Core Strategy 1: Develop Partnerships

Key Strategic Initiatives

1.1 Promote collaborative approaches.
   1.1.1 Develop relationships with local, state, federal EMS partners and other stakeholder organizations. (2006-2010)
   1.1.2 Strengthen on-going relationships with other state departments, public safety, public health and medical facilities. (2006-2010)
   1.1.3 Foster state legislative involvement for EMS initiatives. (2006-2010)
   1.1.4 Foster strong partnerships with the Board of Health and the State EMS Advisory Board. (2006-2010)
   1.1.5 Integrate Regional EMS Councils as full partners. (2006-2010)
   1.1.6 Cultivate grass roots support for strategic initiatives. (2007-2009)

1.2 Attract and support outstanding health care providers.
   1.2.1 Cultivate partnerships with state universities, colleges and the Department of Education to attract and educate EMS providers.¹ (2006-2008)
   1.2.2 Recruit EMS physicians who meet selection criteria. (2006-2010)

1.3 Further community based prevention.
   1.3.1 Strengthen illness and injury prevention programs through collaboration with other state agencies and organizations. (2007-2008)
   1.3.2 Partner with other healthcare providers to educate the public. 2007-2008)

1.4 Coordinate responses to emergencies both natural and man-made.
   1.4.1 Enhance relationships with the federal Homeland Security office, the Office of Commonwealth Preparedness, and other federal/state agencies. (2006-2010)
   1.4.2 Conduct ongoing training and evaluation; and develop resources for Health and Medical Emergency Response Teams (HMERT). (2007-2008)

1.5 Elevate EMS care for special needs patients.
   1.5.1 Build relationships with agencies that serve special needs patients. (2007-2008)
   1.5.2 Refine the “Durable Do Not Resuscitate” program. (2006)

Core Strategy 2: Create Tools and Resources

Key Strategic Initiatives

2.1. Facilitate EMS related research and education.
   2.1.1. Sponsor research and other projects utilizing data collected by the EMS Patient Care Information System. (2006-2008)
   2.1.2. Determine quality of EMS service and trauma triage analysis.\(^2\) (2006-2007)
   2.1.3. Establish scholarships for EMS provider education.\(^3\) (2007-2008)
   2.1.4. Evaluate the impact of an aging workforce on the EMS system.\(^4\) (2007-2008)
   2.1.5. Develop, implement and refine electronic state-level patient care data reporting system (2006-2008)

2.2. Supply quality education and certification of EMS personnel.
   2.2.1. Provide enhanced resources for quality BLS training. (2006-2009)
   2.2.2. Expand availability of ALS Training.\(^5\) (2006-2007)
   2.2.3. Establish leadership and management standards.\(^6\) (2006-2007)
   2.2.4. Ensure adequate and accessible EMS provider training.\(^7\) (2006-2008)

2.3. Endorse risk and liability protection for EMS physicians and providers.
   2.3.1. Assess ongoing risk and liability protection coverage and support appropriate legislation. (2007-2009)

2.4. Foster appropriate use of EMS resources.
   2.4.1. Support education, legislation and programs to promote the appropriate use of EMS resources. (2007-2008)
   2.4.2. Provide EMS agencies and local governments with guidelines to evaluate and promote the effective and appropriate utilization of EMS personnel and equipment resources. (2006-2007).

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\(^3\) Focus Group 6 – Human Services, Goal #3; EMS Advisory Board Retreat, April 2005.
\(^7\) Ibid
Core Strategy 3: Develop Infrastructure

Key Strategic Initiatives

3.1. **Adequately staff the Office of EMS and Regional EMS Councils.**
   3.1.1 Ensure adequate staffing to support the variable nature of the EMS system requirements and challenges.\(^8\) (2006-2010)

3.2. **Focus recruitment and retention efforts.**
   3.2.1. Pursue a comprehensive recruitment campaign.\(^9\) (2006-2007)
   3.2.2. Promote use of *The Keeping the Best!* Retention Tool Kit and measure its effectiveness.\(^10\) (2006-2008)

3.3. **Upgrade technology and communication systems.**
   3.3.1. Establish bulk purchasing agreements with EMS equipment providers.\(^11\) (2006-2008)

3.4 **EMS funding.**
   3.4.1. Capture greater reimbursement of Medicare/Medicaid dollars.\(^12\) (2006-2009)
   3.4.2. Simplify Rescue Squad Assistance Fund and grant process.\(^13\) (2006)
   3.4.3. Encourage revenue recovery.\(^14\) (2006-2010)
   3.4.4. Develop EMS Financial Audit Plan.\(^15\) (2007)
   3.4.5. Support and ensure a stable funding stream for state and regional infrastructure. (2006-2010)

3.5. **Enhance regional and local EMS efficiencies.**
   3.5.1. Provide Regional EMS Council Board with governance guidelines and support. (2006-2007)
   3.5.2. Assist Regional EMS Councils to build stronger relationships with local jurisdictions. (2007-2009)

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\(^9\) Ibid
\(^10\) Ibid
\(^11\) Focus Group 1 – Integration of EMS Services, Goal #5, EMS Advisory Board Retreat, April 2005.
\(^13\) Ibid
\(^14\) Ibid
\(^15\) Focus Group 1 – Integration of EMS services, Goal #4, EMS Advisory Board Retreat, April 2005.
Core Strategy 4: Assure Quality and Evaluation

Key Strategic Initiatives

4.1. Assess compliance with EMS performance standards.

4.1.1 Review and clarify performance standards. (2006)
4.1.2 Communicate performance standards to EMS agencies and regional EMS Councils (2006-2007)
4.1.3 Monitor performance against standards and take corrective action. (2008-2010)
4.1.5 Review and revise current EMS regulations. (2006)

4.2. Assess and enhance quality of education for EMS providers.

4.2.1. Review, evaluate, and revise EMS instructor credentialing. (2006-2007)
4.2.2. Review and revise training site accreditation standards and processes. (2006-2007)
4.2.3. Encourage and pursue new methods for EMS education (i.e., technology). (2007-2009)

4.3. Pursue new initiatives that support EMS.

4.3.1. Promote compliance with trauma triage protocols, link pre-hospital data with Trauma Registry.\(^{16}\) (2006-2010)
4.3.2. Evaluate effectiveness of current Critical Incident Stress Management Program (CISM). (2006-2007)