

2022



STARS OF LIFE



August 9-10, 2022
Sheraton Grand
Sacramento, CA

CALIFORNIA AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION
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James Pierson

**President,
Board of Directors**

**California
Ambulance Association**

Congratulations to all our 2022 Stars of Life. Your actions, whether from a single heroic incident or a career-long performance record, demonstrate that you have shown the spirit and commitment that it takes to be the best of the best.

Too often the work of paramedics, EMTs, nurses, emergency medical dispatchers, and other key support personnel goes without notice. Neither the public nor the media get the opportunity to see the contribution each of you makes to ensure that highly specialized pre-hospital medical care is delivered day in and day out to the communities you serve. The single common thread that links you all here today is that you do not do it for the money or the glory; you do it because you love it. Let's not forget about the families and friends that support you. EMS can be very stressful from time to time and for those that support you, we thank you.

The California Ambulance Association advocates for you in the regulatory process by working to ensure that proposed changes in education, training, equipment, or other areas that impact your work environment are fair, practical, and necessary.

Tonight, we celebrate you, the private ambulance industry's Stars of Life. We thank you for your commitment to your patients, co-workers, companies and communities you serve. 



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Jennifer Allen
Dispatcher
Royal Ambulance

Jennifer Allen joined the Royal team in September of 2020, starting out as a customer specialist, fielding various calls from our customers. She has always been one to step up and take on difficult tasks and expand upon her knowledge within the communications center. It was quickly identified that she had an incredible knack for resource planning and was extremely adept at de-escalating difficult situations over the phone and coming to the best possible solution for all parties involved. Jennifer was promoted to dispatcher shortly after and continued to excel with her positive contributions to the team. Her foresight and ability to execute the best possible options for any given situation and seeing it through to the end has proven that she is a tremendous asset to the Royal team. ✨



Rowena Aris
Operations
Manager/EMT
Amwest Ambulance

Rowena Aris has been a force to be reckoned with from the moment her employment began with Amwest Ambulance. Rowena has been an EMT for 4 years and is also an EMS educator. Rowena has helped create and build Amwest Ambulance's operations in the Sacramento and Stanislaus/San Joaquin County areas. With her leadership and ability to create a welcoming, challenging, and efficiency driven culture, our Northern California Operation has steadily grown to what it is today. Rowena's dedication and loyalty is unmatched. Her commitment to success and always looking for creative and new solutions to increase efficiency and safety are traits that her crews have embraced and adopted. Rowena is a true leader who exemplifies what a first responder hero truly is. Amwest Ambulance is extremely proud of Rowena's accomplishments and growth; we are honored to nominate her for the 2022 Star of Life award. ✨

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Preet Bains
Emergency Medical
Technician
AlphaOne Ambulance

Paramedic **Michael Chinn** and EMT **Preet Bains** responded Code 3 for an unresponsive female. Upon arrival, a 96-year-old female was lying in bed with a GCS of 5, breathing effectively, with a pulse. The patient became pulseless and apneic, and compressions were started. D-Fib pads were attached. Rhythm showed PEA. Three rounds of epi were given. The patient regained pulses and began breathing adequately with assisted ventilations by crew. The patient was placed on the pacer, pacing was initiated, and the crew observed patient improvement. The crew maintained calm scene management throughout the event. Paramedic Chinn and EMT Bains then safely transported the Code 3 to Mercy San Juan. ✨



Michael Chinn
Paramedic
AlphaOne Ambulance



Samantha Barakat
Talent Development
Manager
Royal Ambulance

Samantha Barakat has been a member of the Royal team as an EMT since April of 2016. With her incredible adaptability, ability to empower others, and versatility she was very quickly able to move through the ranks and was promoted to FTO within a year of her beginning career at Royal. Although Sam was a great FTO that trained 13 trainees over the course of a year and a half, her natural ability to teach and lead others to success led to her promotion as an Operations Supervisor in our largest county of operations. Sam continued to improve internal operational processes along with being highly engaged with our field team members ensuring they learned throughout their journey at Royal continually giving the team all the tools they needed to be successful. With her stint in operations, she was able to hone her leadership skills and expand her knowledge and perspective of Royal and the EMS system in general. Sam was then promoted to our Talent Development Manager, overseeing both the New Hire and FTO Program. She was able to pull from her past experiences and work with her new team in improving the overall content and process of both programs that are so vital to the experience of any EMT that walks through our doors. Even while holding this office role and overseeing training and development, Sam has continued to show her versatility and adaptability to difficult situations by putting the old uniform back on, stepping back out into the field, and assisting the team in running transports. Sam has been an invaluable asset to this team in building strong relationships with our future healthcare leaders and has been a tremendous contributor to the success of Royal as an organization. ✨

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George Bostock
EMT
*Medic Ambulance
Service*

George Bostock is being honored for his commitment to professionalism and his performance. George is a legacy kid in EMS. He had big shoes to fill, as his mom Isabel, was a long-time Medic employee serving as an EMT and Paramedic. George has been around Medic his entire life and knew this is what he wanted to do! George excelled at the Public Safety Academy, in Fairfield, CA, where he went to High School and learned all about public Safety. George became an EMT in 2020, right as he graduated high school and began working at Medic. George has excelled since day one. He has responded to several regional disasters as part of Medic's Emergency Response Team. George always wants to help and is always there to assist in any way. It's not just about showing up with George, its about doing it the right way and he always does it the right way. George has proven to be a capable and dependable EMS professional and we are proud to honor him as one Medic's Stars of Life. Great Job, George! ✨



Jessica Brown
EMT
*Medic Ambulance
Service*

Jessica Brown is being honored for her work ethic and dedication to our profession. Jessica has always been there to help when asked, and always sets the standard for professionalism. Jessica has served as one of the go-to Mobile Vaccinators and COVID Testers during the last couple of years. Jessica engaged the community at the clinics and made all her patients feel comfortable and understanding of expectations. Jessica's leadership, communication skills and attitude led to Medic being able to vaccinate and test thousands of Solano County residents these last two years. ✨

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Dante Carrasco
FTO, EMT
LIFewest Ambulance

Dante Carrasco was born and raised in Santa Rosa and has said that he loves the opportunities that being an EMT/FTO offers: to give back to the community he grew up in while making a difference in a patient's healthcare experience. Once he graduated from EMT school, Dante came to work at LIFewest Northern California and quickly became part of the family. Dante demonstrates daily what hard work looks like, and he does this consistently, with a positive attitude, and a smile on his face! Over the last two years at LIFewest, Dante has been promoted to EMT-Field Training Officer (FTO) and is currently assigned to an Advanced Life Support Unit in our 911 division. Dante's consistent work ethic and compassionate concern for both his patients and fellow crew members have made him the go-to FTO leader at LIFewest. Dante has been an intricate part of the LIFewest Emergency Response Team (ERT) and has had the opportunity to assist on numerous different Strike-Teams and emergent Evacuation Incidents. Essentially, Dante epitomizes the traits that encompass the true meaning of what EMS truly is. He is knowledgeable, compassionate, caring, and understanding. In his free time, Dante enjoys going to the gym, hiking, going to the beach, golfing with friends, and relaxing with family. *



Edward Carter
Fleet Maintenance
Supervisor
*Medic Ambulance
Service*

Ed Carter is being honored as Medic Ambulance 2022 Logistics Employee of the Year. Ed has been with Medic since 2018, starting as Supply Support Technician. Ed's tireless work ethic and dedication has always stood out to his peers. Ed has been a leader in the department and has been a great trainer to new employees over the last year and has set a standard of excellence in the Logistics Department that has helped Medic field staff properly deploy high quality equipment and unit hours. Ed never hesitates when someone needs help, or a task needs to be performed. He has proven to be a vital asset to the Medic Family! Great Job, Ed! *

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Don Chaix
EMT
*Sierra Medical
Services Alliance
(SEMSA)*

Don Chaix is an EMT for Sierra Medical Services Alliance (SEMSA). Don is so selfless in his dedication to service in EMS. Don is often first on scene as the Fire Chief for the Cassel Fire Department when he is not providing service on an ambulance. Don is quick and efficient in his ability to triage calls and making sure the patient is receiving the right care. Don participates in CCT transports and he is the type of EMS professional that is willing and able to respond when there is need in the 911 system. He has an outstanding career in EMS spanning over the last 36 years; providing the communities that SEMSA serves with an insightful and attentive pre-hospital health care provider. He is definitely well respected within our organization and a valuable member of our team. ✨



Jesse Chircop
EMT-FTO Lead
Royal Ambulance

Jesse Chircop has been a member of the Royal team starting off in September of 2018 as an EMT with Fire aspirations. After two years of working as an EMT, Jesse had shown incredible promise with his clinical knowledge along with his ability to think critically and make logical decisions in stressful situations. Jesse was promoted to FTO and continued to prove that he had definitive skill in translating his knowledge into simplified coaching and training strategies for his trainees. Through a multitude of trainees, Jesse had put himself at the front of the FTO pack and was promoted to FTO lead. In this position, Jesse was monumental in being the representative of FTOs in his county now with the ability to help coach and train other training officers within the organization. In addition to his lead FTO role, Jesse was incredibly helpful in working with Operations to roll out county-wide skills training around the LMA airway to align with the updated EMT scope of practice from the LEMSA. Jesse played a major role in coordinating training days and ensuring each team member was able to receive the necessary training and hands-on practice to feel comfortable practicing a brand-new skill within the county. Jesse continues to bring positive energy and contributions to the team and has been an incredible addition to the Royal team. ✨

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Grace Coleman
Emergency Medical
Technician
AlphaOne Ambulance

Paramedic **Michael Majeski** and EMT **Grace Coleman** responded Code 3 for an unresponsive 84-year-old female. Upon assessment, the crew observed the patient to be experiencing sluggish pupils and coffee grounds emesis oozing from her mouth. There were no signs of trauma. Paramedic Majeski placed OPA (oropharyngeal airway) successfully and assisted ventilations were started. The patient's condition improved concurrently with the aid of the crew. The patient was transported Code 3 to Sutter Medical while Paramedic Majeski continued suction and ventilations. Due to the crew's swift assessment and prompt transport to the receiving hospital, this patient was transferred to definitive care and was successfully discharged from Sutter Medical Center, Sacramento. *



Michael Majeski
Paramedic
AlphaOne Ambulance



Katrina Corner
Paramedic
AlphaOne Ambulance

Paramedic **Katrina Corner** and EMT **Karin Grabchuk** were assigned to Motocross standby. The medic unit was called out for a 32-year-old male who had a fall from his motocross bike at approximately 20 mph. Upon assessment, the patient stated no LOC and did not hit his head. Per the patient, after the fall he was unable to feel his legs. The patient was back boarded in full c-spine. The patient indicated to the responding crew of a 10/10 pain to back and groin area, as well as midline lower lumbar pain with dull midline upper thoracic pain. Paramedic Corner demonstrated excellent scene management within a chaotic setting and ensured a quick response time to the patient. Prior to transport, Paramedic Corner notified hospital staff of a base order for medication approval for fentanyl due to patient's extreme pain from fall. Patient was promptly transported Code 3 to UC Davis Medical Center with a trauma alert without incident. *



Karin Grabchuk
Emergency Medical
Technician
AlphaOne Ambulance

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Wilfredo Dofredo
Critical Care
Transport RN
Lifeline EMS
Ambulance Service

Wiley Dofredo has continued to provide outstanding care to our patients, especially during high acuity calls where his critical care skills are needed. Wiley ensures the patients are provided the highest level of care, while educating his crew members during high stress situations. With Wiley's extensive critical care background, he is able to provide care for our patients needing life-saving measures, including multiple drips, vent, and collaboration with our perfusionist team. Wiley is a great team leader and ensures patients safely arrive for life-saving procedures. *

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Nick Drake
Paramedic
San Luis Ambulance

This year's Star of Life is awarded to **Nick Drake**. He is a staff member who models excellence with his notable contributions to uphold our mission to provide exceptional healthcare services to the community. Nick regularly goes above and beyond their job expectations and brings about significant positive contributions to the improvement of the company. Nick has a high level of integrity, dependability, and an exceptional work ethic. Nick's excellent character and work product serve as a positive role model to other staff members. He consistently focuses on the needs of others before himself and exhibits a heightened level of professionalism. Nick's ideas, enduring accomplishments, and contributions make San Luis Ambulance the best the organization can be. Nick is always engaged in his craft as a Paramedic and as a leader at SLA. He is always coming up with ideas to make SLA a better place to work and to grow a family bond between staff members. His outlook at work isn't selfish, rather he is always thinking about the big picture of all of SLA and the staff members. Here are some examples of Nick's contributions to our community and SLA over the years: Started the new hire station challenge promoting a positive and welcoming first impression to our new staff members; Multiple rib cook off challenges with an open invite to every staff member; Organized a staff day of paintball; Has taken on back-to-back interns multiple times; Always keeping a positive attitude when given a middle of the night LD or when forced hired; Volunteered to revise unit check out forms; Created station check outs; Organized a BBQ for all of the SLA mechanics, Terry, and even included our detailer, Tim; Participated in the initial testing of Image Trend and continues to give feedback to improve the program; Consistently helps with new hire interviews, testing T.O., F.T.O. training, training academy, and CPR Instruction; He often researches various EMS subjects and will post articles at the station or send individual links to great podcasts; He always has piñatas or other fun ways to recognize and celebrate staff member's birthdays; Promoted to a Reserve Field Supervisor and upcoming member of QI; Works some of the most hours every pay period; Bought a birthday cake for his patient who was an attempted suicide because he noticed it was his birthday on the face sheet; Stays engaged with medicine by teaching paramedic students at Cuesta College; Participated in developing the new scheduling process; Gifted a staff member his car; Bought clothes for a homeless patient who had soiled his clothes. Nick, it is truly an honor to work with you. We enjoy learning from all the ways you teach and share selfless acts with everyone around you. We feel one of your best traits is how you take pride in SLA; it shows how much you care about your peers and the company you work for. We are all so blessed to work with you. Thank you for everything you do! 🌟

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**Maximiliano
Duenas Perez**
Paramedic
*RIGGS Ambulance
Service (SEMSA)*

Max Duenas-Perez is an excellent employee at RIGGS Ambulance Service. Max did his paramedic internship at RIGGS and decided to join the EMS system in Merced County after he successfully attained his paramedic license. Max has proven himself to be a caring, compassionate, and competent caregiver to his patients. Max is currently an FTO for RIGGS and shares his knowledge with new employees and paramedic interns. Max was awarded the RIGGS Exemplary Character award during EMS Week from his peers at RIGGS Ambulance Service. He always has a smile on his face and consistently show us astonishing clinical performance every day he logs on the ambulance to take care of the people in Merced County. *



Dennis Flannery
Paramedic
*Patterson District
Ambulance*

Dennis Flannery began his EMS career in 1991 after almost 10 years in the Air Force. He found his calling and became a paramedic in September 1993 and started work with Patterson District Ambulance in 2002. Dennis is a true EMS professional. He is exceptionally dependable and always strives to provide the best prehospital care. He is a field training officer, a paramedic preceptor, and mentor. He gladly teaches and coaches new EMS employees. He remains steadfastly calm on even the most challenging EMS incidents. Dennis had a code save last year which is remarkable in itself. What made it more remarkable was that it was the first cardiac arrest for his EMT partner. Dennis ran the code, coached his EMT partner, and directed bystanders assisting with CPR until more help arrived. There's more. Dennis was recently dispatched to a stabbing which sounded like a routine call he has handled hundreds of times; however, this incident was different. Dennis encountered a patient with a sword impaled and completely transecting his neck. Dennis met the challenge and provided excellent care to deliver the patient to a trauma center neurologically intact, still conscious, and with good vital signs. Dennis is truly the best of EMS. *

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AmberLyn Fox
Emergency Medical
Technician
AlphaOne Ambulance

Paramedic **Mark Sims** and EMT **AmberLyn Fox** responded Code 3 for CPR in progress. Upon arrival, it was noted that CPR had been initiated 7 minutes prior to their arrival. CPR was taken over by the Mark and AmberLyn and pads were placed on the patient revealing PEA (pulseless electrical activity). A BLS airway was placed successfully, and the patient was ventilated. A successful IO was established and essential medication administered as the patient was transported Code 3 to Mercy San Juan, with continuous CPR. ✨



Mark Sims
Paramedic
AlphaOne Ambulance



Ethan Garmon, PM
Emergency
Paramedic
*AmbuServe
Ambulance*

Ethan Garmon has been a field paramedic for AmbuServe in its South Bay service area for 17 years. Ethan started his service in EMS after graduating from the emergency medical technician (EMT) program at El Camino College, Torrance, California in 2001. He went to work for Emergency Ambulance as an EMT at their Inglewood station where he was assigned to work a 9-1-1 ambulance serving the City of Inglewood alongside members of the Los Angeles County Fire Department. After two years of service as an EMT in Inglewood, California, Ethan relocated to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania and in 2004 completed the University of Pittsburgh EMS Paramedic Program. Paramedic Garmon returned to California and in 2005 joined the AmbuServe team as a field paramedic. While still working at AmbuServe, in the fall of 2006, Ethan graduated from the Oxnard College Regional Fire Academy. For more than a decade, Paramedic Garmon has served as a role model for new EMTs, and paramedics working at AmbuServe and has provided exceptional care to thousands of patients. His friendly nature and willingness to serve continues to brighten each day of all his coworkers. AmbuServe will forever be indebted to Paramedic Garmon for his service to the company, his patients, and the communities we serve. ✨

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Meghan Genzler
CCT RN
Royal Ambulance

Meghan Genzler joined the Royal team in January of this year and has quickly shown that she is a rockstar nurse that encompasses all of the Royal Values. She has accumulated extensive experience during her career working as an Intensive Care Unit Nurse, Clinical Educator, and program coordinator for specialty intervention centers. At Royal, she was able to use her vast clinical knowledge and experience and provide assistance in training and onboarding several new CCT RNs almost immediately following her joining the Royal Team. Her passion for helping others continued as she worked with her CCT EMT teams. Her crews have often reported that she always takes the time to share her knowledge around the intricacies of critical care transport and ensure they have the confidence they need to perform under pressure. Meghan's top-notch clinical knowledge and incredible dedication to helping others set her apart as an incredible healthcare leader and a wonderful addition to the Royal team. *



Tobin Gramyk
Emergency Medical
Technician
AlphaOne Ambulance

Paramedic **Robert Nelson** and EMT **Tobin Gramyk** responded Code 3 for heart problems. A 68-year-old male was assessed, and the patient disclosed that his internally placed cardiac defibrillator went off overnight. During Paramedic Nelson's evaluation, a 4-lead showed a wide complex rhythm. A 12-lead was then placed and a STEMI alert came back with anterior infarct. The hospital was notified with a STEMI alert. The patient arrived at the hospital safely and was transferred care to Mercy San Juan staff. Due to the crew's swift assessment and urgent STEMI alert to the hospital staff, this patient was transferred to definitive care and was successfully discharged from Mercy San Juan Medical Center. *



Robert Nelson
Paramedic
AlphaOne Ambulance

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Kiarra Grant
Paramedic Captain
*King American
Ambulance*

Kiarra Grant does not believe in heroic moments in EMS. The day-to-day job as a paramedic in San Francisco is about regular people in a crisis, and the occasional critical call is just “part of the job.” Through a combination of humility, professionalism, and a passion for training, she has sculpted a path in emergency services for herself that promotes excellence and raises up everyone around her. After taking an EMT program on which 11 years ago, she discovered that helping people could be a profession. And now, with six years of experience as a medic in the 911 system in San Francisco under her belt, she has been promoted to the rank of Paramedic Supervisor. In her new role she has enjoyed the larger influence on training within King-American and has raised the bar for our new and existing field employees. She has a way of infecting people with a need to be the best version of themselves in their role at the company. She hopes to continue to raise the bar as she settles into her new position. *



Wesley Graves
Lead Field Training
Officer
*AmbuServe
Ambulance*

Wesley Graves obtained his emergency medical technician (EMT) certification in July of 2016. In August of that year, Wesley joined the team as an EMT at Shoreline Ambulance, based in Orange County, CA. In 2017, AmbuServe acquired Shoreline Ambulance and EMT Graves transitioned to serving as a lead Field Training Officer in the company's new Orange County division. For the past five years, Wesley has served on many special projects at AmbuServe. He was instrumental in a migration of the company's ePCR system to the LEMSAs new countywide OC-Meds platform. He provides training for current and new EMTs in the use of the new ePCR system and provides ongoing field training of EMTs in his role as lead FTO. Throughout the pandemic, EMT Graves has provided exceptional service during multiple special ambulance strike team assignments (AST) within Orange County, and in several surrounding counties. Initially, these AST assignments were directly related to the management of COVID-19 outbreaks, but over time, these missions have migrated to providing operational support in overburdened 9-1-1 response systems. In each case, Wesley has demonstrated strong leadership to his coworkers on these deployments. Often in trying situations, EMT Wesley has drawn from his wealth of field experience to meet the many challenges presented during AST operations to lead his partner and fellow coworkers to perform at their very best. FTO Graves received a BS in Kinesiology, with an emphasis in Pre-Allied Health, from California State University, Fullerton in January 2015 and a Single Subject Teaching Credential in Life Sciences from California State University, Long Beach in December 2019. Since August of 2019, Wesley has advanced his passion for service as an educator by serving as a substitute teacher at Huntington Beach Unified High School District while still teaching new EMTs at Shoreline Ambulance. AmbuServe offers its gratitude to Wesley Graves for his years of service, and we wish him ongoing success as he continues helping others through direct patient care and as an educator. *

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Sarah Halnon
Paramedic/FTO
ProTransport-1

Sarah Halnon came to Rancho Cordova from Pleasant Hill and has been an immediate invaluable asset for us here at ProTransport-1. Sarah is our Medic FTO and takes great pride in her work. Without hesitation she volunteers to help with inspections, creating ALS bags and likes to help with team morale by bringing her fur baby by the station just to say hi. ✿



Christopher Hanze
CCT EMT-FTO
Royal Ambulance

Chris Hanze began his career with the Royal team in July of 2020, starting out as an EMT, and has continued to grow within the organization and give back wherever he can. He showed incredible focus working on honing his basic clinical skills and knowledge with many noted and consistent improvements from his time as a trainee to clearing and working as an EMT. With aspirations to become a doctor, Chris took on the challenge of higher acuity transports and situations becoming a CCT EMT. He was able to bring this incredible focus with him to this level of service, soaking up his training like a sponge. He proved that he was more than competent and skilled to work as a CCT EMT and was quickly promoted to a CCT FTO responsible for training prospective EMTs for our CCT trucks. After many rounds of helping mold the future of our CCT program, Chris has continued to give back to this organization. He has worked very closely with his home county OPS Leader to organize training materials and content for our team members throughout the organization. Chris's drive to continually improve his own skill and knowledge set, along with his incredible passion for sharing his knowledge with his team members has proven Chris Hanze a remarkable addition to the Royal team. ✿

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Jessica Harrison
Paramedic
Mercy Medical
Transportation, Inc.

Jessica Harrison has been part of the Mercy Mariposa family since 2013. She is an irreplaceable asset to the community she serves. Starting as an EMT with our company and working her way through medic school, Jessica has taken on several roles and responsibilities including supply ordering, developing community education events, and training the next generation of responders. Jessica is everyone's favorite partner to work with and she has excellent relationships with community members, hospital staff, and Mercy's first responder partners. Jessica has a huge heart and cares deeply for her patients and their families. She often goes above and beyond the call of duty and follows up with patients and their families. It is obvious to everyone around her that to Jessica, this is much more than a job. In November 2020 Jessica responded to a difficult call involving a devastating traumatic injury to a young child. Despite everything working against her at the time, Jessica persevered and never gave up hope. She gave her patient the best chance of survival despite overwhelmingly bleak odds. This is just one example of her dedication. She has had many challenging calls before, and after this incident, and continues to rise above the occasion and provide the highest level of patient care. Mercy is proud of Jessica and all that she has achieved on and off duty. In addition to her outstanding work in the field, she has managed to balance family life and fulfil her lifelong dream of becoming a wife and a mother, to her son Hayden, who is a wonderful, energetic, rambunctious, and animated character of a boy. One of her partners wrote this heartfelt nomination on Jessica's behalf, which further demonstrates the impact she has had on her coworkers and the small, rural community of Mariposa. For her many achievements and devotion to her patients, Mercy nominates Paramedic Jessica Harrison to be recognized with the CAA's Star of Life Award. ✨

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Thomas Hector
Paramedic
*American Legion Post
No. 108 Ambulance*

Thomas Hector joined the American Legion Ambulance team on 12/27/2006 as a Per Diem EMT. In 2009 he became a Full Time Paramedic and has made a successful career within our agency. Thomas has taken on every assignment he has been tasked with and he quickly established himself as a role model, mentor, and leader. He has now been serving for 10 years in the role as Shift Supervisor. His fair and balanced leadership style has made him a favorite among his peers. His “lead by example” approach has earned him the respect of his co-workers, as well as our allied agency partners in Fire, Dispatch and Law Enforcement. Thomas is quick to address system issues and identifies ways in which we can continually improve the operations of our system. As a highly sought-out FTO, Thomas’s commitment to educating the future clinicians of our industry is commendable. His mentorship has launched the careers of many and inspired them to provide the highest level of care to their communities. Whenever there is a task to be done that requires someone to go above and beyond their normal duties, Thomas is always someone who our agency can depend on to take on the challenge. He jumps in to fill shifts when there is a need, and he sets the bar for a work ethic that others should aspire to. Always a professional and ethical clinician, Thomas embodies the qualities that make an EMS professional a “Star of Life.” He is an indispensable asset to our team. ✨



Jennifer Henson
Station Manager
ProTransport-1

Jenn Henson has led the charge in one of our more complex areas since her units cover five counties for multiple years now and has been leading the charge in multiple areas of our business. COVID has been very difficult on us as a business, and we do not know how we could have made it to where we are today without the countless extra hours and extra care that Jenn brings to her team. We know that her employees value the time and effort she puts into making her stations a HOME! ✨

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Steven Herlocker
EMT
*Medic Ambulance
Service*

Steven Herlocker is being honored as the Medic Ambulance Solano Division 2022 EMT of the Year. Steven has worked for Medic Ambulance for 17 years and has always been a model employee at Medic Ambulance, receiving the highest marks from his supervisors and co-workers for the excellent service he provides to his patients. Even as a Senior EMT, Steven always sets the highest of standards and ensure all his vehicles, stations, equipment are kept in the best condition. Steven also is being honored for his and his partner's amazing care during a motocross event standby. The event was in rural Solano County, so extended responses for additional responders is expected. Steven and his partner Angel were called to a pediatric rider who got into a serious event, causing multi-systems trauma to the rider. While they were treating the patient, another victim in the crowd was having a serious medical event. Steve rushed out to assist the new patient. Steve knew immediately this patient needed ALS level care and switched out so his partner could tend to the patient, who eventually went into cardiac arrest. Steve managed the trauma patient until an additional ambulance arrived. Steve's rapid recognition of the declining patient and his experience used manage that pediatric trauma patient led to successful outcomes of both patients. Steven was also awarded Medic Ambulance's 2022 Travis Grace "Excellence in EMS" Award and will receive a full tuition scholarship for Paramedic School to Napa Valley College. Great Job, Steve! ✨



Mayra Hernandez-Mendez
Dispatcher
*RIGGS Ambulance
Service (SEMSA)*

Mayra Hernandez-Mendez is an Emergency Medical Services Dispatcher for RIGGS Ambulance Service. She is the type of person that every communications center wishes to have. She is calm, kind, and so patient with her coworkers and with every 911 caller. Mayra is diligent with her position; she is assertive and fluid with the ever-changing routine of answering 911 calls. Mayra has a great sense of humor and goes above and beyond in keeping up to date with the most recent education regarding dispatching calls. According to the Communications Manager at RIGGS, Mayra is the Yoda of our communication center becoming an admirable mentor to others, passing on her wisdom, and her inquisitive nature. She is truly a bright star in EMS. ✨

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Jim Hopkins
Operations
Supervisor,
Paramedic
LIFewest Ambulance

Jim Hopkins treats everyone with respect, dignity, and compassion, while continuously upholding and exemplifying LIFewest values. Jim has 26 years of experience, and in fact is a two-time Star of Life recipient, having been recognized in 2007 for saving an 18-month-old baby who had been stuck in a water tank. Jim started his EMS career in 1996 and has consistently risen through the ranks into leadership roles. Currently, Jim serves as the Operations Supervisor and is always the first to volunteer to help wherever he is needed. From weeks spent on the Northern California Fire Lines, to helping with deployment and management oversight at the Sonoma Raceway, Jim can use his skill set in numerous ways that make him irreplaceable to LIFewest. This year alone Jim had the opportunity to become one of two Paramedics who completed TEMS school, where he succeeded in all areas. In his free time, Jim enjoys spending time with his niece and nephew, hiking any chance he can get, camping during the summer months, cooking BBQ as much as possible, and watching and attending sporting events. *



Caitlyn Humphrey
Senior EMS
Supervisor
*AmbuServe
Ambulance*

Caitlyn Humphrey has been an employee of AmbuServe Ambulance for a decade. After obtaining her emergency medical technician (EMT) certification in September of 2011, EMT Humphrey began her EMS career as an event EMT providing EMS care at sporting events, concerts and other mass gathering events. In 2012, Caitlyn joined AmbuServe as an EMT. It didn't take long before she promoted to field training officer and then EMS supervisor. For the past five years, Supervisor Humphrey has consistently demonstrated leadership for her fellow EMS providers and regularly contributes to the collective leadership of our company. She sets the example for others to follow. Her calm, consistent approach in leading provides direction for everyone in her presence. Caitlyn has developed her vision for a lifelong career path in caring for others. Her educational accomplishments support her professional goals. Since 2007, Caitlyn has performed her advanced studies with majors in Kinesiology, Fire Technology and most recently, in 2019 she enrolled in a nursing program and is set to graduate this year and continue her care provider role as a registered nurse. All of us at AmbuServe are grateful for the many contributions Supervisor Humphrey has made over the past decade to scores of EMS care providers, patients and colleagues. We have no doubt Caitlyn will continue to be a positive influence in patient care for many years to come. *

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Brittany Item
Lead Dispatcher
Royal Ambulance

Brittany Item joined the Royal team in February of 2018 as a customer specialist and quickly showed promise through her extremely positive attitude and her quick ability to adjust to the ever-changing environment of our communications center. She was promoted to dispatcher where she was able to learn more about the system and she quickly showed that she had incredible potential with her ability to resource plan at such an early stage of her dispatching career. As she continued to excel as a dispatcher, she quickly set herself ahead of the rest of the group and was promoted to lead dispatcher. As a lead, she has provided continuous support and coaching for her team as well as created a seamless transition of communications between our Operations and Communications teams. Brittany has exemplified what it means to be a leader within the organization, and she is a phenomenal addition to our team. ✨



Haleigh Anne John
EMT
LifeLine EMS
Ambulance Service

Haleigh Anne John has worked as an EMT at LifeLine EMS since 2018. After completing her bachelor's degree in Kinesiology, Haleigh joined the field of EMS to get relevant medical experience with patients before pursuing her career goal as a physician. Her want to help others and years as an EMT have allowed her to work more efficiently without sacrificing patient care. Haleigh became an FTO in 2022 to impart her knowledge and problem-solving methods to the new generations of EMTs. Haleigh instructs and motivates her trainees to make decisive actions more quickly, as it will make all the difference in a life-threatening situation. Haleigh is being recognized this year because of her noticeable improvements in her partners', patients', and trainees' lives. Partners and supervisors commend Haleigh for being unrelentingly compassionate and hard-working. This year, she became a reliable EMT to place on the 9-1-1 ambulance, where she applied her years of experience to a new application of her scope of practice. From active stroke patients and cardiac arrests to psychiatric transports, Haleigh keeps calm and treats every patient with the utmost respect and care. After years in the field, Haleigh embodies the standards LifeLine EMS would like to see within all EMTs: kindness, critical thinking, perseverance, and discontent with being average. ✨

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Justin Johnson
EMT
Mercy Medical
Transportation, Inc.

Earlier last year, **Justin Johnson** and his Paramedic partner were dispatched to a medical aid for a female patient who was reportedly a victim of domestic violence. Justin and his partner responded to the scene alongside San Diego County Sheriff's deputies, and it was reported that the assailant had left the scene approximately 20 minutes prior to their arrival. Justin's partner immediately began his assessment on the patient who had a small child at her hip. During his partner's assessment, Justin noticed the patient turn her attention to a different location and cry out, "He came back!" Justin watched as two Sheriff's deputies approached the nearly 300-pound male suspect, identified by the patient, who had entered the scene. The first deputy gave the suspect the command to "Turn around and put your hands behind your back for me," while gaining control of the suspect's right wrist. The suspect responded back with, "What, are you going to arrest me?" The second deputy gained control of the suspect's left arm and repeatedly told the suspect not to resist. Justin witnessed the suspect turn toward the second deputy, stare at him for a moment, and then deliver a headbutt to the deputy's nose. The deputy was able to maintain control of the suspect's left arm but was clearly disoriented. Justin determined that the suspect had no intention to stop his assault on the deputies and became increasingly concerned for the safety of everyone at scene. Justin, who is trained in jiu-jitsu, quickly made his way to the deputies to intervene and performed a takedown maneuver on the suspect. During the takedown, Justin received a strike to the back of his head and at least two strikes to his upper back. Shortly after Justin and the suspect reached the ground, Justin removed himself and stood up. Justin's takedown gave the deputies enough time to deploy their tasers and ultimately gain control over the suspect. Later, the Sheriff's department reached out to both Justin and Mercy's COO to let them know that had Justin not intervened it would have either cost the life of a deputy or the assailant. Justin went above and beyond his job duties and saved at least one life that day. He is an asset to the rural communities he serves. For his quick action and selfless act that kept everyone at the scene safe, Mercy nominates EMT Justin Johnson to be recognized with the CAA's Star of Life Award. ✨

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Natasha Kent
Dispatcher
Medic Ambulance
Service

Natasha Kent started with Medic in 2018 and has shown tremendous improvement in her dispatching skills. She also has the ability to take on any task that is thrown her way, for example, recently being promoted to Field Training Officer. Natasha is being honored for her outstanding service as an Emergency Medical Dispatcher, as she has one the highest rated EMD scores in Medic's dispatch center. Natasha also spent many hours over the last year and a half as part of the union collective bargaining negotiating team. Natasha is being honored as Medic Ambulance's Dispatcher of the Year 2022. Great job, Natasha! ✨



Jolene Kopp
EMT
San Luis Ambulance

San Luis Ambulance is proud to announce that **Jolene Kopp** is our Star of Life. Jolene has been working in our Paso Robles station for almost a year. During that time, Jolene suffered a tremendous personal loss. Despite that, Jolene's work ethic remained stellar and her attitude continued to be positive. Jolene was her family member's main caregiver and worked very hard at home, making sure her family member got everything they needed. Even though Jolene was essentially working two full time jobs, she never complained about her hardships or exhaustion, and she continued to work overtime when needed. Jolene is a supervisor's dream come true! Jolene is the type of employee who does her job without being told and without being monitored. It's done right the first time, on time and every time. Besides taking care of her normal duties, Jolene also handles any assigned duties or tasks with the same amazing abilities and results. Jolene is frequently assigned additional tasks above and beyond her normal assigned duties and she never fails to complete all tasks. Jolene is also a pleasure to work with and a lot of fun to have at the station. Her positive attitude is infectious and other EMT's try to emulate her abilities, knowledge, and skills. Jolene is an amazing example to all our staff members. ✨

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Nicholas Landers
Emergency Medical
Technician
AlphaOne Ambulance

Paramedic **Mark Sims** and EMT **Nicholas Landers** responded Code 3 to a 67 year old male experiencing chest pains. Upon assessment, it was noted that the patient had 5/10 left-sided chest pain. Patient was placed on 12-Lead and revealed normal sinus rhythm and positive ST elevation. The patient was safely transported and en route, the crew notified the receiving hospital of a STEMI alert. Because of this early notification, the cardiology department was able to best prepare for the arrival of the patient and assess his condition. The quick measures that Paramedic Sims took ensured the best potential outcome for both the patient and staff alike; this effective and timely assessment landed a compliment to Paramedic Sims from the Head of Cardiology from Mercy General on behalf of his efforts. Due to the crew's swift assessment and urgent alert to the hospital staff, this patient was transferred to definitive care and was successfully discharged from Mercy General Hospital. ✨



Mark Sims
Paramedic
AlphaOne Ambulance



Burton Lee
Dispatcher
*King American
Ambulance*

Burton Lee was born and raised in San Francisco, CA. He attended San Francisco University from 1980-1984 and received a BS in Biochemistry and Clinical Sciences. Burton started his career in EMS working for San Francisco Ambulance as an EMT in 1985 and joined our King American Family in 2013. Burton has been an indispensable part of San Francisco EMS for 37 years. Burton's knowledge of San Francisco geography is parallel to that of Google Maps, if not better. Burton has a work ethic that is indescribable. He shows up hours early to start his shift and is always willing to pick up overtime or cover a coworkers shift in a pinch. Burton enjoys jazz and classical music, and a good binge watch of courtroom dramas. He is a foodie and has never been known to turn down a dessert put in front of him. Burton is a huge asset to King American and admired by all his coworkers. Burton is an avid recycler and goes through all of our garbage cans to collect cans and bottles. We think he is a secret millionaire. We would like to acknowledge all of Burton's hard work and dedication by nominating Burton as our Star of Life. ✨

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**Cyrena
Leon-Guerrero**
EMT/FTO
ProTransport-1

Cyrena Leon-Guerrero has been such a wonderful asset in the healthcare field. She constantly goes above and beyond to be the patients' advocate and makes sure that every one of her patients gets the proper and professional care that is needed. She is also a Field Training Officer that makes sure her trainees tend to their patients with the same amount of compassion. *



Lou Lewis
RN/FTO
ProTransport-1

Lou Lewis has been with ProTransport-1 for over 10 years. In this time, Lou has been an integral part of the CCT Division's success. She loves research and has worked hard to help develop a standardized training manual. She has also contributed her time to develop many other training advances. Lou has been the instrumental RN in the division that helped us advance us to where we are today. *



Tamaiah Massot
*Public Safety Academy,
Fairfield, CA*

On March 30, Public Safety Academy student **Tamaiah Massot**, 12, saved a drowning child. On that March Day, Tamaiah was on her way home from school when she found a 2-year-old child face down and unresponsive in an apartment swimming pool. Fire officials said, "Without hesitation Tamaiah jumped into the pool, pulled the child out, and began CPR, resuscitating the child." The victim was treated on scene and transported by Medic Ambulance and Fairfield Fire Department to NorthBay Medical Center. The child has since made a full recovery and the rescuers on scene attributed this outcome to Tamaiah's heroic efforts. She was awarded the Fairfield Fire Department's inaugural Citizen Life Saving award, and received additional recognition from NorthBay Medical Center, the Fairfield Police Department and Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District trustees. *

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**Brendon
Miramontes**
Station Manager
ProTransport-1

Brendon Miramontes took over an area that needed a lot of work and he tackled that problem head on with ownership that you cannot teach! While Brendon is still “new” to the Station Manager team, we cannot picture our Operations team without him. He has had some of the most support staff challenges and has kept a positive, can-do attitude that is infectious and exactly what a leader needs to succeed. We are happy to have Brendon on our team! ✨



Scott Morris
Paramedic
AlphaOne Ambulance

Paramedic **Scott Morris** and EMT **Kyle Raggio** responded to Code 3 for a patient with ALOC (Patient A). After arriving on scene, the crew was informed by staff of another patient who was unresponsive (Patient B). At that time, the crew separated and made contact with both patients. The crew contacted dispatch for backup for Patient A. Paramedic Morris remained with Patient B who was more unstable. Paramedic Morris and EMT Raggio did a phenomenal job at ensuring both patients were being assessed and never overlooked. Patient B was transported to the nearest hospital. En route, 24 French NPA was placed successfully in the right nostril and manual ventilations were started. Due to the crew’s swift assessment and prompt transport to the receiving hospital, this patient was transferred to definitive care and was successfully discharged from Methodist Hospital of Sacramento. ✨



Kyle Raggio
EMT
AlphaOne Ambulance

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Nasir Nasir
Operations Manager
Royal Ambulance

Nasir Nasir joined the Royal team in November of 2018 as an EMT and has continually used his knowledge and expertise to drive Royal in a positive direction. After a year or so of working as an EMT, Nasir was promoted to Operations Supervisor, where he worked on honing his leadership skills, continually improving Royal processes, and learning more about the EMS system with this new operations lens. Nasir was then promoted to the role of Operations Manager, overseeing our newly acquired San Francisco/San Mateo County Operations. With this new transition, Nasir stepped up tremendously creating a cohesive and tight-knit SF team with his natural leadership abilities by providing continual support and consistent engagement with his team members. He also worked diligently on creating a lasting relationship with the SF LEMSA by engaging in group discussions around events and protocols that provided a fresh new perspective to a well-established system. Along with his LEMSA contributions, Nasir has also developed Royal's Disaster Response Team coordinating specific systems and skill training around disasters and MCI events to have these teams respond to FEMA resource requests. After the creation of this program, these teams were able to respond and provide much-needed support to county agencies throughout California with taxed 911 systems during the height of the pandemic. Through all his actions, Nasir has proven time and time again that he is an incredibly gifted leader and a tremendous asset to the Royal team. ✨



Minji Noh
EMT, FTO
LIFEwest Ambulance

Minji Noh was nominated and selected by her peers for her teamwork, dedication, and willingness to help anyone that is in need. Truly, Minji is the cornerstone of the success we have enjoyed in our early start to operations in Orange County, and, in a short span of eight months, Minji has developed into an outstanding EMT, Dispatcher, and FTO. Minji leads by setting the example, and as such has earned the respect of her peers and management alike. Minji is a true star to LIFEwest every day and can now be rightfully honored with the Stars of Life recognition she deserves! In her free time, Minji loves being outdoors, whether it be hiking with her siblings and her dog or going down to the beach with friends, and she also loves going on road trips and exploring new places. ✨

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Greg Petersen
Education Manager
RIGGS Ambulance
Service (SEMSA)

Greg Petersen is the Education Manager for SEMSA/RIGGS. He has been in EMS for over 34 years in Merced County. He is the hidden gem that provides stability and continuity in ensuring that our EMS Crews and Dispatchers have all of the necessary training and education required for them to efficiently do their jobs. Greg is being recognized for his uncompromising efforts in the education of a new generation of life savers in Merced County. Annually he strives to teach Hands Only CPR to every high school student; building upon relationships with ROP Teachers, he partners with them to ensure that every student has the opportunity to help in case of an emergency. He most recently assisted in the first ever RIGGS Ambulance Service Junior Academy; illustrating the importance of EMS in our communities, training them in first aid and CPR as well as encouraging them to pursue careers in EMS. ✨



Paige Pieretti
EMT/FTO
Amwest Ambulance

Paige Pieretti received her EMT certification in 2019. She has three years of EMS experience in IFT, BLS, and SCT transports in addition to working as a non-transporting EMT at special events. In her role as an EMT, Paige strives to provide the highest quality of EMS care while treating everyone with the utmost dignity and respect. As a Field Training Officer for Amwest Ambulance, she ensures that incoming EMT's are properly prepared for various types of calls and situations that may arise in the field and how to handle them properly, professionally, and safely. Paige shows a tenacity for providing patients with the highest quality of care by acting as a patient care advocate and instills this with all her trainees. She has quickly become a leader in Amwest Ambulance's Northern California Operations and her leadership and impact is undeniable. Amwest Ambulance is proud to have Paige Pieretti as part of the Amwest Family. ✨

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Cassandra Rashleger
Paramedic
King American
Ambulance

Cassie Rashleger (they/them) likes to say they accidentally ended up as a paramedic. While working for a police department at nineteen years old as the head of citation processing, they learned that office work was not as exciting as they had hoped. While continuing their full time job during the day, they attended EMT class and a pre-service fire academy on nights and weekends to prepare for a new career.

After their fire academy where they met their wife, they applied to paramedic school to become a more competitive applicant and fell in love with medicine. They never looked back.

While going to paramedic school, they worked three jobs including one at King American, and graduated as valedictorian. Along with working at King American, Cassie worked at a fire department and as a proctor for the local EMT program. Passionate about teaching and medicine, they were able to share their passion with people coming into this career.

Now a paramedic and field training officer, they are able to continue teaching the new generation of King American personnel. Cassie is very well educated on harm-reduction programs, health disparities and transgender medicine and brings those conversations into their field training.

They now live in San Francisco and spend their off time studying neuroscience, camping, biking, and spending the days with their wife, Charlie, and puppy, Sage. They are also passionate about art and have designed several shirts for King which they plan to donate 100% of proceeds to a different cause for each run of shirts. Cassie hopes to inspire more LGBTQIA2S+ people to feel safe and welcome pursuing a career in EMS, and know they will be accepted as they are. ✨

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Jessica Robins
EMT
*Medic Ambulance
Service*

Jessica Robins is being honored with a Star of Life for her overall performance excellence. Jessica is always a joy to be around, and she brings brightness to many by her welcoming and engaging attitude. Her personality is infectious and in a very demanding job, Jessica always finds the joy in her work. She is a leader at Medic and has proven herself as not only a great partner but a great EMT. Jessica is currently in Paramedic School and hopes to very soon be a Paramedic. Great, Job Jessica! ✨



Roberto Sanchez
EMT
*Patterson District
Ambulance*

Roberto "Beto" Sanchez is relatively new to EMS. He started as an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) with West Stanislaus Fire District as a volunteer in 2015. He became an EMT in 2018 to expand his knowledge and treatment options. In 2019 he came to Patterson District Ambulance as a part-time EMT. Beto is a genuine and caring person that brings calm and compassion that is not only inspiring but also contagious. Beto is the EMS partner that everyone wants to work with. He is dependable and brings a strong work ethic. Beto has a passion for helping people which is why he excels in EMS. Beto is currently in a paramedic training program where he is also excelling. You will not meet a finer EMS professional than Beto Sanchez. ✨

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Sonya Severo
Communications
and Public Relations
Manager
*RIGGS Ambulance
Service (SEMSA)*

When we think of heroes in EMS, we think of the EMT or Paramedic out there saving lives. Forgotten are those who provide critical mission support from behind the scenes. The unsung heroes hiding from the spotlight, painstakingly making sure we have everything we need and always thinking of the little things that mean a lot to the mission. When I think of these folks, one stands out above the rest. **Sonya Severo** is a true hero's hero. Her contributions to the mission and team support are numerous. It's Sonya who makes sure EMS providers are recognized during EMS week and ensures our branding is top notch. Sonya created and maintains our social media outreach, ensures we stay compliant with HIPAA regulations, sorts TeamSupport tickets, procures Christmas gifts and so very much more. Sonya personifies excellence in service and she does it every day, day in and day out. Her passion for providing for the providers has earned her my nomination for the Star of Life award. *



Destiny Skinner
EMT
ProTransport-1

Briana Villa and **Destiny Skinner** are dedicated employees who routinely go above and beyond for the ProTransport-1 team. Patients are always treated like family when our valued clients need last-minute long-distance transport. Briana and Destiny always rise to the occasion and exemplify ProTransport-1's core values. They are vital members of the ProTransport-1 family and deserve this distinct recognition for their hard work and dedication. *



Briana Villa
EMT
ProTransport-1

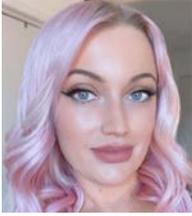


Stacy Sottero
Station Manager
ProTransport-1

Stacy Sottero has worked for PT-1 for just over 15 years and her continued dedication and excellence has been pivotal in our operations from Modesto! Stacy has been a leader for us in Modesto and we could not have made it this far without her at the helm! Stacy owns her area and engages with her employees to ensure they all feel valued and wanted! *

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Katie Spring
EMT-FTO
Royal Ambulance

Katie Spring joined the Royal team in August of 2020 as an EMT and quickly worked her way up the ranks and now serves as a Field Training Officer. Katie has tremendous skill when it comes to providing the necessary instruction for her new EMT trainees. Her warm and welcoming personality as well as her ability to break down complex processes into simplified terms provides her trainees with a great clinical foundation along with the ideal learning environment for her trainees to feel comfortable with practicing and improving their skills on all fronts. More recently, Katie was selected for the role of our night lead position, acting as the liaison between our Operations team and our night EMT crews. She is incredibly passionate about advocating for those who are in need of help, whether it be by providing top-notch care to her patients or helping her peers work through challenges they are seeing during their shifts. Through all of her actions, Katie has stepped up and shown that she is an incredible leader within the organization and amazing addition to our Royal team. ✿



Nichole Sternquist
Director of
Communications
and People
Operations
LifeLine Ambulance

Nichole Sternquist began her career with LifeLine EMS in 2011. Nichole excelled in her initial role as a call taker in the Communication Center and quickly moved up the ranks. Nichole's strong people skills, dedication and genuine care for her teammates allowed for her advancement into both her role of Director of Communications and Director of People Operations. Nichole's values on consistency and structure along with her soft skills creates a culture of excellence both within her two departments and throughout LifeLine. Her amazing organizational skills help to keep the team on track and seize the day. Nichole's tireless dedication, specifically within this past year in operating in both demanding and sometimes, difficult roles is not only admirable but inspiring. She has been a driving force in growing a culture of safety along with modeling efficiency and efficacy in all we do. ✿

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Angel Taylor
Paramedic
Medic Ambulance
Service

Angel Taylor has been with Medic since 2010, starting as an EMT and promoting to Paramedic in 2018. Angel has been an influential leader in our Solano EMS System. She has served as an FTO, preceptor and overall EMS mentor to many. Angel is being honored for her and her partner's amazing care during a motocross event standby. The event was in rural Solano County, so extended responses for additional responders is expected. Angel and her partner Steve, were called to a pediatric rider who got into a serious event, causing multi-systems trauma to the rider. While they were treating the patient, another victim in the crowd was having a serious medical event. Her partner rushed out to assist the new patient. Her partner knew immediately this patient needed ALS level care so they switched patients so she could respond. As she arrived at the patient's side, he went into cardiac arrest. Angel started CPR, and with the help of bystanders applied the heart monitor. Angel was able to deliver multiple defibrillations, administer an IV, with medications, and the patient regained pulses. Angel was with the patient for over 10 minutes before the ambulance arrived. Due to Angel's and Steve's quick and decisive actions, both patients had successful outcomes. The patient in cardiac arrest, was released from the hospital a couple weeks later and is at home with no deficits. Great Job, Angel! ✨



Tim Taylor
Station Manager
ProTransport-1

Tim Taylor has been such a huge help over the years in Santa Clara and even more recently with his promotion to a Station Manager. COVID has been extremely taxing on everyone, but I do not know how we could have made it to where we are today without the help and many extra hours that Tim put in. Whether it was coming in late at night/weekends to run a call for our customers to ensure they get the best service, running point on our many special events in the area, or just being the leader of the county for us, Tim has been invaluable for us at PT-1! ✨

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Angelo Tutol
Critical Care
Transport, RN
Lifeline EMS
Ambulance Service

Throughout his time at LifeLine, **Angelo Tutol** has shown the highest quality of care for our patients with his critical thinking skills and patient advocacy. Angelo has ensured patients are given the care they need and deserve while under the care of LifeLine Ambulance. He ensures patient safety regardless of the situation. Angelo is able to provide exemplary care to patients with multiple drips as well as life-saving equipment without difficulty. Los Angeles County EMS wanted to acknowledge and congratulate Angelo on his efforts to ensure patient safety during an emergency critical care call. We are grateful for Angelo and proud of the care he continues to provide. ✨



Michele Watanabe
EMT/FTO
ProTransport-1

Michele Watanabe has been an exemplary employee in her eight years with ProTransport-1 which has led her to stepping into the role of Field Training Officer on our dedicated Neonatal and Pediatric ICU transport team. Day in and day out Michele cares for children who need our help and they are lucky to have her care, compassion, and calm under pressure approach. Michele is constantly finding ways to improve her own abilities, and sharing ideas on how to improve company processes and training so we can continue to deliver the best possible care to these most delicate of patients. Michele's trainees often comment on how great she was to learn from and how much valuable information she has imparted on them. Michele plays a vital role in our success, and we look forward to her continued leadership and partnership. ✨



Ryan Williams
Paramedic
Medic Ambulance
Service

Ryan Williams has been working for Medic Ambulance Service in Vallejo, CA since 2017. Ryan has a passion for helping those in need. He is being recognized for his excellent performance as a field Paramedic in Solano County. Ryan also gives his input and never hesitates when asked to perform a task. Whether for a student, or a new employee Ryan is always there to lend a helping hand. Ryan always helps his supervisors and is someone the Medic Family can always count on. His commitment to excellence shows in everything he does, and thus has been selected as Medic Ambulance Solano Division 2022 Paramedic of the Year. Great job, Ryan! ✨

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Andrew Wong-Rolle
Paramedic
Mercy Medical
Transportation, Inc.

In a career where most are single-mindedly focused on becoming a firefighter, **Andrew Wong-Rolle** is foremost devoted to being a patient advocate and providing progressive EMS care through his advanced knowledge of pathophysiology. Andrew earned his bachelor's degree in chemistry at Harvard University and joined Mercy in 2019 as a Paramedic, serving inland north San Diego County. Andrew is more than up to the challenge of working in a rural 911 system, which is comprised of several Indian reservations and solely has BLS first responders in the area. Through the complexities of the operating area, including long transport times and acute calls, he has become an even stronger Paramedic who is respected by all his partners, coworkers, and first responders. Andrew's positive and always-put-the-patient-first attitude has been contagious to everyone around him, so he has been ideally suited for training new hires. Andrew is a Field Training Officer for Mercy, Master EVOG Instructor, and an instructor during Mercy's new hire orientation programs. Andrew even provides training to his region's first responders, having hosted cardiac, airway and pediatric trauma classes. Andrew is always eager to learn more and takes it upon himself to attend more advanced training, like procedural cadaver labs. He brings back his new knowledge to the company so that he can disseminate everything he learned into courses or training materials. We can confidently say that he has pioneered our company's training standard with his advanced skill set. Mercy, his coworkers, first responder partners, and his patients are lucky to have him. We know Andrew has other career aspirations, including possibly becoming an MD, but he has left a lasting mark on his communities served and Mercy. We know that this is only the beginning of his successes. For these reasons, Mercy nominates Paramedic Andrew Wong-Rolle to be recognized with the CAA's Star of Life Award. ✨

THE CALIFORNIA
AMBULANCE
ASSOCIATION
CONGRATULATES
THE 2022
Stars of Life!



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