

## REGION 2 – NORTHERN NY

ADIRONDACK MEDICAL CENTER, Essex County, operates 2 ER's, one in Saranac Lake, NY and one in Lake Placid, NY. Currently there is a proposal to downgrade the Lake Placid ER from 24 hour service to a 12 hour Urgent Care facility. This will result in a decreased access of emergency care in a dynamic community that is tourist and sport driven as the host of the Winter Olympics in 1932 and 1980 and since has become a very active international sports community. It will also increase the strain on the local EMS system causing them increased transport times, out of service times and volunteer fatigue. Local EMS services have already been bypassing the Lake Placid ER for the last 5 years with patients needing critical care services including advanced imagery. Coronary care patients may be brought to CVPH in Plattsburgh which is even further away. The New York State Police LifeGuard medevac helicopter located at Adirondack Regional Airport in Saranac Lake may be seeing more activity. Adirondack Medical Center cites as reasons for the action: a 25% drop in inpatient stays, a \$1.2 million reduction in Medicare funding in January and another \$500,000 in cuts due to federal sequestration and has been trimming jobs at all 8 of its facilities since 2012.

CLIFTON PARK-HALFMOON EMERGENCY CORPS, Saratoga County, welcomed back Joseph Santiago, its CEO and Director of EMS, after his serving an 11 month deployment in Afghanistan. Santiago is a nurse and captain in the Army Reserves and was chief nurse with the 20 member 624<sup>th</sup> Regiment Forward Surgical Team. He has also served in the Republic of Kosovo. He was back on EMS duty only three days after coming off active duty and commented that “you could spend 200 years in traditional EMS service and not see what we saw every day, sometimes eight times a day”.

MIDSTATE-CENTRAL NY-NORTH COUNTRY 2013 ALS Protocols are going to be produced as apps for Android and Apple devices. Downloads will be free of charge for providers, hospital staff and others. This project has been made possible by the efforts and funds from several organizations including:

- Crouse Memorial Hospital
- Central NY REMSCO and Program Agency
- Midstate REMSCO and Program Agency
- North Country REMSCO and Program Agency

MIDSTATE EMS PROGRAM AGENCY moved to 1705 Burstone Road, New Hartford, NY 13413.