

VITAL CONNECTIONS

NEWS & INFORMATION FROM NARBERTH AMBULANCE

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF LOWER MERION, NARBERTH, HAVERFORD TOWNSHIP, CONSHOHOCKEN AND WEST CONSHOHOCKEN ■ FALL 2022

Narberth Ambulance appoints Dr. Danielle Levine as New Assistant Medical Director



Danielle Levine, MD, has been appointed assistant medical director of Narberth Ambulance, where she joins a vibrant EMS Physicians Team that works in partnership with our 911 Ambulances to provide advanced medical direction and direct communication in critical care situations.

Dr. Levine, who resides in Lower Merion, started with Narberth Ambulance as a volunteer EMT in 2012. She continued her volunteer efforts while attending medical school as well as during her post-graduate residency training, at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. In 2020, her residency elective plans were shifted

due to the Covid-19 pandemic and she remained in the Philadelphia region. She decided to pivot her work to concentrate on first-responder efforts with Narberth Ambulance. "Since my elective plans included traveling, they were ultimately cancelled, and I began as assistant medical director in April, 2020. That position became official in 2022," explains Dr. Levine.

Born and raised in Monmouth County, NJ, Dr. Levine's interest in EMS began at a young age. She started as a volunteer with her hometown's first aid squad, where she completed an EMT course in 2003. Since then, Dr. Levine has consistently worked in EMS in both volunteer and paid settings, doing 911 response, events, and routine non-emergency transports.

She received a Bachelor of Science degree from Brown University in 2009. She then moved to Philadelphia for a career as a high school biology teacher, simultaneously receiving her Masters of Education from Arcadia University in 2011. Levine went on to graduate from Sidney Kimmel Medical College with her medical degree in 2017. Next, she completed a residency in emergency medicine at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in 2020 followed by a fellowship in EMS at Yale-New Haven Hospital in 2021.

Not only does Dr. Levine enjoy the medical supervisory role of her new position with Narberth Ambulance, she shares the service of helping the community is the greatest joy. "The exhilaration I feel when I can be the first-point of care for people and the adrenaline rush is so rewarding," she says. "Knowing that we can see the patient as soon as they need care offers up the best opportunity to assist them. I love the first line of care."

In addition to holding the position with Narberth Ambulance, Dr. Levine currently works as an emergency medicine attending physician at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. As a female EMT and physician, she is proud to be a role model for other women. "If you love going on ambulance calls, stick with it," she shares. "There are both male and female allies that would love to have females in the field."

She shares that her experience volunteering as an EMS for over 10 years has been a great fit for her role as an ER doctor. "It's an enormous privilege providing care," she adds. Dr. Levine is very grateful for her time with Narberth Ambulance, and explains how the internal education, on the job training, and respect and comraderies among the staff and volunteers has been a springboard for her success.

To that end, the dedication of the staff and volunteers of Narberth Ambulance is pivotal to the care of the community, and because Narberth Ambulance is not funded by tax payer dollars, they heavily rely on donations to continue its much-needed work and services.

Less than 1% of its annual operating expenses are provided through the municipalities that Narberth Ambulance serves.

Dr. Levine remains steadfast to her commitment to be ready to respond to the 911 calls that Narberth Ambulance receives. She notes that obstetric emergencies, cardiac arrest issues and pediatric emergencies are among the most needed services, and both staff and volunteer training is consistently needed to address these and other medical needs. "I am really involved in clinical care and reviewing cases, and training and research continues to be a top priority," she adds. Furthermore, a formal field review of services and goals for Narberth Ambulance will take place later this fall to better prepare for ongoing service calls. "This includes annual skills reviews, simulated cases, and more training," adds Dr. Levine.

Looking ahead to 2023, Dr. Levine is anticipating a continued need for more targeted research and education toward both pediatric and obstetrics care. "We want to empower both our EMTs and paramedics with the skills, training and education they need to take on quality management and patient care," she explains.

Narberth Ambulance by the numbers

46 Medics

94 EMTs

6 MDs

3 PHRNs

16,480 total hours of training annually

10,000 911-emergency calls annually:

- **5500** from Lower Merion
- **3500** from Haverford
- **1000** from Narberth, Conshohocken & West Conshohocken

Percentage of annual budget funded by municipalities we serve: **1%**



[Cyclists, Music Lovers and Spectators Celebrated Together]



A huge thank you to all of our sponsors, and community members, for supporting the annual Ardmore Rock N' Ride, a fundraising event benefiting Narberth Ambulance.

This year Narberth Ambulance was able to increase the number of sponsors by 100%. With over 80 local and national sponsors, we hope to continue to grow that number.

“Thank you for your commitment to public safety and ensuring our entire community has equitable access to the highest quality emergency medical services,” said Chief Philanthropy Officer, Jeanine DiTomasso.

With over 370 racers, we had the highest number of riders in the history of the event. Over 7,000 people in the community showed up and enjoyed a day filled with bike races, live music, and family fun, all for a great cause.

Thanks to those who sponsored the event, Narberth Ambulance was able to meet the fundraising goal and purchase a new ambulance. It arrives later this fall. Check out Narberth Ambulance’s social media pages to see pictures. Instagram: narberth_ambulance Facebook: Narberth Ambulance



Narberth Ambulance's Executive Director Speaks on Secondary Impact of Gun Violence on EMS Workers

Albert F. Davey, a paramedic for over 25 years and the executive director of Narberth Ambulance, spoke at the State Senate Democratic Policy Committee hearing about the secondary impacts of gun violence on EMS work.

Police and Emergency Medical Service provider's mental health training is basic. Emergency Medical Technicians receive one day of mental health training and paramedics receive four days. Yet, emergency responders are answering more overdose, suicide and mental health crisis calls than ever before.

On top of the sparse training, finding skilled and trained mental health providers for EMS providers have become increasingly difficult. Police,



firefighters and EMS typically use each other as a mental health resource and participate in peer-to-peer counseling because they respond to the same or similar calls. However, outside help is just as important. Davey mentioned that the effects of COVID-19 have been difficult because his staff is finally asking for help, and he has to tell them it could be a few months before they can get an appointment with a licensed psychologist.

“This rock we have to climb, with time and pressure will yield diamonds of mental health victories, and hopefully proper legislation for weapons to reside in properly trained and accountable hands,” said Davey.

5 FACTS You Might Not Know (But Should) About Narberth Ambulance



- 1 We serve Lower Merion, Narberth, Haverford, Conshohocken, & West Conshohocken.
- 2 We operate 24/7, and serve more than 150,000 citizens.
- 3 We respond to approximately 10,000 911 Emergency calls per year!
- 4 Only 1% of our annual budget is provided by the municipalities we serve.
- 5 We are a non-profit organization 501(c)(3) that relies on your donations to fund our life saving work.

Your contribution saves lives!
Donate at www.NarberthAmbulance.org

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Allow me to give you 10,000 reasons to support Narberth Ambulance this holiday season! This significant figure represents the number of prehospital emergency service calls we respond to annually.

Despite our name, our coverage area is not limited to Narberth. In fact, we skillfully serve the Lower Merion, Narberth, Haverford, Conshohocken, and West Conshohocken communities 24/7.

Being prepared to respond to 911 calls is what we refer to as a “state of readiness.” It is a costly endeavor, one that remains unfunded by tax dollars and almost entirely dependent on donations. **In order to maintain the exceptional level of service you have come to expect from Narberth Ambulance, we need to raise at least \$400,000 annually.** With your support now, we are confident we can achieve this goal!

Our annual membership fee is just \$80 for a family, \$55 for a senior couple, \$35 for an individual senior, and \$55 for an individual. Your membership ensures that, regardless of your insurance, you will make no payments beyond your mandatory copays and deductibles. The membership runs through October 31st, 2023. If you wish you can make your donation online at www.narberthambulance.org/donate or detach the form below and mail it in.

Wishing you a happy, healthy and safe holiday season!

In Good Health,

David R. Zaslow, J.D. EMT-P
 President

Prefer to Donate by Mail?

As a Narberth Ambulance Member, you can be assured that, regardless of your insurance, you make no payments beyond your mandatory co-pays and deductibles. All memberships below run from 11/1/2022 through 10/31/2023.

Family Membership	\$80	Individual Membership (one adult under age 64.)	\$55
Senior Couple Membership (65+)	\$60	Individual Senior Membership (one adult 65+)	\$35

I understand that Narberth Ambulance is a non-profit organization that relies on contributions to support citizens like me since only 1% of its operating budget comes from municipalities it serves. Therefore, I am also including an additional contribution of:

_____ \$25	_____ \$250 (benefactor)	TOTAL PAYMENT AMOUNT: \$ _____
_____ \$50	_____ \$500 (Chief's Circle)	
_____ \$100 (friend)	_____ \$1000 (President's Club)	

Please make your check payable to Narberth Ambulance.

Cut this donation section out and mail it back with your check to: Narberth Ambulance • P.O. Box 269, Ardmore, PA 19003

“

Through the blurry moments of my emergency, I remember the speed, competence and extraordinary professionalism of Narberth Ambulance.

”
- Resident

Need a Speaker for Your Next Event?

Looking for a speaker for your next event? Book a Narberth Ambulance EMT! Narberth Ambulance staff can tell you everything you wanted to know but didn't get a chance to ask. You can discuss topics such as trends in emergency medicine, safety tips for all four seasons, career pathways in the medical field and more. Your audience will learn about the types of calls first responders make, the trainings they undergo, and the effort it takes to keep the organization vibrant. We always leave time for questions.

Contact Jeanine DiTomasso at JDITomasso@NarberthAmbulance.org for more information.

Save Lives as a Volunteer EMT!

Looking to make a difference in your community? Volunteer with Narberth Ambulance!

No experience is necessary - if you have the will to help, we will show you the way. Training is free for volunteers.

There are many ways to serve, and volunteers are needed now!

Join us in any of these meaningful ways:

- Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) provide immediate care to the ill and injured and transport the patient to the hospital.
- Cadets are our teenage volunteers. Cadets receive much of the same training and serve in many of the same ways as our other volunteers. They can quickly become full-duty members at age 18.
- Support Members are people over the age of 18 who have a desire to serve in a non-emergency way. Opportunities include community education, fundraising, and events.

Ready to be part of a lifesaving team while building friendships that last a lifetime? Volunteer with Narberth Ambulance today! Visit www.narberthambulance.org



“

Thank you to the crew who responded to my Mothers' emergency. They provided expert care at home and on the way to hospital.

”
- Resident



Narberth Ambulance

Main Station

101 Sibley Avenue

Ardmore, PA 19003

NARBERTHAMBULANCE.ORG

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Important EMS Updates Inside!

Founded in 1944, Narberth Ambulance, a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization, serves 150,000 community members living in Lower Merion, Narberth, Haverford Township, Conshohocken and West Conshohocken. Annually, the organization responds to more than 10,000 calls for emergency medical and advanced lifesaving support services. Narberth Ambulance has received local and national recognition for its single-source EMS physicians unit, the first and only one of its kind. To offer your support to Narberth Ambulance, visit www.narberthambulance.org