December 12, 2022

Dear 4-H Club Members,

THE COURAGE TO RESPOND IS WITHIN ALL OF US.

To lift one takes the hands of many, to save a life takes the support of our entire community.

STARS is an essential service that assists rural communities like yours and partnerships with community allies are vital to maintaining a robust health and safety network for Manitobans.

The sight of a red STARS helicopter is a beacon of hope for those in their moment of need. For the thousands of people we care for on their very worst day, donors make life saving care possible. Since our first deployment in Manitoba during the floods of 2009, STARS has flown over 5,800 missions in our province. That's over 5,800 Manitobans who needed access to the kind of rapid critical care that STARS provides every day.

In addition to our iconic red helicopter, STARS works with local health facilities and EMS every day to support health care delivery in rural communities. STARS Transport Physicians also aide your local healthcare professionals with virtual critical care guidance and help facilitate complex logistics with receiving hospitals – providing critical care when minutes count. These missions ranged from medical emergencies, industrial accidents, motor-vehicle collisions, recreational, and agricultural incidents.

Our success in Manitoba would not be possible without strong support from the communities we serve. This support fuels our passion and our innovation as we deliver critical care to those who need it most. Your investment in

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our mission can help provide our crews with the advanced training and the leading-edge medical and aviation equipment they need to save lives.

STARS is a non-profit organization that operates on a community-partnered model consisting of government funding, community fundraising, individual donations and corporate support. To ensure our long-term sustainability in Manitoba we are continually working to broaden our donor base in the province. We would appreciate if the 4-H Clubs in Manitoba would include STARS as part of its fundraising options.

How You Can Help

Missions & Operations

We rely on support from allies like you. Your support will allow STARS to continue operating as a world class helicopter emergency medical service:

- First civilian air carrier to use night vision goggles – useful for flying at night, especially in mountains where visibility can be limited
- First helicopter air ambulance service in Canada to begin carrying blood on board. On each mission, there are two units of O negative blood carried in a cooler.
- Flying intensive care unit – iSTAT blood analyser, portable ultrasound, ventilators, monitors, infusion pumps.
- Engineers on staff at each base are available 24/7 to provide maintenance and service for the helicopters.
- Every mission is flown with two pilots, a paramedic and a nurse.
- When a mission is accepted, the treatment of the patient is determined by our Transport Physician – available 24/7 shifts through phone and physically on-base 1-2 times/week or picked up at the hospitals as required.
- We can be airborne in eight minutes from the time of dispatch.
- STARS captains must have a minimum of 3,000 flying hours and 300 hours of Instrument Flight Rules experience (flying at night or during low visibility conditions by using their cockpit instruments), plus 100 hours of STARS flight experience.

- Simulation Training to keep medical staff crews skills and knowledge up to date.
- STARS also supports the Canadian Military as far as search and rescue requests go.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

TOGETHER, WE ARE ALL STARS.

For further information or to request a presentation, please contact:

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