

EMS WEST

Annual Report Fiscal Year 2017-2018

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Financial Statement of income and expenses:

During Fiscal year 2017-2018, EMS West received program funds in the amount of \$2,103,698 from the Department of Health and spent the entire amount to support the EMS system in sixteen counties. An independent financial audit will be completed in the fall of 2018.

Regional Activities/ Organizational Management

EMS Update 2018 was held March 22, 23 and 24. There were 74 sessions and the conference provided 4,855.5 continuing education credits (4,364 clinical/core and 491.5 other). 883 registered participants attended. 54 exhibitors participated (over 12,000 square feet of exhibition space). Within Pennsylvania, 43 counties were represented. 60% of attendees were certified at the BLS level. 79% of the attendees registered for two days or more. 98% of the attendees were satisfied/very satisfied at the conclusion of the conference.

Fred Peterson and John Pierce received EMS Recognition Awards at the 2017 Annual Meeting held November 2 at the Doubletree by Hilton Pittsburgh/Cranberry.

EMS West has continued to participate in educational / town hall style meetings with state and local elected officials, EMS agency leadership and the public to discuss issues facing the EMS industry. Topics of these meetings focused on reimbursement, recruitment and educational expenses as well as legislative efforts that are underway.

EMS West continued its efforts to aid candidates interested in obtaining EMS provider certifications by using available funds to help offset the cost of EMS education in order to combat the EMS provider shortage as reported by EMS agencies in the region.

EMS West staff participated in EMS Night at PNC Park, EMS Week activities, and other agency and education institute events.

EMS West continues to support EMS recognition activities by attending the Ambulance Association of Pennsylvania's Annual EMS Memorial Service at the Capitol and Stars of Life Event, as well as participating in and supporting the 550 mile EMS Memorial bicycle ride from Boston to Arlington, Virginia and the EMS Memorial bicycle ride from Shanksville to Harrisburg.

EMS West continues to support Change the Culture, a regional workgroup dedicated to identifying resources available to EMS personnel in relation to PTSD, suicide, well-being, fatigue, and depression. EMS West also supports local Critical Incident Stress Management Teams in the region.

EMS West continues to support the fight against opioid addiction and participated in the Department of Health Warm-Handoff Summit where strategies were discussed on fighting the opioid crisis and ensuring the seamless transfer of opioid overdose survivors from emergency care to the treatment provider.

Medical Direction

332 Medical Command Physicians were registered.

19 Medical Command facilities were renewed.

There are 38 medical command facilities in the region.

There are 17 PA DOH accredited primary stroke centers in the region.

The regional Medical Advisory Committee met 3 times.

Systems Operations

	<i>Initial</i>		<i>Renewal</i>		<i>New</i>
	<i>Service</i>	<i>Vehicle</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>Vehicle</i>	<i>Vehicle</i>
ALS	0	0	53	404	30
BLS	0	0	10	18	5
QRS	3	4	28	64	8

175 licensure applications were processed.

299 total EMS agencies in the region - 156 transporting agencies, 114 QRS agencies, 11 Swiftwater rescue, 15 rescue, 3 air services

Total number of personnel (QRS, vehicle rescue, water) is 1,924 with 283 vehicles recognized.

Staff conducted 8 unannounced agency inspections.

Practitioner Services (numbers based on DOH EMSRS system)

	<i>Certified This Year</i>	<i>Total In Region</i>
EMR	74	628
EMT	389	6416
Advanced EMT	24	58
Paramedic	63	2150
Pre Hospital RN's	38	325
Pre Hospital Physicians	20	96
Pre Hospital Physicians Extender	3	6
EMS-Instructor	38	418
EMSVO*	10	70
Medical Command Physician	332	547

(note: EMS instructors are dual certified)

*(*EMSVO denotes sole certification)*

1469 photos and signatures were taken and placed on certification cards.

223 EMS providers requested Certification by Endorsement; 69 became PA certified

63 Letters of good standing/verification sent to the Bureau to process (per protocol).

Management Systems

There were over 615,000 Patient Care Reports generated in the region and processed at region.

Most Common Medical Categories (as seen by EMS [excluding not applicable/not available/transfers]):

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| 1) Sick person | 17.4% |
| 2) Breathing Problems | 5.6% |
| 3) Fall Victim | 5.6% |
| 4) Traumatic Injury | 5.6% |
| 5) Chest Pain | 3.8% |
| 6) Unconscious/Fainting | 3.7% |
| 7) Abdominal Pain | 2.7% |
| 8) Psychiatric Problem | 2.6% |
| 9) Traffic Accident | 2.0% |
| 10) Stroke/CVA | 1.9% |

Busiest time of the day for EMS calls is between 1400 and 1500 with 6.5%. That is followed by 1500-1600, 1300-1400, 1200-1300 and 1100-1200.

Busiest day of the week is Friday, followed by Wednesday.

70.4% of calls are treated, transported by EMS. Nearly 12% of the patients seen (according to PCR's) require no treatment. 4.8% of the patients (according to PCR's) refuse care.

17.1% of patient destination basis is by patient choice. 18.2% of the time it is based on closest facility and 8.4% of patients are transported to a destination based on patient's physician choice. 6.6% of the patients are transported to specialty resource centers. Family choice comprises 4.5% of destination outcome.

15 EMS agencies received 2018 American Heart Association Mission: Lifeline EMS Performance Achievement Awards.

Education

18 EMR programs ran in the region

80 EMT programs ran in the region

Allegheny 34	Armstrong 1	Beaver 2	Butler 3
Cameron 0	Clearfield 2	Elk 1	Fayette 7
Greene 3	Indiana 7	Jefferson 4	Lawrence 2
McKean 1	Potter 1	Washington 3	Westmoreland 9

7 AEMT programs ran in the region

7 Paramedic programs ran in the region

4 EMS-Instructor classes were held

28 Basic Vehicle Rescue classes and 14 Special Vehicle Rescue classes were held

Hosted an EMS Instructor program attracting 10 students.

58 PHRN applications received; 44 successful completions of the PHRN – BLS psychomotor exam; 38 successful completions of the PHRN – ALS cognitive exam. 3 paramedics were upgraded to PHRN.

12 PHRN Prepare classes held, 6 EMT prepare classes held

Conducted 55 BLS psychomotor examinations (1,091 candidates tested) and 10 ALS psychomotor examinations.

613 patient actors/EMT & EMT-P assistants participated in NREMT psychomotor exams.

Conducted 115 class visits.

3 educational institutes were re-accredited this year. 1 new educational institute added.

Continuing Education

3,401 Con-Ed courses were registered in the region with 41,113 students enrolled.

A breakdown of con-ed classes by county is no longer available.

953 Con-Ed by endorsement applications were processed.

42 continuing education sponsors were re-accredited. There are 205 sponsors in the region. Region approved 17 new sponsors.

Region approved 65 new continuing education course applications.

Region conducted 13 continuing education sponsor workshops.

Regional staff participated in 3 PA EMS Registry Update courses for practitioners

A list of the top fifteen continuing education sponsors by volume is no longer available.

A list of the top ten continuing education classes offered is no longer available.

Continuous Quality Improvement

19 complaints received at Region and investigated.

225 Fatal Accident Reports were submitted to the Bureau of EMS.

The regional QI committee met 2 times.

WMD/Emergency Preparedness Activities

4 Task Force Meetings were held; 1 Table Top Exercises was conducted; and 1 Full Scale Field Exercise was completed. EMS West participates in the Northwest Central PA Emergency Response Group, the Northwest Central Healthcare Coalition, the Southwest PA Task Force, the Region 13 Health and Medical Committee, the Southwest PA Healthcare Coalition, and numerous subcommittees of each.

One of the mandated responsibilities of the Regional EMS Councils is to assist Federal, State or local agencies, upon request, in the provision of onsite mitigation, technical assistance, and situation assessment, coordination of functions or post-incident evaluations in the event of a potential or actual disaster, mass casualty situation or other substantial threat to public health. As part of its fulfillment of these tasks, our personnel participated in the following meetings, exercises, events and real time disasters:

- Stop the Bleed exercise/class, Cameron County
- Stop the Bleed exercise/class, Clearfield County
- Stop the Bleed exercise/class, Jefferson County
- Stop the Bleed exercise/class, Elk County
- Stop the Bleed exercise/class, Allegheny County
- Big Run Community Days exercise, Jefferson County
- Elk Expo Exercise, Elk County
- SMRT exercise, Southpointe
- Groundhog Day, Punxsutawney
- Strike Team exercise, March Madness, Equipment/CCP/MMSS training
- Active Shooter drill, Fayette County
- Strike Team exercise, From the Beginning, Kersey
- 132nd Annual Trek to Gobblers Knob exercise, Jefferson County/PEMA
- Dubois Community Days exercise, Clearfield County
- Weather Emergency exercise, Patient surge, St. Clair Hospital
- Support to Penn Highlands Elk and Pine Crest Manor during a brush fire incident
- Assisted with evacuation of Brighton Heights Nursing and Rehab Center (Beaver County) during a cold weather incident
- Held 4 Strike Team meetings and one Strike Team training.