

Employee Spotlight - Tony Barone

Law enforcement and Fire/EMS professionals see no boundaries when making life saving decisions, on duty or off. CGGS is happy to spotlight Tony Barone for saving a child's life.



Tony Barone and his aunt and uncle from out of town were on their way to the CGGS Nationals vs. Braves Baseball Game the night of June 1st. While approaching the top of the entrance to L'Enfant Plaza Metro Station, Tony observed a mother with three children in distress. She was shaking her two year old son and attempting to remove an obstruction from his mouth. Tony dashed over to her to find the child with a complete airway obstruction. The boy was ridged, cyanotic, and had no chest movement. However, he was still conscious. Tony took the child from the mother and performed three inverted back blows. He stopped as soon as he felt chest movement and flipped the child back over when the child started to cough. But the child was re-obstructed by the object. Tony then flipped the child back over, performed additional back blows, and the object (a large gummy) finally came out. The child gasped for air, regained color, and soon calmed. The mother was hysterical and overtly emotional; full

of both fear and appreciation. Devaki Shah from the CGGS team was quick to call 9-1-1, and medics from DC Fire and EMS were dispatched to the scene to check the child out.

When Tony was asked to comment, this is what he had to say:

“This act was purely instinctual and happened so fast I really didn’t think about it. In contrast to the complex emergency management strategies and solutions we provide to our client, some incidents are managed with no planning or anticipation. Through preparedness efforts we are all able to equip ourselves with skills necessary to make life saving decisions, both at the work place and at home.

If anything can be gained from this, I would encourage each of you to take some time in the near future and refresh your CPR skills, for you never know when you may be presented with a similar incident and when you may be called into action.”