



Annual Report 2016–2017

*Advancing Medical Transport Worldwide through
Support of Research, Education and Outreach*



Dear friends and supporters of the MedEvac Foundation International,

This annual report marks 17 years the MedEvac Foundation International has been developing programs, funding research and taking care of our air medical and critical care transport community and their families. This past year has been a busy one.

With your help, the MedEvac Foundation International has kept pace with the growing needs of medical technology and education, yet is still finding ways to meet the demands of further safety education and research.

We are proud to announce that the MedEvac Foundation International has achieved GuideStar's newest and highest level of recognition, the "Platinum Seal of Transparency" rating. This rating demonstrates that the MedEvac Foundation is an organization focused on measuring progress and results, and operates transparently.

The Platinum Seal of Transparency provides potential funders key information enabling them to make educated choices when giving their funds and will allow the MedEvac Foundation to illustrate improvement and results year over year. Lastly, it moves away from simplistic financial ratios of fundraising but reflects the important changes the MedEvac Foundation is making in our industry and the world.

We continue to fund important research projects that help the industry improve the delivery of safe, high quality patient care. This year we approved funding for Phase II of the Sleep-Wake Patterns and Real-Time Fatigue Reduction in EMS Clinicians study. Phase I collected detailed data about the sleep quality and patterns of air medical clinicians working shift work; Phase II will trial a text-messaging-based fatigue risk management tool. The use of real-time monitoring has the potential to bring significant advances in the safety of critical care transport and wellbeing of crew members and clinicians.

We provided full scholarships to both the AAMS Medical Leadership Transport Institute and the AAMS Safety Management Training Academy and added even more scholarships to both, including the inaugural Dr. Suzanne Wedel Scholarship funded by Sikorsky. Scholarships are awarded to deserving students dedicated to our industry and the community they serve. They exemplify a strong commitment to ensuring the highest standards of safety, patient care and leadership.

The Foundation increased the benefit amount of our outreach program, the Children's Scholarship Fund, to \$5,000. Information on the Children's Scholarship Fund is now available on college campuses throughout the country. There are numerous meaningful opportunities to help the MedEvac Foundation International continue to maintain excellence in our industry and community now and in the future. In light of ongoing complexities in the healthcare industry stemming from healthcare reform, philanthropy is playing an increasingly vital role in education and safety. Donor contributions continue to be essential to our research and safety initiatives centering around helping providers maintain and assisting them in offering ease of access to patients throughout the world.

To benefit these and countless other causes, the MedEvac Foundation International partners with individuals, family foundations and corporations. Our donors understand that an investment in our programs not only benefits the community, but their own health and that of their families, too.

Each year the MedEvac Foundation International organizes events centered around Air Medical Transport Conference (AMTC). This is not only an important fundraising opportunity for the Foundation, but gives us the chance to provide some entertainment and fun for our supporters and guests.

Each year your contributions have helped the Foundation grow these programs, allowing us to fund important research and other programs to support the air medical and critical care ground transport community. Through the development of new and exciting research and safety programs and initiatives.

We sincerely thank all of our Founders for their generosity and appeal to everyone in our community to generously support the MedEvac Foundation International in any way you can.

Please join us in our quest to change people's lives for the better, and support the overall excellence and safety of our community.



Johnny E. Delgado, MBA, EMT-P, CMTE, MTSP-C
St. Augustine, FL



MedEvac Foundation International

About Us

The MedEvac Foundation International is an international nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization headquartered in the Washington, DC area. The Foundation assists the Association of Air Medical Services (AAMS) to represent the Air Medical and the Critical Care Ground Transport Industry. Since 2005, the MedEvac Foundation International has supported research, education, and outreach programs that enhance the industry's ability to provide quality medical care and safe and effective air and ground medical transportation for every patient in need. We fund programs and charitable activities that support AAMS' members and their families, who serve their communities with pride and commitment throughout the United States and around the world.



Vision

To be the international air medical and critical care ground transport community's leading charitable organization.

Mission

The MedEvac Foundation International supports the Association of Air Medical Services, its members, their families, and the patients they serve by::

- Investing in and supporting research that improves the quality, safety, and effectiveness of Air Medical and Critical Care Ground Transport programs;
- Developing professional education and information programs;
- Fostering public support for the Air Medical and Critical Care Ground Transport Industry's contributions to saving lives, our health care systems, and our communities; and
- Supporting AAMS' members and their families through scholarships, grants, and other charitable programs.



Research

Grants

Fatigue and poor sleep are common in Emergency Medical Services, including air-medical operations. The Foundation has funded numerous projects related to fatigue. In 2015, we funded a project to investigate fatigue and sleep in air-medical operations that we know will help fill a gap in high quality research of fatigue in EMS operations. The project is being led by Dr. Daniel Patterson of the University of Pittsburgh and includes four air-medical operations located in different regions of the United States. The project is stratified into two phases: 1) the prospective observational cohort study; and 2) the randomized clinical trial of a novel fatigue mitigation tool.

In Phase 1, the research team collected data from 121 unique air medical clinicians who each provided two-weeks of sleep, fatigue, and shift work scheduling information. The research team presented preliminary results at the National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP) annual meeting in 2016. Phase 1 is now complete and the data are being prepared for submission to a peer-reviewed journal.

Phase 2 is a clinical trial that was designed to test a novel fatigue risk management tool. This study will use mobile phone text-messaging to capture fatigue and sleep measures in real-time and prompt clinicians to adopt behaviors to reduce fatigue during shift work, also in real-time. Recruitment opened June 2016 and closed March 2017. Goal enrollment was 100 unique air-medical clinicians. The study team enrolled 82 individuals.

Each participant was asked to participate for 4 months and provide feedback on their self-rated fatigue, sleepiness, shift schedule, and sleep patterns. The intervention tested focused on providing tailored information to the intervention group that may help promote better sleep health, less fatigue during shifts, and adoption of fatigue mitigation strategies. The study team published their study protocol in the *Trials* journal, which is available online at: <https://trialsjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13063-017-1999-z>.

Outreach

Children's Scholarship Fund

The Foundation continues to focus promoting the Children's Scholarship Fund to colleges and universities around the United States. Children who have suffered the loss of a parent in an air medical or critical care ground transport accident are eligible for financial assistance through our Children's Scholarship Fund. Two scholarships are awarded annually to deserving students entering or enrolled in college.

In 2017 the Foundation increased the scholarship amount from \$2,500 to \$5,000. One scholarship is for a child who has a lost a parent in an air medical transport accident and one is for child who has lost a parent in a critical care ground transport accident.



Family Grant Fund

The Family Grant Fund provides financial assistance to families of air and ground medical crew members immediately following a fatal or serious accident to cover unanticipated expenses. Covered expenses include travel and lodging, leave of absence, childcare, medical expenses, and bereavement services. The Family Grant Fund is a gift that does not need to be applied for or ever repaid. The program distributes checks on behalf of the MedEvac Foundation, directly to the next of kin. The Family Grant Fund was able to provide financial assistance to three families affected in 2016.



Vision Zero

Upholding safety as the first priority at all levels is essential. Thanks to programs like Vision Zero, promoting a culture of safety is made easy. Created by AAMS, and funded by the MedEvac Foundation International, Vision Zero and the Vision Zero Toolbox provide tools for anyone seeking to improve their program's or their own personal safety infrastructure. Through the free exchange of information, safety is kept at the forefront of everyone's mind. Vision Zero and the Vision Zero Toolbox will continue to identify specific products and services and is available for everyone involved in transport medicine to use in their programs.

Many thanks to the 2016 Vision Zero Aviation Safety Award Winner, PHI Air Medical, for making their "Life-Saving Thinking" initiative available to the medical transport community.



Patient of the Year



May 2016, Kelly Carter an Army Reserve Colonel and her husband were enjoying a beautiful day driving with the top down in their convertible. As they were coming around a bend in the road, an animal ran out in front of the car. In a heartbeat the car slid down a drainage ditch, landing upside down. EMS transported Kelly and her husband to the emergency room. There, the ER doctor determined Kelly's injuries were severe and ordered Kelly to be medevaced to a trauma center. Following a five day in the hospital and twelve weeks wearing a halo, Kelly is thankful for the kindness and empathy of her husband and the flight crew for her recovery.

"I am so thankful to my husband's foresight to buy a convertible with a real roll bar, and to the several medical teams that tended to me. I am also thankful for the Metro Aviation pilot – his superlative skills and judgement, and to God for the opportunity to continue in this life."
—Kelly Carter

Professional Education

MTLI Scholarship

The MedEvac Foundation International awards an annual scholarship to the Medical Transport Leadership Institute (MTLI), made possible through a donation from Metro Aviation, Inc.

MTLI participants develop leadership and management skills through formal education programs. Both management theory and its direct practical application to the industry are heavily emphasized. This scholarship is awarded based on the applicant's active involvement, industry achievement level, and commitment to critical care transport services.

The 2017 recipients of the Medical Transport Leadership Institute Scholarship were Jennifer Humphries and Maika Clement Dang.



Jennifer Humphries,
Chief Flight Nurse for
Enloe FlightCare.

Jennifer receives the scholarship for her devotion to the critical care transport industry.

"Attending MTLI will not only help me with the strategic planning and management of our program but also staff development, mentoring, and relationship development that I may not otherwise be prepared to provide," Jennifer said.

"I think MTLI will help provide me with vital networking opportunities as well as the opportunity to learn essential content and skills that our stand alone program's survival may very well depend on in the coming years."

— Jennifer Humphries



Maika Clement Dang,
MD, Flight Physician
for the University of
Cincinnati Air Care
and Mobile Unit.

Maika receives the scholarship based on his passion for pre-hospital medical and critical care transport.

"MTLI provides a matchless opportunity to have interaction and collaboration with other leading critical care transport service leaders," Maika said.

"MTLI will provide the opportunity to greater appreciate the changing dynamics of critical care transport, acquire specific skills and knowledge, as well as foster a professional network to bring back to my program."

—Maika Clement Dang

Applications for the 2018 MTLI Scholarship will open in the fall. **Contact the MedEvac Foundation International office with any questions at (703) 836-8732.**

Upcoming MTLI and SMTA Dates:

AAMS Medical Transport Leadership Institute (MTLI)

April 22–27, 2018—Wheeling, WV

AAMS Safety Management Training Academy (SMTA)

June 4–8, 2018—Cincinnati, OH

Applications for the 2018 SMTA Scholarship will open in the Spring

Dr. Suzanne Wedel Scholarship

In 2016, Sikorsky, a Lockheed Martin Company, funded a scholarship in memory of Dr. Suzanne Wedel. Dr. Wedel was a longtime chief executive of Boston Med Flight. The Dr. Suzanne Wedel Scholarship is awarded to an emerging leader in the critical care transport field who actively contributes to the leadership of the medical transport community and/or who demonstrates a commitment to improving patient care through research in the critical care transport industry.



Sadly, Dr. Suzanne Wedel passed away from ovarian cancer on March 30, 2016. The MedEvac Foundation, in partnership with Sikorsky, a Lockheed Martin Company, is proud to continue the education of future industry leaders in Dr. Wedel's name.

The MedEvac Foundation International has awarded W. Ashley Smith, President / Director of Operations at Jet Logistics, Inc. the first Dr. Suzanne Wedel Scholarship to attend the 2017 Medical Transport Leadership Institute (MTLI) Graduate School.



Mr. Smith receives the scholarship based on his dedication to safety and quality measures not only at Jet Logistics, Inc., but also in the wider medical transport industry. Because of his myriad of experiences, he has gone to great strides to increase his knowledge of the medical aspects of the industry.

Ashley receives the scholarship based on his dedication to safety and quality measures not only at Jet Logistics, Inc., but also in the wider medical transport industry.

"Every industry faces change, on an annual basis if not daily, and the air medical transportation business is no different," says Smith.

"Graduate school helps to keep attendees up to date on the latest events, trends, and changes in the industry."

— W. Ashley Smith

SMTA Scholarship

In response to the need for safety management education for medical transport leaders, the Foundation asked experts to develop a rigorous safety education course utilizing formal classroom hours, mandatory student participation, and written testing. Thus the Safety Management Training Academy (SMTA) was born. The Association of Air Medical Services held the inaugural SMTA at Oglebay in Wheeling, WV in June 2010. Graduates of the two-year program received a certificate of completion and were invited to participate in more in-depth programs on specific safety management topics.

The MedEvac Foundation



International congratulates its 2017 Safety Management Training Academy Scholarship

recipient Andrew Holcomb, Flight Paramedic for PHI Air Medical. Mr. Holcomb's responsibilities include being the PHI Regional Safety Chair, tracking all safety activity in California, and regularly auditing base locations. Andrew received the scholarship based on his commitment to aviation safety in our industry.

"Trends in safety are always changing and bringing new challenges to the air medical industry," states Andrew.

"By attending SMTA, this allows for further safety information and best-practices to flow back to my company in order to promote and create a better safety culture."

— Andrew Holcomb

Special Events

Virtual 5K for Safety



The MedEvac Foundation International 2016 Virtual 5K for Safety ran throughout the month of September. Thank you to the nearly 300 people who participated in the event, and our generous sponsors who made it possible. Check out the smiling faces of some of our great runners and walker who got behind this important cause!

The MedEvac Foundation International would like to thank...

Our t-shirt sponsors:



Our bib sponsor, Northwell Health



Silent Auction

The 2016 Silent Auction held during AMTC in Charlotte, NC. We would like to express our sincere thanks to our host MedFlight and to our generous auction item donors. We are looking forward to the continued success and fun of the Silent Auction at AMTC 2017 in Fort Worth, TX. If you are interested in donating an item to help make a difference in the medical transport community, please contact our Development Assistant, Tiwanda Washington-Settlers, at twashington@medevacfoundation.org.



AMTC Donor Reception

Our invitation-only Donor Reception allows us to personally thank and publicly recognize the most generous donors of the previous fiscal year. We are honored to have the opportunity to acknowledge the generosity of corporations and individuals for their continued support of the MedEvac Foundation International mission.



Golf Tournament



The MedEvac Foundation hosted our 2016 Golf Tournament at Skylinks at The Golf Club of Ballantyne, the premier golf course in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Thanks to the 2016 Golf Sponsors:

- Metro Aviation
- Era Helicopters
- Pratt & Whitney Canada
- Safran Helicopter Engines
- Seth and Denver Myers
- Jet Support Services, Inc.
- Howard & Terri Ragsdale

The 2017 golf event will be held at Topgolf, Fort Worth, TX.

Program Leadership Roundtable

At AMTC 2016 in Charlotte, NC the MedEvac Foundation hosted the Annual Program Leadership Roundtable discussion. The AAMS Program Leadership Roundtable invited CEOs, program directors, and managers to discuss issues of vital interest to our industry.

Guest speaker Dr. Renee Thompson's presentation focused on communication skills in healthcare addressed the importance of employee wellness. Whether due to emotions from high stress or the exposure to trauma, attendees were given practical tools to help mitigate employee burnout.



FY17 Donors

Outright Gifts

(3/01/2016—2/28/2017)

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\$75,000 to \$99,000

PHI Air Medical Group

Champions

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FY17 Donors

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(3/01/2016—2/28/2017)

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(3/01/2016—2/28/2017)

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Cumulative Lifetime Donors

Outright Gifts and Pledges (3/01/97–2/28/17)

Chairman
(\$500,000+)

Executives
(\$250,000 to \$499,999)

Partners
(\$100,000 to \$249,999)



Kevin and Sandra Hutton



Patrons
(\$75,000 TO \$99,999)

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Champions
(\$50,000 to \$74,999)



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A special thank you to the leadership and staff of the MedEvac Foundation International and the Association of Air Medical Services for their commitment to our mission throughout the year.

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Reasons to support the MedEvac Foundation



- I want to advance the cause and believe in the mission of the MedEvac Foundation.
- The MedEvac Foundation aligns with my top priorities.
- I understand how my donation will be used and trust it will be used wisely.
- I know that 100% of my gift benefits the MedEvac Foundation.
- I value the role the MedEvac Foundation plays within the global air medical and critical care ground transport community and understand why they need my help.
- I have flexibility in the way I can donate (i.e. timing, amount).
- The donation process is easy.



Make a difference today by giving an hour of your salary or another amount once a month. Monthly giving is easy! Just sign up for automatic deductions from a debit or credit card and you will have the satisfaction of knowing that your gift is going where it is needed most, by the most cost-effective means possible.



Advancing Medical Transport Worldwide through Support of Research, Education and Outreach

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