



Critical Care in the Air since 1982

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Contact: Suzanne Lagoni  
360-385-9517 or 206-790-9784

## **Airlift Northwest Announces Scholarship Program for Emergency Responders**

**SEATTLE – July 28, 2008** – Airlift Northwest announces its 2008 scholarship and grant program to honor and remember those from the organization who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

This program honors our colleagues' commitment to their profession, and is intended to support education and safety in our stakeholder community," according to Ed Eroe, President and CEO of Airlift Northwest.

The program has three components:

- A scholarship program for nurses to be used for clinical education that expands their knowledge and capability, with the recipients returning to their organizations to share what they have learned
- A scholarship program for members of the emergency medical services community to be used for EMS-related education that expands their knowledge and capability, with the recipients returning to their agencies to share what they have learned
- A grant program for hospitals and EMS, fire department or law enforcement agencies to improve safety practices or equipment related to working with air medical services

Two \$1,000 awards will be given in each category. More information on program criteria and an application form is available at [www.airliftnw.org](http://www.airliftnw.org) under Professional Clinical Education. The deadline for applying is August 15, 2008.

Airlift Northwest will give out the grants and scholarships at its October 17, 2008 EMS conference in Seattle.

Airlift Northwest began when a tragic house fire in Sitka claimed the lives of three children before they could be safely transported for care. Dr. Michael Copass, Airlift Northwest Founder and Medical Director, was teaching in Sitka at the time and was called into the hospital to help care for the children. He returned to Seattle, determined to find a way to provide air medical transport to areas around Alaska and the Pacific Northwest. Airlift Northwest was the result of this effort and celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2007. Airlift Northwest's Alaska base is located in Juneau.

*Airlift Northwest is a nonprofit service founded in 1982 to provide air medical services for critically ill and injured infants, children and adults. Airlift Northwest has bases in Alaska and Washington to serve the Pacific Northwest. More information is available at [www.airliftnw.org](http://www.airliftnw.org).*