

Reserve Volunteer
Fire Department

2024 Annual Report



Prepared by
Fire Chief
Dave Moore

RISING COSTS OF FIREFIGHTING

2020

Helmet \$350
Hood \$120
SCBA \$5,000
Gloves \$100
Radio \$3,000
Boots \$380
Coat & Pant
\$2,800

Fire Engine
\$400,000

Ladder Truck
\$700,000

\$6,750

Cost to outfit 1 Firefighter

2024

Helmet \$550
Hood \$150
SCBA \$7,800
Gloves \$120
Radio \$4,000
Boots \$600
Coat & Pant
\$4,000

Fire Engine
\$700,000

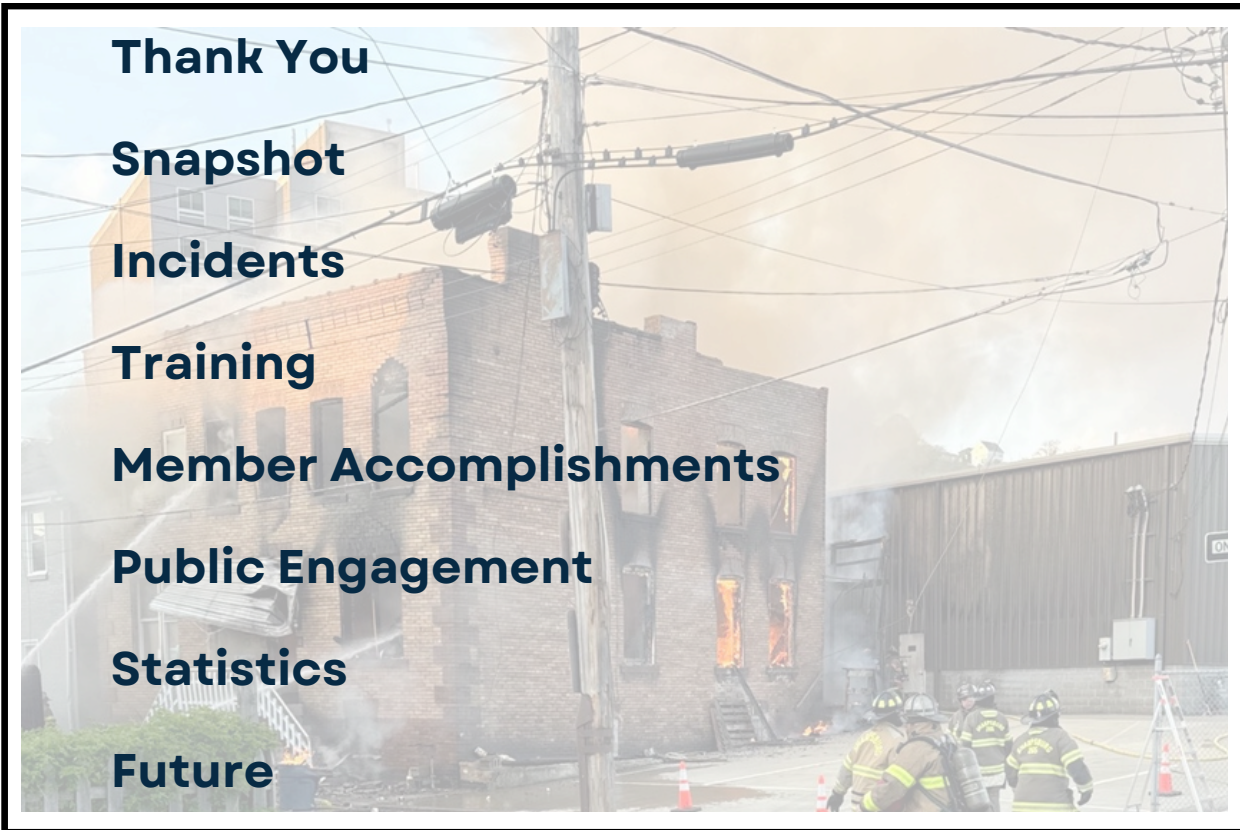
Ladder Truck
\$1,500,00

\$9,420

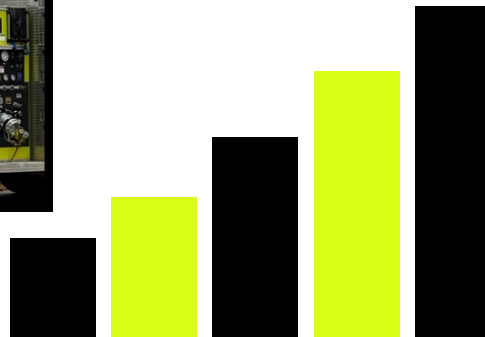




Content



Reserve Volunteer Fire Department





Thank You

2024 was a busy year! We have to begin with thanking our members. The firefighting and support members of the Reserve VFD are our most valuable asset and we would not be the professional volunteer fire department we are today without them. They have stacked up thousands of hours dedicated to protecting the residents and visitors of Reserve Township and our mutual aid areas. Thank you!

We'd also like to thank the residents and friends of the Reserve VFD. Without your support and donations we would cease to exist. You help protect our members with fire gear and equipment. You also help us keep the lights on and the fire trucks responding. We really couldn't do what we do without your support. Thank you!

Finally, we'd like to thank the Township. We are constantly working to strengthen and grow our relationship with the Township Commissioners and Manager. We are grateful for their support and cooperation. Thank you!





Snapshot



Incidents

- **245** Incidents
- **18** working building fires
- **6** firefighters per call
- **9** minute response time (dispatch to scene)

Training

- **4,308** training hours
- **3** National Certifications
- **10** State Fire Academy courses

Operations

- **\$145,500** fire loss in Reserve Township
- Planned response changes for the Mount Troy, Spring Garden, and Logan road closures.
- **\$29,757** received in state grant money



2024 Incidents



2 ALARM FATAL FIRE IN SHALER

JANUARY 9, 2024

RVFD was dispatched on the second alarm for a residential fire on Beyrleye Avenue in Undercliff VFD's area of Shaler. Unfortunately, one male occupant perished and another was injured.



2 ALARM FIRE IN OHARA

FEBRUARY 3, 2024

Members from Reserve responded to a two alarm residential fire on Dorseyville Road in O'Hara Township.

RESIDENTIAL FIRE IN RESERVE

MARCH, 6 2024

15 members responded only 2 days after the Mt. Troy Rd closure to a residential fire on Cedarwood Drive in the Township. The fire was kept to one room, but smoke damage was prevalent through the entire first floor. Fire loss estimated at \$52,000.



2 ALARM FIRE IN AVALON

MAY 10, 2024

Our Volunteers assisted multiple companies with a 2 alarm fire in Avalon Borough.

HAZMAT IN RESERVE

MAY 15, 2024

Our HazMat Technicians, with the assistance from the Allegheny County HazMat Team and Bomb Squad, handled a small spill of Potassium Nitrate that a clean out company brought to the Township Office.

PHYSICAL RESCUE IN RESERVE

MAY 31, 2024

Reserve VFD assisted Ross West View EMS with removing a male who had his leg pinned under an 800 pound headstone at St. Nicks Cemetery.



3 ALARM ARSON FIRE IN ETNA

JUNE 11, 2024

Engine 1 responded on the initial alarm for a multi-family residential building well involved with fire. An explosion occurred on the right side exposure building early into the fire leading to additional alarms being requested.



2024 Incidents



2 ALARM FIRE AT ROSS PARK MALL

AUGUST 4, 2024

Reserve VFD responded on the initial alarm and stretched lines to the H&M store which had smoke visible. Crews operated for a few hours before returning to service.

RESIDENTIAL FIRE IN RESERVE

SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

We responded with 12 members to a kitchen fire on West Homestead Street in the Township. The fire was under control within 10 minutes of arrival. Fire loss estimated at \$8,000.

2+ ALARM FIRE WITH A MAYDAY IN ROSS

OCTOBER 16, 2024

Reserve VFD initially transferred to Laurel Gardens VFC for a fire in an auto garage with attached apartments on Babcock Blvd. A MAYDAY was declared and we responded to the scene and assisted with extinguishment and incident stabilization.

2 ALARM FIRE IN ROSS WITH A MAYDAY

OCTOBER 22, 2024

RVFD was dispatched on the second alarm for a residential fire in Ross Township. Shortly after initial crews arrived a MAYDAY was declared when a firefighter became disoriented while searching the second floor. The firefighter was assisted out and evaluated.

BUILDING AND 2 ACRE BRUSH FIRE

NOVEMBER 9, 2024

Our volunteers responded to the Irwin Lane/Hoffman Road area to fight a brush fire involving a building. The fire was complicated by unreliable water pressure. Tankers were dispatched from across the County to assist. RVFD lost 10 sections of hose that burned through and the fire caused \$50,000 in building and content loss.

2 ALARM FIRE IN ROSS

DECEMBER 12, 2024

We responded in the second alarm for a fire with an 8 year old reported trapped. Updated information confirmed that a dog was trapped and all people were out of the building. RVFD extinguished heavy fire on the first floor of the building.





Training



317

Training is absolutely imperative in our field. Our Volunteers attend weekly trainings at to stay prepared and sharpen skills. The RVFD members attended over 4,308 hours of training in 2024 This training consisted of in-house drills, state classes, National Certification testing, and regional training events. We constantly try to improve and stay up to date with the latest science and best practices.

RVFD

- **Three members tested and passed National Certification testing.**
- **Four Fire Police members acquired their Basic Fire Police course.**
- **Three members acquired their Vehicle Rescue courses.**
- **One member continued on his driver training path with completing Pump Operations course.**
- **All members were re-certified in CPR/AED use.**
- **All members were trained in stop the bleed operations.**
- **Twenty-two members were trained in Traffic Incident Management.**
- **Four members attended numerous trainings in advanced and complicated rescues.**
- **Many members attended courses on leadership and mentorship.**
- **Members attended 10 State Fire Academy courses**



Member Accomplishments



The Reserve VFD has three principal categories to evaluate membership status and activity. These categories are incident response, training, and events. Firefighter members focus on the incidents and trainings, while our support membership focus on the events. A point system is in place to calculate each members activity within each category.



In 2024 Mike Pavicic led the way in the incident category by responding to 167 incidents.

Sebastian Swetoha led the way in training with 211 hours.

The event category leader was Marlene Dickson with 232.5 points.

Finally, Sebastian Swetoha received the most points in the entire Department cumulative to all three categories. He totalled 761 points!



The 2024 Fire Chief award was presented to Lt. Sebastian Swetoha for the work he has accomplished in 2024.

The 2024 President award was presented to Ray Caveney for his continued efforts with response, training, building repairs, and more.

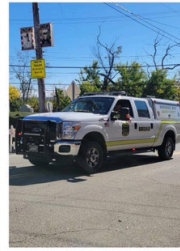


Support Member Richard Pavicic Jr. was awarded the Cecil and David Rosenthal Award for the impact he has on the community. While not directly related to the Fire Department, Richard's achievement reminds us all the value of giving back to the community.





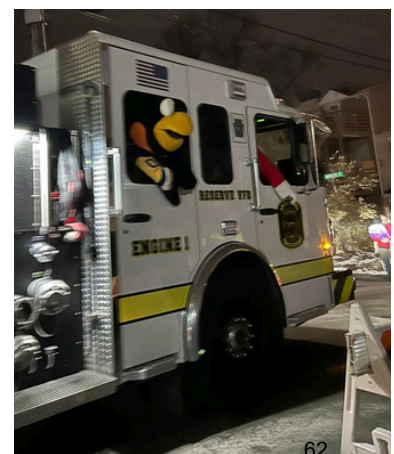
Public Engagement



We pride ourselves in being a large stakeholder in the community. We strive every year to communicate, educate, and be involved with the residents. You'll see us at our fundraisers, fire safety events, touch a trucks, Halloween Parade and Patrol, Light up night, Santa and Easter Bunny details. We average 14 community events every year not including our fundraisers!

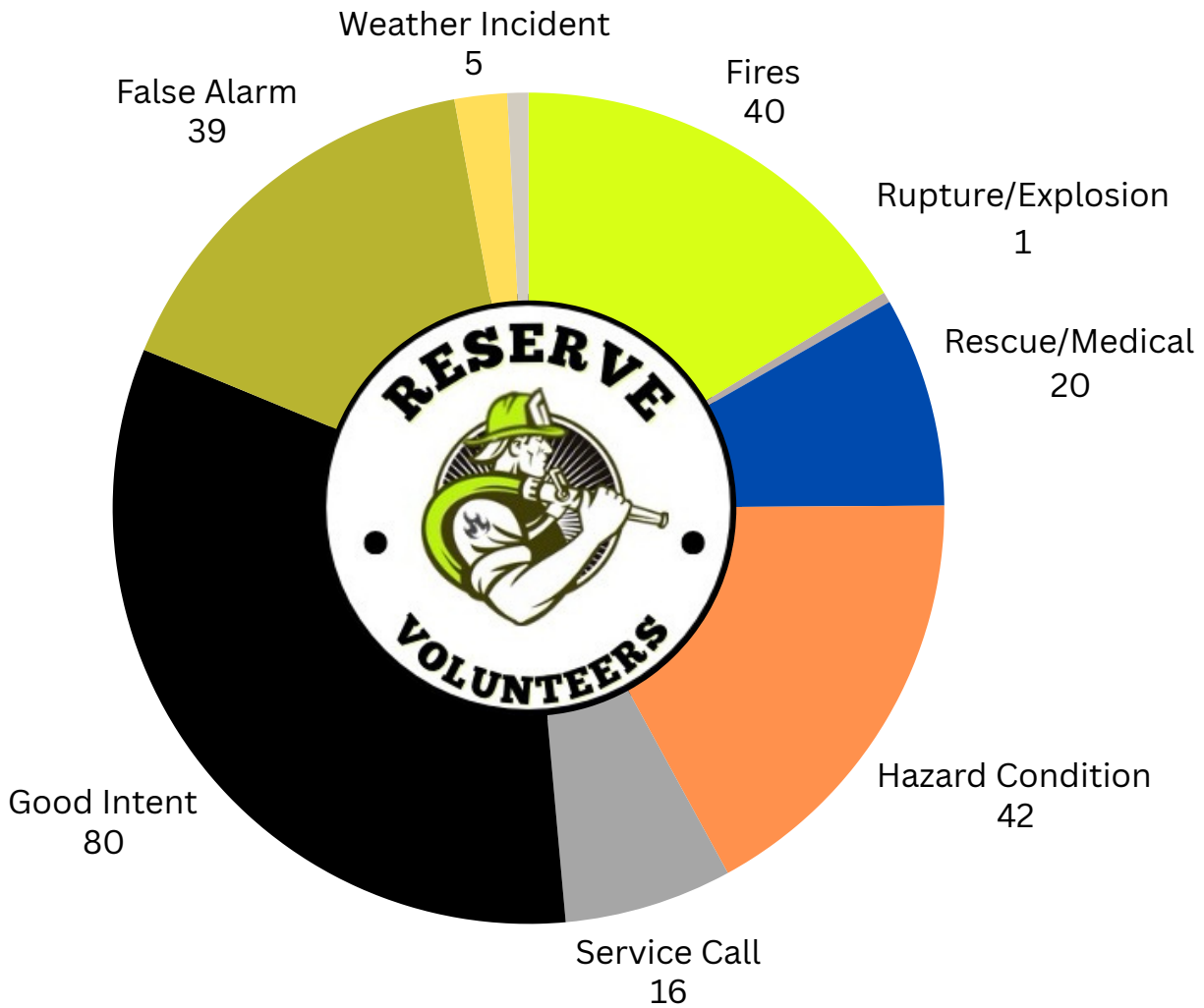
In 2024 we hosted 34 people with extra needs and their mentors to a fire safety presentation adapted around their individual needs. We also conducted a fire safety program at Reserve Primary for all 120 students.

We were excited to be invited to a Coffee with the Manager meeting in December. We were able to explain our operations and the ins and outs of the Department.





2024 Statistics



It was a busy 2024 with emergency responses, trainings, community engagement, and fundraising. Like always, our members stepped up and overcame all obstacles.

245 Incident Responses

18 working building fires

3 building fires in Reserve Township

5,580 hours of our member's time dedicated to helping our community

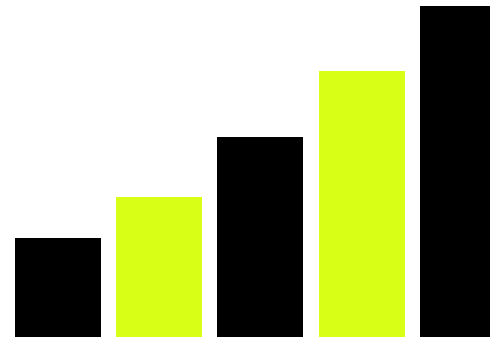
\$145,500 Fire Loss in Reserve Township

Averaged 6 firefighters per call

Averaged 9 min response time (Dispatch to On-scene) goal 12 min

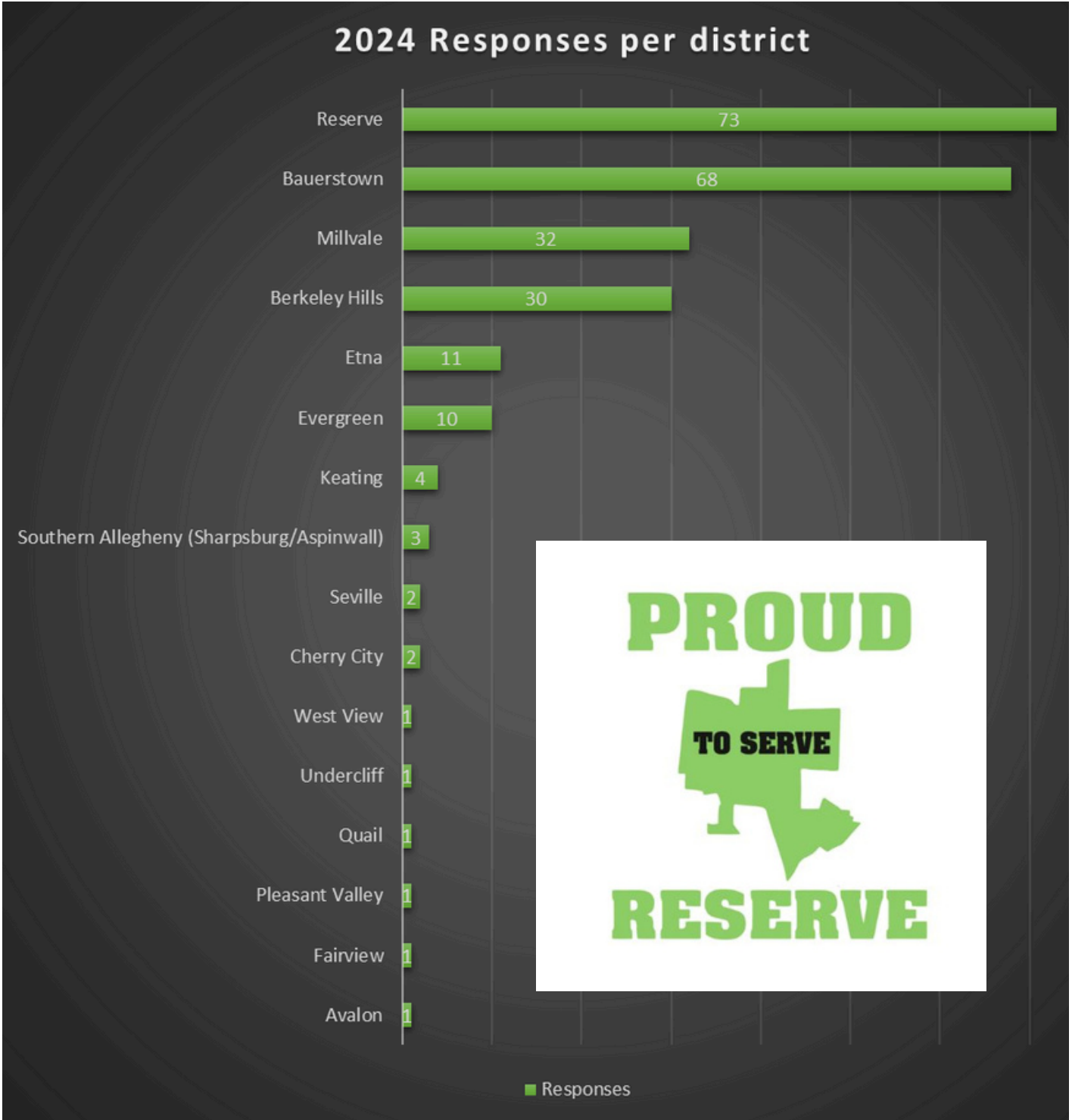
0 Firefighter Injuries or Fatalities

0 Civilian Injuries or Fatalities in Reserve Township



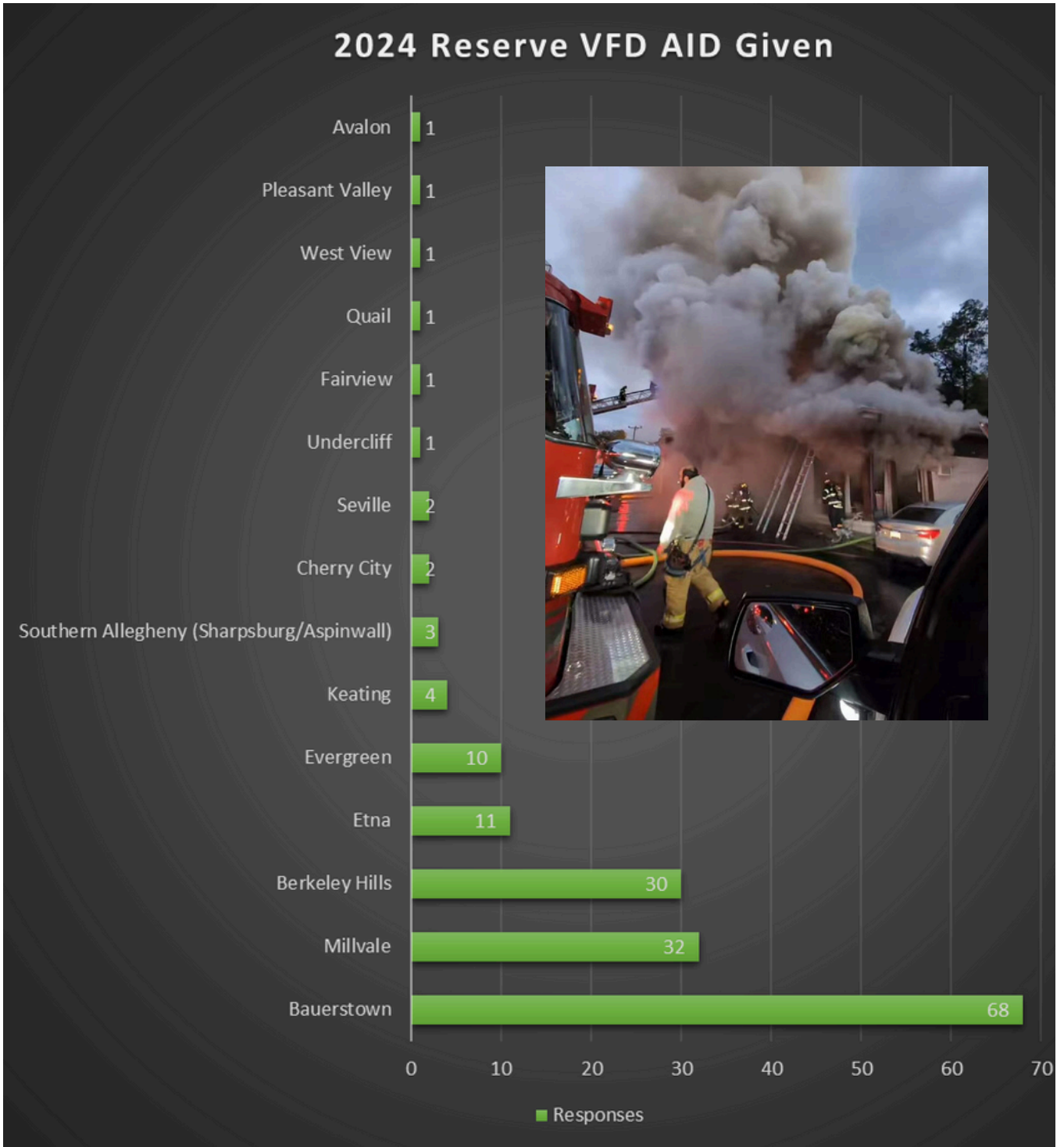


Statistics





Statistics





Statistics



2024 Reserve VFD AID Received





Statistics

Reserve VFD	2023	2024
Incidents	166	245
Training Hours	2,414	4,308
Building Fires	21	18
Twp. Fires	0	3
Member Hours	4,845	5,680
Members per Call	6	6
Response time	10 min	9 min
Aid-Given	113	168
Aid-Received	29	46



Future



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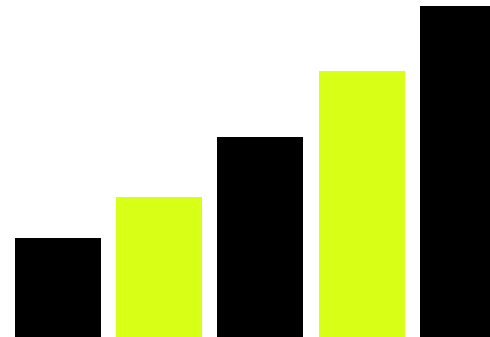


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As we move into 2025 we look forward to continue the professional services that we provide Reserve Township and the surrounding communities. We are extremely proud of the work we do and thankful to the support we receive.

A few projects that we already have planned for 2025 are:

- Replace aging turnout gear, helmets, and boots
- Develop and implement a new website
- Certify the majority of our firefighters to the National Firefighter 2 standard
- Assess our small vehicle apparatus fleet
- Submit a SAFER grant for staffing stipends
- Explore a dedicated funding stream





JOIN

THE RESERVE UFO

