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Michigan EMS Heroes Honored as ‘Stars of Life’ During Capitol Ceremony

First responders honored for going above and beyond the call of duty

Lansing, Michigan – Nearly 50 EMS professionals from around the state were honored Wednesday at the state Capitol as ‘Stars of Life’ by the Michigan Association of Ambulance Services.

The biennial Stars of Life ceremony celebrates the contributions of ambulance professionals who play a critical role in the healthcare of Michigan residents. The event was held on the steps of the state Capitol in Lansing.

“EMS practitioners play an essential role in keeping the communities they serve safe, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year,” said MAAS Executive Director Angela Madden. “Stars of Life is our favorite way to give thanks to the unsung EMS heroes who go above every day and beyond to provide life-saving care to Michigan residents.”

Nominees include individuals who have been: named employee of the year, earned notable community contributions, have impressive service records, have received community honors and more. This year, 48 individuals were recognized, including paramedics, emergency medical technicians and educators. The honorees include:

- Lynn Higelmire, Huron Valley Ambulance, Dexter
- Christopher Paul, Huron Valley Ambulance, Ypsilanti
- Michelle Plum, Jackson Community Ambulance, Jerome
- Taylor Graham, LifeCare Ambulance, Battle Creek
- Emily Kidd, LifeCare Ambulance, Hickory Corners
- JoDawna McDonald, LifeCare Ambulance, Schoolcraft
- Jessica Hinneburg, Monroe Community Ambulance, Britton
- Courtney Millar, Monroe Community Ambulance, South Rockwood
- Ana Goodrich, Iosco County EMS, East Tawas
- Kristi Benedict, Iosco County EMS, Hale
- Patrick Hatch, Life EMS Ambulance, Comstock Park

- Markie McGowan, Life EMS Ambulance, Fennville
- Brittany Mileski, Life EMS Ambulance, Kentwood
- Timothy Newton, Life EMS Ambulance, Wayland
- Noah Olweean, Life EMS Ambulance, Richland
- Stephanie Rahilly, Life EMS Ambulance, Spring Lake
- Aaron Schut, Life EMS Ambulance, Zeeland
- Veronica Smith, Life EMS Ambulance, Comstock Park
- Kalsie Van Linder, Life EMS Ambulance, Kalamazoo
- Aaron Wainright, Life EMS Ambulance, Newaygo
- Brittany Scurlock, Life Support Training Institute, South Lyon
- Tyler Girard, Livingston County EMS, Temperance
- Dan Sadowski, Livingston County EMS, Pinckney
- Paul Fair, Livingston County EMS, Howell
- Jim Gramza, Livingston County EMS, Brighton
- Nick Miller, Livingston County EMS, Pinckney
- Haley Chapko, Medstar Ambulance, Elsie
- Colin Driscoll, Medstar Ambulance, Macomb Township
- Samual Ellinger, Mercy Ambulance Service, Lansing
- James Parkin, Mobile Medical Response, Genesee County
- Adam O'Farrell, Mobile Medical Response, Mt. Pleasant
- Michelle Schuch, MyMichigan Health, Midland
- Martin Peters, MyMichigan Health, Sanford
- Jean Mills, Reading Emergency Unit, Hillsdale
- Jack Marsh, Reading Emergency Unit, Hillsdale
- Aaron Eggli, Richmond Lenox EMS, Shelby Township
- Shawn Morton, Rockford Ambulance, Rockford
- Martha Velez, SMCAS, Niles
- Olga Gomez, SMCAS, Edwardsburg
- Ronnie Conley, Superior Ambulance of Michigan, Auburn Hills
- Bill Benoit, Superior Ambulance of Michigan, Shelby Township
- David Geisler, Superior Ambulance of Michigan, Armada
- Robin Lee, Tri-Hospital EMS, Croswell
- Tim Hock, Tri-Hospital EMS, Jeddo
- CeCe Forrester, Tri-Hospital EMS, China Township
- Marjie Fuller, Tri-Hospital EMS, St. Clair
- Ann Ropposch, Tri-Hospital EMS, Port Huron
- Brianna Bissett, Tri-Hospital EMS, Yale

About MAAS:

The Michigan Association of Ambulance Services is a statewide trade association representing and advocating for ambulance services. MAAS members serve nearly

80 -percent of Michigan counties and were responsible for more than one million ambulance transports in 2022. MAAS members also provide community paramedicine, ER diversion and 9-1-1 services in several areas of Michigan. For more information, visit www.miambulance.org.

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