



For Immediate Release 1/18/21

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CareFlite to open new Llano County helicopter air medical base on March 1st.

CareFlite, America's oldest joint use air medical program will open a new air medical base on March 1, 2021. The new base will be located at the Buchanan Dam Community Center, 2395 Ranch Road 261, Buchanan Dam, TX 78609.

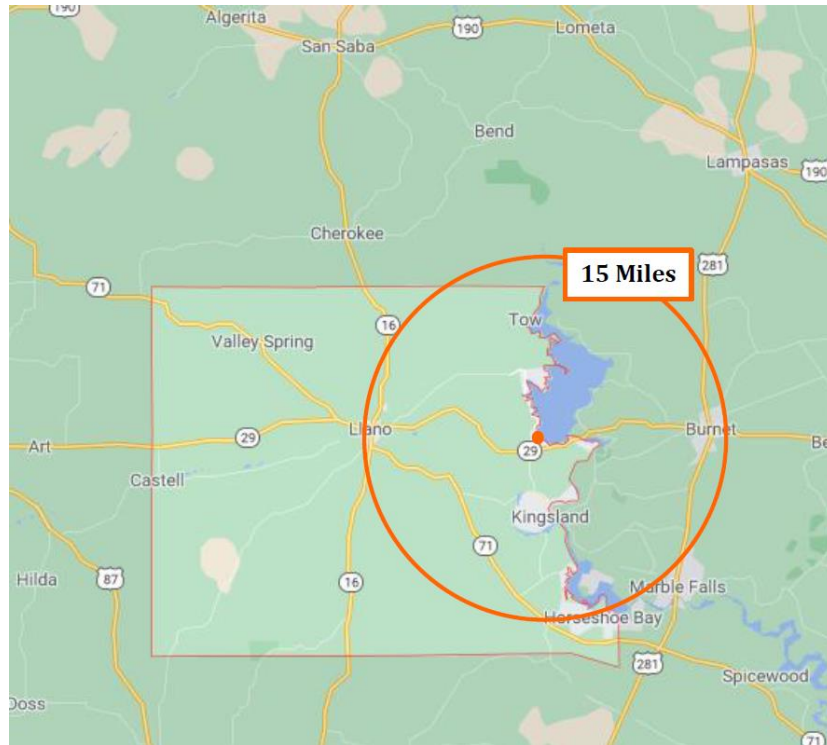
For the first time, Llano County will have a state-of-the-art Bell 407GX EMS helicopter based in the county for quick responses to emergencies including patient transfers from local hospitals to the closest trauma centers. Previously, air medical helicopter service had to be requested from outside the county. The shorter response times will benefit patients across Llano County. The Bell 407GX includes an autopilot for added safety. The aircraft will also support fire and law enforcement agencies in the county as appropriate when not on patient missions.

CareFlite operates the only aircraft in the region equipped with chest compression devices and blood products which have been proven by studies to increase patient survival rates. Each aircraft is flown by a pilot holding the Airline Transport Pilot certification. All CareFlite Nurses hold a Certified Flight RN certificate while CareFlite Paramedics all hold the Flite Paramedic – Certified rating. These certifications exceed the requirements of the Federal Aviation Administration for pilots and the State of Texas requirements for Nurses and Paramedics serving on aircraft.

Family finances can be protected against balance billing by joining CareFlite's Caring-Heart Membership Program for just \$49 per household per year or less. Visit www.careflite.org or call (877) 339-2273 to join and to read the program's terms and conditions. Over 365,000 people are currently members of CareFlite.

More information is available at www.careflite.org.

Bell 407GX 10 Minute Response Time Circle CareFlite's Buchanan Dam Base*



*VFR weather



Pictured above (L to R): Mike Parnezin – Buchanan VFD President, Nick Chilcott ATP – Asst. Chief Pilot, JP Leger ATP – Director of Flight Operations, Chris Boss ATP – Chief Pilot, James Swartz – CareFlite President & CEO, Chad Mitchell – Buchanan VFD Fire Chief

About CareFlite

Established in 1979, CareFlite is the oldest joint use air medical service in the United States.

CareFlite's helicopter EMS responds to requests from hospitals, fire departments, EMS agencies and law enforcement within a service area in and around the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex containing more than 6 million people. CareFlite currently has the youngest Helicopter EMS fleet in the country consisting of two new, state of the art twin engine Bell 429 helicopters and five Bell 407GX helicopters. CareFlite also operates fixed wing air ambulance within a 500 mile radius of the DFW Airport.

CareFlite operates ground ambulance/911 EMS service in SE Dallas County, Balch Springs, Ellis County ESD #5, Hill County ESD #2, Kaufman County and on the UT Southwestern campus in Dallas. Other ground ambulance services are offered in Collin, Cooke, Dallas, Denton, Erath, Hill, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall and Tarrant Counties.

CareFlite's membership program protects families against out of pocket costs for air and/or ground ambulance transports operated by CareFlite and Halo Flight in Corpus Christi. More than 365,000 people in North Texas and Southern Oklahoma are Members of CareFlite. The Caring-Heart Membership Program costs \$49 per year or less per household.

As of December 31, 2021, CareFlite had transported 1,356,887 patients by air and ground since its founding in 1979. CareFlite is based at the Grand Prairie Airport near the intersection of I-20 and Great Southwest Parkway.

Other services include an outstanding continuing education program for Nurses, Paramedics and EMT's at CareFlite's new state of the art Mabee EMS Training Center in Grand Prairie. The company also sponsors the annual CareFlite Emergency Care Update Conference. First held in 1982, the ECU is believed to be the oldest first responder conference in the United States. It is open to first responders and health care professionals.

CareFlite also provides education, training and state required oversight for municipalities and fire departments wishing to become or maintain First Responder Organization (FRO) status.

CareFlite's air medical services are accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Services (CAMTS). Its Communications Center is accredited by the International Academy of Emergency Dispatch.

CareFlite, a 501(c)3 non-profit, is sponsored by Baylor Scott & White Health, JPS Health Network, Methodist Health System, Parkland Health and Hospital and Texas Health Resources.