



Today, Tennessee EMS for Children announced that they are the winner of the 5th Annual Star of Life Award from Region Four.

The Star of Life Event is designed to honor the accomplishments of EMS Services and their personnel from all regions of Tennessee who provide exemplary life-saving care, with a focus on agencies and providers who are the initial care providers. The presentation ceremony will include a presentation of the actual adult or pediatric patient scenarios and reunite the EMS caregivers with the individuals they treated. Recipients are chosen from each of the eight EMS regions in the state. This is the premier event within the state to recognize and honor excellent pre-hospital care providers.

The event is hosted by the Tennessee Emergency Medical Services for Children (www.tnemsc.org) and sponsored this year by East Tennessee Children's Hospital. Tennessee Emergency Medical Services for Children (TN EMSC) provides educational programs and advice to health care providers, including emergency medical responders, nurses, and physicians that care for children being treated for either an injury or acute illness. They also provide personalized training & education. They provide the public with general educational information to educate them on being safe and prepared in the home—and in school— for emergencies. Along with materials that TN EMSC has developed to prepare for and safeguard children before, during and after emergencies, they provide a vast array of relevant resources from programs all across the country. TN EMSC works closely with all of the Comprehensive Regional Pediatric Care Centers (for this region that is Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt).

The incident that Macon County EMS received the award for occurred in January 2012 and involved a pediatric patient. "It was the quick response delivered by the expertise of this exemplary rescue team," stated Rhonda G. Phillipi, executive director for TN EMSC, "that allowed this child to continue to thrive." The service staff and the crew of Vanderbilt Life Flight involved in the rescue will be honored at the EMS Star of Life Awards Dinner and Ceremony on May 23rd, 2013. Director Randall Kirby said "We are thankful that the patient involved in this incident is doing so well. We are very proud of this award and of our staff who were involved. This is the first state-wide award that MCEMS has received." Director Kirby went on to say this award is validation of MCEMS staff's dedication to providing excellent care to the citizens of Macon County.