



PARKVIEW SAMARITAN

11109 PARKVIEW PLAZA DRIVE
FORT WAYNE, IN 46845 | 260-266-3540

2024

Flight Program History:

The Parkview Samaritan medical flight program is celebrating its 35th year of providing medical care and transport for trauma, critically ill, cardiac and neonatal patients. Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne, Indiana, began the Samaritan Flight Program on November 18, 1989, with one helicopter. A second helicopter was added in February 1999, based at Rochester Airport in Rochester, Indiana. Both helicopters are called into action by Parkview Randallia Hospital's Communication Center. In spring 2012, with the opening of Parkview Regional Medical Center, Samaritan 1 moved its base to that facility. Operation of the FAA Part-135 is provided by Sweet Helicopters, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Samaritan 1:

- French-made Airbus AS365 N-2-Dauphin models with twin turbine engines
- Average 180 mph
- Our helicopters use Jet A fuel; five fuel tanks; can fly for up to three hours
- Capable of transporting two adult patients
- One pilot, one critical care transport nurse and one critical care transport paramedic. Also, a specialized neonate team consisting of one neonatal RN and one respiratory therapist
- 100-mile radius from Fort Wayne and Rochester, covering the northern half of Indiana, northwest Ohio and southwest Michigan
- Single pilot, IFR-certified

Samaritan 2:

- Leonardo AW-169 with twin turbine engines
- Average 167 mph
- Our helicopters use Jet A fuel and can fly for up to three hours
- Capable of transporting two adult patients.
- One pilot, one critical care transport nurse and one critical care transport paramedic
- 100-mile radius from Fort Wayne and Rochester, covering the northern half of Indiana, northwest Ohio and southwest Michigan
- Single pilot, IFR-certified

Scenes:

Samaritan lands at scenes of crashes, farm accidents, house fires and water-related accidents, as well as those where patients are having acute strokes and heart attacks. The region's fire and EMS systems are trained to prepare a safe landing zone and communicate via radio with the Samaritan crew prior to the helicopter's landing. They also assist with making the scene safe for the patients, the flight crew and members of the community.

Interfacility Transports:

Interfacility transports are completed based on physician-to-physician referrals.

Statistics (Based on 2023 year-end data)

Total flights since inception of program: 27,000

Total patients flown since inception of program: 27,900

Interesting Facts:

- On average, Samaritan leaves the helipad seven minutes from the time a call is received.
- Both bases average over one patient transport per day.
- 51% of Samaritan flights are trauma related. Of these, Samaritan picks up 40% of patients from the scene of injury and 60% of patients from referring facilities.
- Weather greatly determines the number of Samaritan flights. Summer months are the most active, due to motor vehicle and water sports injuries.
- Parkview Samaritan is an Instrument Flight Rules (IFR)-certified program. IFR certification means the helicopters can fly by instrument guides in certain types of weather for which flight may not be allowed by Visual Flight Rules (VFR).
- Parkview instrument approach and departure locations for IFR operations:
 - Parkview Regional Medical Center
 - Parkview Randallia Hospital
 - Parkview LaGrange Hospital
 - Parkview Wabash Hospital
 - Howard Community Hospital, Kokomo
 - Logansport Memorial Hospital, Logansport
 - Marion General Hospital, Marion

Ground Transport:

Parkview's Mobile ICU (intensive care unit) was introduced in 2010 to complement medical flight service and carries the same equipment as helicopters. The Mobile ICU is staffed 24/7 with a critical care transport nurse, a critical care transport paramedic and an EMT driver, all the same advanced life support (ALS) training as the flight team.

The critical care transport truck is an ALS-certified ambulance providing rapid transport of critical patients between Parkview Hospital Randallia, Parkview Regional Medical Center, Parkview Southwest and other facilities needing this level of transport support.

Basic life support trucks are utilized throughout our region to move those patients that do not require advanced care needs to get them to acute care or post-acute care. These additional assets have been highly beneficial to the program, significantly impacting all patients across the multiple levels of care they need during their stay.