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## Emergency Care in the La Crosse Area Goes to the Next Level

Updated: Jan 21, 2008 09:59 PM CST



The level of emergency care in the La Crosse area is growing stronger. The La Crosse County Board has approved a contract between the county and Gundersen Lutheran Hospital to provide emergency medical advice to 911 callers.

Before this agreement, county dispatchers took information from the caller and they had to wait for help to arrive. Now, the caller will be transferred to the Gundersen Lutheran Medical Communication Center where trained professionals will give them medical instructions until first responders arrive.

Tri-State Ambulance officials say this is a huge benefit to the community. "We live in this community. It might be us that are the patient. It might be a loved one. And we know that instead of waiting 10 or 15 minutes for medical instructions or medical help to be available at the scene, if it's way out in the middle of nowhere, that medical help is going to be there at the time of the call," says Matt Zavadsky, Director of Tri-State Ambulance.

The new emergency dispatch service is expected to start within the next month.



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