

**Rappahannock EMS Council
Strategic Planning Committee Meeting
March 19, 2013**

Attendee: Kirk Twigg, Chair

This meeting was held at Grace Church, 7:00p.m. with only chairman, Kirk Twigg, in attendance.

This meeting was called to update the Strategic Plan for 2014 – 2015, that is due for submittal to the VA Office of EMS on June 30, 2013.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Mr. Twigg requested, by email, that each committee member do the following for each goal / objective that was identified in the 2012 Annual Report:

1. Validate each objective from the four goals.
2. Validate status of each objective.
3. Establish a timeline for completion.
4. Establish the amount of time for each task.
5. Establish the amount of money required for each task

He also asked that for the tasks the committee member did not have experience with, to reach out to the Council's infrastructure and find people who do know about each specific objective, and get their input on the five items listed. Inputs were requested to be submitted to him by April 15th so the information can be compiled for the next meeting.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, April 17, 2013, 5:30p.m. at the REMS Council Training Center.

Attachment: Goals: REMS Strategic Plan 4-2013

GOALS

CORE STRATEGY 1: DEVELOP PARTNERSHIPS

Key Strategic Initiatives

- 1.1 Promote collaborative approaches
 - 1.1.1. Develop and foster relationships with Federal, state and local partners, educational institutions and other Regional EMS Councils
 - 1.1.2. Strengthen on-going relationships with the Virginia Department of Health, other state departments, public safety, public health and medical facilities
 - 1.1.3. Foster regional legislative involvement for EMS initiatives
 - 1.1.4. Cultivate grass roots support for Strategic Initiatives
 - 1.1.5. Establish and foster partnerships with fire, law enforcement, and emergency management agencies
 - 1.1.6. Increase collaboration with other council regions to include Federation Councils as well as jurisdictional EMS systems, EMS training agencies, etc.
 - 1.1.7. Reach out to other organizations that are involved in EMS (for example, VAVRS, VEGAEMS, VOAD, etc.)
- 1.2 Attract and support outstanding health care providers
 - 1.2.1 Cultivate partnerships with high schools, universities, colleges, accredited training programs, and others to attract and educate EMS providers
 - 1.2.2 Improve EMS career and volunteer opportunities for recruitment and retention
 - 1.2.3 Recruit and assist in retaining physicians to serve as Operational Medical Directors
- 1.3 Identify resources for responses to emergencies both natural and man-made
 - 1.3.1 Facilitate a cooperative, regionalized approach and response to major disasters
 - 1.3.2 Enhance relationships with local Emergency Managers and other Federal, state and local agencies
 - 1.3.3 Support ongoing training, evaluation and develop resources for emergency preparedness and response
- 1.4 Promote relationships with existing regional hospitals and new medical facilities for the district to include Mary Washington Hospital and FreeStanding Emergency Department, Culpeper Regional Hospital, Fauquier Hospital, Stafford Hospital, and Spotsylvania Regional Medical Center.
 - 1.4.1 Develop and support collaborative agreements with all area hospitals that support regional EMS system and agencies
 - 1.4.2 Support region's Designated Trauma Center and provide more EMS education on Regional Trauma Triage Plan and Trauma Services for the region.

CORE STRATEGY 2: STRENGTHEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Key Strategic Initiatives

- 2.1 Develop and strengthen Board of Directors
 - 2.1.1 Review and revise board governing documents (Policies and By-laws)
 - 2.1.2 Review and revise committee structure
 - 2.1.3 Cultivate further board member participation
- 2.2 Adequately staff the Rappahannock EMS Council
 - 2.2.1 Ensure adequate staffing and procedures to support council programs and region's needs

- 2.2.2 Provide adequate personnel policies and benefits package to recruit and retain staff
- 2.2.3 Provide ongoing workforce development and supporting resources to recruit and train proficient staff
- 2.2.4 Evaluate and staff key programs such as the Advanced Life Support (ALS) Paramedic Certification Course
- 2.2.5 Expand the use of volunteers as REMSC administrative support staff (for example, assisting with completion of grant applications and other office tasks)
- 2.3 Expand the use of technology and information systems
 - 2.3.1 Promote improved EMS communications systems and information sharing while maintaining appropriate confidentiality and patient privacy
 - 2.3.2 Promote the use of technology in EMS reporting, grants program and quality assurance to include State Patient Care Reporting System (VPHIB)
 - 2.3.3 Develop resources or points of contact to share information on technology use to enhance regional interoperability and integration
- 2.4 EMS and Council Funding
 - 2.4.1 Encourage pursuit of alternative funding sources to include public/private partnerships for program funding
 - 2.4.2 Ensure continuing funding from existing sources
 - 2.4.3 Provide greater assistance to eligible applicants in applying for Rescue Squad Assistance Fund and other grants
 - 2.4.4 Assist in maximizing the effectiveness of the RSAF by providing meaningful information in the grading and review process
 - 2.4.5 Support and advocate stable funding stream for state and regional infrastructure (\$6.25 for Life, Assistance for Firefighter Grants , SAFER)
 - 2.4.6 Continuously monitor financial situation and funding streams in relation to possible effects of economic climate
 - 2.4.7 Increasing periodic communication with jurisdictional Board of Supervisors and County Administrators, so that they have a better understanding of the vital role that REMSC plays in the region. This should be accomplished with and through the local Fire/EMS Chief

CORE STRATEGY 3: STRENGTHEN EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Key Strategic Initiatives

- 3.1 Sponsor community prevention education programs
 - 3.1.1 Encourage and develop illness and injury prevention programs through available resources and collaborative efforts with other agencies and health care partners
 - 3.1.2 Strengthen community awareness and proper use of regional emergency health care system through public education programs
- 3.2 Support quality education and evaluation of EMS personnel
 - 3.2.1 Promote and provide enhanced resources for quality EMS education to include use of Regional Training Center and community colleges
 - 3.2.2 Expand availability of BLS Training
 - 3.2.3 Expand availability of ALS Training and National Accreditation for Intermediate and Paramedic Programs
 - 3.2.4 Promote and develop leadership and management training
 - 3.2.5 Support and improve processes for evaluation and testing of ALS and BLS candidates
 - 3.2.6 Establish accredited Advanced Life Support (ALS) training sites in each of the two planning districts. Consideration should also be given to satellite facilities.
 - 3.2.7 Promote and develop recruitment and retention programs that include diversity strategies
 - 3.2.8 Develop partnerships with the Virginia Community College System, colleges, and

- universities to enhance the delivery of emergency medical services
- 3.2.9 Evaluate and implement innovative training opportunities through the Regional Training Center to include the use of simulation training.
 - 3.2.10 Re-evaluate Regional Training Policies to ensure effectiveness
 - 3.2.11 Develop and promote multi-lingual training programs for first responders
 - 3.2.12 Promote shared local training resources among the Council's participating agencies

CORE STRATEGY 4: PROMOTE OTHER REGIONAL INITIATIVES

Key Strategic Initiatives

- 4.1 Develop and implement regional drug box standardization project and actively research the ultimate development of a one-for-one drug box exchange program
- 4.2 Strengthen Regional Medical Direction and Quality Improvement
- 4.3 Promote EMD use, accreditation and training
- 4.4 Support regional coordination and implementation of EMS coverage for large scale events in the region
- 4.5 Develop Regional Hospital Diversion policy
- 4.6 Initiate an EMS public education program which explains how EMS services function and are accessed to populations such as special needs, caregivers, newly- arrived immigrants, and non-English speakers.
- 4.7 Research the presentation of opportunities for under-served, minority populations that are interested in serving in EMS career and/or volunteer positions.
- 4.8 Develop a catastrophic event medical facility evacuation and mitigation plan in coordination with regional medical facilities

Rappahannock EMS Council
Strategic Planning Committee
April 17th, 2013

Attendance: Kirk Twigg, Chairperson

No other committee members attended the meeting. No business was conducted.

Next meeting will be held at a date to be announced for some time next quarter.