

Cherokee Regional Medical Center
300 Sioux Valley Drive
Cherokee, Iowa 51012

PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT:

Kent Lundquist
(712)225-3368 ext. 259
klundquist@cherokeermc.org

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Air Ambulance to be Based at Cherokee Regional Medical Center

On Wednesday, June 29, Cherokee Regional Medical Center and Air Methods® (NASDAQ: AIRM) officials publically announced their partnership and upcoming plans to begin offering LifeNet air ambulance services out of Cherokee, IA. The largest provider of air medical transport services in the world, Air Methods will base a brand new EC130 helicopter on the CRMC hospital grounds with plans to begin service on August 1, 2011.

“We are pleased to announce this partnership with Air Methods and are looking forward to hosting a helicopter for air ambulance services 24/7,” said John Comstock, CEO of Cherokee Regional Medical Center. “For the people we serve, this should provide additional comfort in that Cherokee Regional Medical Center is committed to providing the best services available to address their healthcare needs,” said Comstock.

Likewise, Air Methods officials said they are proud to have entered into a relationship with CRMC because they have an exceptional staff and modern facilities, but most importantly they provide exceptional care to their patients and families. “We are excited and honored to partner with an organization such as Cherokee Regional Medical Center. The staff is truly committed to caring for their community, said Patti Klein, Regional Vice President for Air Methods. “That is what this partnership is all about, providing better patient care. We plan to do this by providing air medical services in a timelier manner.”

In the world of emergency medicine, speed is critical in treating patients and improving outcomes. By strategically basing a technologically advanced EC130 aircraft in Cherokee, Iowa the air ambulance will be less than 30 minutes flight time from most hospitals and EMS services in northwest Iowa. In addition, pilots, highly trained flight nurses and paramedics will be stationed in Cherokee to maintain a constant state of readiness 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

“Instead of responding from the Omaha market and having a delayed response, we felt by being here, closer to the call, we could provide better patient care and be closer to the bedside of the patient or the scene,” said Matthew Kasten, Central Region Business Director for Air Methods.

In addition to reducing response time, the care patients will receive while being transported will be second to none. In essence, the EC130 is like an emergency room in the sky. “The aircraft will have I.V. pumps to administer critical care medications and I.V. fluids in route. There will be ventilators on board to handle pediatric to adult cases. We’ll have critical care monitors that can monitor arterial lines, and the list goes on,” explained Lyle Butler, Field Operations Manager for Air Methods. The EC130 also features a large temperature controlled cabin to provide full access to the patient during flight and one-of-a kind EZ Lift 1300 patient stretcher system and loading system.

The next month will be spent finalizing plans for the August 1 start date, completing final preparations to the aircraft, furnishing the flight staff living quarters, and additional orienteering of the CRMC and LifeNet staff.

“We are definitely looking forward to the beginning of August as we are excited for the air ambulance service to begin operating. Not just because this is a great thing for the people of the Cherokee community or Cherokee Regional Medical Center, but because it will benefit many rural communities by improving the timely accessibility of air medical transportation services to all of northwest Iowa,” said Comstock.

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