

*NEWS RELEASE*

From Tri-Community South EMS  
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TRI-COMMUNITY SOUTH EMS 2007 AMBULANCE SERVICE OF THE YEAR  
PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES COUNCIL

PITTSBURGH, PA August 20, 2007—Tri-Community South EMS was honored by the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Systems Council (PEHSC) as the 2007 Ambulance Service of the Year for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The award was presented at the PEHSC annual conference in Lancaster on August 18. Tri-Community South EMS was recognized for its many accomplishments in 2006-2007 and throughout its 29-year history. Tri-Community South EMS remains Pennsylvania's most active community training center of the American Heart Association. Tri-Community was the second emergency medical system in Pennsylvania to be accredited by the Commission on the Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) and has been awarded numerous recognitions including the Pittsburgh Critical Incident Stress Management Team, the National Center for Early Defibrillation (now know as the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Association) and the training center for the Center for Emergency Medicine.

In presenting the award, PEHSC President J. R. Henry and Pennsylvania EMS Director Joe Schmider noted that Tri-Community South EMS' accomplishments are possible because of the dedication and tireless efforts of the system's entire staff starting with its

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Director, Nora Helfrich. Tri-Community South EMS' success also speaks well of the citizens and municipal officials of Bethel Park, South Park and Upper St. Clair who continue to support, and even demand, a municipally-owned and operated EMS system in order to ensure the closest possible working relationship between the EMS system and the community.

The PEHSC was founded in 1974 and became the official EMS advisory body to the Pennsylvania Department of Health in 1985 with the passage of Pennsylvania's EMS Act. As an advocate for its diverse member organizations, PEHSC's ultimate purpose is to foster improvement in the quality and delivery of emergency health services throughout the Commonwealth.

For more information on the PEHSC award or any other questions, please call Tri-Community South EMS at 412-831-3710 Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or visit their website at [www.tcsems.org](http://www.tcsems.org).

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