

# Okaloosa County News Release

December 16, 2015

Kathy Newby, 850.651.7515, [knewby@co.okaloosa.fl.us](mailto:knewby@co.okaloosa.fl.us)

NR15-102

## **Okaloosa Co. EMS Takes Patients Home for the Holidays, Dec. 24 or 25 Transportation Requests Must be Received by 1:00 p.m. December 21**

Okaloosa County Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) will be offering free transportation on a space available basis to local residents who would otherwise be unable to come home for holiday celebrations. The program is designed to allow patients in skilled nursing and adult congregate living facilities to go home and be with family members for the holiday dinner. Patients must be self-supporting while at the residence and be left in the care of a responsible family member.

Okaloosa County EMS will provide free roundtrip transportation originating and ending in Okaloosa County. The "Home for the Holidays..." program will provide transportation on **Christmas Eve or Christmas Day only, from the hours of 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. All requests for transportation must be received by 1:00 p.m. on Monday, December 21, 2015.**

"This program has been very successful and brought good cheer to local families, as well as, the Emergency Medical Services' staff who provide this special service," said EMS Chief Tracey Vause. "It is Okaloosa County Department of Public Safety's way of saying '**Happy Holidays.**'"

If you need additional information or would like to schedule transportation, please call 651-7150, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

###