

“Media Advisory FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE”

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Meet the Stars Who Saved Eight Lives

Date: Tuesday, May 12, 6 p.m.: Reception, 7 p.m.: Dinner, 7:30 p.m.: Awards presentation
Location: Sheraton Nashville Downtown Hotel, 623 Union St., Nashville, TN 37219

Nashville, TN---In 2008, ambulance services in Tennessee responded to over 1 million 911 calls. The first annual EMS Star of Life Awards Dinner & Ceremony will honor the dedication of those who provide day-to-day lifesaving services on the medical “front line” in Tennessee. The ceremony will present actual patient scenarios and reunite the EMS caregivers with the individuals they treated from the eight EMS regions across the state.

One of many survivors attending the EMS Star of Life is 4-year-old Leonard “JoJo” Tubbs from Memphis who was rescued from his burning home by Memphis Fire and Rescue and rushed to LeBonheur Children’s Medical Center while suffering from cardiac arrest (video footage of fire will be shown). Meredith Parker, a young woman who became a new mother just seven days earlier, got up in the middle of the night to see why her baby was crying and collapsed, suffering a heart attack. Her husband performed CPR and Bradley County EMS delivered life-saving care that resulted in a complete recovery.

Hawkins County EMS and WellmontOne Flight Service rescued Jamie Lawson who was critically injured after being ejected from his tractor. Lawson suffered a closed head injury and multiple fractures. He spent five days in intensive care, but fully recovered after four months with no lasting effects.

Morristown-Hamblen EMS resuscitated an infant boy born 15 weeks early and “no bigger than a man’s hand.” He is thriving at East Tennessee Children’s Hospital.

Putnam County EMS came to the home of Henry Bowman who had woken at home with non specific chest pain. He was initially resistant to being checked in the back of the ambulance. Initial EKG showed signs of a heart attack, and he was defibrillated (shocked) more than 50 times. He recovered and returned to his previous job.

Two more survivors were near drownings: A 22-month-old, Erik Jackson, fell head first into a sump pump and was believed to be in the tank for five minutes before he was rescued and treated by Goodlettsville and Nashville Fire Department (video footage of LifeFlight transfer will be shown). A 2-year-old girl nearly drowned in a pool, but was saved by a dispatcher at Hardeman County Ambulance Service who instructed the girl’s mother over the phone how to perform CPR on her lifeless child. (911 audio will be played) Today, both toddlers are typical two year olds.

Sgt. Brian Owens, who was shot in the face during a domestic violence call, was transported to the hospital by Maury County EMS due to bad weather which prevented LifeFlight from flying. Sgt. Owens has returned to work.

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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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