



**For Immediate Release  
September 27, 2021**



## **Cambria Community Healthcare District Announces Award of \$76,190 FEMA Grant to Purchase Ambulance Power Gurney/Loading Systems**

***Cambria, September 28, 2021*** - Cambria Community Healthcare District Announces Award of \$76,190 FEMA Grant to Purchase Ambulance Power Gurney/Loading Systems - New state-of-the-art power gurney/loading systems will be installed in two front-line ambulances operated by the Cambria Community Healthcare District (CCHD). Partially funded by a \$76,190 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant, the new equipment uses a hydraulic power system to raise, lower or smoothly maneuver the gurney into and out of the ambulance. This offers several advantages for both patients and ambulance crew members. "Our patients will have a safer and more comfortable transfer in and out of the ambulance," explained Operations Manager and Paramedic Tim Benes. Tim also explained that this will help crew members to lower their own risk of serious muscle strains, spine injury or even permanent disability.

"Replacing older equipment is a CCHD priority to assure patients receive the best emergency medical services from our paramedics and emergency medical technicians," added Administrator Mike McDonough. In addition to the new power gurney/loading systems, the CCHD has recently upgraded communication radios, replaced personal protective gear, and acquired a low-mileage

4-wheel drive ambulance. The equipment upgrades were enabled by funding support from local foundations such as the Cambria Community Council and Project Heartbeat, through private donations, and from federal agencies. According to Administer McDonough the CCHD has received more than \$180,000 in grant awards and pledges over the past year and a half.

“The CCHD is committed to its mission of improving the health of District residents by providing emergency services, enhancing access to care, and promoting wellness. We do this in part by providing a safe work environment that protects our valued ambulance crew members,” McDonough added.

The CCHD continues to seek charitable contributions to its 501(c)(3) not for profit trust, as well as additional grant funding to meet its financial needs. Local tax support and revenue from ambulance services does not fully cover the cost of operations and capital spending. For those who wish to assist in funding our mission, please contact the CCHD at (805) 927-8304 or visit the District’s website: [www.cambria-healthcare.org](http://www.cambria-healthcare.org).

**For more Information:**

Mike McDonough, Administrator

805-927-8304

[mmcdonough@cambria-healthcare.org](mailto:mmcdonough@cambria-healthcare.org)