



# MEDIA RELEASE

December 16, 2016

## PARAMEDICS CARE FOR THE COMMUNITY IN A WHOLE NEW WAY

Every day, paramedics with the Lanark County Paramedic Services (LCPS) care for our community. Recently, they did so in a different way. On December 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> throughout Lanark County, more than two dozen paramedics and their families held the fourth annual “Fill an Ambulance with Food” drives in Almonte, Carleton Place, Smiths Falls and Perth .

And the results are impressive. Across the four communities, 195 boxes of food were collected, totaling close to 8,000 pounds. In addition, \$5,141.25 was raised for local food banks.

“This is a great example of community spirit. Thank you to our paramedics for their commitment to our local communities. Special thanks to organizers Taryn Houlahan, Chris Robillard, Shawn Castonguay and Erica Ray for their leadership.” said Mary Wilson Trider, President and CEO of Almonte General Hospital (AGH). The LCPS is operated by the hospital.

“We are extremely proud of this group of people who volunteered their time to make this event a success,” added LCPS Commander Dan Gallant. “We are also grateful to all of the people of Lanark County who donated food and money to ensure that families have food for the upcoming Christmas holidays.”

The LCPS provides emergency response service for an area encompassing almost 3,000 square kilometres with a population of 65,000. It responds to more than 8,000 patient-carrying calls each year.

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Media Contact:

**Jane Adams**

Communications Lead

Almonte General Hospital

613-729-4864

[jane@brainstorm.nu](mailto:jane@brainstorm.nu)



Cutline: Shown at the food drive are: (back row) Chris Robillard and Dan Gallant; (middle row) Wayne Kehoe, Leanne Hoppin, Dan Brooks, Jill Robinson and Erica Ray; (front row) Flynn Brooks and Evan Robinson.