

The Four-Way Ambulance Emergency Service, Inc. began in November, 1975 with the first in a series of meetings of citizens of Mentone, Burlot, and Selma, and from the townships of Harrison, Franklin, Seward, and Newcastle. From this group a 13 member Board of Directors was formed to govern the Ambulance Service.

The Board proceeded to establish the official name, determine what rates to charge, purchase an ambulance and supplies, and of course establish a fund raising drive to financially get the Service started.

\$25,000.00 was the goal set by the Board. It was hoped that all communities would get involved not only financially but also bodily. Community spirit prevailed as everyone rallied around the great need to have a local ambulance service and the goal was exceeded.

In January, 1976 the Board purchased a used ambulance. By the end of the month the ambulance, fully equipped as required by law, and staffed by 2 certified E.M.T.'s and 2 drivers began supplying the community with 24 hour ambulance service.

In March, 1976, a class began in Mentone to train more people to help staff the ambulance. This training involved 84 hours classroom, 16 hours working in a hospital emergency room, passing not only the course exam but also a state certification exam. In addition to this each E.M.T. is required, in order to maintain state certification, to have 20 hours classroom each year for 2 years and then 20 hour refresher course during the 3<sup>rd</sup> year.

At the completion of the class, the community had a total of 24 state certified E.M.T.'s staffing its ambulance service. Since that time the number of E.M.T.'s have varied due to some moving, quitting, health, etc., and others being trained to replace them.



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as well as the addition of volunteer drivers).

Emergency Service, Inc. are:

- ① Not 1¢ in tax money has been used to set up, operate, or maintain the service.
- ② All start up money was all community donations
- ③ The service has been maintained solely by patients paying their bills
- ④ Continued community donations has allowed the service to buy needed radio equipment and other required equipment
- ⑤ All E.M.T.'s and drivers serve voluntarily (NO PAY)
- ⑥ The service has and is operating in the black
- ⑦ Continual 24 hour a day, 365 days a year service
- ⑧ The service is available because the community cared

Many of you or your family have been served by the E.M.T.'s of the Four-Way Ambulance Emergency Service, Inc.. We trust that you have found them to be proficient, dedicated, and compassionate in providing whatever care was needed.

For those of you who have not needed the service, we hope it stays that way. But when that need may arise - rest assured that the best in emergency care will be available from your friends, neighbors, or relatives of the Four-Way Ambulance Emergency Service, Inc. - just call 353-7955.

from Gene Hughes