Vanderbilt LifeFlight Adds Base at Henry County Airport

In 2015, Vanderbilt LifeFlight expanded its footprint into West Tennessee by adding an emergency helicopter base at the Henry County Airport. The helicopter has a four-minute flight from the Henry County Airport to Henry County Medical Center. Vanderbilt LifeFlight provides hospital-based emergency air medical transport services throughout Tennessee and Southern Kentucky. LifeFlight also operates an airplane base at Nashville International Airport and has four ground ambulances, as well as an event medicine division. Since 1984, Vanderbilt LifeFlight has flown more than 35,000 patients. LifeFlight transports to any medically appropriate hospital and has immediate access to Vanderbilt University Medical Center’s Level I Trauma Center, Burn Center, and Children’s Hospital. LifeFlight is also the only air medical service in Middle and West Tennessee that carries lifesaving blood products on every flight. More than 10 percent of trauma patients flown receive blood while in flight.

Affiliation Links Vanderbilt University and West Tennessee Healthcare

Since 2013, Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC) and West Tennessee Healthcare (WTH) have had an affiliation agreement to expand the scope of health care services in WTH’s service area. The agreement does not change ownership or management of Jackson–Madison County General Hospital or any of WTH’s affiliates. While each party remains free to continue to pursue individual initiatives, the affiliation agreement provides the necessary structure for WTH and VUMC to collaborate on programs and services and forge new solutions to improve the quality and lower the cost of patient care in the region. Opportunities for WTH and VUMC include creating joint centers of excellence, educational programs and clinical research collaborations, developing new clinical information technology tools, and formally collaborating on specific patient care programs.