



#### California Association of Air Medical Services

Ross Fay, CMTE
Executive Director

r.fay@calaams.org

# Representing The Air Medical Transport Community

San Diego County Fire EMCC September 28, 2023

## About Cal-AAMS

- A 501(c)(3) not-for-profit established as a chapter of the national Association of Air Medical Services (AAMS).
- **Mission**: To provide a **forum** for the providers involved with the air medical industry, in order to promote the highest level of operational, crew, and patient **safety** and a commitment to delivering excellence in **clinical care** while transporting the critically ill or injured.
- **Vision:** To represent a **unified** voice for the entire air medical transport community, and through common effort, improve the health outcomes of the populations we serve.
- Function: promote safety and clinical education, and the exchange of information among programs throughout our state and across the country.
- www.calaams.org

### Activities

 Produce and Present Safety Education, In-Person and Virtual

- Represent the Air Medical Services industry.
   Venues include:
  - a. AAMS Government Relations Forum
  - b. California Hospital Association
  - c. CalChiefs EMS Section
  - d. **EMSA** Director's Advisory Group
  - e. EMSAAC/EMDAC Board
  - f. EMS Commission
  - g. Trauma Regulations WG

## Our Members:



## Access to Air Ambulances in California

- Approx. 62 air ambulance aircraft operated by Cal-AAMS members
- Approx. 18,500 patients transported annually
- Approx. 5500-6000 Medi-CAL patients annually

#### **CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF AIR MEDICAL SERVICES** Air Ambulance Program Member Locations CALSTA TAKING FLIGHT Cal-AAMS is a coalition of Ground, Rotor and Fixed Wing Emergency Medical **Transport Programs** providing services to communities within O CAL-ORE and surrounding O CALSTAR the state. O CareFlight O O CHP ENLOE Flight Care HALL Ambulance HELINET MERCY AIR MERCY FLIGHTS REACH Air Medical SEMSA SIERRA LIFEFLIGHT SkyLife Air Ambulance Stanford Life Flight PHI Air Medical



## Air Ambulance Facts

- Most common staff configuration is a team consisting of a Pilot, Registered Nurse, & Paramedic
  - · Specialty trained and certified
- Available 24/7/365 for emergency and nonemergency air ambulance patient transports
- Helicopter or airplane aircraft
  - Specialized interior requires FAA supplemental-type certification
- Extensively regulated by both state and federal authorities
  - DOT: uniform aviation safety and economic authority via the FAA
  - CA: regulates all aspects of healthcare (scope of practice, meds, equipment), as well as insurer payment for services

## Air Ambulance Facts

- Requested for critically ill or injured patients by a physician in a facility, or by a first responder acting under physician-approved guidelines.
  - Time-sensitive illnesses or injuries: trauma, cardiac, vascular
  - Specialty transports: burns, neonatal, pediatric, obstetrical emergencies
  - Long distances: minimize out-of-hospital time
- Critical Care and Emergency Advanced Life Support
  - Specialized equipment manufactured to be capable, lightweight, and portable
  - Extensive supply of medications
  - ICU-level care during transport
- Decrease out-of-hospital time while providing ICUlevel care
  - 2:1 provider to patient ratio

# Disaster Response

Essential to disaster planning

 Work in tandem with fire service, law enforcement, state and federal authorities

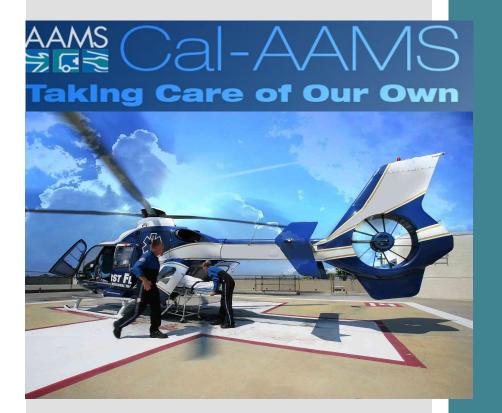
 Ability to provide disaster surge capability is 100% dependent upon day-to-day availability

CA Wildfires
Hurricane Ian
Covid

## EMCC Membership

- LEMSAS Seating Air Medical on EMCC:
  - **✓** ICEMA
  - ✓ Riverside
  - ✓ Imperial
  - ✓ Santa Barbara
  - ✓ Contra Costa
  - ✓ Madera

- Comprehensive input to Board of Supervisors
- Ensure CQI in all aspects of EMS
- Inclusion of air transport considerations for service to the community
- Coordination of special services such as disaster surge



Our members share a dedication to safe and swift transportation while delivering the highest quality of patient care for every patient in need



California Association of Air Medical Services