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Contact: Amy Abel, Director of Communications

877-706-9346 / Communications@chs-ga.org

Community Ambulance Honored by AHA



Community Ambulance receives American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline EMS Silver Plus Recognition Award

THOMASTON, GA 2019 — Community Ambulance has received the *American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline® EMS Silver Plus Award* for implementing quality improvement measures for the treatment of patients who experience severe heart attacks.



Every year, more than 250,000 people experience an ST elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) the deadliest type of heart attack caused by a blockage of blood flow to the heart that requires timely treatment. To prevent death, it's critical to restore blood flow as quickly as possible, either by mechanically opening the blocked vessel or by providing clot-busting medication.

The Mission: Lifeline initiative provides tools, training and other resources to support heart attack care following protocols from the most recent evidence-based treatment guidelines. Mission: Lifeline's EMS recognition program recognizes emergency medical services for their efforts in improving systems of care to rapidly identify suspected heart attack patients, promptly notify the medical center and trigger an early response from the awaiting hospital personnel.

"EMTs and paramedics play a vital part in the system of care for those who have heart attacks," said Tim Henry, M.D., Chair of the Mission: Lifeline Acute Coronary Syndrome Subcommittee. "Since they often are the first medical point of contact, they can save precious minutes of treatment time by activating the emergency response system that alerts hospitals to an incoming heart attack patient. We applaud Community Ambulance for achieving this award in following evidence-based guidelines in the treatment of people who have severe heart attacks."

About Community Ambulance

Community Ambulance began serving Georgia communities over four decades ago and was the first EMS provider in Georgia to achieve dual accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) and the International Academies of Emergency Medical Dispatch (IAED). Community Ambulance provides emergency medical transport services, non-emergency transport services, neo-natal transport, special event coverage, EMT and Paramedic education courses, community CPR training and more. For more information about Community Ambulance, visit www.ourcommunityambulance.org.

About Mission: Lifeline

The American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline® program helps hospitals and emergency medical services develop systems of care that follow proven standards and procedures for acute coronary syndrome patients. The program works by mobilizing teams across the continuum of care to implement American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology clinical treatment guidelines. For more information, visit heart.org.

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