

*A System Designed to Save Lives*

EASTERN PA EMS COUNCIL  
ANNUAL REPORT  
FISCAL YEAR 2022 - 2023



**In accordance with the Pennsylvania Department of Health Rules and Regulations 28 Pa. Code § 1021.103, The regional council governing body shall submit an annual report to the Department.**

**Reporting requirements of Appendix A – Work Statement. Comprehensive Annual Report as related to, Coordinate and Improve the delivery of EMS in the Council’s region.**

John G. Kloss  
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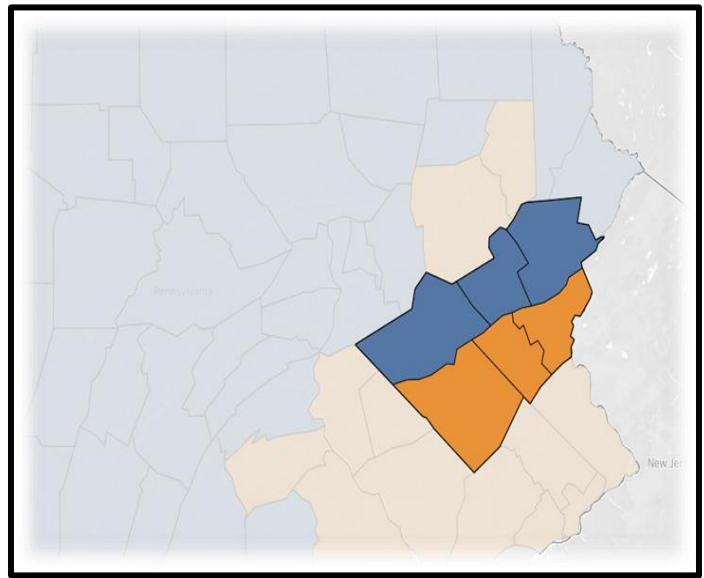
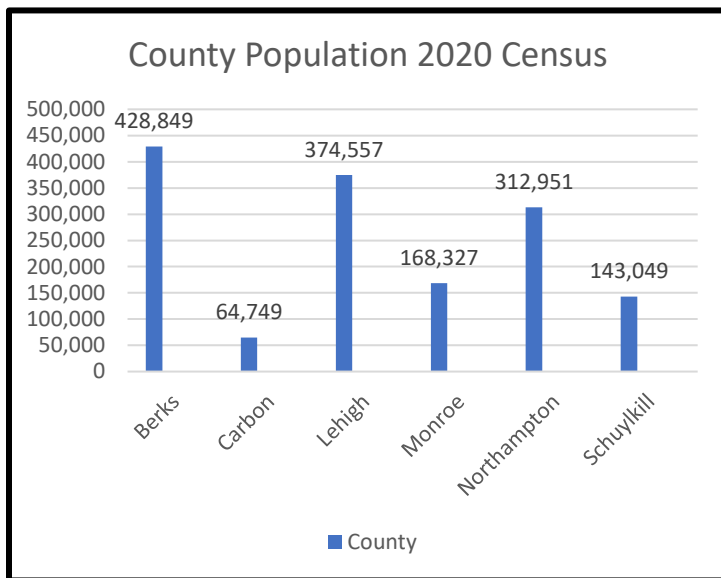
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## REGIONAL SUMMARY:

The mission of the Eastern PA EMS Council is to further the development of the region's pre-hospital emergency care and transportation of the sick and injured. The EMS Council advocates for advancing the quality of patient care, improving patient access to care, and assisting practitioners securing educational programs, and training to maintain compliance with the EMS Systems Act. With an emphasis on customer service and professionalism, the Eastern PA EMS Council is committed to serving our constituents from across our region. Additionally, the EMS Council is engaged with our Healthcare Networks, PSAPs, Emergency Management partners and our Health Care Coalitions. Our engagement, cooperation, and the willingness to support a multi-disciplinary delivery of services remains our core mission as we develop our regional EMS system.

The Eastern PA EMS Council maintains responsibility for a diverse six (6) county region which encompasses urban, suburban, and rural communities. The Eastern region is comprised of one hundred nineteen (119) licensed EMS agencies, six-hundred fifty-three (653) licensed vehicles, and four thousand two hundred seventy-four (4,274) certified EMS practitioners. Additionally, the region proudly supports the Philadelphia Fire Department, which operates 103 licensed EMS assets, via our licensure division to conduct inspections during the scheduled triennial process and with the addition of vehicles and assets to the fleet when applicable.



**Serving a population of 1,492,482 citizens across the Eastern PA EMS Council region, our Regional EMS Practitioners responded to**

**246,219**

**Requests for EMS Services in Fiscal Year 2022 - 2023**

In addition to the traditional responsibilities defined in the Eastern PA EMS Councils grant, the regional Council also supports, coordinates, and provides the additional following services, as we strive to enhance the state of the commonwealths EMS System.

The Eastern PA EMS Council has partnered with the Lehigh County Emergency Management Agency, providing fiduciary support and management of funds specific to an annual Emergency Management Conference hosted and coordinated by the leadership of Lehigh County.

The Eastern PA EMS Council continues to coordinate the licensure and inspections of the City of Philadelphia Fire Departments professional fleet of licensed EMS assets.

The Eastern PA EMS Council, under the direction of Act 93, has embraced education, training, revamping training equipment and initiated additional efforts to support and enhance our rural EMS agency(s) capabilities.

The Eastern PA EMS Council hosts one of the commonwealth's three EMS Emergency Preparedness Specialist. This party maintains responsibility for twenty-one (21) counties in Eastern PA.

The Council is also host to the annual CODE EMS Conference which features fifty (50) educational sessions over the course of this three (3) day event and awarded 2517 continuing educational credits to EMS practitioners in 2022 as we strive to expand the availability of quality educational programs.

The Eastern PA EMS Council serves on a variety of local, regional, and state sanctioned Task Forces, committees, and working groups, offering subject matter expertise specific to the Pennsylvania's EMS System.

The Eastern PA EMS Council remains committed and dedicated to the practitioners that have unselfishly dedicated themselves to serving our communities, residents, and visitors of our region. We thank you, the EMS practitioners that have, and will continue to serve, respond, and engage, even during the most difficult of times.

***“The Eastern PA EMS Council service area is comprised of one hundred eighteen (118) licensed EMS agencies, six-hundred fifty-three (653) licensed vehicles, and four thousand two hundred seventy-four (4,274) certified EMS practitioners.”***

**1. Board of Directors \ Health Council Officers**

President: Dr. Bryan Wilson

Vice President: Mr. Anthony Tucci

Treasurer: Mr. Chris Basile CPA

Secretary: Mr. Edward Coleman

Directors, Eastern PA EMS Council

<u>NAME</u>			<u>NAME</u>	
1	<u>Dr. Zachary Matuzsan</u>	19	<u>Jarad Yeastedt</u>	
2	<u>Matthew Brett</u>	20	<u>Kerry Dempsey</u>	
3	<u>Shawn Silvoy</u>	21	<u>Edwin Hillegass</u>	
4	<u>Maria Wescoe</u>	22	<u>Dr. Jonathan Trager</u>	
5	<u>Greg Drake</u>	23	<u>Dr. Jeff Kuklinski</u>	
6	<u>Craig Deppe</u>	24		
7	<u>Mark Wiekrykas</u>	25		
8	<u>Jeff Fritz</u>	26		
9	<u>Bryan Evans</u>	27		
10	<u>Carrie Frey</u>	28		
11	<u>Jeff Yanochko</u>	29		
12	<u>Bryan Fritz</u>	30		
13	<u>Joel Calarco</u>	31		
14	<u>Donald DeReamus</u>	32		
15	<u>Ann Marie Robertone</u>	33		
16	<u>John Semonich</u>	34		
17	<u>Robert Mateff</u>	35		
18	<u>Dr. Aaron Ratner</u>	36		



4. **Financial Statement of income and expenses:**

2021 - 2022	General Allocation	Rural Education	Equipment	Total Budget	Expended
Personnel	\$373,366	\$176,840	\$15,300	\$565,506	\$561,214
Consultants Subcontracted Services	\$26,002	\$0	\$86,825	\$112,827	\$112,887
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supplies	\$23,191	\$0	\$0	\$23,191	\$13,045
Travel	\$2,500	\$0	\$0	\$2,500	\$0
Other Cost	\$136,227	\$176,847	\$0	\$313,074	\$330,643
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$561,286</b>	<b>\$353,687</b>	<b>\$102,125</b>	<b>\$1,017,098</b>	<b>\$1,017,789</b>

**NOTE:** THE AMOUNTS SHOWN ABOVE ARE PRELIMINARY END OF YEAR TOTALS AND NOT FINAL AUDIT AMOUNT

5. **Special Project Funding:**

Projects, as determined by the Department to be appropriate and necessary for the implementation of a comprehensive statewide EMS system. The amounts listed below are included in the categorical totals shown above.

Regional Performance Improvement Data Collection Software (First Watch)	\$87,821.10
<i>Project Narrative:</i>	
Regional initiative engaged the regions ALS agency leadership, medical directors, and Performance Improvement team to secure a comprehensive software program intended to both enhance and expand upon data collection and patient care.	
	N - A
<i>Project Narrative:</i>	
	Amount:
<i>Project Narrative:</i>	
Total Reinvestment into EMSOF Provider Services (EMS Agencies)	<b>\$87,821.10</b>

## **6. Regional Activities/ Organizational Management**

Date of the current Comprehensive Regional EMS System Plan	Date 2020
Number of Board of Director Meetings \ Health Council meetings	6
Public Education Stop-the- Bleed Events	2
Public Education CPR Events	5
Number of Legislative Inquiries or Contacts	4
Technical Assistance Request (local entities and elected officials)	5

### *Regional Activities/ Organizational Management Project Narrative:*

The Eastern PA EMS Council is partnered with Lehigh Valley Health Network in efforts to promote CPR training in schools and communities across the region. Additionally, the Council visits schools and promotes Stop the Bleed initiatives throughout the region.

## **7. Continuous Quality Improvement**

	Quantity
Number of Clinical Cases Reviewed by Regional QI Committee	40
Accidents Involving Ambulances / EMS Personnel Reported in the Region	8
Number of Times the Regional QI Committee Met	4

### *Continuous Quality Improvement Narrative:*

The EMS Council Regional Performance Improvement committee convenes quarterly and reviews Ketamine, Etomidate usage records and is pursuing the development of expansion of a regional PI data software program, FirstWatch.

## **8. Medical Direction**

	Quantity
Pediatric Trauma Centers Accredited Level 1 or 2	1
Accredited Level I Trauma Centers	3
Accredited Level II Trauma Centers	2
Accredited Level III Trauma Centers	1
Accredited Level IV Trauma Centers	4
Accredited primary Stroke Centers	13
Comprehensive Stroke Centers	2
Thrombectomy Capable Stroke Centers	1



Acute Stroke-Ready Hospitals	1
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*Medical Direction Narrative:*

The Eastern PA EMS Council maintains two (2) Regional Medical Directors, both of which are actively engaged in regional, state, and national programs specific to EMS.

**9. Systems Operations**

	Quantity
Spot inspections conducted – EMS Agencies	17
Spot inspections conducted – EMS Vehicles	2
Spot inspections conducted – Continuing Education Sponsors	2
Spot inspections conducted – Education Institutes	10
Spot inspections conducted – Medical Command Facilities	0
Number of Safety Inspections Conducted	8
Number of Vehicles Inspected During Safety Inspection	22
Photo & Signatures Added to Certification Cards	3
BLS Psychomotor Examinations Conducted	40
Number of BLS Psychomotor Exam Candidates Tested.	458
ALS Psychomotor Examinations Conducted	3
Number of ALS Psychomotor Exam Candidates Tested	50
Certification Class Visits Conducted	52
Number of EMS Agency Re-Inspections Conducted	1
Number of Authorized Inquiry Reports Filed with the Bureau	7

*Systems Operations Narrative:*

In an effort to enhance, and increase accessibility to EMS Psychomotor testing, the EMS Council established a re-testing site at the Regional office, effectively increasing candidate opportunities.

## 10. Emergency Preparedness Activities

	Quantity
Coalition / Task Force Meetings Attended (only EMSOF funded staff attendance)	16
Coalition Northeast HCC Meetings Attended (EPC Role)	14
Coalition Southeast HCC Meetings Attended (EPC Role)	11
Redundant Communications Exercices Attended / Conducted	12
Tabletop Exercises Attended / Conducted	3
Full Scale / Functional Exercises Attended / Conducted	1
Special Event Plans Submitted	2
Responses / Deployments	6
Strike Team Agencies	N - A

*Emergency Preparedness Narrative:*

### **Emergency Preparedness Specialist Program Year End Review: Accomplishments**

#### **Asset Maintenance and Inventory Control**

Providing service and assistance to six (6) partnering regional EMS Council across eighteen (18) counties and providing asset maintenance and deployment support to EMS West and the Emergency Health Services Federation Emergency Preparedness Coordinators. The Emergency Preparedness Specialist provided additional support, maintenance, inventory control and work associated with:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Air Conditioning Trailer</li> <li>- Generators</li> <li>- Heater Trailer</li> <li>- Light Towers</li> <li>- MESS Trailers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mobile generators</li> <li>- MSEC Trailers</li> <li>- Mobile Surge tent systems</li> <li>- Strike Team assets</li> <li>- CCP Trailers</li> </ul>
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#### **Emergency Responses - Deployments**

CCP Trailer -York County Fair. CCP Trailer -Western Berks Explosion. Generator Trailer – Berks WW2 Weekend.	Heater Trailer - Heritage Mills Nursing Schuylkill County.
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#### **Functional / Full Scale Exercises**

LCEMS – Full Scale Active Shooter Exercise. NEHCC Post Acute TTX.	PAR Exposition Bethlehem PA. Pleasant Valley Manor Nursing Facility TTX Monroe County PA.
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## Emergency Preparedness Activities

### HCC Participation

Participation in NE, NC, EC HCC Meetings.	HCC Regional / Zone Meetings.
Regional Council Director, Co-Chair HCC EMS	EPC Secretary for NE HCC
Regional EPC Chair for Training / Education for SE HCC	Strategic Planning meetings

### Planning Meetings

Urban Heat Island Planning Team	CHEMPACK Installation – Carbon County
ASPR REACT MITRE RISC Tool 2.0 Planning Committee.	Statewide Advisory Committee on Preparedness (SACP).
Lehigh Valley Disaster Planning Work Group.	Inclusion of Individuals with Access and Functional Needs Group.
LCEMA Conference Planning Committee. ESF-8 Strategic Planning Group Domain 5 Chairperson.	Monroe County NASCAR Site visit. Juvare EMTrack Workgroup.

### Presentations

IAEM Conference: DEX-AR Workshop presentation Savanha GA.	South Central Task Force DEX-AR Workshop presentation.

### Training – Facilitate / Support

Heater Trailer Operations – Emergency Health Services Federation.	Heater Trailer Operations – Monroe County EMA
Heater Trailer Operations – Montgomery County EMA.	Triage Training, City of Easton PA.
DEX-AR Workshops Clarian PA and Pittsburgh PA.	Stop The Bleed Training Carbon County PA.
Pocono Mountain Regional EMS Fit Testing Train the Trainer Program.	CODE EMS Conference, Tabletop Exercise Training exercise.
Amateur radio License class.	Southeast HCC Symposium Co- Coordinator.

**11. Board of Director \ Health Council Meetings**

DATE:	TIME	LOCATION
7/20/2022	18:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Webinar meeting
9/21/2022	18:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Annual meeting
1/18/2023	18:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Webinar meeting
1/18/2023	19:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Executive Board meeting
3/18/2023	18:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Webinar meeting
5/17/2023	18:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Webinar meeting

**12. Medical Advisory Committee Meeting**

DATE:	TIME	LOCATION
6/27/2022	11:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Webinar meeting
10/13/2022	11:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Webinar meeting
3/21/2023	15:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Webinar meeting
6/27/2023	16:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Webinar meeting

**13. Quality Improvement Committee Meeting**

DATE:	TIME	LOCATION
9/13/2022	13:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Webinar meeting
12/12/2022	11:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Webinar meeting
3/27/2023	11:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Webinar meeting
6/5/2023	11:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Webinar meeting

#### **14. Regional Accomplishments:**

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The Eastern PA EMS Council recognizes the importance of regional collaboration, partnerships, and the continual development of our evolving EMS System. Our regional Council strives to deliver premier customer service with timely, accurate, and responsible outcomes. While fiscal year 2022 – 2023 presented challenges, the EMS Council continued to provide exceptional service, opportunities, and engagement across our six (6) county region and instituted a successful rural education funding program, amongst a variety of additional programs, partnerships, and opportunities.

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- The Eastern PA EMS Council continues to partner with the Philadelphia Fire Department to provide licensure inspections of the departments EMS Fleet of over 103 licensed EMS assets.
- The Council assessed Rural County EMS agency's needs, investing \$176,855.00 into Education, training, and equipment.
- The Council continues to coordinate and distribute emergency preparedness supplies, assets, and equipment to partnering regions and agencies.
- The 2022 CODE EMS Conference was hosted, awarding 2517 continuing education credits to EMS practitioners.
- The Council staff continues to attend and support county EMS Association meetings from across the region.
- The Council assisted in the appointment of a regional practitioner to the designation of EMS Train the Trainer.
- The Council continues to provide guidance and technical support to our regional PSAPs.
- The Council, faced with budgetary reductions, continues to operate without a Provider Services Specialist, roles and responsibilities distributed without disruption to our constituents.
- The Council's Emergency Preparedness Specialist continues to support the Lehigh Carbon Intermediate Emergency Preparedness planning team.
- The Council's Performance Improvement committee continues to review each administration of Ketamine, validating utilization and clinical necessity. The region has acquired the First Watch Performance Improvement program to further develop and enhance data collection and overall performance improvement campaigns across the region.
- The Council collected, compiled, and reviewed 100% of SAI specific PCRs.
- The Council attends and supports Lehigh County Fire Chiefs Association meetings, providing support and assistance, as necessary.
- The Council based Emergency Preparedness Specialist serves twenty-one (21) counties in the eastern portion of the Commonwealth, providing traditional asset maintenance, ensuring a state of readiness and coordinating initiative-taking educational opportunities across multiple regional geographical boundaries.
- The Council participated in the annual Northern Valley EMS Legislative luncheon.
- The Council conducted two VFIS Trailer Operations programs within the region.
- The Council assisted multiple municipalities with EMS specific concerns and or in the provision of education on EMS operations and deployment.
- The Council Director represents the EMS Council on the Burn Prevention Networks Advisory Council.

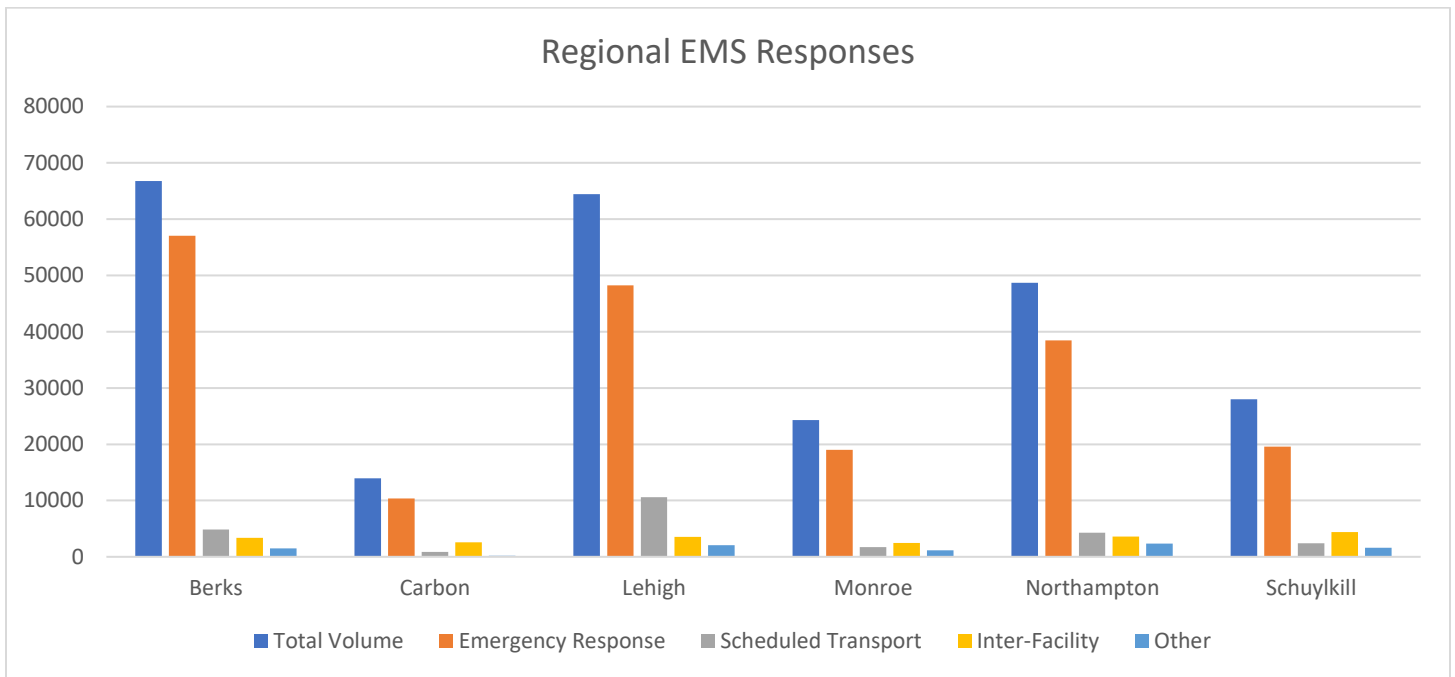
- Provides continual monitoring of PA Legislative activities websites and meetings, then sharing of said actions with our regional partners.
- The Council Director maintains a seat on the Valley Preferred, Spirit of Courage nominating committee.
- The Council staff monitors both BLS & ALS Educational facilities for compliance and posting of required information on their respective media outlets.
- The Regional CISM Team retains relationship and participation in the national ICISF program.
- The Council completes quarterly audits of CPR & EMSVO Certifications.
- The Council staff maintains active participation with Bureau of EMS workgroups specific to updating both the licensure and medical command processes.
- The Council supported multiple regional events through the provision of emergency preparedness assets, supplies, and equipment.
- The Council staff continues to participate in statewide MAC meetings and conference calls.
- Council staff supported five (5) agencies in establishing BLS EMS training institutes.
- Regional Director maintains Co-Chair position (EMS) within the Northeast Healthcare Coalition.
- The regional CISM team continues to offer services, training, and educational services across regions.
- The Council streamlined Independent Contractor processes, creating efficiencies, and reducing duplications of efforts.
- The Council staff provided technical support to Hegins EMS, its Board of Directors, and leadership specific to EMS Operations.
- The Council continues to advocate and develop programs specific to the Rural Education programs.
- The Council updated and renewed its Continuance of Operations Plan, distributed amongst participating agencies.
- The Council completed seven (7) Bureau of EMS authorized investigations.
- The Council staff maintains regular attendance with two (2) Health Care Coalitions, both East Central and Northeast.
- The Council hosts both monthly and on-demand Basic Vehicle Rescue testing at the council office.
- The Council staff supports and is engaged in the Lehigh Valley International Airport required Tabletop Exercise (TTX).
- The Council continues to support and engage in the Northampton County Community College Safety Training and Educational campaigns.
- The Council participated in the planning, coordination, and execution of the NE-HCC – SEPA Burn MCI Exercise.
- The Council developed and outfitted Rural EMS POD sites, which promoted coordinated training for EMS Agencies located within rural areas and promotes the engagement and training of the community in CPR, Stop the Bleed campaigns.
- The Council, in partnership with the Lehigh County EMS Association, continues development of dispatch criteria working towards the incorporation of IALS units into the county EMS System.
- The Council staff, upon request, respond to, and assist with, large-scale events within the region.
- The Council Director maintains representation in the Bureau of EMS Vehicle Rescue task force.

**The Eastern PA EMS Council recognizes the importance of regional collaboration, partnerships, and the continual development of our evolving EMS System. Our regional Council strives to deliver premier customer service with timely, accurate, and responsible outcomes**

**The Eastern PA EMS Council assessed Rural County EMS agency's needs,  
Investing**

**\$176,855.00**

**Into Education, Training, and Equipment**



246,219

REQUESTS FOR EMS SERVICES IN FISCAL YEAR 2022 - 2023

On behalf of the Eastern PA EMS Council staff, we thank our Board of Directors, and the many resolute EMS practitioners, physicians, PSAPs and community members and leaders that support our regional efforts as we pursue the continued development of our ‘System Designed to Save Lives’

