



NEWS RELEASE

CHINO VALLEY INDEPENDENT FIRE DISTRICT

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Paramedic Shortage

Due to the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, American Medical Response (AMR), which is the private ambulance provider in the Chino Valley area and the County of San Bernardino, has announced that they are experiencing a staffing shortage of paramedics. This shortage is driven by the lack of qualified paramedic applicants due to the yearlong delay in paramedic training programs, coupled with the increase in quarantined staff in this latest surge in cases. In response to this staffing shortage, the Chino Valley Fire District (CVFD) has partnered with AMR to provide an innovative approach to this crisis and improve emergency medical transportation services.

CVFD and AMR have been given emergency authorization by the Inland Counties Emergency Agency (ICEMA) to enter into an Assistance By Hire agreement (ABH), which allows CVFD to deploy Alternate Transport Vehicles/Ambulances (ATV) as needed, within the district boundaries.

The ABH allows AMR to request CVFD to staff and deploy ATVs during a 24-hour period when AMR is experiencing staffing shortages. The ATVs are staffed with two CVFD personnel capable of providing advanced life support services and are used to transport patients from the field to an emergency room. AMR will reimburse CVFD for their personnel time, use of equipment, and fuel. This public/private partnership will help ensure ambulance resources are available and will greatly enhance the services already provided by CVFD.

CVFD and AMR are committed to provide exceptional services and safeguard the community.

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