

## **Ambulance Report- February 2026**

For the month of February, the Madeline Island Ambulance Service responded to a total of two calls for service. Both incidents required transport across the ice due to winter access conditions between Madeline Island and the mainland.

One patient was transported across the ice utilizing the Mercedes ambulance. The second patient was transported via windsled. Winter operations require flexibility, careful assessment of ice and weather conditions, and close coordination with our mainland partners. Both transports were completed safely and in accordance with established winter transport protocols.

As a reminder, when transport is conducted via windsled, the Madeline Island Ambulance Service operates under an established interagency agreement with Bayfield Ambulance. Upon arrival on the mainland side in Bayfield, patient care is formally transferred to Bayfield Ambulance personnel. Bayfield Ambulance then assumes responsibility for continued transport to Tamarack Health in Ashland or another appropriate receiving facility based on patient needs. This arrangement ensures continuity of care, appropriate transport resources, and operational efficiency during the winter season.

The service remains in consistent communication with Windsled Inc. and Bayfield Ambulance Service, as ice conditions can vary daily. Ongoing coordination is essential during this season to ensure safe and timely patient transport.

In addition to operational responses, our service is currently underway with refresher training requirements for both EMTs and EMRs. We have enrolled in an online refresher program through Northwood Technical College. EMTs are completing their required 40-hour refresher course, while EMRs are completing their 18-hour refresher. All responders will also renew their CPR certification to maintain compliance with state and licensure requirements.

We have also been in communication with the American Red Cross to coordinate this year's annual Madeline Island blood drive. Due to planned renovations at the La Pointe School this summer, the blood drive will instead be held at the Emergency Services Building (ESB). The event is scheduled for July 22nd. We look forward to supporting this important community health initiative.

Report respectfully submitted by Sarah Schram.