



GFWC-Wisconsin

Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Pediatric Jump Kits for Ambulances Project

Life saving supplies for pediatric patients of all sizes...
organized in one easy to find place.

December 7, 2009

Sarah Berry, WiWA President
c/o Diamond Communications
245 Regency Ct., Suite 101
Brookfield, WI 53045

RE: WiWA Charity of Choice: Pediatric Bags for Wisconsin

Sarah,

Although Paula Schlice, our Treasurer, sends out the combination thank you - IRS donation letters, I specifically want to thank the Wisconsin Wireless Association's members for their generous on-going support of the Pediatric Bags for Ambulances project!

These Ped Bags, specialized kits filled with critical supplies for all child sizes, directly help our Emergency Medical Service (EMS) providers respond efficiently and effectively to child calls - whether for premature infants, a 17-year old, or all the sizes in-between.

We all want to protect children from harm, to keep them safe. But illness and injuries do happen in life, and sometimes they are very serious. Unintentional injuries - such as those caused by burns, drowning, falls, poisoning and road traffic - are the leading cause of death in children age 0-19 in the United States*. We can't prevent all injuries and illness, but we CAN reduce child disability and death due to a lack of critical pediatric supplies on our ambulances.

*www.cdc.gov/safecild/child_injury_data.htm



**WHY is there such
a BIG size
difference in
PEDIATRIC
equipment?**

In 2002, less than 1% of Wisconsin's EMS departments carried Ped Bags. Today, 48% (216) of EMS departments now carry Ped Bags on all their ambulances and another 15% (68) carry at least one Ped Bag, but need more. We have yet to work with 162 EMS departments, but with support like WiWA's we plan to work with them soon!

Wisconsin has 1.1 million children under the age of 14. This project potentially impacts *every* child in Wisconsin and their families.

The Ped Bag project has seen excellent results! Having the right tools, in the right place, positively affects the outcome of these children - over 26,000 transported children per year. EMS care has improved and we know lives have been saved. And we have dozens of uplifting testimonials from EMS departments.

“The equipment was already used this past fall when we got a call that no one wants to hear - a child in respiratory distress. Whether your members know this or not, they were with us that night...by using the equipment you gave us. The outcome from that call was positive and the child is doing great. Waukebeka Fire Department

“We had the opportunity to use our Jump Bag last week...we delivered twin boys in a bathroom!” Jefferson EMS

WiWA donations have funded Ped Bags in several EMS departments throughout Wisconsin, making a significant difference to so many. Recently, the Dickeyville Rescue Squad in Grant County received a WiWA funded Ped Bag (their letter of appreciation is attached). This department was elated to hear they had been chosen as a Ped Bag recipient – they are a small, volunteer service in a rural community, with limited funds.

WiWA’s financial support has definitely improved the well being of others! Each Ped Bag may serve *hundreds* of children over its lifespan. *Thank you* for joining us in making a difference to the children, their families, and to our dedicated and compassionate EMS in this life-saving project!

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Davy
GFWC-WI EMSC Chairman

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“The physiologic, anatomic, developmental and emotional characteristics of children, and their unique health care needs, make it difficult for care providers to meet those needs optimally in adult-patient oriented...emergency medical services (EMS) systems. Effective emergency care for children requires specialized training and equipment. These important differences, and the continued presence of a significant gap in the delivery of emergency care in the pediatric population, are the rationale behind the federal EMSC program.” *Carol Berkowitz, MD, FAAP, President*

100% of all donations fund the Ped Bags