

2019 ANNUAL REPORT (July 2019-June 2020)

OUR MISSION

To facilitate free air transportation through volunteer pilots for financially distressed passengers with medical and humanitarian needs.

OUR HISTORY

LifeLine Pilots was founded in 1981 by Wanda Whitsitt of Champaign, IL. LifeLine Pilots began as a small group of pilots in Illinois who envisioned using their special skill of flying to help people with emergencies to reach medical centers. With only 40 pilots, all activity was limited to departing or arriving within the state.

Almost 40 years later, LifeLine Pilots continues to serve passengers in need. Thanks to the generosity of donors and more than 450 volunteer pilots, we have flown more than 5 million nautical miles and almost 9,000 missions.

OUR IMPACT

We serve 10 states in the Midwest, including: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Tennessee, and Wisconsin. For distances outside our region, LifeLine Pilots links to other volunteer pilot organizations.





Wanda Whitsitt, Founder of LifeLine Pilots



LIFELINE PILOTS DURING COVID-19

Even as the COVID-19 pandemic surrounds us, LifeLine Pilots remains open to help those in need. During these unparalleled times, our top priority continues to be the safety and well-being of our passengers, pilots, volunteers and staff. LifeLine Pilots has always operated under a safety-first protocol. This is how we've achieved an impeccable 39-year, 5 million nautical mile record of transporting passengers and cargo without incident, for which we are proud and committed to uphold and grow.

We initially limited the number of passengers we flew because of the potential to spread the virus. However, as medical facilities resumed procedures, we saw a huge demand in the need for our services. Traveling on a commercial airline has always posed a threat for people with compromised immune systems, but now the potential exposure has become much more serious and life-threatening. Our pilots and passengers take extra precautions to limit potential exposure of COVID-19 to give passengers the safest journey possible.

Our staff continues to work tirelessly for LifeLine Pilots, shifting to remote working when necessary. No matter where our offices are located, our Mission Coordinators remain available to help those in need.



THANK YOU

I joined LifeLine Pilots in September 2019 and have been overwhelmed by the generosity of the volunteer pilots and donors to this incredible cause. In 1981, Wanda had a vision to bring together people having a unique skill with those who needed them most and deliver an outcome that neither could have imagined. Our compassionate and generous pilots give the gift of hope to every person they fly for LifeLine Pilots.

We believe that all people should have equal access to health care, regardless of economic or geographic circumstances. Our amazing donors make that vision a reality. Because of their compassion and generosity, LifeLine Pilots is the shortest distance between home and hope. We could not do it without you!



-Lindsey Kerr, LifeLine Pilots Executive Director



It is an incredible feeling to make a difference in someone's life. Our pilots and staff know this feeling first-hand each time they interact with someone who needs the service that LifeLine Pilots provides – free air transportation for those in need. The smiles on our passengers' faces are incredibly telling, knowing that we have been able to take transportation off their plate of worries so they can focus on the care that they need.

I joined the LifeLine Pilots board because I believe in the mission. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as their Chairman of the Board. And I am thankful that we have you, our volunteer pilots and donors, who make all that we do possible. Thank you!



-Bryon Griffin, LifeLine Pilots Chairman

For more stories and information, visit LifeLine Pilots.org

- Holly, Mom of 10-yearold passenger Ainata

"Lifeline Pilots has become our family. I am so proud to call them family and miss them when we are not in need of transportation. I find myself thinking of them and their families, praying for all of them. I honestly don't know what we would have done without their generosity of time and service. I am overwhelmed by love and support Lifeline Pilots provides from the moment we have an appointment, schedule changes, weather changes, and I could go on and on. We are forever grateful for every opportunity we have with LifeLine Pilots."





"I honestly don't know where we would be without LifeLine Pilots. They have been a constant source of support during an unbelievably hard time in our lives. Not only have they provided tangible support by flying us to and from the hospital, they have provided emotional and spiritual support with encouraging messages and prayers. We are forever grateful and there are not enough words to adequately express our gratitude."

Stories From Our Passengers



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1-800-822-7972 LifeLinePilots.org

Board of Directors

Bodad or Directors Wanda Whitsitt, IL (Founder) Bryon Griffin, IL (Chairman) Peyton Metzel, IL (Chairman) Peter Murphy, IL (Tireasurer) Anaise Berry, IL Crystal Garrett, IL Carson Greene, FL Garson Greene, FL Melissa Neumann, IL Kevin Sheahan, IL Kevin Sheahan, IL Kevin Sheahan, IL Mady Zich, IL