

A System Designed to Save Lives

EASTERN PA EMS COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 2024 - 2025



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.

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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 is a proponent 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 twenty - six (126) licensed EMS agencies, five hundred ninety - four (594) licensed vehicles, and four thousand one hundred forty-nine (4,149) certified EMS practitioners.

Additionally, the region proudly supports the City of Philadelphia Fire Department, which operates ninety-five (95) licensed EMS assets, providing management and oversight during the scheduled triennial process and with the addition of vehicles and assets to the fleet when applicable.

Serving a population of 1,352,630 citizens across the six county Eastern PA EMS Council region, our Regional EMS Practitioners responded to

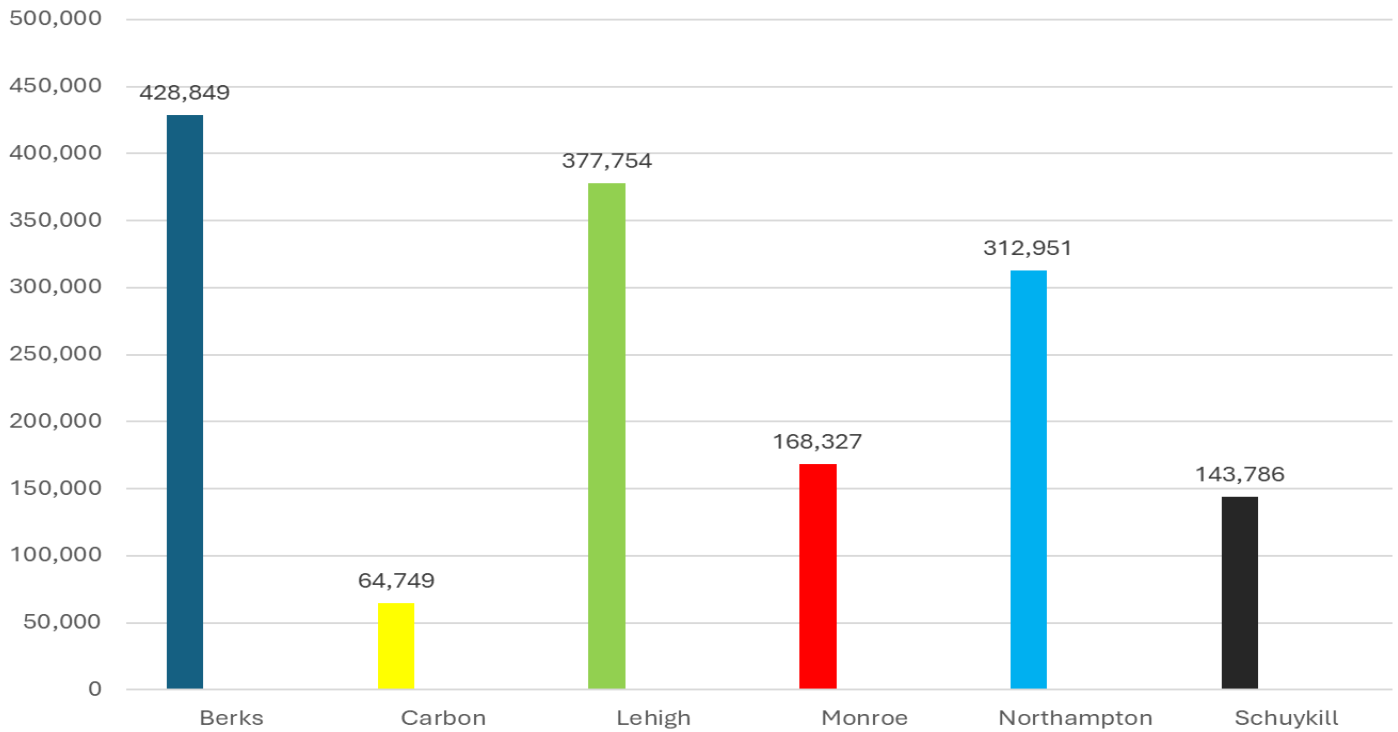
258,291.*

Requests for EMS Services in Fiscal Year 2024 - 2025

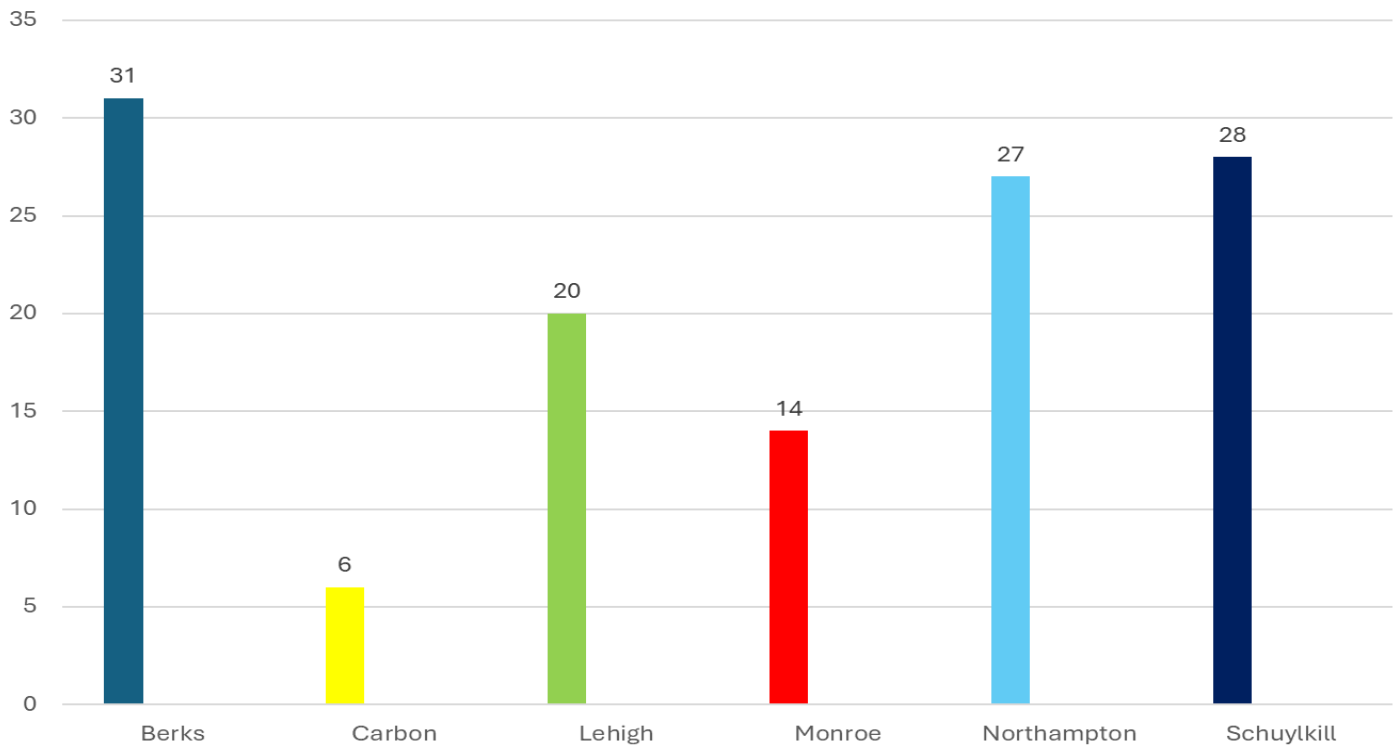
Data is not representative of or include City of Philadelphia statistics.*

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.

Population By County



EMS Agencies By County



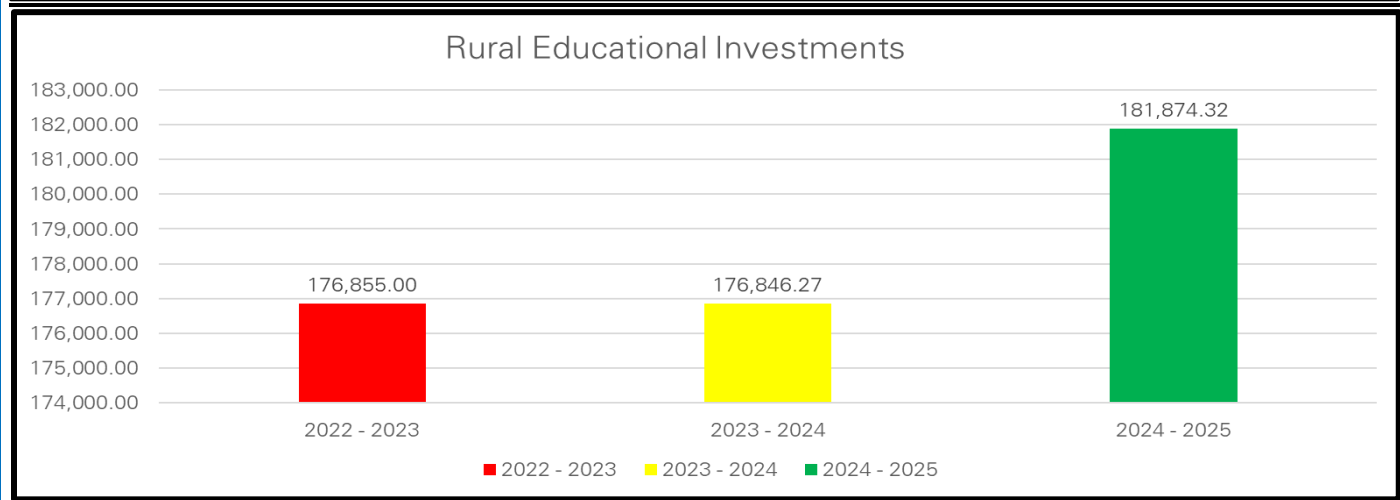
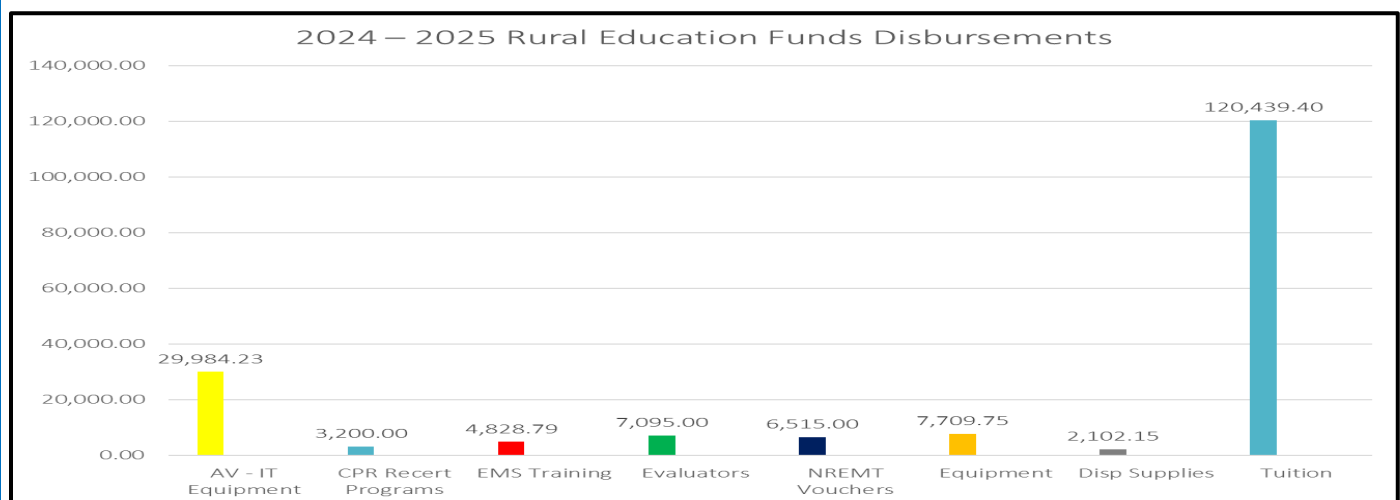
The EMS Council continues to refine the disbursement of rural education funds, recently embracing candidate pre-screening practices to assure perspective candidates have both a complete understanding of the certification programs expectations, and pre-screening processes utilizing a data driven pre-test.

The EMS Council partnered with both the Philadelphia and Delaware County regional EMS Councils, providing fiduciary oversight of the 2023 - 2024 PA Fireworks Tax funding and payment disbursement program. this cooperative venture will continue into fiscal years 2025 – 2026.

The Eastern PA EMS Council continues to coordinate the licensure and inspections of the City of Philadelphia Fire Departments professional fleet of 95 licensed EMS assets.

The Eastern PA EMS Council hosts one of the commonwealth’s three EMS Emergency Preparedness Specialist. This party maintains responsibility for eighteen (18) counties in Eastern PA.

The Council is also host to the annual CODE EMS Conference which features forty-five (45) EMS centric educational sessions, including Health Care Coalition sponsored programs over the course of this three (3) day event and awarded 1,949 continuing educational credits to over 500 EMS practitioners, representing 36 counties from across Pennsylvania in 2024 as we strive to expand the availability of quality educational programs.



Board of Directors \ Health Council Officers

President: Dr. Bryan Wilson

Vice President: Mr. Bryan Evans

Treasurer: Mr. Chris Basile CPA

Secretary: Ms. Carrie Frey

Directors, Eastern PA EMS Council

NAME		NAME	
1	<u>Dr. Zachary Matuzsan</u>	19	<u>Ms. Taylor Hunt</u>
2	<u>Mr. Matthew Brett</u>	20	<u>Mr. Kyle Albrecht</u>
3	<u>Mr. Shawn Silvoy</u>	21	<u>Mr. Edwin Hillegass</u>
4	<u>Ms. Maria Wescoe</u>	22	<u>Ms. Kristie Wentling</u>
5	<u>Dr. Jeff Kuklinski</u>	23	<u>Dr. Samantha Williams</u>
6	<u>Mr. Craig Deppe</u>	24	<u>Dr. Anthony Halupa</u>
7	<u>Mr. Jared Yeastedt</u>	25	<u></u>
8	<u>Mr. Jeff Fritz</u>	26	<u></u>
9	<u>Dr. Thomas Stauffer</u>	27	<u></u>
10	<u>Mr. Anthony Tucci</u>	28	<u></u>
11	<u>Mr. Jeff Yanochko</u>	29	<u></u>
12	<u>Mr. Bryan Fritz</u>	30	<u></u>
13	<u>Mr. Joel Calarco</u>	31	<u></u>
14	<u>Mr. Bryan Nelson</u>	32	<u></u>
15	<u>Ms. Ann Marie Robertone</u>	33	<u></u>
16	<u>Mr. John Semonich</u>	34	<u></u>
17	<u>Mr. Robert Mateff</u>	35	<u></u>
18	<u>Dr. Robert Gyory</u>	36	<u></u>

1. Regional EMS Council Staff:

Executive Director

Mr. John G. Kloss

[illegible]

2. Regional Medical Director(s)

1

Dr. Duane Siberski

Penn State Health - St. Joseph

3. Financial Statement of income and expenses:

Financial Statement of Income and Expenses							
		Budget General Allocation	Budget Rural Education	Budget Equipment	Budget Fireworks	Total Budget	Expended
Personnel		\$387,187	\$185,682	\$16,065	\$65,000	\$653,934	\$538,440
Consultants/ Subcontracted Services		\$27,302	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$27,302	\$16,667
Equipment		\$0	\$0	\$135,507	\$0	\$135,507	\$252,215
Supplies		\$22,897	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$22,897	\$16,789
Travel		\$2,625	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,625	\$776
Tuition Reimbursements		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$128,715	\$128,715	\$128,465
Other Costs		\$155,320	\$181,874	\$0	\$8,118	\$345,312	\$359,135
Total		\$595,331	\$367,556	\$151,572	\$201,833	\$1,316,292	\$1,312,487

NOTE: THE AMOUNTS SHOWN ABOVE ARE PRELIMINARY END OF YEAR TOTALS, AND ARE NOT FINAL AUDITED AMOUNTS

4. 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 campaign, continual development of regional Video Laryngoscopy project, IV infusion pumps, Pre-hospital blood, and Check & Inject programs.(projected investment)	\$120,649.84
<i>Project Narrative:</i>	
Regional Rural Education program invested in multiple initiatives across our region, expanding access to education, improvements to training sites, and global enhancement of training equipment.	
	\$181,874.32

5. 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	2
Number of Legislative Inquiries or Contacts	3
Technical Assistance Request (local entities and elected officials)	5

Regional Activities/ Organizational Management Project Narrative:

The Eastern PA EMS Council continues to promote CPR, Stop The Bleed, and other training opportunities in schools and communities across the region.

6. Continuous Quality Improvement

	Quantity
Number of Clinical Cases Reviewed by Regional QI Committee	498
Accidents Involving Ambulances / EMS Personnel Reported in the Region	5
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 continues the expansion of a regional PI data software program, FirstWatch to improve various protocols and the expansion of the program. Additionally, the committee has evaluated and redrafted the regional performance improvement plan.

7. 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	12
Comprehensive Stroke Centers	3
Thrombectomy Capable Stroke Centers	0

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. (presently one vacancy exist)

8. Systems Operations

	Quantity
Spot inspections conducted – EMS Agencies	15
Spot inspections conducted – EMS Vehicles	16
Spot inspections conducted – Continuing Education Sponsors	3
Spot inspections conducted – Education Institutes	4
Spot inspections conducted – Medical Command Facilities	6
Number of Safety Inspections Conducted	21
Number of Vehicles Inspected During Safety Inspection	51
Photo & Signatures Added to Certification Cards	12
BLS Psychomotor Examinations Conducted	40
Number of BLS Psychomotor Exam Candidates Tested.	487
ALS Psychomotor Examinations Conducted	6
Number of ALS Psychomotor Exam Candidates Tested	56
Certification Class Visits Conducted	54
Number of EMS Agency Re-Inspections Conducted	1
Number of Authorized Inquiry Reports Filed with the Bureau	7

9. Emergency Preparedness Activities

	Quantity
Coalition / Task Force Meetings Attended (only EMSOF funded staff attendance)	10
Coalition Northeast HCC Meetings Attended (EPC Role)	13
Coalition Southeast HCC Meetings Attended (EPC Role)	16
Redundant Communications Exercices Attended / Conducted	12
Tabletop Exercises Attended / Conducted	5
Full Scale / Functional Exercises Attended / Conducted	5
Special Event Plans Submitted	2
Responses / Deployments	2
Strike Team Agencies	N - A

Emergency Preparedness Specialist Program Year End Review - Accomplishments

Asset Maintenance and Inventory Control:

Providing service and assistance to seven (7) partnering regional EMS Council across 18 counties and provided asset maintenance and deployment support to EMS West and Federation Emergency Preparedness Coordinators. The EMS Preparedness Specialist provided additional support, maintenance, inventory control and additional work to:

- AC Trailer
- Generators
- Heater Trailer
- MSEC Trailers
- CCP Trailers
- HVAC units
- MESS Trailers
- Strike Team assets
- Light Towers
- Mobile generators

Deployments:

Sink Deployment [August 2024]

- PEMA IMT Hurricane Response Tioga County

EMMET [September 2024]

- Assist with Maple Grove Raceway Setup

CCP Western Shelter Tent [October 2024]

- PEMA IMT Hurricane Response NC

CCP & Generator [November 2024]

- St. Luke's D&L RaceFest

Athena Kits [December 2026]

- Assisted with Crozer-Chester Fire

Heater Deployment [January – March 2024]

- Lankenau Medical Center

Training (Presented or Attended)

Regional Fire / EMS Con-Ed

- EMS Triage NOVA EMS / TriClover Fire [July 2024]
- EMS Triage Bethlehem MRC [Sept 2024]

Emergency Services Trailer Operations [Aug 2024]

- Lehigh County / Allentown

Regional SimMan Orientation [Sept 2024]

- Emergency Health Services Federation

Statewide Advisory Committee on Preparedness (SACP)

- Penn State [Sept 2024]
- Penn State [April 2025]

Lehigh Valley Emergency Management Conference [March 2025]

Code EMS Conference [October 2024]

- EMS Preparedness Past, Present, Future

CRHCC

- Presentation on AI in EM [Nov 2024]

Health Care Coalition (HCC) Participation:

Participation in Northeast (NE) and Southeast (SE) Zone Meetings
HCC Regional / Zone Meetings
EPC Secretary for NE HCC
EPC Chair for Training / Education SE HCC
Executive Director – EMS Co-Chair for NE HCC
Planning Meetings

Planning Meetings:

LCEMA Conference Planning
Statewide Advisory Committee on Preparedness (SACP)
ASPR REACT MITRE Risk Tool 2.0 Planning Committee
PAR EXPO Planning Meetings
Harrisburg Airshow Planning Meeting
LVIA TTX Planning Meetings
Delaware County EM Hospital Closure Planning Meetings
Geisinger CMC Surge Planning Meetings
Lehigh County / Allentown CERT / MRC Planning Meeting
Lehigh County / Allentown IPPW Meetings
Lankenau Medical Center HVAC Planning Meetings

Exercises / Tests:

TTX

- Monroe County EMA / NEHCC EOC TTX [July 2024]
- Operation Titus TTX [February 2025]

CCP / MSEC Drill:

- Guthrie & EMS of NEPA Council [July 2024]
- Montgomery County / SEHCC [Mar 2025]

Redundant Communications Drills:

- Statewide [Monthly]
- Council Specific [Quarterly]

10. Board of Director \ Health Council Meetings

DATE:	TIME	LOCATION
7/17/2024	18:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Board of Directors meeting virtual
9/18/2024	18:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Annual meeting in-person
11/20/2024	18:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Board of Directors meeting virtual
1/15/2025	18:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Board of Directors meeting virtual
3/19/2025	18:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Board of Directors meeting virtual
5/21/2025	18:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Board of Directors meeting virtual

11. Medical Advisory Committee Meeting

DATE:	TIME	LOCATION
8/21/2024	14:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Medical Advisory Committee meeting virtual
10/17/2024	14:45	Eastern PA EMS Council Medical Advisory Committee meeting virtual
1/15/2025	14:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Medical Advisory Committee meeting virtual
4/23/ 2025	16:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Medical Advisory Committee meeting virtual

12. Quality Improvement Committee Meeting

DATE:	TIME	LOCATION
10/17/2024	13:30	Eastern PA EMS Council Performance Improvement meeting hybrid meeting
1/31/2025	13:30	Eastern PA EMS Council Performance Improvement meeting hybrid meeting
4/11/2025	12:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Performance Improvement meeting hybrid meeting
4/23/2025	13:00	Eastern PA EMS Council Performance Improvement meeting hybrid meeting

13. Regional Accomplishments:

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. During fiscal year 2024 – 2025, the EMS Council continued to provide exceptional service, opportunities, and engagement across our six (6) county region and instituted a variety of successful campaigns and programs.

The Eastern PA EMS Council:

- Assessed rural county EMS agency's needs, investing \$181,874.32 into education, training, tuition cost, and equipment.
- Scheduled to host The United States EMS COMPACT presentation for agencies across PA.
- Successfully continued the distribution of Check & Inject Epinephrine kits into fiscal year 2024 – 2025.
- Partnered with both the Philadelphia and Delaware County regional EMS Councils, providing fiduciary oversight and the distribution of \$128,715.47 in 2023 - 2024 PA Fireworks tax funding. This cooperative venture will continue into fiscal years 2025 – 2026.
- Continues to participate in the development of an AEMT Dispatch protocol in Northampton County.
- Education division acquired and implemented an EMS Certification program pre-test, combined with verbal interviews program, to better identify incoming candidates.
- Expanded its educational capabilities, placing an additional EMS Specialist into the Education division.
- Collected, compiled, and reviewed 100% of SAI specific PCRs. Analyzing data, resulting in a campaign to enhance first pass attempts during oral intubations.
- Performance Improvement committee continues to review each administration of Ketamine, validating utilization and clinical necessity. The region continues to expand the First Watch Performance Improvement program to further develop and enhance data collection and overall performance improvement campaigns across the region.
- 2024 CODE EMS Conference was hosted, awarding 1,949 continuing education credits to EMS practitioners.
- Staff continues to attend and support county EMS Association meetings across region.
- Continues to partner with the City of Philadelphia Fire Department, completing the triennial inspection of the department's EMS fleet of over ninety-five (95) licensed EMS assets.
- Supported and sponsored the PA Ambulance Association EMS Leadership program.
- Continues to provide guidance and technical support to our regional PSAPs.
- Continues to offer in-house psychomotor testing, in an effort to reduce inherent delays students may encounter as they pursue the opportunity to re-test.
- Attends and supports Lehigh County Fire Chiefs Association meetings, providing support and assistance, as necessary.
- Emergency Preparedness Specialist serves eighteen (18) counties in the eastern portion of the Commonwealth, providing traditional asset maintenance, ensuring a state of readiness and coordinating educational opportunities across multiple regional geographical boundaries.
- Participated in the annual Northern Valley EMS legislative luncheon.

- Participated in a Bureau of EMS sanctioned redraft of the licensure inspection process.
- Assisted multiple municipalities with EMS specific concerns and or in the provision of education on EMS operations and deployment.
- Executive Director represents the EMS Council on the Burn Prevention Networks Advisory Council.
- The Council continually monitors PA legislative activities websites and meetings, sharing information with our regional partners.
- Partnered with the NE Health Care Coalition and hosted a multi-regional MCI exercise.
- Council Director maintains a seat on the Valley Preferred, Spirit of Courage nominating committee.
- Staff maintains active participation with Bureau of EMS workgroups specific to updating licensure, medical command, and educational processes.
- Staff continues to participate in statewide MAC meetings and conference calls.
- Staff supported EMS recruitment and retention efforts at the PA Farm Show hosted January 2025.
- Regional CISM team continues to offer services, training, and educational services across regions.
- Zone Based Licensure program continues to prove effective, reducing vehicle mileage and hours of travel specific to licensure inspections.
- Updated and renewed its Continuance of Operations Plan, distributed amongst participating agencies.
- CODE EMS Conference partnered with the NE Health Care Coalition to include offerings specific to HCC operations at the 2024 conference.
- Staff maintains regular attendance with two (2) Health Care Coalitions, both East Central and Northeast.
- Hosts both monthly and on-demand Basic Vehicle Rescue testing at the council office.
- Staff supports and is engaged in the Lehigh Valley International Airport required Tabletop Exercise (TTX).
- Continues to support and engage in the Northampton County Community College Safety Training and Educational campaigns.
- Continues to host subject matter experts presented programs including OSHA, Medtronic, EMS COMPACT, Ambulance Association of PA Leadership summit, respiratory protection, and other EMS centric programs for regional leadership and practitioners.
- Provides support to the North Whitehall Townships First Responder Youth Training program.
- Supported Children's Hospital of Philadelphia with an EMS for the pediatric population study.
- Hosted a regional PA Department of Labor awareness program for EMS leadership.
- In partnership with multiple regional EMS Council regions, initiated and completed the triennial licensure inspection of the Philadelphia Fire Departments EMS fleet.
- Completed the distribution of round two of a regional Video Laryngoscope program.
- Regional Director serves with the Ambulance Association of PA Provider Foundation, and the scholarships committee.
- Hosted a regional House Bill 1152 Round Table discussion for EMS leadership.

“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 twenty - six (126) licensed EMS agencies, five hundred ninety - four (594) licensed vehicles, and four thousand one hundred forty-nine certified EMS practitioners.”

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

‘System Designed to Save Lives’

