

“Press Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE”

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**Morristown-Hamblen EMS &  
East Tennessee Children's Hospital Neonatal Transport Service**

Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2009 6pm: Reception, 7 pm: Dinner, 7:30pm: Awards presentation  
Location: Sheraton Nashville Downtown Hotel, 623 Union Street, Nashville, TN 37219

Nashville, TN--In 2008, ambulance services in Tennessee responded to over one million 911 calls. The first annual EMS Star of Life Awards Dinner & Ceremony honored the dedication of those who provide day-to-day lifesaving services on the medical “front line” in Tennessee. The ceremony presented actual patient scenarios and reunited the EMS caregivers with the individuals they treated from the eight EMS regions across the state.

<b>Region 2 Award Winners - Morristown-Hamblen EMS &amp; East Tennessee Children's Hospital Neonatal Transport Service</b>
Andrew Pratt, NREMT-P, FTO <b>Morristown-Hamblen EMS</b>
Jason Pelham, NREMT-P <b>Morristown-Hamblen EMS</b>
Nathan Jochen, NREMT-P <b>Morristown-Hamblen EMS</b>
Kathy Fulton, RNC, NNP <b>ETCH</b>
Moneake Woodard, RN <b>ETCH</b>
Janet Kegel, RRT <b>ETCH</b>
Esther O'Hare, RNC <b>ETCH</b>

On an early morning in mid-September 2008, a Hamblen County EMS crew of EMS region two responded to a call for the birth of a very small newborn boy, not much larger than a man’s hand. The baby was found to not have a pulse or breathing. Advanced life support was performed and a second unit had been called to care for the mother and her care was relinquished upon their arrival.

Because of Darion’s condition and his estimated gestational age of 25 weeks, Morristown-Hamblen Hospital had activated East Tennessee Children’s Hospital’s Neonatal Transport Team to care for Darion and transport him to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Children’s.

On a call where many care providers may have just said there was nothing they can do but care for the mother, Paramedics Pratt, Pelham and Jochen decided to give Darion a chance at life. They called on their education and experience and went to work to care for a baby whose very young age and very small size was outside their usual scope of practice. Throughout the call all three worked as a team to perform advanced procedures on a very small baby. Darion is thriving.

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The EMS Star of Life is sponsored by HCA/TriStar, Methodist Healthcare/Methodist University Hospital, Air Evac Lifeteam, Erlanger Health System/T. C. Thompson Children's Hospital, AAA Clubs of Tennessee, Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center, Tennessee EMS Education Association, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Adams and Reese LLP, East Tennessee Children's Hospital, TeamHealth Midsouth, and Tennessee College of Emergency Physicians.

The mission of Tennessee Emergency Medical Services for Children Foundation, the host of the EMS Star of Life, is to reduce child and youth disability and death due to severe illness and injury.

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