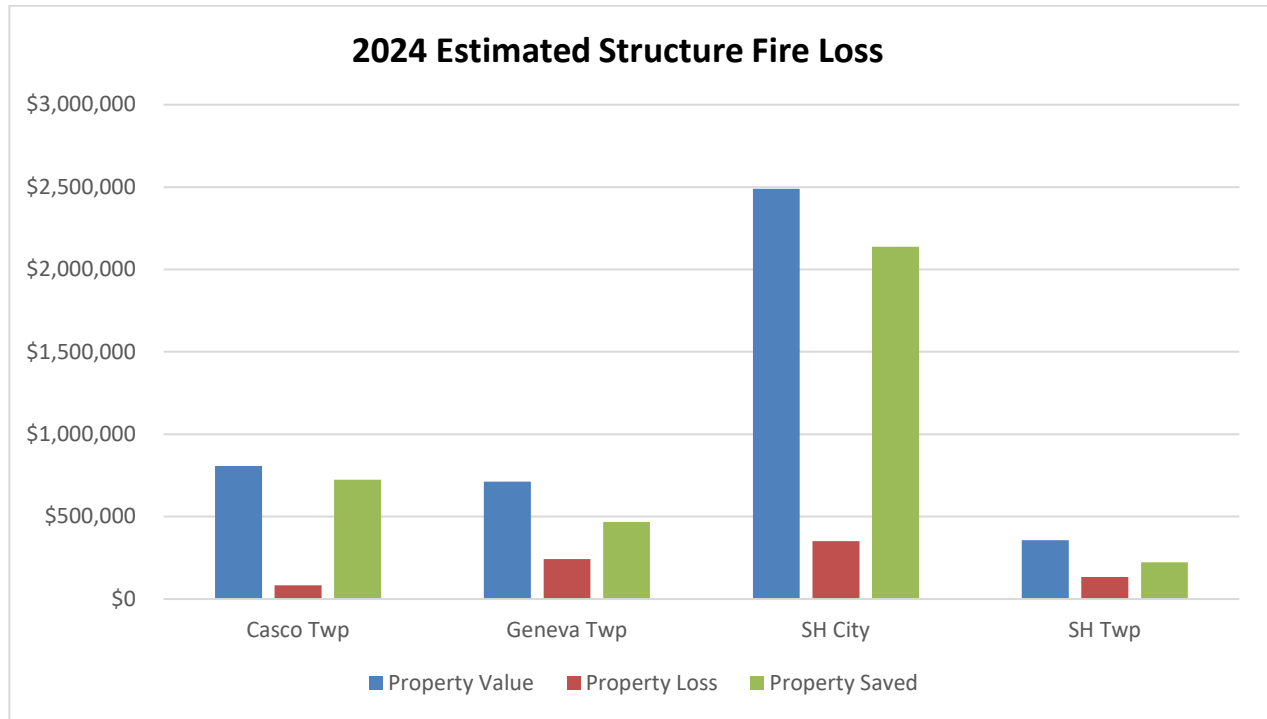
Ten-year call response history

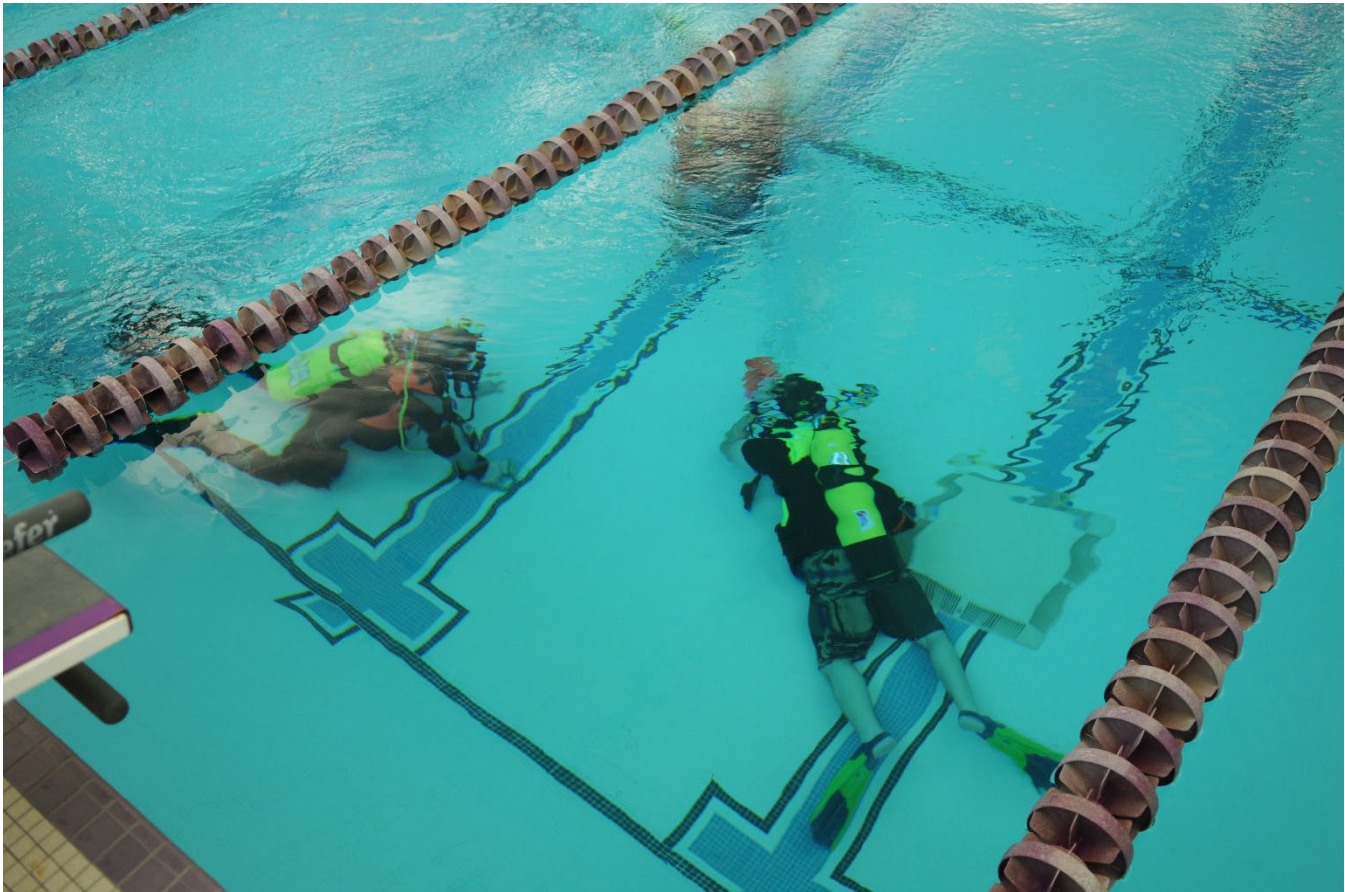
A 24% increase in calls for service over the course of ten years is significant. SHAES members have met this increase head-on and exceeded expectations. Many sleepless nights, short meals, missed functions, and understanding families are wrapped up in these numbers. Our members are always on call, 24/7. We provide a service that is unique, rewarding, professional and compassionate. We look forward to what the next ten years has in store.





2024 Estimated Structure Fire Loss





SHAES Honor Guard

SHAES is extremely fortunate to have an Honor Guard willing and available to donate their time to honor passed members of our department and participate in community events. Our Honor Guard has been regarded as one of the best in our area, possibly even the state. Countless hours are contributed by these members to assure a member's legacy is recognized and respected.





2024 Community

Our communities we serve support us in so many ways. Acts of kindness, generous donations and endless support. All SHAES members are engrained with a servant attitude, a characteristic that is common in the fire service. Pictured are a couple examples of our communities supporting us and SHAES, in turn, supporting our community members.













2025 SHAES Membership

SHAES Authority Board

Ross Stein
Allan Overhiser
Nancy Whaley
Kate Hosier
Annie Brown

SHAES Staff

Career Members

Brandon Hinz
Keith Bierhalter
Shawn Smith
Paul Quinn
JD Quinn
Johanna Quinn
Paul Pant
Brian Montgomery
Timothy Forker
Mason Pletz
Owen Ridley
Cody Sedlak
Corey Capel
David Griessel
Zachary Kenreich
Steven Cavadas
Rex Haner
Shyanne Foster
Jessica Trinklein

Life Members

Brian Horan Sr.
Don Quinn
Tony Marsala
John Hodge
Steve Jones
Tom Renner
Jerry Sajewski
Cesar Garcia

Paid on Call Members

Dustin Guminski
Mark Kaput
Tim Quinn
Jon Vandenberg
Zachary Church
Shawn Quinn
Sam Rose
Aaron Sawyer
Ayden Quinn
Tim VanHolt
William Wright
Dawn Hinz
Jacob Clemons
Brian Horan Jr.
Maggie Murillo
Phil Poole
Jacob Florey
Patrick Quinn
Alyssa Ockerman
Shelby Forker
Dawn Nyhof
Phillip Quinn
Amanda Quinn
David Freislinger
Scott Ritchie
Brenden Cramer
Kevin Wildey
Ron Wise
James A. Quinn
Zachary Hanner
Brad Filbrandt
Ron Ridley

South Haven Area Emergency Services

On January 1, 1996 a joint fire and ambulance service authority was formed under the name of South Haven Area Emergency Services. While authorities were not a new concept, the undertaking of such a project in our area was daunting but the members responsible for incepting SHAES were confident that this was the best way to provide quality fire and medical services in the changing times.

Twenty-nine years later, SHAES operates out of three stations, providing coverage to Casco Township, Geneva Township, South Haven City and South Haven Township. ALS transport ambulance service, fire protection and rescue are only a few services provided. 15,000 year-round residents over the span of nearly 100 sq. miles rely on SHAES' professional services. This commitment was made twenty-nine years ago and is as strong, or stronger, than it was in 1996. SHAES' founding members were absolutely correct in their belief that this organization would blossom into a proud association of men and women willing to do what is necessary to provide only the best to the communities we serve.

