

Press Release

New Equipment for PMC's Ambulance Department

American Heart Association and American Bank make major contributions to local emergency services

Big Timber, MT, March 9, 2017: Over the past several months, the Pioneer Medical Center Ambulance Department has received over \$42K in funding to acquire upgraded equipment. In October Pioneer Medical Center was awarded over \$36K in funding for emergency equipment from *Mission: Lifeline*, an American Heart Association community-based initiative aimed at improving the system of care for heart attack patients throughout rural Montana. In January, the department received over \$6K donation from American Bank to purchase two Hospira A+ fluid infusion pumps and a new ventilator for safe transport of patients in need of respiratory support.



The *Mission:Lifeline* award provided EKG equipment which allows EMS personnel to monitor a patient's condition in real time in order to quickly identify if a person is having a heart attack. This technology provides instantaneous transmission of critical information to hospitals and appropriate nursing and physician staff in order to make critical care decisions and initiate activation of specialized teams prior to the arrival of the patient to the hospital.

A transport ventilator funded by American Bank is an essential piece of equipment for transporting critical patients. Ambulance Manager, Rob Farnum says "This (ventilator) will give our physicians the option of utilizing ground transportation for patients who need respiratory control during transfer. Air medical transport is not always available or the best choice to transfer a patient. This ventilator gives us many options in how the breath is delivered to the patient to optimize the care we provide."

The American Heart Association award was made possible thanks to the Sweet Grass Health Care Foundation, an anonymous donor, and The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust.

The PMC deeply appreciates the commitment that all contributing parties have made to the health and wellness of the Sweet Grass County Community. These two equipment upgrades advance EMS capabilities to better serve Sweet Grass county residents.

