

**Life EMS Ambulance of Lake County
Ambulance Report
October 1 through December 31, 2023**

Ambulance operations for Life EMS of Lake County ran well during the fourth quarter of 2023. During this reporting period Life EMS did 554 ambulance transports and on scene assessments in Lake County. This is 43 more transports than during the same time period last year. Life EMS had 2,224 ambulance transports and assessments for 2023, reflecting approximately a 4% decrease in volume over 2022. For reference, the call volume for the previous 10 years are as follows: 2023- 2,323; 2021- 2,242; 2020- 2,100; 2019-1,886; 2018-1,781; 2017-1,686; 2016-1,741; 2015-1,710; 2014-1,747; 2013- 1,773.

The Lake County operation continues to be very well staffed with excellent paramedics and EMTs. We currently have part-time positions posted to provide us with added depth. One of our EMTs recently graduated from the paramedic course through West Shore Community College and is currently in the National Registry testing process.

A year ago, I reported that we were taking an innovative approach to behavioral health transports. We currently have 5 behavior health transport (BHT) units in operation with 2 more being built. These BHT units have been kept relatively busy and have been utilized several times for transfers coming out of our north operations, keeping our ambulances available for emergency responses as well as medically necessary interfacility transfers. We have demonstrated that this is a better, safer, and more appropriate utilization of resources for these transports, and are now working with insurance companies, hospitals, and the state of Michigan, to make this financially sustainable.

For the holidays, our on-duty associates were provided Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinners from Honey-Baked Hams to show our appreciation for their dedication in keeping Lake County fully staffed for the holidays.

As in past years, a few of our Lake County associates participated in the Shop with a Hero event in Big Rapids, partnering with several law enforcement and fire agencies, primarily from Osceola County. The event is considered very special to the children, as well as our associates that participate in it.

There were 4 STEMI cases in the last quarter. The first two were from the Irons area and went to Munson, no follow up information was available. The next was a 90-year-old from the Baldwin area, she was flown from Reed City to the Meijer Heart Center and underwent emergent cardiac catheterization, improving without device placement. The last was a 63-year-old Baldwin resident, he was transported to Reed City and subsequently to the Meijer Heart Center by the same crew as Aeromed was unable to fly. He received emergent heart catheterization where it was identified that he had severe, multi-vessel heart disease. He was placed on an aortic ballon pump to assist his

heart and received successful coronary bypass surgery 4 days later. He was discharged home 10 days from admission.

Thank you for allowing Life EMS to provide ambulance service to the residents and visitors of Lake County.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Stockhill
Director of North Operations