



NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT *of* HEALTH

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
July 28, 2015

For More Information, Contact:
Elizabeth Pihlaja, MPH
Division of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma
North Dakota Department of Health
Phone: 701.328.2953
E-mail: epihlaja@nd.gov

“Pediatric Prepared” Ambulance Program Launched; West Trill Ambulance Service Awarded Recognition

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Health’s Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) program has recognized the West Trill Ambulance Service as the first ambulance service to achieve recognition for participating in the new Pediatric Prepared Voluntary Ambulance Recognition Program.

EMSC recently launched the new initiative to recognize emergency medical service agencies that are prepared to treat pediatric patients. The Pediatric Prepared Voluntary Ambulance Recognition Program is open to all North Dakota EMS agencies that are interested in applying. In order to be named a Pediatric Prepared service, applicant agencies must achieve program standards in carrying pediatric equipment, receiving appropriate training and providing community outreach. As part of the voluntary recognition program, agencies will be awarded a certificate of honor, as well as special decals for the service’s ambulances to designate the service’s status as “Pediatric Prepared.”

“Over 600,000 children are transported by ambulance every year in the United States, so making sure EMS agencies are prepared to transport and treat those children is a priority,” said Elizabeth Pihlaja, program manager of the North Dakota EMS for Children program. “North Dakota’s emergency personnel work hard to ensure they are ready to care for kids, and we wanted to provide recognition for that time and effort. If you see the Pediatric Prepared decals on your community’s ambulance, be proud – it shows they are willing to go above and beyond to help the children in your community.”

West Trill Ambulance Service, which serves communities in Trill and Steele Counties, was the first service in the state to achieve recognition. Applications for those services interested in the program are available on the Division of EMS and Trauma website, www.ndhealth.gov/ems.

2635 East Main Ave, P.O. Box PO Box 5520 Bismarck, North Dakota 58506-5520
Phone: 701.328.2378 Fax: 701.328.2499 E-mail: health@nd.gov

Visit the health department home page at www.ndhealth.gov.

If you would like more information on the North Dakota EMS for Children Pediatric Prepared Voluntary Ambulance Recognition Program, please contact Elizabeth Pihlaja at epihlaja@nd.gov or 701.328.2953.

– 30 –

Please note: To access archived news releases and other information, visit the North Dakota Department of Health Press Room at www.nddohpressroom.gov.

Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ndhealth and Twitter at twitter.com/nddoh.