

“Press Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE”

Rhonda G. Phillippi, RN, BA  
Executive Director, TN Emergency Medical Services for Children Foundation  
2200 Children’s Way, Nashville, TN 37232-9075  
Phone 615.574.0890 Fax 615.936-3467 [rhonda@tnemsc.org](mailto:rhonda@tnemsc.org) www.tnemsc.org

### **Michael Carr, MD Receives 2009 EMSC National Heroes Award**

Date: Thursday, June 11, 2009, Noon: National EMSC Heroes Award Luncheon  
Location: EMSC Program Meeting, Hilton Alexandria Mark Center, Alexandria, VA

Alexandria, VA---**Michael Carr, MD** received a **2009 EMSC National Heroes Award** for his commitment, creativity, and resourcefulness as an EMSC Advisory Board Member. On June 11, during the Annual EMSC (Emergency Medical Services for Children) Program Meeting in Alexandria, VA, Dr. Carr received this distinguished award which recognizes an advisory council member who works collaboratively with EMSC at the state level and has taken on a leadership role to improve pediatric emergency care in one or more states.

Since 1998, the EMSC National Heroes Award selection committee has solicited nominations from across the country to recognize and reward outstanding achievement in emergency medical services for children. The individuals who are selected reflect the best of the best. They are compassionate, tireless advocates who have made a real difference within the pediatric health care community at the local, state, and national levels.

Dr. Carr has been the chair or a member of the Tennessee Committee of Pediatric Emergency Care – which also serves as the state’s EMSC Advisory Council – for nearly 15 years. Prior to this, in 1994, he served as a principal investigator on the state’s original EMSC grant. His dedication to EMSC was inspired by his years of service at T.C. Thompson Children’s Hospital in Chattanooga, TN. Under his leadership, the hospital developed a first-class pediatric trauma program. Dr. Carr played a leading role in acquiring its designation as a Level I trauma center, the first children’s hospital in Tennessee to be accredited as such by the American College of Surgeons. Susan O’Hare, former Chief Administrative Officer for T.C. Thompson Children’s Hospital, says “Mike has had a significant hand in improving outcomes for children who have entered the emergency medical system in our state, and, locally, for the children of our region who he has personally touched.”

In addition, Dr. Carr provided the necessary leadership in getting EMSC legislation passed by the legislature. He testified, met with key committee chairs, spoke to the press, and traveled throughout the state, building support for EMSC. Some of the projects that have been completed because of Dr. Carr’s involvement include developing a certified statewide poison control center, getting child safety seat and helmet laws passed, and advising the Tennessee Department of Health on the pediatric rules and regulations.

In order to advocate through public policy as well as garner additional funding for EMSC, Dr. Carr began focusing his time on developing the Tennessee EMSC Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization which he helped found in 2005. Ken Holbert, MD, President of the Tennessee College of Emergency Physicians, says Dr. Carr “possesses the rare combination of affability and vision that creates a true leader, able to inspire commitment and action in those with whom he works.” Dr. Carr still serves as the foundation’s guiding force and leader.