



# OFFICE OF PUBLIC SERVICES: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Mission Statement

To preserve life, improve health, and promote safety through clinically superior and compassionate pre-hospital care and life safety education for citizens and visitors of Leon County.

## Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

### Quality of Life

- Partnered with local hospitals and medical providers to improve heart attack outcomes and develop a system of care that exceeds national standards.
- Initiated a Tactical Medical Program to provide medical support to the Sheriff's Office Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) unit, allowing specially trained paramedics to reach victims of violent incidents faster, resulting in decreased mortality.
- Consolidated dispatch functions for Leon County EMS, the Leon County Sheriff, Tallahassee Fire, and Tallahassee Police, which provides a single point of contact for 9-1-1 answering and dispatch services, and reduces response times.
- The Leon County EMS Traffic and Bicycle Safety Education program in partnership with Leon County Schools provided safety awareness and bicycle education to elementary schools.
- Participated in Public Safety Day with Youth, Adult and Senior Leadership Tallahassee providing an understanding of what EMS provides to our community.
- Conducted 140 public education events.
- Received a grant from the Florida Department of Health to implement a Community Paramedic Program.

## Contact Us

(850) 606-2100  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/LCEMS

## PRESERVING LIFE. IMPROVING HEALTH. PROMOTING SAFETY.

- After celebrating 11 years of dedicated service to the community and responding to over 343,960 calls for service, the nationally recognized, Leon County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) continues to lead the industry in setting the standard for emergency care.
- EMS responded to 36,729 calls for service (an increase of 36% over the last 11 years) resulting in 24,962 patient transports with ensuring response times are maintained during a steady increase in calls for service.
- With over 300,000 people dying from sudden cardiac arrest each year in the United States before they reach the hospital, Leon County strives to continuously improve the chances of survival by advocating for the placement of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs), and also Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training through its Heart Ready initiative. Through these efforts, over 1,600 citizens were trained in CPR and AED use. Also, there are 827 public access AEDs in the community registered with EMS.
  - » Press the Chest 2015: For the fifth year, EMS hosted "Press the Chest," a community-wide CPR and AED training event held at the Donald L. Tucker Civic Center. EMS and community partners trained more than 700 citizens in CPR and AED as one class.
- Leon County is committed to educating the community on the importance of safety preparedness. EMS hosted several events during the year, including:
  - » Child Passenger Safety Seat Program: The Child Passenger Safety Seat program conducted over 50 child safety seat checkpoints, inspections, and installations at the Public Safety Complex as well as health and safety fairs throughout the community.
  - » Leon Lifesaver: Leon Lifesaver is a community risk reduction program presented at over 20 events, which focuses on improving safety and preventing injuries in young school-



Honor Flight Tallahassee

aged children. Leon, an interactive robotic ambulance, goes into schools and community events teaching children about the proper use of 9-1-1, the importance of car safety restraints and bicycle helmet use, and stranger danger.

- » Operation Prom Night: This cooperative anti-drunk driving and anti-distracted driving program is for high school-aged teenagers in which a mock accident scene is used to illustrate the dangers of drinking and driving, and distracted



EMS Safety Fair



driving. This program is hosted by Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare through the cooperation of community partners including schools, the Leon County Sheriff's Office, Tallahassee Police Department, FSU Police Department, Tallahassee Fire Department, Lifelight Air Methods and ShandsCair.

- » Senior Citizens: EMS participated in various senior citizens events. These programs provided information on healthy living, fall prevention, CPR training and heart health education.
- » Safety Fair: EMS conducted the sixth annual safety fair to highlight personal safety and injury prevention. This event was conducted at Governor's Square Mall. EMS hosted this event along with the Leon County Sheriff's Office, Leon County Animal Control, Capital Regional Medical Center, Tallahassee Memorial Hospital, Tallahassee Fire Department, Tallahassee Police Department, Consolidated Dispatch Center, Florida Department of Health, American Red Cross, Tallahassee Community College, FSU First Responders, Community Traffic and Safety Team, Florida Fish and Wildlife, and the Pilot Club of Tallahassee.



Citizen Engagement Series on Public Safety



Press The Chest 2015

### Demonstrating Highest Standards of Public Service

The American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline EMS Silver Award recognizes efforts in improving the STEMI (heart attack) Systems of Care through collaboration with community stakeholders, thereby improving the quality of care for STEMI patients.



### Did You Know

After months of intense training and field exercises, a team of highly skilled Leon County EMS paramedics have now formed the Tactical Medic Program working alongside Leon County Sheriff's Office Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team in the event of a high-threat civilian tactical and rescue operation.

