

## **So you want to be an EMS worker?**

*OSF HealthCare facilitates opportunities to become a lifesaver*

Run time - :41

ANCHOR LEDE: During National Emergency Medical Services Week, officials are getting the word out about the need for ambulance workers. Tim Ditman of OSF HealthCare has more.

~~~

There's no college degree requirement, but plenty of initial and continuing education is part of the job. Plus, you become familiar with medical best practices, all stored on a smartphone app you can access quickly in the field.

There's no debating the job is stressful, but it's rewarding and usually well-paying, says OSF EMS educator Les Mennenga.

*SOUNDBITE: "We're going to be on calls where it's potentially a person's worst day of their life. We have an opportunity to make a difference. We may see something that's traumatic. We need to understand who we can turn to talk about that." (:17)*

I'm Tim Ditman.

~~~

ANCHOR TAG: If you're interested in this line of work, Mennenga suggests contacting your local EMS agency or volunteer fire department. Before enrolling in a class, try observing one or doing an ambulance ride-along.