

# Carlton Fire & Ambulance Financial Support Request

- Carlton Fire & Ambulance (CFA) is requesting financial support for ambulance operations. This support in necessary to ensure the reliability of ambulance responses to all requests for service within the Primary Service Area.
- CFA currently utilizes a paid-on-call staffing model. Ambulance staff do not consider working for CFA as their primary employment. Most work on the ambulance as a second job or as a part-time job while attending college.
- ♦ This staffing model has become outdated and is need of change. The City of Carlton has committed to taking the first step toward a new staffing model by working toward the hiring of a full-time Ambulance Manager and a full-time EMT. The addition of full-time employees will relieve the staffing strain and increase the reliability of the services response capabilities.
- City of Carlton is asking each of the municipalities served to provide funding necessary to keep the ambulance service solvent and operating at a high capacity today and into the future. We ask that you commit to working with us to identify an equitable funding mechanism to ensure the ambulance continues to serve the citizens and visitors to our communities.

### Carlton Fire & Ambulance (Ambulance Division)

- Owned and operated by the City of Carlton
- ♦ Licensed as a Basic Life Support (BLS) Ambulance by the Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board
- One unit staffed 24 hours/day 7 days/week, second unit is staffed when needed and when personnel are available.

### **Primary Service Area**

- Defined by the Minnesota Emergency Medical Services Board (map and description attached)
- ♦ Covers 160 miles² all in Carlton County
- ♦ Population of approximately 10,000

## **Carlton County**

- ♦ Population: 36,207 (2.3% increase from 2010)
- ♦ 18% of population is age 65 or older
- ♦ 24% of population enrolled in Medicaid
- ♦ Median household income: \$68,579

#### Call Volume



- ♦ 3% increase in volume year-toyear over the past three years
- ▶ 2.29 calls for service/day
- ♦ 1 hour 23 minutes average length of a call
- ♦ 87% of each day is spent "on call"
- ◆ 42% of calls occur Monday through Friday from 6am to 6pm
- ◆ 37% of calls occur from Friday at 6pm to Monday at 6am
- Saturday and Sunday are the busiest days of the week

#### **Staffing & Leadership**

- Staffed by Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) and Emergency Medical Responders (EMR) when needed
- A majority staff meet the definition of volunteer per Minnesota Statute 144E.001 subdivision 15
- Those staff considered volunteers are eligible to earn Cooper-Sams Longevity Fund credits for each year of service. One credit has a value of \$447.19.

CFA Roster Staff	
Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)	13
Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)	41
Cadets	1

Staff Longevity				
0-2 years	21			
3-5 years	20			
6-10 years	11			
11+ years	3			

- ◆ EMRs and EMTs are paid an hourly wage ranging from \$8 to \$14/hour
- Staff must be within a reasonable distance from the Fire Hall when on duty
- ◆ A part-time Ambulance Manager is employed at 10 hours/week
- ◆ 2021 Ambulance payroll exceeded \$245,000



### **Funding**

- Ambulance budget is set by the Carlton City Council
- Fees billed for ambulance transports account for nearly 90% of revenue
- Contributions from municipalities served and a Medicaid Match program make up the remaining 10% of revenue

Per Call Income and Expense - 2019				
Income	443,630			
Calls	708			
Income/Call	\$627			
Expense	540,244			
Calls	708			
Expense/Call	<i>\$763</i>			

Per Call Income and Expense - 2022 (projected)			
Income	464,311		
Calls	790		
Income/Call	\$588		
Expense	545,890		
Calls	790		
Expense/Call	\$691		

- Ambulance staff salaries are the largest expense.
- \$300,000 cost of an ambulance with power lift cot and mounting system
- EMT training cost = \$2,000
- EMR training cost = \$1,000

# **Billing and Collections**

- Patients are billed when transported or when treated at the scene and \$1,100 - Base rate charged for patients who reside in municipalities that contribute to the Paid-On-Call Program
  - \$20 Mileage rate billed for miles the patient is transported
- \$2,000 Base rate charged for all other patients
  - ♦ \$30 Mileage rate billed for miles the patient is transported

2021 Billing and Collections			
Total Billed Charges	1,075,245		
Cash Collected	440,589		
Allowances	592,606		
Write offs	2,278		
Runs Billed	596		
Average Charge	1,804		
Average Cash Collected	739		
Average Allowance	994		

2021 Payor Mix				
Medicare	34%			
Medicaid	35%			
Commercial	18%			
Other Insurance	11%			
Private Pay	2%			

Medicare Reimbursement Model						
Charges	Qty	Rate				
Base Rate (resident)	1	1100	1,100			
Mileage Billed	15	20	300			
Total Charges \$ 1,						
Payment						
Base Rate	1 406.25 406.25					
Mileage	15	12.15	182.25			
	\$ 588.50					
Cont	(811.50)					

Commercial Insurance Reimbursement Model						
Charges	Qty	Rate				
Base Rate (resident)	1	1100	1,100			
Mileage Billed	15 20		300			
	\$ 1,400					
Payment						
Base Rate (80% of charge)	1	880	880.00			
Mileage	15	16	240.00			
	\$ 1,120.00					
Contract	(280.00)					

Private Pay Reimbursement Model						
Charges	Qty	Rate				
Base Rate (resident)	1	1100	1,100			
Mileage Billed	15	20	300			
	\$ 1,400					
Payment	Payment					
Base Rate (20% of charge)	e Rate (20% of charge) 1 220					
Mileage	60.00					
	\$ 280.00					
Contract	(1,120.00)					

## Financial Modeling & Current Funding Formula

Ambulance Income Statement Model					
	2023 Projected				
Revenue					
Fee for Service	464,311	464,311			
Medicaid Match Revenue	33,797	33,797			
Subsidies and Levies	37,570	37,570			
Carlton County Vehicle	15,000	15,000			
Miscellaneous Revenue	2,000	2,000			
NET REVENUE	552,678	552,678			
Expenses					
Salaries & Benefits					
Ambulance Staff	225,000	379,624			
Management & Support	48,000	40,700			
Other	242,390	242,390			
Depreciation					
Vehicles	50,000	50,000			
Equipment	14,000	14,000			
TOTAL EXPENSE	579,390	726,714			
NET INCOME	\$ (26,712)	\$ (174,036)			

Municipality	2020 Net Tax Capacity	Percentage	Billable Amount	2020 # of Calls		Billable Amount	TOTAL
Carlton, City of	663,239.00	7.86%	3418.55	202	41.82%	18,192.55	21,611.10
Wrenshall, City of	340,559.00	4.04%	1755.35	28	5.80%	2,521.74	4,277.09
Atkinson Township	368,000.00	4.36%	1896.79	13	2.69%	1,170.81	3,067.60
Blackhoof Township	768,305.00	9.10%	3960.09	36	7.45%	3,242.24	7,202.33
Mahtowa Township	95,000.00	1.13%	489.66	12	2.48%	1,080.75	1,570.41
Silver Brook Township	2,019,527.00	23.93%	10409.30	10	2.07%	900.62	11,309.92
Thomson Township	534,000.00	6.33%	2752.41	4	0.83%	360.25	3,112.66
Twin Lakes Township	2,948,962.00	34.94%	15199.91	117	24.22%	10,537.27	25,737.17
Wrenshall Township	346,838.00	4.11%	1787.72	12	2.48%	1,080.75	2,868.46
Sawyer Township	355,086.00	4.21%	1830.23	23	4.76%	2,071.43	3,901.66
Black Bear Casino				26	5.38%		2,341.61
	8.439.516.00	100.00%	43,500.00	483	100.00%	43.500.00	87.000.00

Prepared by: OakPoint, Inc.

32527 State Highway 1 NW Warren, MN 56762 (218)201-0098 info@oakpointinc.com