

## How Can You Get Involved?

The CARES Executive Committee is in search of four (4) types of people:



Member hospital personnel willing to become licensed to use the CARES System and provide assistance in disaster.



Member hospital personnel already licensed to use ham radios willing to lend a hand.



Community members willing to become licensed and provide assistance to CARES facilities in a crisis.



Ham radio operators local to our CARES facilities willing to provide assistance during a crisis.

## We Want to Hear From You

If you are interested in volunteering to assist CARES achieve its goals, please contact **Meghan Lancaster** at (910) 452-8540. If you are a CARES hospital employee, you can also contact your hospital's CARES representative.



### Participating Hospitals

Betsy Johnson Regional Hospital  
(Dunn, NC)

Bladen County Hospital  
(Elizabethtown, NC)

Brunswick Novant Medical Center  
(Supply, NC)

Columbus Regional Healthcare System  
(Whiteville, NC)

Conway Medical Center  
(Conway, SC)

Dosher Memorial Hospital  
(Southport, NC)

McLeod Loris / Seacoast  
(Loris, SC / Little River, SC)

New Hanover Regional Medical Center  
*Main Campus & Orthopedic Campus*  
(Wilmington, NC)

Pender Memorial Hospital  
(Burgaw, NC)

Sampson Regional Medical Center  
(Clinton, NC)

Scotland Health Care System  
(Laurinburg, NC)

Southeastern Health  
(Lumberton, NC)

Vidant Duplin Hospital  
(Kenansville, NC)



# Carolinas Amateur Radio Emergency Service

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## What is CARES?

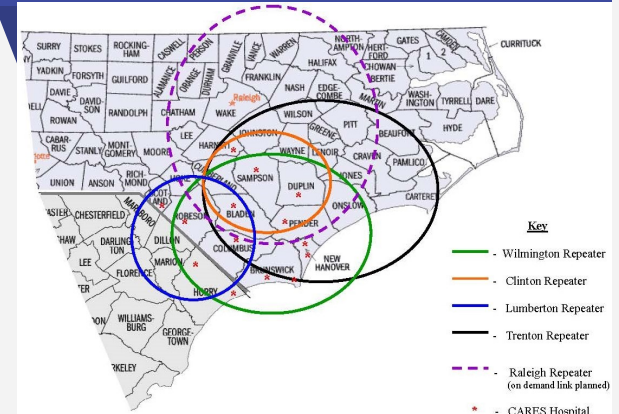
CARES is an emergency communication system designed to allow hospitals on the coast of North and South Carolina to communicate with one another in case of disaster. A system of five repeaters (devices that amplify and rebroadcast radio transmissions) and antennas located at each hospital facilitate this exchange when all other lines of communication fail.

### Why CARES Exists

In the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on 9/11, ham radio operators handled communications for hospitals in lower Manhattan after the towers collapsed. Those ham operators provided the vital communication lifeline for three days until telephone service could be restored,

In this region, which is prone to hurricanes and other emergency situations, our hospitals knew they needed an amateur radio network dedicated to public health communication in times of disasters.

Led by the hospitals of Coastal Carolinas Health Alliance (CCHA) and local ham operators, CARES covers approximately 25,000 square miles.



### Why CARES is Important

Through natural and manmade disasters in recent years, we have seen that a system like CARES is vital to the communities in our region. It can be up to 72 hours before outside assistance can be provided in the wake of a disaster. CARES would be a lifeline for those in need before, during, and after a catastrophic event.

CARES operates on the 1.25 meter (222 MHz) band because it's seldom-used, allowing us to communicate without interference.

