Stryker Emergency Care strives to be great partner for EMTs

Since 1994, Stryker Emergency Care has been a leader in emergency medical response and patient transport products, and the company continues to strive to be a great partner with emergency medical technicians to make their jobs easier. Jillian Downey, an account manager for Stryker Emergency Care, said the company prides itself on being a trusted EMS partner. “We build solutions that help improve patient outcomes and caregiver safety, bringing more power to you,” she said. Downey said the company has committed itself to helping prehospital services achieve improved clinical outcomes and operational performance. “Our focus is providing innovative patient transport, emergent care, and data solutions that are durable, reliable and easy to use,” she said. Downey said some of the company’s most popular products right now are the LUCAS, LIFEPAK15, Power-PRO XT and the Power-LOAD. These technologically advanced products help to revolutionize patient care. The LUCAS is a chest compression system, the LIFEPAK15 is a monitor/defibrillator, the Power-PRO XT is a powered ambulance cot and the Power-LOAD is a powered cot fastener. In 2017, Seneca County EMS received grant funding through the Bureau of Workers Compensation to purchase Power-PRO XT powered ambulance cots and Power-LOAD cot fastener systems, which lift patients into ambulances and keep them secure. Every first-run squad in the county has one of the systems installed. SCEMS Director Ken Majors said the cots make a world of difference for his personnel. “Stryker power pro cots and lift loads make the job of the EMS personnel much safer and easier than the older cot systems,” he said. Not only do the cots make the job easier for emergency medical technicians, but they can also be beneficial for their own health. “They make lifting patients easier and safer,” Majors said. “They are much appreciated by the crews because they are a real back saver.” Downey said she believes Stryker is a unique company that EMS agencies should want to do business with. “We are able to offer connected and integrated solutions and services that are durable, safe and easy to use,” she said. Downey said she is happy to work with the Ohio EMS Chiefs Association. “We always look forward to participating in events with OEMSCA,” she said. “We do business with almost all of the agencies that are members of the group. The feedback the provide assists us to be better partners to create solutions for better support and improved patient care.” Downey said if anyone reading this article is interested in learning more about the company or any of its products, they should contact their local account manager. There are six in Ohio. Downey can be reached via e-mail at Jillian.downey@stryker.com. You can also learn more on the company’s website https://www.stryker.com/.

Lawrence County EMS awarded the 2019 Lifeline Gold Award

On June 11, Lawrence County EMS was awarded the American Heart Association’s Mission: Lifeline Gold Plus Award. This is the third year in a row the agency has gotten the award. In 2016, it got a silver award. The award is for the care the paramedics and EMTs provide as they are getting a patient having a heart attack or stroke to a hospital.
So, it's Dorothy again? Dorothy is sick again. Dispatched again to Dorothy's house with the same symptoms she's had the past 15 times you've transported her. She is old and chronically ill with many different conditions, and you know they can't be fixed in the ER or in the back of your squad. All you can do is transport her to the ED. At the ED the comments will range from why did you bring her here, to what can we do? Frustrated they'll discharge Dorothy who will go home; only to be called again by family members with unrealistic expectations. Dorothy's calls are never life-threatening and there is zilch you can do to treat her, so you make her comfortable while you drive her to the ED. Why? Because you have to, that's why. There's no way around it. Every first responder sooner or later realizes that the ambulance business isn't always red lights and sirens. Our primary obligation remains that every patient that calls us has a need. When the patient demonstrates the need for service, whether a perceived emergency or an acute emergency we have an obligation to serve the patient. Dorothy, even though close to death and nothing we can do will change that, she has the need for continued medical care, regardless of her present condition or prognosis and is very much deserving of our attention. The long-standing history of EMS care focuses on the ability of all of us to fill the gap between the streets and the hospital. We can't just leave repeat callers to their particular situation, no matter what our preference may be. We are not here to judge but to serve when we are called upon just like we have always done. I hope we will always choose to serve, putting the patient first! If not us, then who?”

Vincent T. Gildone
OEMSCA President

Delaware County EMS awarded the 2019 Lifeline Gold Award

On June 20, Delaware County EMS was awarded the 2019 American Heart Association Mission: Lifeline Gold award for outstanding care of cardiac patients. The agency has received this award each year since it’s inception in 2014. DCEMS is one of only eight agencies, out of over 1500 statewide, to receive this award each year! One of the standards for the award is the transport of STEMI patients from the moment an EMS team arrives on scene to a STEMI receiving center within 90 minutes. “With the size of this county, that can be a tough standard to meet,” said Eric Burgess, DCEMS Interim Chief, “so we are especially pleased that we continue to meet it.”