



Children's Hospital
of Wisconsin®

A member of Children's Hospital and Health System.

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To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to express Children's Hospital of Wisconsin's enthusiastic support for the award-winning Pediatric Jump Bag Project.

Children's Hospital has more than 300,000 patient visits each year. The Emergency Department alone sees over 60,000 children each year, with many of the sicker children transported by emergency medical services (EMS) providers. Ensuring that all pre-hospital providers who take care of children have the necessary and nationally-recommended pediatric equipment in their ambulances is important to the safety of our children. Participating in the Pediatric Jump Bag Project is one means of complying with nationally recommended EMS equipment list requirements.

Children account for approximately 10 percent of the overall population transported in a pre-hospital setting across Wisconsin. Wisconsin's EMS departments are a mixture of private, public and most commonly, volunteers. All have limited budgets. The cost of having all nationally recommended equipment on ambulances has prohibited many services from stocking the appropriate equipment in Wisconsin. Pediatric jump bags give pre-hospital care providers the size-appropriate equipment for all pediatric patients (newborn to 18 years of age) and provide an organized way to store and use the equipment.

Since the Pediatric Jump Bag Project began, it has increased the number of Wisconsin ambulances stocked with recommended pediatric equipment from 1 percent to 42 percent for BLS units (25 percent for ALS units). While that is impressive, more than half of all ambulances in Wisconsin remain unprepared for the pediatric populations they serve. Currently, 69 of 72 counties in Wisconsin are benefiting from the program. Wisconsin EMS providers received the pediatric jump bags through the partnered efforts of Wisconsin's General Federation of Women's Club and the Kiwanis Clubs of Wisconsin. More information about these ongoing efforts can be found here: http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/ems/News_events/GFWCPedBag.pdf

Pediatric Jump Bags already have helped save the lives of small children. Equipment was used to assist in the care of a choking 8-month-old, maintain the airway of a seizing child and aid in the attempted resuscitation of a 3-month-old with SIDS. Although outcomes are not always ideal, the right equipment optimizes the care the responding team is able to provide.

Please join us in our commitment to assure that 100 percent of ambulances in Wisconsin are stocked with all recommended pediatric equipment. As representatives of Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, we believe this Pediatric Jump Bag Project holds great merit in the ongoing efforts to improve the level of care we are able to provide our smallest and most sensitive community members, our children.

Sincerely,

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