



COSSAYUNA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. ESTABLISHED 1950



2026 Annual Giving Campaign

Our 2026 Annual Giving Campaign focuses on our required upgrade of our SCBAs. This upgrade is quoted at a cost exceeding \$111,000. What is an SCBA?

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) is a critical life-support respirator used by firefighters to provide a reliable, autonomous supply of clean air in environments that are **Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH)**. Unlike underwater SCUBA gear, firefighter SCBAs are specifically designed for terrestrial hazards such as heat, toxic smoke, and chemical vapors. SCBAs are made up of the following components:

- **High-Pressure Cylinder:** A tank storing compressed, purified air (not pure oxygen) at pressures typically reaching 2,216 or 4,500 psi. These provide roughly 30 to 60 minutes of air depending on the user's physical exertion.
- **Pressure Regulator System:** A two-stage system that reduces the high tank pressure to a breathable level (around 80–125 psi) and delivers it to the mask "on demand" as the user inhales.
- **Full Facepiece:** A heat-resistant mask that creates a positive-pressure seal around the face, ensuring that even if there is a small leak, clean air flows out rather than toxic air entering.
- **Harness and Backframe:** A rugged, ergonomic backpack assembly that distributes the 25–30 lb weight of the system across the wearer's shoulders and waist.

In 2026, modern SCBAs are governed by strict standards such as the **NFPA 1850** (2026 Edition) and **NFPA 1981** for performance and safety.

- **PASS Device:** An integrated alarm that triggers a loud alert if a firefighter remains motionless for more than 30 seconds.
- **Heads-Up Display (HUD):** Visual LED indicators inside the mask that allow the user to monitor air levels without looking at a gauge.
- **Rapid Intervention (RIT) Connections:** Includes universal air connections (UAC) for sharing air with a downed firefighter or "buddy-breathing" in emergencies.
- **Advanced Electronics:** Integrated voice amplifiers and Bluetooth for clearer communication through the mask

Your contributions not only allow us to meet the standards required. They also keep us safe while we work to save life and property. To contribute to our campaign, mail a check in the enclosed envelope, scan the QR code below, or visit <https://cossayunafire.com/tax-deductible-donations>

