

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **LogistiCare Foundation Awards \$20,000 Grant to Virginia Mobile Health Program**

**ATLANTA** – The LogistiCare Foundation has awarded a \$20,000 grant to the St. Mary’s Health Wagon, a mobile health services program based in Clinchco, Va., that provides primary care to the medically underserved and indigent in the rural Appalachian communities of Southwest Virginia. The Foundation’s grant will help offset the Health Wagon’s transportation expenses.

The mobile health unit was started more than 25 years ago by Sister Bernadette Kenny and today remains an innovative approach to providing access to healthcare. In 2004, the Health Wagon helped more than 11,000 patients obtain access to healthcare valued at more than \$1 million.

“We’re pleased to be able to help the St. Mary’s Health Wagon continue providing its much-needed medical care to persons in our rural communities,” said Karen O’Quinn, Virginia utilization supervisor for LogistiCare. “LogistiCare has provided volunteer support for the Health Wagon for two years, working with them through the Remote Area Medical (RAM) Health Expedition. RAM is the largest healthcare outreach of its kind in the nation and provides free eye, dental and medical care to people most in need. We are looking forward to continuing that support.”

“The healthcare delivery system in rural and impoverished Southwest Virginia creates certain and difficult challenges,” said Teresa Gardner, a nurse practitioner and co-manager of the St. Mary’s Health Wagon. “The unmet healthcare needs of individuals in these ‘coal counties’ of Southwest Virginia are chronic and severe. Poor health indicators, geographic isolation, unemployment, illiteracy, lack of transportation and communication resources, and a proud culture of independence and self reliance join with

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a severe dearth of specialty providers and a dedicated but overworked primary care network to perpetuate access problems.”

The Health Wagon visits seven sites in the Southwest Virginia counties of Buchanan, Dickenson, Russell and Wise on a weekly/biweekly basis.

### **About The LogistiCare Foundation**

The LogistiCare Foundation was established in 2004. It is recognized as a private charitable foundation under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. As a private foundation, the mission of the LogistiCare Foundation is to increase access to transportation for senior citizens, persons with disabilities and persons living in poverty. LogistiCare is the nation's leading transportation management solution.

### **About St. Mary's Health Wagon**

The St. Mary's Health Wagon is a non-profit healthcare corporation that was started more than twenty-five years ago by Sister Bernadette Kenny, a Catholic sister and nurse practitioner who came to the remote mountains of Appalachia with a vision of providing healthcare to the uninsured, underinsured and those in need. Along with Sister Kenny, the Health Wagon is co-managed by fellow nurse practitioner Teresa Gardner and is governed by a board of respected community leaders.

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