

**STARS<sup>®</sup> 40**

# ALLY IMPACT REPORT



**Foothills County**

**You make critical care,  
anywhere, possible**

## 40 Years: Then and Now

# 1985

In **1985**, STARS operated out of Calgary with **one leased helicopter**, serving approximately **1.4 million people in Alberta**.



Today, STARS' fleet of **10 Airbus H145 helicopters** rotate between **six bases** across Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba serving approximately **7 million people across Western Canada**.

# 2025

**Forty years ago**, STARS began as a visionary solution to a critical challenge. People living in rural and remote areas faced long delays in accessing emergency health care when they needed it most. STARS has grown into a trusted lifeline, bringing timely, expert life-saving care, all because of allies like you.

Donors have been the backbone of our organization from the very beginning. Your contribution has not only

saved lives but also instilled hope. Your generosity has given families and loved ones a second chance to make memories and grow together.

With you by our side, we have thrived with passion, perseverance and the belief that the next patient is never too far. **THANK YOU!**



**It's the power of collaboration and community."**

Dr. Greg Powell, STARS FOUNDER

1947-2025



In 2025, Foothills County generously donated \$35,000 to support STARS flight operations from the Calgary base that serves the southern region of Alberta - **Thank you!** We are sincerely grateful for your commitment to our fight for life.

In the past year alone, STARS flew 3,694 missions throughout Western Canada, with 1,540 in Alberta alone. Each of these missions has been impacted by the support fueled by Foothills County.

STARS is a lifeline for patients in rural, remote, and indigenous communities across Western Canada, with support from our allies, it's never too far by air or ground.

Because of your decision to be a STARS ally, we can surpass obstacles and extend beyond boundaries to reach patients like Theo - making an immediate response possible for people every day.

STARS was built by the community, for the community, and thanks to allies like you, our doctors, nurses, and paramedics can get to patients no matter where they are.

We are wherever we need to be, using any transportation and tools necessary to reach our patients and deliver the care that can save their lives.

Our partnership with Foothills County is of great pride to STARS, and we are proud to serve your residents. We are excited to show you the direct impact your gift makes in our communities.

**You make critical care anywhere, possible.**

**Thank you.**





# Foothills County

THE PEOPLE

FOOTHILLS COUNTY SCENE & SAR STARS 5-YEAR MISSION OVERVIEW	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	TOTAL
NEAR ALDERSYDE	2	2	5	1	2	12
NEAR BLACK DIAMOND (2010-2023) +SAR	5	5	2	-		12
NEAR BLACKIE		2				2
NEAR BRAGG CREEK		1	2	1	1	5
NEAR CAYLEY	1	1		1	1	4
NEAR DEWINTON SCENE/SAR	2	5	2	2		11
NEAR DIAMOND VALLEY SCENE/SAR	-	-	-	2	3	5
NEAR EDEN VALLEY	2	4	2	3	7	18
NEAR HIGH RIVER	5	3	9	4	6	27
NEAR INDUS*						
NEAR LONGVIEW SCENE/SAR	2	2	6	2		12
NEAR MILLARVILLE	3	2	2	1	1	9
NEAR NANTON*						
NEAR OKOTOKS SCENE/SAR	8	1	1	2	3	15
NEAR PRIDDIS	2	2		2		6
NEAR TURNER VALLEY (2010-2023)	3	2	2	-		7
<b>TOTAL SCENE CALLS ONLY (Average of 29 scene calls per year)</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>145</b>
DIAMOND VALLEY HOSPITAL IFT's	6	7	9	8	10	40
HIGH RIVER HOSPITAL IFT's	5	17	8	6	8	44
OKOTOKS HOSPITAL IFT's			1			1
<b>TOTAL SCENE + IFT's (Average of 17 IFTs per year)</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>230</b>
* Scene calls and search and rescue (SAR) coded to nearest community - Actual mission location used to identify each occurrence within Foothills County boundaries						

In 2025 (statistics are up to and including December 31, 2025), because of your support, STARS was able to carry out 42 critical inter-facility, search and rescue and scene missions within Foothills County and the hospitals located within your area. Thank you for helping to support the residents of Foothills County in the communities where they live, work and play.

## More than transport

STARS is much more than a means of transportation. The main service we provide has always been, and continues to be, critical care whether by air, ground, or satellite link. From transport physicians on call 24/7, to nurses and paramedics who are ready to be dispatched, to the first responders and rural health care providers, who our ELC work with daily, it's always about the patient.

STARS was built by the community, for the community, and thanks to allies like you, we can continue to reach the communities within Western Canada and the patients within who need our help for generations to come.

## THANK YOU



# ESSENTIAL SERVICES FOR ALL, RURAL

## UNITED IN PARTNERSHIP

### Building a robust health & safety network.

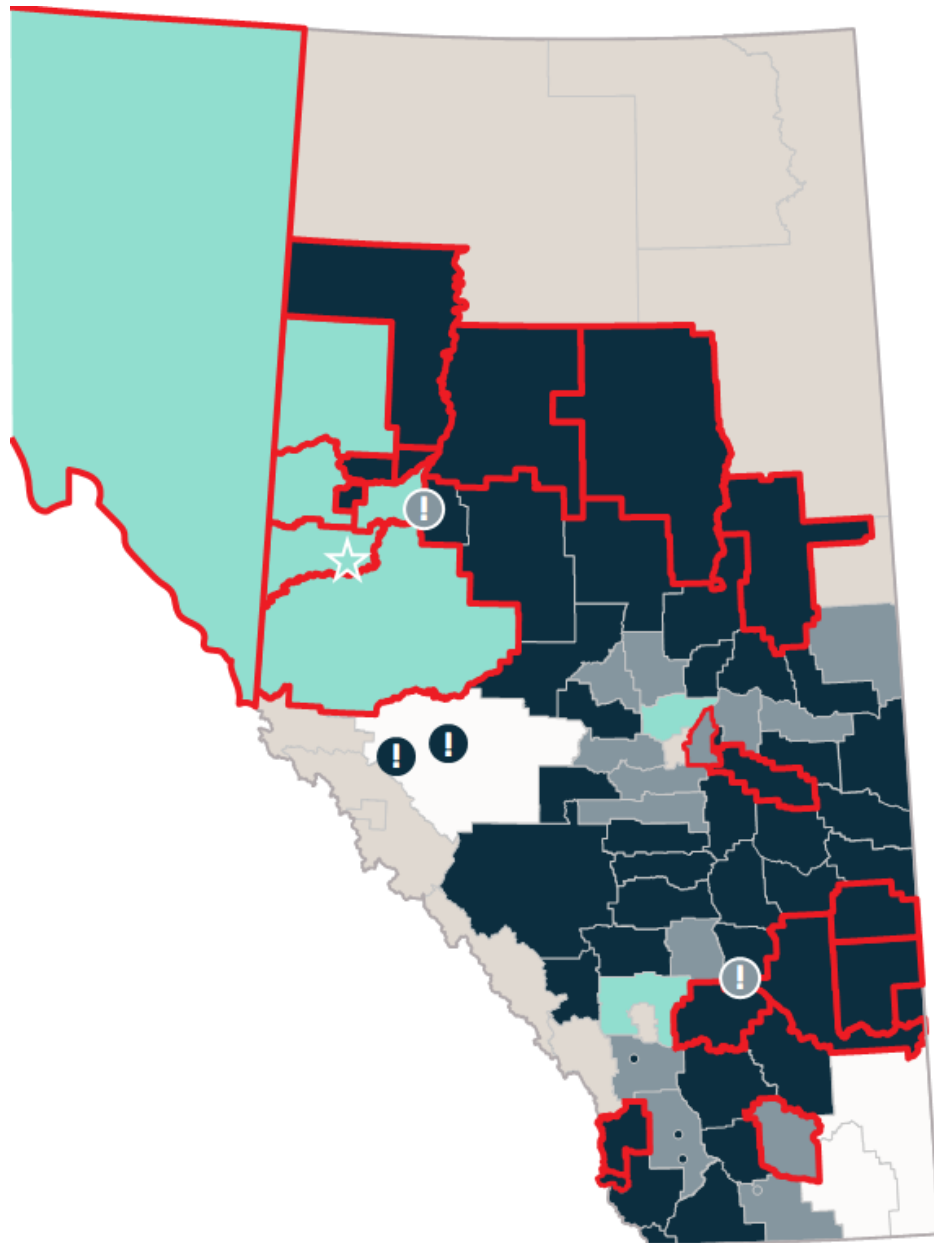
- 95% AB Municipalities in partnership
- Includes Peace River Regional District, B.C.
- 75% Regional Leaders

#### REGIONAL LEADERS

Building partnerships within.  
Based on minimum \$2 per capita

#### (9) PROVINCIAL LEADERS

- Fixed rate of support
- Standing motion
- Included in protective services budget



# 40 Years of Hope



Theo Konidas (centre) with his parents and siblings.

**“I think about it all the time, that he’s had a second chance.”**  
Lee Konidas, THEO’S DAD

## Your support funds equipment that can help patients like Theo:

**FIBROPTIC BRONCHOSCOPE** for intubation of difficult airways \$5,000 each + \$450/use.

**IV WARMERS** \$3,000 each + \$50/use.

**LUCAS AUTOMATED CPR MACHINE** \$21,395 each

**WINTER PATIENT STRETCHER PACK** \$2,300 each

**CREW WINTER JACKETS** \$1,000 each

# Theo's Story

**On a sunny**, yet cold New Year's Day, teenager Theo Konidas was enjoying snowmobiling with his siblings. A patch of ice resulted in a crash that nearly took his life. With his face turning blue, Theo's parents fought desperately to keep him alive by performing CPR until local emergency crews arrived. In a race against time, and Theo's chance of survival at less than 10 per cent, STARS responded.

The air medical crew intubated him and worked tirelessly to retain his blood pressure and airway during his 18-minute flight to the hospital. Amazingly, Theo made a full recovery. His parents shared their gratitude describing STARS as essential, life-saving and life-changing.

"I think about it all the time," said Theo's dad, Lee Konidas. "That he's had a second chance."

**Your support gave Theo this second chance at life.**

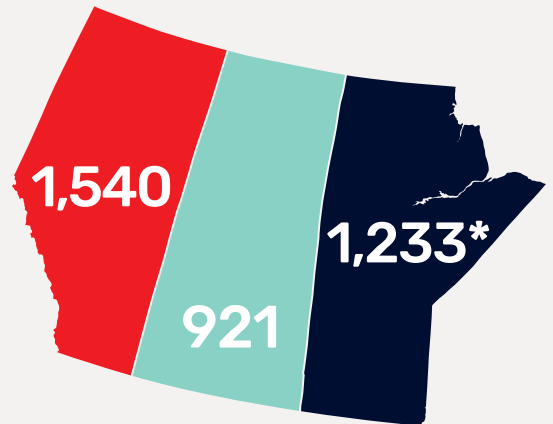


Scan the code to see Theo's full story.

## YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR

### MISSIONS:

TOTAL: **3,694** YEARLY



AVERAGE DAILY: **10**



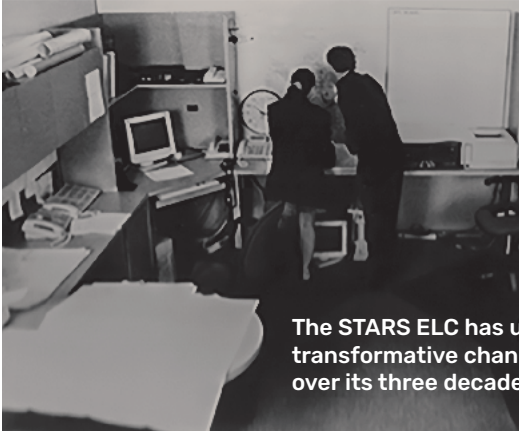
*\*Includes fixed-wing and helicopter missions*

### INCIDENT TYPES:

- CARDIAC: 21.09%**
- ENVIRONMENTAL: 0.22%**
- NEUROLOGICAL: 11.19%**
- OBSTETRICAL: 1.71%**
- PULMONARY: 12.09%**
- VEHICLE INCIDENT: 18.62%**
- OTHER MEDICAL: 17.23%**
- OTHER TRAUMA: 17.04%**



# 40 Years of Innovation



The STARS ELC has undergone transformative changes and upgrades over its three decades of operation.



EMERGENCY  
REQUESTS HANDLED:

**38,420**

AVERAGE REQUESTS  
HANDLED PER DAY:

**105**

THE CAD SYSTEM REPLACEMENT PROJECT:

APPROXIMATELY

**\$1 MILLION** INVESTMENT

# Beyond the Helicopter

**Support from our allies** has made it possible for STARS to stand at the forefront of critical care by allowing us to invest in new technologies, equipment and advanced specialized training for our crew.

The STARS Emergency Link Centre (ELC) opened in 1996 and has been part of some of the largest innovative transformations the organization has seen to date. Today, the ELC dispatches STARS helicopters for all missions in Alberta and Saskatchewan.\*

Technology advancements have helped us better partner with health authorities, mitigate human error, implement virtual care options in certain provinces, and win global awards.

With your help, the ELC has gone from paper mapping and handwriting records to using custom-built geographic information system (GIS) maps to more precisely pinpoint mission locations and computer-aided dispatch (CAD) software that securely and accurately tracks mission information. Importantly, these advancements help accurately pinpoint the location of our patients.

\*STARS helicopters in Manitoba are dispatched by Manitoba's Medical Transportation Coordination Centre, per our provincial agreement.

## IMPROVING PATIENT OUTCOMES

STARS takes part in pre-hospital care research because of the support we receive from our generous community:



### STARS VIRTUAL CARE & TRANSPORT DECISIONS

A multi-province study that investigates how STARS Virtual Care influences patient care and transport.



### MASSIVE HEMORRHAGE PROTOCOL IN AIR MEDICAL TRANSPORT

This study evaluates patient outcomes before and after implementing a pre-hospital massive hemorrhage protocol to improve emergency blood transfusion strategies.



### URBAN VS. RURAL TRANSPORTS – A 36-YEAR REVIEW

A newly published study reviewed over three decades of STARS data. It revealed that over 10 per cent of transported patients resided in urban areas. This research reinforces the impact of STARS in both urban and rural communities.



**They found us in the middle of nowhere and now somebody's going to be able to help us and hopefully save our child."**

**Korin Konidas, THEO'S MOM**



# 40 Years of Community

500+

STARS TEAM MEMBERS

6,000

COLLECTIVE CREW TRAINING  
HOURS IN THE YEAR

529

ACTIVE  
VOLUNTEERS

760

COMMUNITIES CARED  
FOR LAST YEAR



“Every call, every mission, we just want to make a difference for our patients. Knowing that Theo is thriving is the reason why we do what we do.”

Marla Tabler, THEO'S FLIGHT NURSE

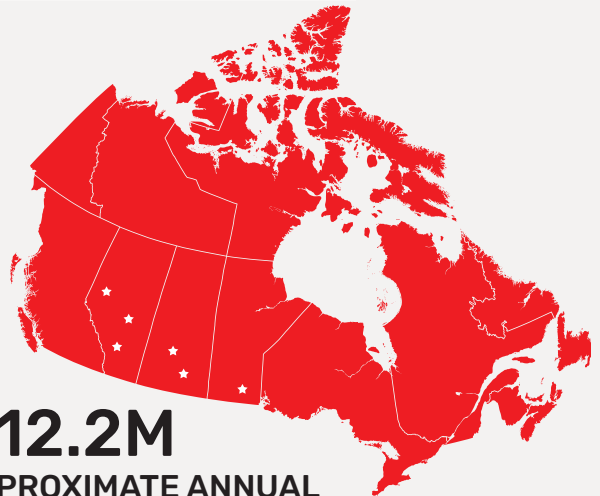
Air medical crew members, like Theo's **FLIGHT NURSE MARLA TABLER**, complete many hours of training every year through The Susan Ramsay Advanced Skills Institute to keep up and enhance their skills. Training simulation topics like airway management, ventilation techniques and pediatric care prepare our crews for when real emergencies happen.

# Your Support Makes a Difference

**STARS** has relied on community support since day one. As we've grown, so has our funding model. Today, STARS operates 24/7, 365 days per year thanks to dedicated individual donations, community fundraising, corporate support and government funding.

We're built by the community, for the community. Your impact goes beyond donations – it's the support from first responders, hospitals, medical staff, Very Important Patients and volunteers who fuel STARS' missions. Thank you for making 40 years of hope and life-saving care possible.

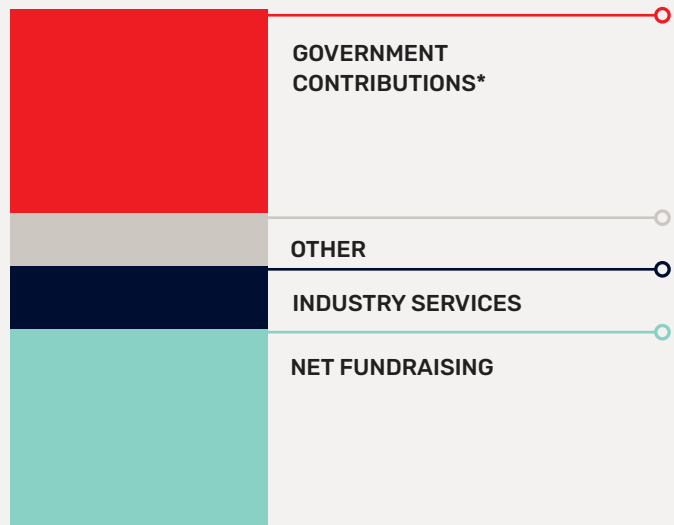
## HOW WE'RE FUNDED



**\$12.2M**  
APPROXIMATE ANNUAL  
COST PER BASE\*

**36,571**  
ANNUAL DONORS

## FUNDING SOURCES



\*based on STARS most recent audited financials

## BEST-IN-CLASS TEAM

In the beginning, STARS relied on a volunteer crew to get to the next patient. Today, you have allowed us to invest in a world-class team of flight nurses, paramedics, pilots and transport physicians.



## The Next 40 Years



### A message from Dr. John Froh, President and CEO, STARS


**For 40 amazing years**, STARS has provided critical care and hope to people in need. Every day, we strive to be more innovative, efficient and forward-thinking to provide the best possible care for our patients – all of which is only possible with the support of allies like you.

Your generosity has enabled us to fly more than **63,000 missions** over the last four decades, saving countless

lives and giving families and friends more time with the ones they love. You have allowed us to invest in the best team members, equipment and training. You help us save lives.

As we look to the next 40 years and beyond, medicine and prehospital response will inevitably evolve. Thanks to allies like you, we will continue to innovate, grow and, most importantly, provide critical care, anywhere.





Kelly Waldron  
(centre) with  
her husband,  
Tyler, and their  
daughters.



**If STARS wasn't here, I definitely wouldn't be here. I wouldn't have done anything at all with my life. My parents wouldn't have watched their daughter grow up. They wouldn't have been grandparents."**

Kelly Waldron, STARS' FIRST VERY IMPORTANT PATIENT



**FOOTHILLS COUNTY**

MUNICIPAL SUPPORTER



## **BENEFITS**

- STARS provides physical response and virtual consultation
- Together, we enhance rural healthcare
- Your residents have access to STARS 24/7 across Western Canada
- 40 Years serving Albertans
- No cost to the patient.

**THANK YOU**



**A LIFE IS SAVED EVERY DAY. YOUR PARTNERSHIP MAKES IT POSSIBLE.**



**STARS<sup>®</sup> 40**



# Stay In Touch

1-888-797-8277 / [foundation@stars.ca](mailto:foundation@stars.ca) / [stars.ca](http://stars.ca)

**JACKIE SEELY**  
**DONOR RELATIONS & DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**  
403-793-1262  
[jseely@stars.ca](mailto:jseely@stars.ca)