

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Bastrop celebrates one-year anniversary of providing emergency air medical coverage to residents of the City of Bastrop

BASTROP, TX, 01 FEBRUARY 2021 – A year ago today marks the landmark decision by the Bastrop City Council to implement an emergency air medical transport membership program for the City of Bastrop residents with PHI Cares. The agreement, which began on February 1, 2020, provides air medical transport benefits for all residents of the incorporated City of Bastrop when a PHI Air Medical aircraft in the region transports them.

The PHI Air Medical membership program, PHI Cares, supports all of the households and residents of the incorporated City of Bastrop, Texas. Since the launch of this agreement, residents living in the incorporated city limits of Bastrop, Texas have not been required to pay any out-of-pocket expense for their emergency air medical transportation when a PHI Air Medical aircraft in the region transports them from the incorporated city limits of Bastrop or Bastrop County.

Residents should **always call 911 first** when they have a medical emergency. The 911 dispatchers are well trained at assessing the medical needs of each caller and will determine if a ground or air ambulance is necessary. If a resident is transported by a PHI Air Medical Aircraft, they should notify the PHI Cares membership department at 1.888.I.Fly.PHI (1.888.435.9744) and provide them with the City of Bastrop PHI Cares membership number # GHLMS- 20-89104 and their date of transport.

The PHI Cares Membership program is available at over 60 air medical bases across the country. Residents can obtain their 2021 PHI Cares membership cards from the Bastrop City Hall, 1311 Chestnut Street, Bastrop, Texas. Residents living in the incorporated City of Bastrop can upgrade their limited city membership benefit coverage to include nationwide PHI Cares coverage by filling out a Membership benefit upgrade request form and paying a \$35.00 annual upgrade fee. The form to upgrade your city membership to national household coverage can be obtained by downloading the form from the City of Bastrop website at [www.cityofbastrop.org](http://www.cityofbastrop.org). You may also email the PHI Cares Membership Department at [membership@PHIAirMedical.com](mailto:membership@PHIAirMedical.com) or call 1.888.435.9744 Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm MST. to obtain an upgrade form. Please reference the “City of Bastrop” Membership program when calling or writing them.

Residents can visit the PHI company website at [www.PHIAirMedical.com](http://www.PHIAirMedical.com) to learn more about the company and [www.PHICares.com](http://www.PHICares.com) to learn more about the membership program.

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***About PHI Air Medical***

*PHI Air Medical is a leading air medical transport provider, operating over 80 air medical bases in the nation with twenty-two of those bases in Texas. These bases provide outreach education to local communities and healthcare systems across the nation. Safely transporting more than 30,000 patients each year, each PHI Air Medical base maintains a crew of highly trained pilots, flight nurses and paramedics – prepared to respond to emergency medical transport requests.*