

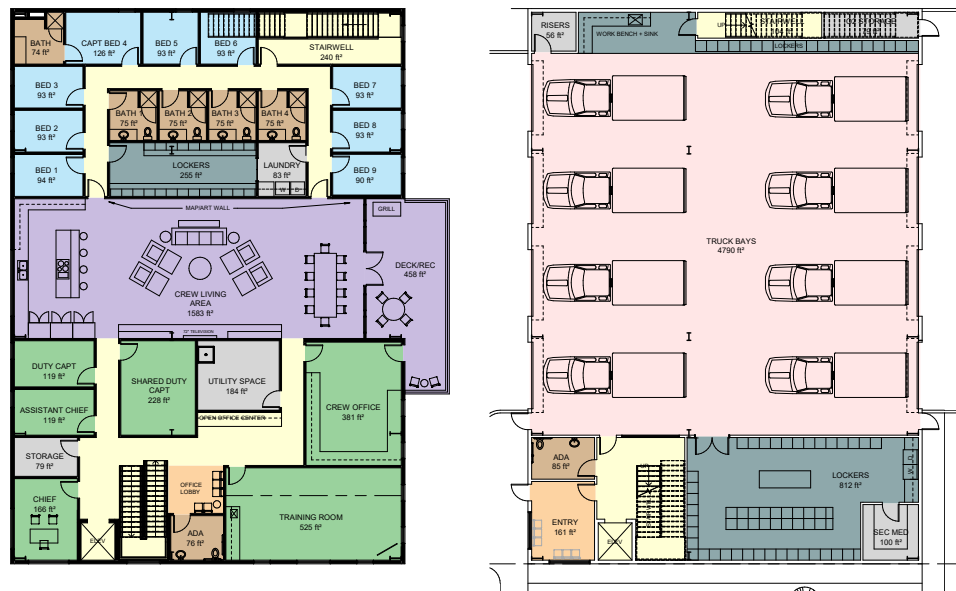
The Need

The current station is a prefab modular shell from 1998 that is outdated and undersized. It was designed for fewer and smaller ambulances, far less equipment, a small fraction of the current staff, and there are no sleeping quarters for on-call emergency responders.

The biggest problem with the current station is dangerously delayed response times to 911 calls.

A larger updated station will:

- o Improve patient response time to 911 calls - saving lives
- o Improve patient safety, satisfaction rates and outcomes
- o Expand services, including first aid and EMT training for the community
- o Support the safety and health of the emergency responders
- o Help our rural community recruit and retain health professionals



Your Support

Unlike fire and police departments, GVH Paramedics are not tax-funded. Annual operating support for GVH Paramedics comes primarily from Gunnison Valley Health with minimal reimbursements from insurance. This funding does not cover capital costs, such as a new building.

Most people don't think of paramedics until they need to call 911. It's easy to assume emergency medical services (EMS) are available to us 24/7. The reality is that how EMS operates and how it's funded varies greatly across Colorado and the rest of the country.

Rural EMS districts are increasingly vulnerable to scaling back, or, in some cases, even eliminating service.

EMS agencies are also diverse in the level of care they provide from first responder or basic first aid to paramedic or above level of care. GVH Paramedics are a team of 20 full-time and 10 to 20 on-call professionals, highly trained in all-hazard and critical care level response. They are the only EMS in the state cleared to transport and administer blood on ambulances and many personnel are flight paramedic certified. GVH Paramedics are leaders in the EMS industry and often set the precedent of how other EMS agencies train and operate.

The ability of GVH Paramedics to save lives and meet the needs of Gunnison County's patient population is directly related to the size, quality and efficiency of their facility and its equipment. A new station is urgently needed for GVH Paramedics to sustain their award-winning care.

The Seconds Save Lives capital campaign meets one of the most fundamental needs in any community – quick, reliable and expert critical care and rescue services 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Please donate today! The next life they save could be yours.

While hoping to never need to serve you, rest assured that a new station will help GVH Paramedics provide you, your family and our community with the best critical care medicine and rescue services available.



donate today!

There are multiple spaces in the new station available for naming rights, and individuals and businesses will be publicly recognized on a donor thank you wall.



GUNNISON VALLEY HEALTH
FOUNDATION



Jenny Birnie, Director | Gunnison Valley Health Foundation | 970.642.8400
jbirnie@gvh-colorado.org | gunnisonvalleyhealth.org/savelives

The Gunnison Valley Health Foundation is an IRS designated nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax deductible in accordance with state and federal regulations. In addition, individuals who pay Colorado State Income Tax are eligible for an Enterprise Zone tax credit on their Colorado return. Donations of \$100 or more earn a 25% tax credit.



The capital campaign to meet a critical need for a new station for Gunnison Valley Health Paramedics is successfully underway.

Launched last spring, the Seconds Save Lives campaign is just over halfway to the campaign goal of \$8.5 million. **Gunnison County recently pledged \$2 million in support and Gunnison Valley Health will provide a \$2 million match!** Donations and pledges from individuals and event proceeds total \$419,839. **We need your help to reach our goal!**

CJ Malcolm

Chief, GVH Paramedics

2021 EMS Executive of the Year as awarded by:

Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado (EMSAC)

Western Regional EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (WRETAC)



CJ Malcolm with his family

Under Malcolm's leadership, GVH Paramedics have become a progressive team focused on mastering and employing the best cutting edge, evidence-based medicine. GVH Paramedics specialize in remote patient care and backcountry rescue, and the crew have gone above and beyond to serve the community as evidenced by their coordination of the county's Covid-19 response and a proactive approach to community education.

Malcolm was honored this fall with regional and state awards. The Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado awarded Malcolm the 2021 EMS Executive of the Year. Malcolm was recognized as an executive who has become a leader in EMS and serves as a role model for EMS managers throughout the state. Malcolm was also recognized by the Western Regional EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (WRETAC) as Executive of the Year.

How did you begin your career in EMS?

In my freshman year of college, I made some bad decisions and a paramedic ended up saving my life. My brother's best friend, the city manager of Imperial Beach, California, got me involved in professional ocean lifeguarding. As a guard, I was able to complete my bachelor's degree in business administration while also learning about professional first responder organizations. I eventually became a County of San Diego Paramedic.

Why did you decide to join GVH-EMS?

My wife and I spent seven years working with the National Park Service in remarkable locations including Yellowstone, the Grand Tetons, and the Grand Canyon. In my last job, I managed the Preventive Search and Rescue Team (PSAR), a group of EMTs and Paramedics that provided safety messaging as well as 911 services for the 7 million people that visit the Grand Canyon. It was an amazing job, but my wife, who is a RN, and I always had an eye on the Gunnison region. There's a closeness of community in this place surrounded by incredible beauty. After working in highly remote regions with the NPS, moving here was like coming to the big city. Our kids are thriving with all the opportunities available through the amazing school district, as well as wilderness activities. It sounds cheesy, but we are totally living our dream.



Grand Canyon rescue

What does it mean to you to be chief and what makes your team successful?

Honestly, it's tough, as any one of the previous Chiefs of GVH-EMS would share. This job can eat you alive; you're on 24/7/365. I am incredibly fortunate to have a strong Captains' Corps, a group of well-trained critical care paramedic leaders, followed by an amazing staff of paramedics and EMTs, each with remarkable and unique experience. We are constantly working on our culture in EMS - our medicine as well as our responsibility to this community. Balancing these things as a leadership group, while serving the health system, my staff and the community encompasses successful leadership. I'm honored to be here.

What are your goals for the future of GVH-EMS and staff?

Health care is in a state of crisis in Colorado and in the nation. The "Great Resignation" is rampant in health care as ICU's are 100% full. We are focused on internal resiliency and honoring the work/life balance as best we can while preparing for the inevitable growth our county will continue to see. Our primary goal is to build this health system proactively for the future, investing in our people and infrastructure, while responding with world-class paramedic services in the present.

What do you and your family most enjoy about living in Gunnison?

We are a classic wilderness family. Being together is paramount for our mental and physical health. We love the community, culture and mindset of Gunnison and Crested Butte. Everyone seems so oriented towards personal, family and community health through interaction with our great public lands. Every time I step out on my deck... every time... I look out across this valley and am amazed, and I realize how blessed I am to live here.

Chief Malcolm consistently attracts and hires enthusiastic and skilled providers and fosters a culture of learning, excellence, innovation, and accountability. He truly embraces the unique challenges of rural EMS and encourages his crews to do the same.

Shay Krier MD, FACP, Gunnison Valley Health EMS Medical Director

What do you like to do on your days off?

We climb, ski, mountain bike, and do lots of hiking. Maybe twice a year I get to surf in honor of my Californian roots. Currently, I'm also in a serious cribbage and backgammon winning streak against my wife.