



InFlight

Winter-Spring
2023

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



2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

More than **800,800**
nautical miles flown



7,356 hours in flight

Program Highlights

- ▶ Accepted responsibility for procurement and management of West Virginia's five Mobile Healthcare Simulation units
- ▶ Assisted in facilitating first-out bag distribution to EMS providers across the state
- ▶ Recipient of the West Virginia Rural Health Associations' Organization for Excellence in Rural Health Award
- ▶ Safety Director Jeff White honored with National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians Education Service Award

New Helipad Opens at Thomas Memorial Hospital

In December 2022, leaders from HealthNet Aeromedical Services joined officials from WVU Medicine and the City of South Charleston, West Virginia to celebrate the opening of a new helipad at Thomas Memorial Hospital.

The helipad is enhancing the hospital's ability to care for critically ill patients, better serving area communities. The helipad is located along Division Street, just a short distance from the Emergency Department entrance.

The opening of the helipad came just after the announcement that the hospital will nearly double the number of intensive care unit beds at the facility. Both projects come at a time when there is a significant need in the region for more critical care beds, as local hospital ICUs are full, and patients are having to leave the area to receive critical care.



Dr. Tom Takubo, Critical Care Physician, Pulmonary Associates of Charleston; Stephanie McDougal, Director of Critical Care Services; Albert Wright, Jr., president and CEO of WVU Health System; Jody Agosti, Director of Emergency Services; Frank Mullens, Mayor, City of South Charleston; and Clinton Burley, president and CEO of HealthNet Aeromedical Services, cut the ribbon on the new helipad.

Air transportation provided by:



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



HealthNet Aeromedical Services
is fully accredited by:



Team Member Spotlight

Rebekah Bailey, RN, BSN, CEN, CFRN
Flight Nurse



Rebekah Bailey entered the healthcare field at the ripe age of 20 as a respiratory therapist. As a young mother, the thought of going through nursing school seemed daunting but she set her mind to making the career move one day.

“I worked along so many nurses. I admired them so much because they had a job

that made such a difference in patients’ lives. I just knew that’s where I needed to next take my career.” Rebekah said.

In 2016, she graduated from nursing school. She started working in the ER at CAMC General Hospital in Charleston, West Virginia.

“While I was still working as a respiratory therapist at Raleigh General Hospital, we had a significant trauma patient. When the flight crew came in, everyone in the room took a sigh of relief. Everyone respected them and had faith that they were going to do the best for the patient,” she said. “I realized watching them work that they had to be on top of their game and they had the autonomy to do way more than we did. I’ve always had the mindset that I want to be the best of the best. That’s when I knew my end goal was to be a flight nurse.”

While she had plenty of experience in the Emergency Room, Rebekah challenged herself to obtain prehospital experience by working as a paramedic for the Teays Valley Fire Department. Equipped with a well-rounded skillset and proper credentials, she joined HealthNet as a flight nurse in December 2021.

“I try every day to learn. In this job, the learning experiences are always there. I’m surrounded by rockstars, and I’m constantly driven to stay at their level.” Rebekah said. “I’ve never worked for a place that has your back as well as HealthNet does. I don’t think I would find that anywhere else.”

When not on duty, Rebekah enjoys working out, hiking and weekend getaways with her husband. Her family enjoys spending their summers lounging by the pool. She also relaxes by spending plenty of time cuddling her three dogs and spoiling her granddaughter.



Customer Profile

WVU Medicine Thomas Hospitals



WVU Medicine Thomas Hospitals, formerly known as Thomas Health, was formed in 2007 forging a partnership between two strong and established community hospitals, Saint Francis Hospital and Thomas Memorial Hospital.

Together, Saint Francis and Thomas Memorial bring 170 years of service to the region. Now a member in the WVU Health System, the state’s largest and most extensive health system, they are building a new regional healthcare destination in southern West Virginia.

Thomas Hospitals offers a variety of inpatient and outpatient services including behavioral health, cardiology, endoscopy, gastroenterology, gynecology, neurosurgery, ophthalmology, inpatient and outpatient pharmacy, physical therapy and rehabilitation, podiatry, skilled nursing, spine and nerve, and wound care.

As part of the partnership with WVU Medicine, Saint Francis hospital will be repurposed to become West Virginia’s first comprehensive orthopedic hospital with expanded inpatient, outpatient, skilled nursing, and physical and occupational therapy all under one roof.

The facility recently expanded its intensive care unit and built a new helipad, increasing its ability to care for critically ill patients when they need us most.

WVU Medicine Thomas Hospitals serves its communities by providing the highest quality of healthcare available. They achieve this goal by actively recruiting new physicians and specialists to the area and to the WVU Medicine Thomas Hospitals family to advance their clinical capabilities and the services offered to their patients and community.

Team Members Celebrated During Annual Evening of Recognition



Clinton Burley, President and CEO of HealthNet Aeromedical Services, presents awards during the 2022 Team Member Evening of Recognition.

On December 1, 2022, team members from across our system and their guests gathered at Stonewall Resort in Roanoke, West Virginia, for our program's annual Team Member Evening of Recognition.

This event recognizes the number of safely completed missions and years of service milestones for team members who provide quality care to the communities we serve.

Team Member Awards



100 Flights or 5 Years of Service



1,000 Flights or 10 Years of Service



1,500 Flights or 15 Years of Service



Kourtney Self
Flight Nurse, Base 6
118 Transports

Sara Williams
Flight Nurse, Base 2
120 Transports

Hannah Fitzwater
Flight Paramedic, Base 2
127 Transports

Chelsea Epling
Flight Nurse, Base 3
134 Transports

Jordan Walker
Team Leader & Flight Paramedic, Base 3
157 Transports

Mary Boisvert
Flight Nurse, Base 3
162 Transports
Heidi Stump

Flight Paramedic, Base 5
174 Transports

Marianne Richardson
Flight Nurse, Base 2
179 Transports

Steve Duncan
Flight Nurse, Base 8
256 Transports

Nathan Pennington
Mechanic, Base 6
5 Years of Service

Tyler Weddington
Pilot, Base 10
5 Years of Service

Donnie Wright
Maintenance Lead, Air Methods
5 Years of Service



Joey Carey
Flight Paramedic, Base 7
1,068 Transports

Kendra Parker
Flight Nurse, Base 6
1,119 Transports

P.D. Conley
Business Development Coordinator, Base 7
10 Years of Service

Leslie Cummings
Flight Nurse, Base 3
10 Years of Service

Chris Wallace
Area Manager, Air Methods
10 Years of Service

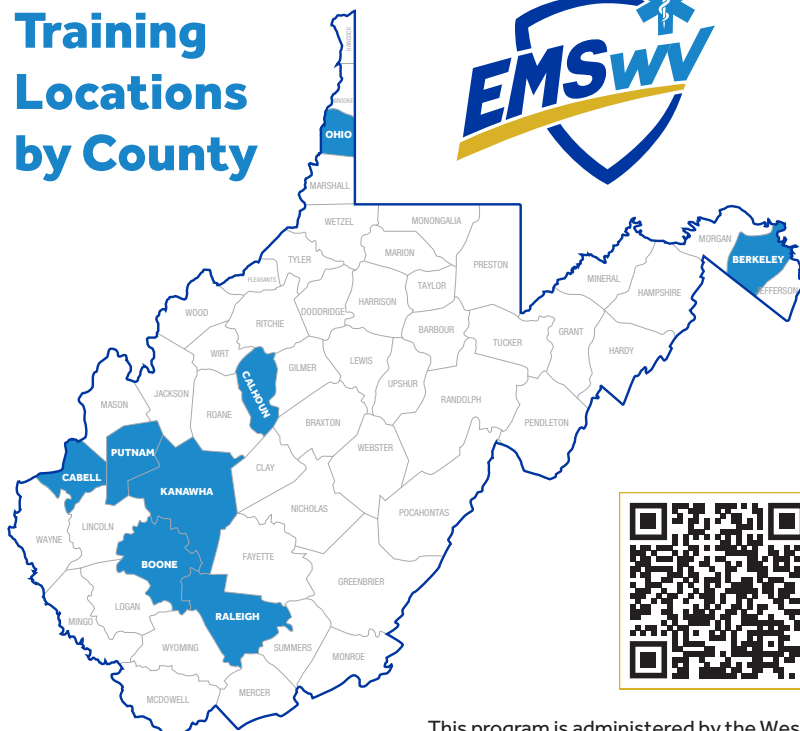
SOCIAL MEDIA Follow and Like Us!



Mobile Ambulance Simulator Usage

October 15, 2022 –
January 31, 2023

Training Locations by County



Training & Services Provided:

- Advanced Emergency Medical Technician Skills
- Body Mechanics/Safety
- Cardiac Skills
- General EMS Skills
- Infant Resuscitation
- Mock DUI Presentation
- Pediatric Skills
- Trauma Skills

Total Attendees: 447



Ready to plan free education for your team? Simply scan the QR code and complete the request form.

This program is administered by the West Virginia Community and Technical College System. Vehicles and equipment are managed by HealthNet Aeromedical Services.