



InFlight

Summer 2022

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS OF HEALTHNET AEROMEDICAL SERVICES, INC.

New Initiative Aims to Improve EMS Across the Mountain State

For the thousands of Emergency Medical Services providers and the agencies serving communities across West Virginia, help is on the way.

Funded through \$10 million from the state's allocation of CARES Act dollars, Governor Jim Justice's EMS WV: Answer the Call program provides strategic initiatives to promote careers in EMS and provide education, mental health services, EMS leadership development, and additional resources to the current EMS workforce.

HealthNet Aeromedical Services is playing an essential role in this initiative by taking on sourcing and management of a fleet of high-tech, mobile healthcare simulators. These five vehicles will each be equipped with high-fidelity human simulators for adult, pediatric, neonatal, and high-risk obstetric clinical training. They will also carry portable emergency vehicle driving simulators, intubation simulators, IV simulators, and more.

The mobile healthcare simulators will be based across the state in the Beckley, Charleston, Morgantown, Wheeling, and Martinsburg regions. The vehicles and equipment can be

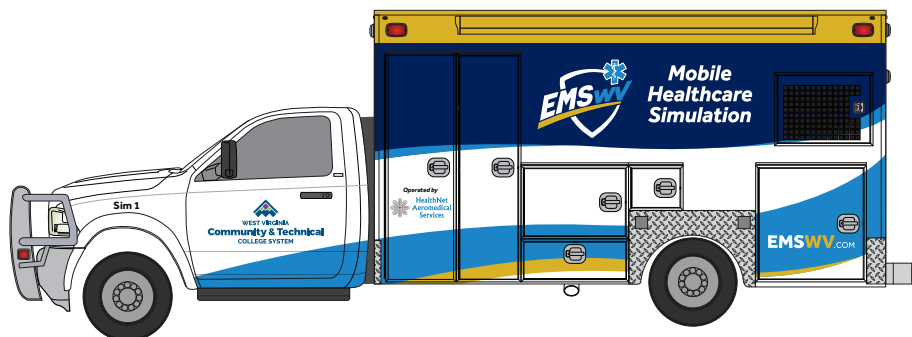
utilized by instructors from the WV Community and Technical College System, EMS agencies, and other EMS educators.

The vehicles are expected to be operational across the state in late September 2022.

At the direction of the Governor, HealthNet is also sourcing, purchasing, and planning distribution of 6,000 EMS packs containing essential equipment and supplies to assist EMS workers in the field. Bags will be provided to every certified EMS clinician in the state and also to those presently enrolled in EMT courses.

The West Virginia Community and Technical College System is overseeing the recruitment component of this initiative and created a new website, www.emswv.com, to allow prospective and current providers to access career information and training opportunities.

You can also follow [@AnswerTheCall.EMSswv](https://www.facebook.com/AnswerTheCall.EMSswv) on facebook for the latest program news and events happening around the state.



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HealthNet Aeromedical Services is a not-for-profit shared service of:



HealthNet Aeromedical Services is fully accredited by:



Team Member Spotlight

Chelsey Williams, BSN, RN,
CFRN, CEN, NRP
Flight Nurse



As a teen, while many of her peers were playing sports or hanging out with friends, Chelsey Williams was riding in the back of an ambulance as a junior member of the Blacksburg Volunteer Rescue Squad in Blacksburg, Virginia.

“I was looking for a place to belong. We were able to manage very chaotic situations and change lives. I

found a family and I found my calling for caring for others,” said Williams.

Chelsey is very proud to be the youngest member of the squad to be honored with a lifetime membership. She still serves as a paramedic for the organization in her free time.

That early calling to serve others led her to become an EMT, earn her paramedic certification, and complete nursing school. She began her nursing career in the Emergency Department at Lewis Gale Hospital Montgomery. In 2018, Chelsey was hired as a flight nurse at the HealthNet Aeromedical Services’ base in Martinsburg, West Virginia.

“As I saw flight teams bring patients into the ER, I started to feel a need for a more critical care level experience,” she said. “There have been so many challenges but becoming a flight nurse has been the best decision I have ever made. This job has allowed me to grow into the provider I have always wanted to be.”

With a desire to never stop learning, she values HealthNet’s mission to provide its clinicians with constant education and state-of-the-art tools like portable ultrasound devices. Chelsey is also hoping to grow her skillset while participating in the EMS Leadership Program through the University of Charleston, part of the West Virginia Governor’s EMS initiative.

After working in Martinsburg for several years, Chelsey will be transferring to HealthNet’s Lewisburg base later this year. She will have a shorter commute from her beloved hometown of Blacksburg, Virginia and she is looking forward to providing care to patients in her community.

Outside of work, Chelsey enjoys spending time with her horses on her families’ farm and doing pretty much anything outdoors.



Customer Profile



Minnie Hamilton Health System (MHHS) is a comprehensive, vertically integrated health care delivery system comprised of a critical access hospital, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC), Rural Health Centers, school-based health centers, a nursing home, dental clinics, and behavioral health clinics located in Calhoun and Gilmer Counties. Construction of a new clinic site is underway in Gilmer County along with construction of an additional clinic opening soon in Arnoldsburg, West Virginia.

Their mission is the dedication to improving the health quality of life of all people in their service area through an innovative delivery system of services and education. This is accomplished through teamwork and dedication of staff, and a commitment to work with community partners.

MHHS collaborates with many organizations, including larger health systems, to provide the necessary services their communities rely on. Those organizations include but are not limited to WVU Medicine, Charleston Area Medical Center, Marshall University, Mon Health System, University Health Associates, Glenville State College, Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department, West Virginia University, Gilmer County Health Department, Mid-Ohio Valley Rural Health Alliance, Westbrook and several others. These collaborations have brought several specialty services to the community that consist of General Surgery, Urology, Orthopedics Women’s Health, Pediatric Cardiology and Neurology.

HealthNet Aeromedical Services has also been valuable to transport patients in need of critical care to tertiary hospitals and provides management services for Minnie Hamilton’s ground ambulance service.

Minnie Hamilton’s focus on quality was recognized by the National Rural Health Association naming the system a top Critical Access Hospital as well as by the Health Resources and Services Administration for achievements in access, quality, health equity, and health information technology for the 2020 Uniform Data System (UDS) reporting period.

MHHS recently implemented WISEWOMAN and FARMACY programs which are geared towards improving the health and quality of care of patients in the community.

Recent Flight Academy Graduates Now Serving Their Communities

In July, HealthNet Aeromedical Services celebrated the graduation of its two most recent flight academy classes.

All flight nurses and flight paramedics who serve with HealthNet are required to complete a 10-week flight academy which provides in-depth clinical and safety training.

The nine flight nurses and eight flight paramedics are now serving at bases across West Virginia and in Eastern Kentucky.



Flight Academy Class Mike

Rebekah Bailey, Flight Nurse, Base 3
Bryan Beverage, Flight Paramedic, Base 8
Kayla Burcker, Flight Nurse, Base 8
Michael Freeman, Flight Paramedic, Base 10
Torie Geis, Flight Paramedic, Base 3
Kelsey Rideout, Flight Paramedic, Base 8
Heather Stemple, Flight Paramedic, Base 8

Flight Academy Class Oscar

Kelly Blaine, Flight Nurse, Base 2
Skylar Conatser, Flight Paramedic, Base 9
Sarah Crabtree, Flight Nurse, Base 7
Brooke Duncan, Flight Nurse, Base 5
Lacey Green, Flight Nurse, Base 2
Kelsie Jacobs, Flight Nurse, Base 7
Justin Johnson, Flight Paramedic, Base 3
Trevor Sebring, Flight Nurse, Base 10
Dustin Williams, Flight Paramedic, Base 5
Kayla Wright, Flight Nurse, Base 5

Flight Team Members Complete Inaugural Critical Care Transport Academy



Three HealthNet Aeromedical Services flight team members were among the graduates of the first Association of Air Medical Services' Critical Care Transport Academy (CCTA).

Flight Nurse Sarah Crabtree, Flight Paramedic Torie Geis, and Flight Paramedic Kelsey Rideout completed the 40-week program which included scenario-based evaluations, individual and group assignments, and tools to help students face the challenges of flight crew orientation. Completion of the program earned them the Certified Medical Transport Professional certification.

HealthNet Flight Team Leader Kim Morgan also served as a CCTA mentor for the 22 clinicians in the program.

The next CCTA program will begin in 2023. Registration will open this fall. Learn more about the program by visiting: aams.org

SOCIAL MEDIA Follow and Like Us!



WEST VIRGINIA EMS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

FREE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL TRAINING

August 23, 2022
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

August 24, 2022
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Join the West Virginia EMS Advisory Council for a critical, two-day program designed to provide the tools an emerging or experienced EMS supervisor needs to be successful. Topics covered include business finance, medical direction, human resources, critical thinking, quality improvement, and more. This West Virginia EMS Leadership program aims to raise the bar on EMS leadership in our state.

This program is presented without charge and approved for continuing education credit by the West Virginia Office of EMS.



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