

# OEMS QUARTERLY REPORT

Friday, August 2, 2024,  
State EMS Advisory  
Board Meeting

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

### 2023 Governor's EMS Awards presented during EMS Week event at the Governor's Mansion

On Monday, May 20, Governor Glenn Youngkin recognized the Governor's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Award recipients from 2023 during a special EMS Week ceremony at the Governor's Mansion. Virginia State Health Commissioner **Karen Shelton, MD**, and Virginia Department of Health (VDH) Chief Operating Officer **Christopher Lindsay** assisted Governor Glenn Youngkin with the awards presentation.

Additional VDH leadership were in attendance, including the Acting Deputy Commissioner of Public Health and Preparedness and Interim Director of the Office of EMS (OEMS) **Rachel Stradling** and the OEMS senior leadership team: Deputy Director of Trauma, Finance and Administration **Cam Crittenden**, Deputy Director of Planning and Operations **Karen Owens** and Deputy Director of Education and Compliance **Scott Winston**. OEMS Division Directors and key stakeholders from the State EMS Advisory Board, Next Steps Workgroup and Virginia's EMS System were also in attendance.

The Governor's EMS Awards honor the outstanding contributions of individuals, agencies, community organizations and businesses that provide or help support emergency medical care in Virginia. These awards are the highest honor an EMS provider or organization can receive at the state level.

The Governor's EMS Awards program is administered by OEMS in cooperation with Virginia's 11 Regional EMS Councils. Each Regional EMS Council conducts the awards program in their community, holds an awards ceremony and publicizes the winners, bringing much needed recognition to Virginia's EMS providers and agencies. Many of the Regional EMS Councils will have hosted their regional award ceremonies by August 2.

Governor Glenn Youngkin also proclaimed EMS Week in Virginia, May 19-25. This special week honored EMS providers' commitment to respond to emergencies and provide critical care. This year's EMS Week theme was, "Honoring Our Past. Forging Our Future," and it acknowledged the foundational work of those who came before us, while also striving to build and lead the EMS System we envision for our future.

- Read the EMS Week news release:  
<https://www.governor.virginia.gov/newsroom/news-releases/2024/may/name-1027312-en.html>
- Learn more about the Governor's EMS Awards program, at:  
<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/other-ems-programs-and-links/governors-ems-awards-program-2/>
- Learn more about the 2023 Governor's EMS Award recipients, at:  
<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/2023-governors-ems-awards/>

## Resolution of Support and Restoration of the Annual Virginia Emergency Medical Services Symposium

**Whereas** at the April 4, 2024, meeting of the Medical Direction Committee (MDC) of the state EMS Advisory Board, the Annual Virginia EMS Symposium was recognized and is regarded as a legacy event within the EMS community;

**Whereas** the MDC understands that the EMS Symposium provided exposure to outstanding EMS leaders and educators from within the Commonwealth, nationally and internationally;

**Whereas** the MDC believes that the EMS Symposium provided unique and exceptional educational experiences that are difficult to replicate at a regional or local level; and

**Whereas** the MDC acknowledges and appreciates the efforts of EMS agencies and regional EMS Councils to provide greater educational opportunities for EMS providers since the cancellation of the Annual Virginia EMS Symposium; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved**, that the MDC unanimously:

1. Urges the state EMS Advisory Board to discuss and vote to advocate for the restoration of the EMS Symposium;
2. Requests that such avocation be directed to the Regional EMS Councils, Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS), Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and the Office of the Governor;
3. Urges these entities to formulate a viable and sustainable model to restore and sustain the EMS Symposium, considering all options for organization, funding, collaboration, and sponsorship; and
4. Supports the continued growth of quality local and regional educational experiences within the Commonwealth, as these events and the EMS Symposium are not mutually exclusive.

## DEPUTY DIRECTOR, TRAUMA AND ADMINISTRATION

### Business Operations

#### Committees and Meetings

- NA

#### Outreach and Education

- NA

#### Operational Activities

- All outstanding expenditures were paid prior to the close of FY24.
- Staff continues to work on opportunities to improve the coding of invoices and providing detailed payment descriptions in F&A.
- Quarterly fund distribution to VAVRS, FY24 RTL, and RSAF grant payments will be released at the end of July. Additionally, preparation for the new biannual Trauma Fund payment process scheduled for the end of September is underway.
- Quarterly fund distribution for all Councils will be vouchered in September, with the goal of releasing all payments by September 30th.
- Staff has implemented a process to track processing time for travel vouchers for Reimbursement and are working to improve documentation accuracy to decrease denials by OFM. All denials will be followed up with the VDH travel team on a weekly basis.
- The Business Manager will work with Fleet to develop an SOP for employee vehicle requests, including tighter security controls and an improved process

### Division of Trauma and Critical Care

#### Committees and Meetings

- Emergency Preparedness and Response-reviewing regional MCI exercises
- System Improvement- Data dashboard improvement
- Pre-Hospital Care- working on EMS drug box exchange
- Injury Violence and Prevention- Collaboration with IVP VDH for website updates, routinely gives legislative reports
- Acute Care- work group to standardize alert criteria for Trauma Centers
- Post-Acute Care- data inquiries

#### Outreach and Education

- Pilot application program- working with 5 centers to streamline and digitize components of the Trauma Center Designation Application process.
- Monthly huddles with Trauma Centers approaching 6-month review window to ensure adequate communication between centers and OEMS

#### Operational Activities

- Collaborating with TPM group to provide meeting space at OEMS.

- Working with Ms. Becka Franchok and Mr. Mohamed Abbamin to update Trauma Fund Policy to align with new payment plan and processing schedule.
- Recruitment of new trauma site review team members for upcoming reviews
- One new center has submitted letter of intent and provisional application

Items of High Interest

- *None.*

**KEY EVENTS OF THE COMING QUARTER:**

- **Plan to brief TPM group and Trauma Centers of updated application process at the August OEMS meetings**

## Epidemiology - DATAWISE Team

### Committees and Meetings

- The Epidemiology Team attended the Federal Interagency Committee on EMS Meeting, held 06/05/24. During this meeting, discussion topics included the EMS education agenda 2050, NEMSIS, prehospital pediatric readiness, and a post-crash care summit.
- The Patient Care Informatics Team attended the NEMSIS bimonthly meeting. At this meeting, a review of the NEMSIS 3.5 standard and upcoming changes were discussed.
- The Patient Care Informatics Team attended the Trauma System Improvement Committee meeting on 05/02/24. Meeting topics included Biospatial, the OEMS trauma triage report, and a review of the Virginia Trauma Data Dictionary.

### Outreach and Education

- The Epidemiology Team attended the Traffic Records Coordinating Committee meeting on June 18, 2024. During this meeting, the Epidemiology Program Manager provided an overview of a newly released OEMS data dashboard focused on EMS motor vehicle crash incident responses.
- Monthly reports of agency data quality are published on the OEMS website. During Q2:
  - April data quality for 144,945 records submitted was 96.58,
  - May data quality for 152,633 records submitted was 95.87
  - June data quality for 143,508 records submitted was 95.90

### Operational Activities

- During Q2 2024, the Patient Care Informatics team responded to 1900+ portal support tickets, 600+ voicemails, and 400+ EMS/trauma repository emails.
- During Q2 2024, the Epidemiology Team responded to 10 requests for EMS and/or trauma data.

### Items of High Interest

On Monday, May 13, 2024, the OEMS Epidemiology team was honored with a second-place award during the 2024 NASEMSO Annual Meeting for their poster presentation “A Statewide Evaluation of Potentially Under-triaged Trauma Patients in the Prehospital Setting.” This work evaluated risk factors for under-triage among EMS trauma patients. The poster was presented in collaboration with ESO.

On June 21, 2024, the article “*A Heat Emergency: Urban Heat Exposure and Access to Refuge in Richmond, VA*” was published in the journal *GeoHealth*. This manuscript represented a collaborative effort between the OEMS Epidemiology Team, the University of Richmond, the VDH Richmond/Henrico Health District, and Groundwork USA. The study explored EMS response data for summertime heat-related illnesses in Richmond, evaluating patient demographic, illness, and transport data in relation to environmental

data (e.g., temperatures) and public heat management infrastructure (e.g., libraries and cooling centers).

## EMS System Funding

### Committees and Meetings

- NA

### Workgroups for Safe Transportation of Children (NASEMSO)

- Seated pediatric patient, Supine pediatric patient, Specialty transport pediatric patients
  - May 6 – as part of a multi-disciplinary workgroup, a final draft group of testing standards as part of a NHTSA funded program with NASEMSO. Represented the Virginia EMS-C committee for this effort.

### VCU's Center for Trauma and Critical Care Education and Violence and Injury Prevention Program

- May 7 – participated with ways to provide additional Naloxone for rural EMS agencies as well as potentially purchasing advanced airway equipment for rural EMS agencies. Mr. Tim Perkins and Mike Berg from OEMS and are now part of the advisory council for VCU program.

### Virginia Regional Medication Kit Transition Workgroup

- May 13, June 10 – participated as part of a workgroup of the larger group. This monthly meeting addressed progress and ongoing toolkit development for agencies transitioning from hospital-based drug kit programs.

### Operational Activities

NAFY24 RSAF	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Invoice Processed	0	29	39	14
RSAF Grant Extensions	14	11	12	6
RSAF Grant Modifications	4	4	5	1

FY24 Return to Localities	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Invoices Processed	0	45	83	75

### Items of High Interest

*The Fall 2024 Rescue Squad Assistance Fund grant cycle will open August 1, 2024. All grant applications must be submitted by Monday September 16, 2024. The award date for this grant cycle will be January 1, 2025. For additional information, please go to [https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/23/2024/05/grants\\_rsaf\\_fall2024announcement\\_Final\\_050824.pdf](https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/23/2024/05/grants_rsaf_fall2024announcement_Final_050824.pdf).*

### **KEY EVENTS OF THE COMING QUARTER:**

- **Opening of Fall 2024 RSAF grant cycle.**

## DEPUTY DIRECTOR, COMPLIANCE AND EDUCATION

### Accreditation, Certification & Education Division

#### Committees and Meetings

- A. The Training and Certification Committee (TCC) meeting was held on July 10, 2024, at the Old Dominion EMS Alliance in Henrico, VA.
  - a. **MOTION FROM COMMITTEE** to Advisory Board
    - i. April 4, 2024 – *“A motion was made and properly seconded for TCC to reiterate the importance of the Virginia EMS Symposium which is a key part of EMS education and recertification process in Virginia. The symposium is invaluable in promoting high quality patient care in the Commonwealth. TCC therefore goes on record that the EMS Symposium should be a high priority for OEMS.”*
- B. The Medical Direction Committee (MDC) meeting was held on July 11, 2024, at the Old Dominion EMS Alliance in Henrico, VA.
  - a. **MOTION FROM COMMITTEE** to state EMS Advisory Board
    - i. April 5, 2024 – Resolution of Support and Restoration of the Annual Virginia Emergency Medical Services Symposium attached.

#### Outreach and Education

- The ACE Division conducted several educational seminars during the quarter.
  - Education Coordinator Update in Front Royal with 25 Education Coordinators in attendance.
  - Education Coordinator Institute in Lynchburg. Twenty-eight new educators were certified at this event.
  - Education Coordinator Update in Lynchburg with 55 Education Coordinators in attendance.
  - Completed the final draft of the Virginia High School EMS Education Program Manual developed in conjunction with the Virginia Department of Education and high school Program Directors around the Commonwealth.

#### Operational Activities

- During Q2 2024, the ACE Division:
  - Division Director served as the National Registry ALS Test Examiner at 11 advanced level psychomotor examinations.
  - Responded to Help Desk inquiries offering assistance in questions concerning portal access, certification and recertification inquiries.
  - Processed 322 reciprocity, legal recognition, and challenge applications.
  - Certified and recertified 3,483 EMS providers.
  - Received and approved 43 new Education Coordinator applications.

### Items of High Interest

- The Division rolled out the new 2025 Virginia Recertification Requirements Model which is based on the National Continued Competency Program (NCCP) Model 2025. More information can be found here: <https://bit.ly/4cpAc9f>
- The ACE Division Director continues to serve on the National Registry EMS Continued Competency Regulatory workgroup.
- The ACE Division Director continues to serve on the National Registry EMS Continued Competency Educator workgroup.
- The ACE Division Director is the Virginia representative on the NASEMSO EMS Education Council and participates in meetings bimonthly. Current activities include evaluation and update of the 2002 Educator Standards.

### Committees and Meetings:

- Virginia Department of Education Summer Professional Development Seminar, July 15 - 16
  - Update for High School EMT Educators, 9:00 – 12:00
  - Meeting with CTE Administrators, 1:00 – 2:30
  - Meeting with High School Guidance staff, 3:00 – 4:30

## Division of Regulation & Compliance Enforcement

### Committees and Meetings

- Quarterly - Medical Direction Committee Meeting
- Monthly - Regional EMS Medication Kit Transition Workgroup
- April 2024 – EMS CSR/DEA workgroup meeting
- May 2024 – Division Staff Meeting held at BREMS Council Office
- May 2024 – Board of Pharmacy Meeting – EMS specific emergency regulations
- Quarterly - Rules & Regulations Committee Meeting
- Quarterly - Legislative & Planning Committee Meeting
- Quarterly - State EMS Advisory Board Meeting
- June – Division Staff meeting held at BREMS Council Office
- Quarterly – Virginia POST/POLST Collaborative Executive Committee Meeting

### Outreach and Education

- April 2024 – Combined Thomas Jefferson/Central Shenandoah EMS Council OMD workshop held @ CSEMS Council Office
- April 2024 – Combined Western Virginia/Southwest Virginia EMS Council OMD workshop held in Abingdon, VA

### Operational Activities

- Fingerprint Background Checks processed = 2,641 / RAP Reviews 390
- Inspections = 84 Agencies – 781 Vehicles – 57 Spot – 134 New Apparatus
- Compliance Cases = Opened 64 Cases – Closed 47 Cases

- Enforcement Actions Issued = 2 Correction Orders – 6 Citations –10 Suspensions
- Variances = 39 Requested – 25 approved and 13 denied
- Exemptions = 2 Requested - determination pending review
- Accommodation Requested = 2 referred to related Education Coordinator
- Drug Diversions Reported = 2

### Items of High Interest

Drug Kit Exchange Program Changes. Resources are regionally specific. Agencies should work collaboratively with their Regional EMS Council office to prepare for required changes.

### **KEY EVENTS OF THE COMING QUARTER:**

- **EMS Agencies that utilize a hospital-based medication kit exchange program, please remain in contact with your regional EMS council to have a clear understanding of imminent changes over the next few months.**

## DEPUTY DIRECTOR OPERATIONS

### Division of Emergency Operations

#### Operational Activities

- Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) Accreditations
  - Greensville County 911 – Initial EMD Accreditation
  - Tazewell County and City of Winchester – EMD Reaccreditation
- VESTEX (VEST Exercise) – State EOC May 6-7, 2024
  - Staff participated in 2024 VESTEX in ESF-8. Exercise evaluated response to hurricane in western part of the state.
- Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VDFP) Rescue Week, April 22-26, 2024
  - Staff supported VDFP Rescue Week with a cache of programmed OEMS radios.
- CISA Operational Readiness Assistance Package (O-RAP), Lunenburg County, May 29-30
  - Staff participated in this program which is designed to assess challenges and identify solutions in rural EMS communications.

#### Committees and Meetings

- Central Virginia Healthcare Coalition (CVHC) – Monthly meetings
- Virginia APCO/NENA Conference – Williamsburg, May 14, 2024
- Emergency Management Alliance of Central Virginia (EMACV)
  - Staff participate in the EMACV Planning/Training & Exercise monthly meeting and the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Committee bi-monthly meetings.
- Virginia Emergency Management Association (VEMA) Meetings
- VDEM Region 1 Complex Coordinated Attack (CCA) Plan Review
- VDH Preparedness Summit 2025 Planning Meetings
- Alzheimer's Training Meeting – VDEM HQ, June 3, 2024.

- This meeting brought together multiple state agencies including the Department of Emergency Management, Department of Criminal Justice Services, Office of EMS, and Department of Fire Programs to discuss HB933 which requires training for responders on dealing with Alzheimer’s patients.

Outreach and Education

- Mass Care Symposium - May 6
  - Delivered a presentation on integrating the Medical Reserve Corp and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) during planned events and disaster response.
- Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) Visits
  - Greensville County Emergency Communications Center – June 20
    - Presented EMD Accreditation Certification
  - Martinsville-Henry 911 – June 27
  - Wise County 911 – July 1
- EMD Technical Assistance for Locality – May 15
  - Assessed workflow of EMD program utilized by the PSAP and assisted with setting goals to ensure compliance with previously awarded RSAF EMD grant.
- Tidewater EMS Expo 2024 - May 14
  - Delivered a Mass Casualty Incident Management Awareness and Operations course.
- Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads (VAVRS) Annual Rescue College – June 7-16
  - Delivered ICS 300 and Mass Casualty Incident Management (MCI) courses
- Mass Casualty Incident Management (MCI) Train-the-Trainer – May 22
- Hampton Roads Mass Casualty Incident Response Guide Workshop – June 5
- Community Based Emergency Response Series (CBERS) – June 12

**KEY EVENTS OF THE COMING QUARTER:**

- **Training Classes - “MCI for PSAPs”, “Calming the Chaos”, and “Failing to Plan is Planning to Fail”**
  - **Orange County 911 – August 12 and 14**
  - **Martinsville-Henry 911 – September 30**
  - **Wise County 911 – October 1 and 2**
  - **Lynchburg 911 – October 14**
- **Mass Casualty Class/Exercise – Victoria Fire / Rescue – October 19**
- **Emergency Management Alliance of Central Virginia (EMACV) Regional CERT Exercise –August 17, 2024**

## Division of Community Health and Technical Resources (CHaTR)

### Operational Activities:

- Additional EMS Officer 1 class offerings are in the registration and planning stages for the FY25 Q1 and Q2. Additional offerings will be available on the OEMS website as they become available. <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/chatr/leadership-management/ems-officer-i/emso-1-current-course-offerings/>
- The amount of data submitted to the Medevac Helicopter EMS application (formerly known as WeatherSafe) continues to be robust. In terms of weather turndowns, there were 275 entries into the Helicopter EMS system in May/June of the 2024 calendar year. Sixty-seven (67) percent of those entries (186 entries) were for interfacility transports. The total number of turndowns is a decrease from 281 entries in May/June of 2023. The following items should be added to the “Hazard” section of Helicopter EMS: laser strikes, drone activity, and trees or other growth that affects take off/landing at a particular landing zone. As of July 1, none of those hazards were reported.
- The National Pediatric Readiness Project (NPRP) assessment of licensed EMS agencies that respond to 911 began May 1 will close August 1, 2024. This comprehensive survey seeks to establish a baseline of EMS agency information to assist in ongoing efforts to improve pediatric readiness nationally.
- The Virginia EMS for Children (EMSC) program is participating in the Pediatric Readiness Recognition Programs Collaborative (PRRPC). This collaborative intends to prepare states to establish both hospital and prehospital voluntary programs to recognize pediatric readiness.
  - The second issue of the Pediatric Champions Newsletter will be out soon.
  - A supply of small (3-18 lbs.) ambulance child restraints is ready for distribution.
  - Regional Pediatric Training funded by the EMSC program is resuming on a limited basis.

### Items of High Interest

The CHaTR Division Director continues to chair the NASEMSO Rural EMS Committee, and the Joint Committee on Rural EMS Care. The Pediatric Emergency Care (PEC) Council of the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) will have a full meeting on August 27, 2024, and the Executive Committee of the National Pediatric Disaster Coalition (NPDC) will meet September 9, 2024.

### Committees and Meetings:

- VDH, OEMS, Southwest EMS Council Coverdell Grant Progress Meeting – June 5
- Virginia Fire-EMS Memorial Planning Committee Meetings – May 2, 9, 16, June 25
- Various Regional Council Board of Directors Meetings throughout the quarter
- Northern Va EMS Council Special Call Meeting – May 16
- Air Medical Committee – May 2
- Workforce Development Committee – May 2
- EMS for Children Committee – May 2

- Provider Health and Safety Committee, May 3
- State Telehealth Plan – Meetings with Virginia Telehealth Network – June 13, July 9
- Joint Committee on Rural Emergency Care – June 10, July 8
- NASEMSO Rural EMS Committee – June 20, July 18

#### Outreach and Education:

- Virginia Fire-EMS Memorial 2024 Service – June 1
  - 17 Fire-EMS LODD Responders honored
- EMS Officer 1 courses:
  - April 20-21, Danville Area Training Center
  - June 1-2, Loudoun County Fire-Rescue Training Center
  - June 9-10, VAVRS Rescue College

### Blue Ridge EMS Council

#### Committees and Meetings

- BREMS & Impact First Responders (IFR) monthly meeting – May 9, June 13, July 11
  - BREMS & IFR work collaboratively to provide CISM and Mental Health Services to all the region’s first responders.
- Regional Council Director Group – May 1
- Chest Pain Council Committee – May 2
- Regional EMS Medication Kit Transition Workgroup meeting – May 13, June 10
- Regional Peer Team quarterly meeting
  - BREMS, IFR, and regional peer team members meet for CISM information and training.
- Workforce Development Meeting – May 17
- Regional CE Education Training- Resiliency workshop for EMS
- Lynchburg General Hospital EMS Liaison Meeting – May 28
- CVCC (Central Virginia Community College) Paramedic Program discussion – May 29
- Chest Pain Council meeting - Monthly
- BREMS Board of Directors meeting - Quarterly
- BREMS & Central Virginia Community College meeting regarding AHA needs in the region – June 11
- BREMS Regional Education Coordinator Team meeting – June 20
- Regional Stroke Council meetings
- Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Meetings – Various locations
- Centra Stroke June monthly meeting
- Virginia Stroke Systems Task Force and Virginia Stroke Coordinator Consortium July 19

## Outreach and Education

- National EMS Week
  - Each day of the week, a food truck was provided in each locality for all first responders in our region.
- Quarterly Regional CE Education provided by BREMS – Topics included Hospice Care & EMS, Tactical Resiliency Workshop, Airway Management, and Burn Management
- Data to Action Resource Team (DART) monthly meetings - BREMS continues to collaborate with our community partners to better understand how societal factors are impacting substance use and mental illness in Central Virginia. BREMS represents EMS in the region and other partners include, the Central Virginia Health Department, Horizon, Social Services, Public School systems, local law enforcement, State Police, etc.
- BREMS representatives attended the state Regional EMS Medication Kit Transition Workgroup. We continue to share information with the agencies regarding the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Drug Supply Chain Security Act (DSCSA), enacted in 2013.
- Once the Board of Pharmacy has finalized the new application, BREMS will be applying for a new CSR.
- Protocols & Performance Improvement
  - PI committee met in March. BREMS met separately with Stroke and Trauma Services regarding data for this quarter.
  - Protocols: Timeline currently is to have them in the hands of the PI Committee via August 1 for a release date of September 1.
  - The BREMS PI meetings are hosting several stakeholders from our hospital and community partners that we have been working with as well, including but not limited to, stroke, trauma, and STEMI.
- BREMS continues to partner with Liberty University to determine the date for an Active Shooter Training date for first responders in our region. Partners in this collaboration will be LU, BREMS, VDH/OEMS, VDEM, VSP, FBI, and all regional EMS localities.
- CISM Readiness Course – July 15-17 – Offered virtually for the regional CISM Peer Team.

## Operational Activities

- BREMS continues to meet with the EMS Liaison committee monthly. We are discussing medication kit exchange options, CSR/DEA licenses, restocking supply exchange with the hospital,
- The Regional Communication System, Lifeline –The Attorney General’s office has approved BREMS to move to the STARS Tower on Leigh Mtn. There needs to be a structural analysis for the tower, and this will be managed by the Virginia State Police. We have submitted the Leigh Mtn. Project plan for review and approval to the Department of General Services.

## Items of High Interest

The Recruitment video was completed in March 2024. BREMS released the two regional recruitment videos during May EMS Week. We have received positive feedback from the videos from local, regional, and state partners. Each locality received a recruitment video for their agency as well. During EMS Week, the regional video played on streaming videos and ads based on the subscriber zip codes.

### **KEY EVENTS OF THE COMING QUARTER:**

- **Regional subcommittee of the Board of Directors formed to research and develop a regional blood program for BREMS.**
- **Regional awards deadline is July 1<sup>st</sup>. The BREMS Regional Awards reception will be held August 12<sup>th</sup> at the Blue Ridge EMS Council Office- 2412 Langhorne Road, Lynchburg.**
- **BREMS has a CISM (Critical Incident Stress Management) class for our region July 15<sup>th</sup> - 17 for our Regional Peer Team members. We have a Peer Activation Training scheduled the end of August.**
- **We have monthly regional CE topic scheduled for FY 25 first quarter and we are working on scheduling an AHA BLS CPR Instructor class, and an ACLS & PALS Instructor classes scheduled during FY 25 first quarter.**

## Central Shenandoah EMS Council

### Operational Activities

- CSEMS served 635 FieldPrint customers for background checks. This provides a critical resource for EMS agencies, while offering resources and information to other members of the community on health, wellness, regional programs, and recruitment for EMS agencies.
- Daniel Linkins was selected to serve as EMS representative for the Virginia Stroke Services Task Force.
- Major protocol changes released included implementation of new Trauma Triage plan and protocol, Asthma/COPD updates, removing intubation from Intermediate scope. New protocols approved for Distal Femoral IO placement and Eclampsia/Preeclampsia treatment.
- Planning initiated for 2025 Shenandoah Valley EMS Expo in conjunction with TJEMS.
- The CSEMS Community Training Center provided the following certifications: ACLS - 42, ACLS Renewal - 37, BLS Healthcare Provider - 466, BLS Renewal - 267, BLS Instructor - 8, Heartsaver Courses - 406, PALS Provider - 22, PALS Renewal - 39.
- Staff supported over 190 requests for technical assistance, with the highest areas of support in education (31%), technical support (24%), AHA Training (14%), and Performance Improvement (11%). Additionally, staff answered 65 direct agency support contacts.

## Items of High Interest

During this quarter, CSEMS officially launched the Prehospital Whole Blood program, with support of funding from Augusta County and Sentara Cares Foundation (\$15,000 grant). Two sites are up and running. U-CapIT machines are now in place at all regional hospitals.

CSEMS is exploring operating a regional pharmacy and has applied for a CSR. The Board of Directors will have a special meeting to discuss the benefits of regional coordination by July 16, 2024.

### Committees and Meetings

● Quarterly CIPS Meeting (Apr-Jun)	2024-04-09 18:30	<a href="#">Agenda</a>	<a href="#">Minutes</a>
● Quarterly Pharmacy Committee Meeting	2024-04-17 15:00	<a href="#">Agenda</a>	<a href="#">Minutes</a>
● Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting (Apr 1, 2024)	2024-04-30 14:00	<a href="#">Agenda</a>	<a href="#">Minutes</a>
● Special Board of Directors Meeting - 5.14.2024	2024-05-14 14:00	<a href="#">Agenda</a>	<a href="#">Minutes</a>
● Special Board of Directors Meeting 6.11.2024	2024-06-11 14:00	<a href="#">Agenda</a>	<a href="#">Minutes</a>
● Quarterly MCRC FY24 Q4	2024-06-20 14:00	<a href="#">Agenda</a>	<a href="#">Minutes</a>

### Outreach and Education

- EMS New Leader Orientation Course – VAVRS District 1 Training Weekend – April 28
- Documentation – Train-the-trainer – ODEMSA Office – May 1
- Pig Hearts & Pit Crews – Bridgewater Rescue Squad – May 6
- Staunton City Council for EMS Week and Stroke Smart Proclamation – May 9
- Virginia Heart Attach Coalition Steering Committee – May 16
- PTSD Documentary – May 20
- Trauma Games – Bridgewater – June 3
- EMS New Leader Orientation Course – VAVRS Rescue College – June 8
- Agency High-Fidelity Simulation – Waynesboro First Aid Crew – June 3-4
- PEPP Hybrid Course – Mt Solon – June 12
- Documentation An Essential Skill Course – VAVRS Rescue College – June 14
- Stop the Bleed Course – Mt Solon – June 18
- Waynesboro City Council Meeting for Stroke Smart Proclamation – June 24
- Staunton City Council Meeting for Stroke Smart Proclamation – June 27

### **KEY EVENTS OF THE COMING QUARTER:**

- **Regional EMS Awards - July 17, 2024**
- **Board of Directors Meeting - July 30, 2024**
- **Pharmacy Committee Meeting - July 31, 2024**
- **VAVRS Convention - September 2024**

## Rappahannock EMS Council

### Operational Activities

- Attended a DCJS first responder's wellness meeting June 20th; discussed interagency collaboration for mental health
- Attended the VHHA Hospital Emergency preparedness Forum May 17th where hurricane preparedness, chemical decontamination procedures, and patient cybersecurity was discussed.
- Attended a VDH OEP VHEMP CBERS TTX based on infectious disease scenarios and Trends in Trauma Care: A Focus on Crash Injuries and Post-Crash Care webinar on June 21.
- Six ALS providers successfully completed the ALS release process this quarter, two withdrew from the process, and five providers are currently in the process. REMS also conducted a NREMT ALS Psychomotor Test Site on June 8.
- REMS is partnering with Stafford County Schools for Ready S.E.T Go program and developing an extern program to address EMS recruitment and retention.
- Participated on the VDH Datathon team and attended the Government Innovation Virginia summit.
- REMS is completing medical interpreter training to support VDH's efforts to increase health equity in our region.

### Items of High Interest

The REMS Council, through grant funding for youth philanthropy, conducted a train-the-trainer emergency preparedness program for teenagers providing REVIVE, Stop the Bleed, Hands Only CPR, and a FEMA disaster preparedness education program. After didactic training, the teens reviewed the FEMA National Household Survey and performed a needs assessment to identify vulnerable areas of the community. The group provided targeted education, including translation of presentations and materials into Spanish and Dari, and identified specific resources which could be provided to improve disaster preparedness. The youth provided education and distributed \$10,000 in emergency supplies, such as solar/crank radios, emergency food rations, roadside emergency car kits, maps, and other items during three community events.

### Committees and Meetings

- REMS Council Medical Review, Incident and Threat Mitigation (ITM), Guidelines and Training (G&T), Executive, and Strategic Planning Committees, the five flagship committees and many of their respective work groups met on April 23 for a work session on creating a work plan for FY25.
  - G&T Committee approved a new ALS Release Handbook, Culpeper County's new ALS release process for reciprocity, and two ALS Coordinator re-certification applications.
  - Heart and Stroke WG also met April 17 and discussed priorities for FY25 to include HeartSafe Communities and Stroke and STEMI scorecards.
  - Pharmacy WG also met April 11 regarding November 2024 Board of Pharmacy regulatory changes

- Performance Improvement WG received one shared concern inquiry, which will be reviewed after receiving additional information that was requested
- ITM Committee also met April 18 and discussed the Medical Response and Surge Exercise (MRSE).

### Outreach and Education

- Supported Lake of the Woods VFR, Culpeper VRS, Chester Gap VFR, Washington VFR, and Sperryville Fire with nine Safety Seat Check Sites conducted in collaboration with Rappahannock Rapidan Health Districts' MRC.
- Provided six health literacy outreach and wellness checks with St Georges Episcopal Church, Lloyd Moss Clinic, RACSB, YMCA, MHA, Healthy Generations. REMS also moderated panel discussions on Health Inequities, Mental Health, and Stroke and Heart Disease.
- Provided community health education and stroke awareness training for University of Mary Washington Health Fair, Mary Washington Hospital Stroke/Trauma Expo, and the Art of Aging Expo.
- Conducted a child safety seat inspection site, provided Stop the Bleed/ Hands only CPR training in King George, and supported two Youth Emergency Preparedness community outreach events.
- Provided EMS training for Stafford and Culpeper County, taught NAEMT EMS Safety class, AHA BLS Instructor class, and NAEMT GEMS class for regional EMS providers

### **KEY EVENTS OF THE COMING QUARTER:**

- **Regional Awards Ceremony – September 17**

## Southwest Virginia EMS Council

### Operational Activities

- The Council serves as a FieldPrint Fingerprint site. For May-June, the Council completed 137 fingerprints.
- The Council completed an Advanced EMT certification course. 10 students completed test eligibility requirements.
- Extended regional EMS Awards Program submission deadline.

### Items of High Interest

- SWEMS finalized work with VDH on the Paul Coverdell Stroke Grant. SWEMS completed the third and final year of the CDC Coverdell Stroke Grant. This multi-year grant program focused on improving stroke care in Virginia. Funding was allocated to develop promotional materials for use statewide.

- Council staff members have participated in statewide workgroups related to the EMS Medication Kit Transition. Guidance and tools have been developed and posted to assist agencies in planning for the November 2024 deadline.
- Section §22.1-279.8. D. of the Code of Virginia requires public schools to “develop a written school crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plan” and to include regional Council Executive Directors in the annual review process. The office launched a mechanism to engage with school systems to support this review process and notified all 16 public school systems in the region. To date, two school systems have reached out for assistance, and three schools have submitted plans for review.

### Committees and Meetings

- Rules & Regulations Committee, May 2
- EMS Advisory Board, May 3
- Medication Kit Transition Workgroup, May 13
- Lenowisco Executive Planning Committee, May 30
- Virginia Highlands Community College, June 4, EMS training program discussion
- Southwest Virginia EMS Council Board of Directors, June 25
- Regional Medication Kit Transition Workgroup, July 2
- Bristol Virginia Local Emergency Planning Committee, July 9
- Washington County Local Emergency Planning Committee, July 11
- Monthly VDH, VDEM, Coalition, Partners Meeting

### Outreach and Education

- Scheduled 3-hour free continuing education (CE) sessions conducted monthly at our facility in Bristol, VA. Sessions included Cardiac (5/14, Trauma (6/5), and Medical (7/18).
- Launched a regional EMS agency information update survey. 38 EMS agencies have completed the survey to date.
- A Designated Infection Control Officer course was held on May 18. A DICO update course was held June 29.
- Obtained approval to teach Geriatric Education for EMS (GEMS) from NAEMT to assist EMS agencies in meeting requirements of § 32.1-111.5:2.

### **KEY EVENTS OF THE COMING QUARTER:**

- **Finalize regional EMS awards program and conduct an awards event (TBA).**
- **Continue working with EMS agencies on Medication Kit Transition (November 2024 deadline)**
- **Regional Infection Control Seminar (collaboration with Mount Rogers Health District) September 24**