Ambulance Membership Drive Appears Successful

The Acadian Ambulance membership drive, largest of its kind in the state, appears headed for a successful conclusion, according to company officials.

Every parish is reportedly at the same level of enrollments recorded at this point in last year's successful campaign, with overall totals higher than last year because of the addition of new areas.

As of Friday, 81,700 families or individuals had signed up in the drive, which continues through Sept. 3. Richard Zuechlag, Acadian official who directs the campaign, said the trend indicated that the drive will continue "with flying colors."

The company has set a goal of 124,000 memberships for this year, further solidifying its position as the largest private rural ambulance service in the nation.

"Each year," Zuechlag said, "the campaign becomes tougher, because of our expansion into new areas. However, our staff meets each new challenge with enthusiasm and dedication, and we are deeply grateful for their efforts. We are also extremely appreciative of the efforts of the thousands of other people who support us in our program to maintain the highest possible level of emergency medical service for South Louisiana."

Zuechlag said the momentum of the campaign is picking up steadily in the new service areas of Tangipahoa and Central Lafourche Parishes, and that company officials are confident of success in the drive there.

"The final week of the campaign will be highlighted by a massive media event designed to alert citizens to the approaching deadline," Zuechlag said. "Those who fail to sign up will be ineligible for membership until next year. Should they need our services during that time, they will have to pay a much higher fee than those who become members. And that fee will apply to every call, while members will be able to use the service on an unlimited basis for local emergencies to the hospital within their home parish for the one-time fee of only $20. They are covered no matter how many times they need our services."

Membership applications are available at any bank or by calling 1-800-383-7523.

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