



LTS EMS COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR (2019-20)

Authority

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.

Report are due within 30 calendar days of the end of each state fiscal year (June 30th)

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REGIONAL SUMMARY:

(Provide a summary of the council including regional background / demographic and other information unique to individual region / county)

MISSION:

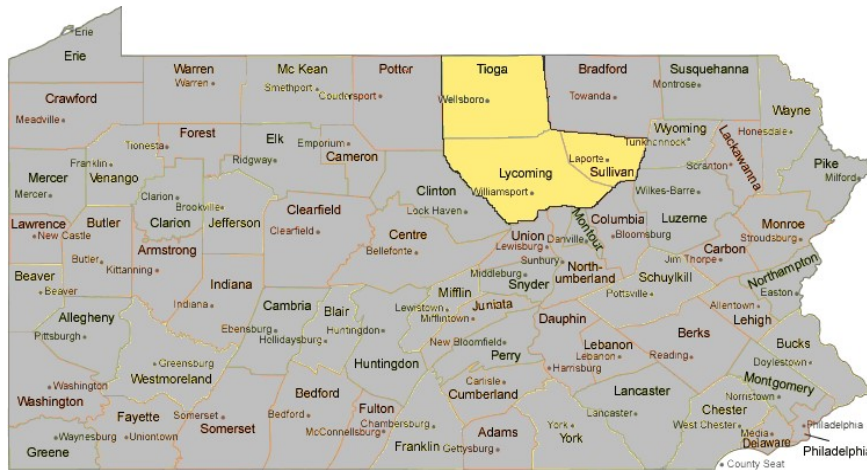
To coordinate, develop, improve and maintain a comprehensive and dynamic emergency medical services system to prevent and reduce premature death and disability. This system shall be integrated within the entire health care network. The emergency medical services system will ensure prompt, effective and unimpeded service to all residents and visitors of the Commonwealth.

SUMMARY:

The LTS EMS Council is one of 14 Regional EMS Council’s designated by the Pennsylvania Department of Health responsible for the management and operation of the EMS System in Lycoming, Tioga, and Sullivan Counties. The contract is held by the Lycoming County Commissioners and has been continuously renewed since 1973.

The Advisory Committee is made up of representatives from each of the three county EMS Councils that meet regularly. The Regional Advisory Council meets quarterly to vote on important EMS Operational and Funding issues. Membership to the county and Advisory Committee councils is open and fall under Federal Sunshine Laws.

Geographically, the LTS Region is located in Northcentral Pennsylvania, whose northern tier borders the New York border. The region is primarily rural, with only one identifiable urban area, that of Williamsport, Lycoming County.



POPULATION BY COUNTY:

	2017	2018	2019	% Change 2017-2019
LYCOMING	116,111	113,664	113,299	(2.4)
TIOGA	41,981	40,763	40,591	(3.4)
SULLIVAN	6,428	6,071	6,066	(5.9)

<http://quickfacts.census.gov>

Board of Directors \ Health Council Officers

President: Peter Lupkowski, Wellsboro Fireman’s Ambulance; Tioga County
Vice President: Mark Trueman, Deputy Chief Susquehanna Regional EMS
Treasurer: N/A
Secretary: Denise Ayres, Mansfield Fireman’s Ambulance, Tioga County

(Please list all other members below)

<u>NAME</u>		<u>NAME</u>	
1	<u>Jeffrey Hutchins</u>	19	<u>Dr. Gregory Frailey – Ex-Officio</u>
2	<u>Richard Strous</u>	20	<u>Wendy Hastings – Ex-Officio</u>
3	<u>Suzanne Dively-Smith</u>	21	<u>Donna Snyder – Ex-Officio</u>
4	<u>Charles Kiessling</u>	22	<u>Carla Miller – Ex-Officio</u>
5	<u>Casey Lowmiller</u>	23	<u>Doug Wicks – Ex-Officio</u>
6	<u>Josh Dorman</u>	24	<u>Click or tap here to enter text.</u>
7	<u>Chris Boyer</u>	25	<u>Click or tap here to enter text.</u>
8	<u>Mark Hamilton</u>	26	<u>Click or tap here to enter text.</u>
9	<u>Matthew Russell</u>	27	<u>Click or tap here to enter text.</u>
10	<u>Julia Meachem</u>	28	<u>Click or tap here to enter text.</u>
11	<u>Greg Martuccio</u>	29	<u>Click or tap here to enter text.</u>
12	<u>Brian Hoffman</u>	30	<u>Click or tap here to enter text.</u>
13	<u>Vicki Peterman</u>	31	<u>Click or tap here to enter text.</u>
14	<u>Terry Markee</u>	32	<u>Click or tap here to enter text.</u>
15	<u>Debbie Peterman</u>	33	<u>Click or tap here to enter text.</u>
16	<u>Genie Wines - Alternate</u>	34	<u>Click or tap here to enter text.</u>
17	<u>Brock Boyer - Alternate</u>	35	<u>Click or tap here to enter text.</u>
18	<u>Joe Carpenter - Alternate</u>	36	<u>Click or tap here to enter text.</u>

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

	Final Budget	Expended
Personnel Services	\$224,433.25	\$224,433.25
Consultant Services	\$3,000	\$3,000
Subcontracted Services	\$22,923.86	\$20,595
Patient Services	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00
Supplies	\$6,202.84	\$3,725.45
Travel	\$1,236	\$1,201.21
Other Costs	\$20,495.05	\$20,434.71
TOTALS	\$278,291.00	\$252,794.62

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

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.

National Registry Testing	Amount: \$5,000
<i>Project Narrative:</i>	
To make funds available to provide National Registry Cognitive Exam Testing to approximately 65 students who successfully complete the EMR, Emergency Medical Technician, or Paramedic training program.	
Hemorrhage Control Kits	Amount: \$5,361
<i>Project Narrative:</i>	
The LTS EMS Council works closely with the North Central Healthcare Coalition to strategically deploy “Walk” kits throughout the 7 County HCC Region to include hemorrhage control, dressings, and evacuation patient movers. This specific project for Lycoming, Tioga, and Sullivan County would be to equip each Licensed EMS Vehicle (ALS & BLS) with Hemorrhage Control kits.	
Infrared Thermometer for EMS Agencies	Amount: \$9,999
<i>Project Narrative:</i>	
In light of the COVID-19 Pandemic and the directive for 100% of all patients to have temperatures monitored, the LTS EMS Council requests funding to equip our licensed EMS Agencies with Infrared Thermometers.	

5. Regional Activities/ Organizational Management

Date of the current Comprehensive Regional EMS System Plan	Date N/A
Number of Board of Director Meetings \ Health Council meetings	4
Public Education Stop-the- Bleed Events	4
Public Education CPR Events	1
Number of Legislative Inquiries or Contacts	10+
Technical Assistance Request (local entities and elected officials)	0

Regional Activities/ Organizational Management Project Narrative:

Staff has active participated on the following Boards/Committees:

- PennDOT Driver Safety Task Force
- Lycoming County Fire Chief’s Advisory Board
- Lycoming County EMS Council
- Lycoming County Criminal Justice Advisory Board – Opioid Task Force
- Penn College Paramedic Advisory Board
- SafeKids Lycoming
- Lycoming County Healthcare Coalition
- Sullivan County EMS Council
- Sullivan County Health Partnership
- PEHSC EMS-C Committee
- WATCH Project Advisory Team

Staff regularly attends county EMS Council meetings for Lycoming and Sullivan Counties

Staff met with Sullivan County Commissioners and key stakeholders to discuss response issues and possible models that could be implemented to alleviate some of the burden on the rural volunteers.

Staff met with Lycoming County Commissioners and local Lycoming County Fire Chiefs regarding EMS Response Issues, EMSOF funds and access to training.

Due to COVID-19 Pandemic most of our in-person Public Information and Education programs were curtailed.

6. Continuous Quality Improvement

	Quantity
Number of Clinical Cases Reviewed by Regional QI Committee	0
Accidents Involving Ambulances / EMS Personnel Reported in the Region	3
Number of Times the Regional QI Committee Met	4

Continuous Quality Improvement Narrative:

In order to facilitate greater participation in the Regional CQI process, its quarterly meetings have been incorporated into the Regional Council meeting and reported out in the minutes.

All licensed EMS Agencies are required to complete quarterly reports based on recommended criteria from the Committee. (i.e. Patient Refusals, Cardiac Arrest/AED/Mechanical Compression Devices, Patient Assisted Medications, etc.) In addition, Agencies are required to submit data regarding emergency non-response. This data is compiled in a quarterly report by the EMS Field Coordinator for review by the Regional Medical Director and the Regional CQI Committee. Individual Clinical Cases are not reviewed by the Committee and are only reviewed by the Regional Medical Director in conjunction with the EMS Agency Medical Director.

7. Medical Direction

	Quantity
Regional Medical Advisory Committee meetings	0
Accredited Level I Trauma Centers	0
Accredited Level II Trauma Centers	0
Accredited Level III Trauma Centers	0
Accredited Level IV Trauma Centers	0
Accredited primary Stroke Centers (UPMC Williamsport)	1
Comprehensive Stroke Centers	0
Thrombectomy Capable Stroke Centers	0
Acute Stroke-Ready Hospitals (Geisinger Jersey Shore)	1

Medical Direction Narrative:

While No formal meetings occurred during this reporting period, members correspond and vote by email as concerns and projects come to light.

During this reporting period no issues were raised significant to call a formal meeting of the LTS Regional MAC Committee. Information of interest is shared with all ALS and BLS Medical Direction on a regular basis and hold voting membership on their respective County EMS Councils. Additionally the LTS MAC endorsed a Pilot Program for consideration at the State on digital Thoracostomy.

All ALS EMS Agencies in the region have expressed their intent on participating in the Antibiotic Pilot Project for Open Fractures.

8. Systems Operations

	Quantity
Spot inspections conducted – EMS Agencies	0
Spot inspections conducted – EMS Vehicles	0
Spot inspections conducted – Continuing Education Sponsors	5
Spot inspections conducted – Education Institutes	2
Spot inspections conducted – Medical Command Facilities	1
Number of Safety Inspections Conducted	5
Number of Vehicles Inspected During Safety Inspection	13
Photo & Signatures Added to Certification Cards	33
BLS Psychomotor Examinations Conducted	4
Number of BLS Psychomotor Exam Candidates Tested.	83
ALS Psychomotor Examinations Conducted	1
Number of ALS Psychomotor Exam Candidates Tested	12
Certification Class Visits Conducted	2
Number of EMS Agency Re-Inspections Conducted	0
Number of Authorized Inquiry Reports Filed with the Bureau	2

Systems Operations Narrative:

Field Coordinator conducted facilitated the Relicensure and on-site Inspection for:

- Dushore Volunteer Fire Company (BLS) Sullivan County
- Williamsport Bureau of Fire (QRS) Lycoming County
- Willing Hand Hose Company #1 (BLS) Lycoming County
- Muncy Area Volunteer Fire Company (BLS) Lycoming County
- Valley Community Ambulance Association (BLS) Tioga County
- Washington Twp. Volunteer Fire Company (QRS) Lycoming County
- Gale Hose Company #1 (BLS) Tioga County
- Montgomery Volunteer Fire Company (BLS) Lycoming County
- Waterville VFC (QRS) Lycoming County
- UPMC Susquehanna Soldiers + Sailors Tioga County
- Eldredsville VFC (BLS) Sullivan County

Relicensure facilitated without inspections due to COVID-19 guidance

- Pennsylvania College of Technology (QRS) Lycoming County

- Hillsgrove Volunteer Fire Company (BLS) Sullivan County

Field Coordinator conducted new vehicle inspections for:

- Susquehanna Regional EMS (4)
- Gale Hose Company #1 (1)
- Morris Fireman’s Ambulance (1)
- Jersey Shore Area EMS (2)

Field Coordinator assisted EMS of NEPA with inspection of large EMS Agency (Luzerne, PA)

16+ hours of Spot/Safety Inspections were conducted at UPMC Williamsport Regional Medical Center, Geisinger Jersey Shore Hospital, and UPMC Muncy Valley Hospital during the first two quarters of current reporting period with only minor deficiency noted and corrections were made in a timely manner.

9. Emergency Preparedness Activities

	Quantity
Coalition / Task Force Meetings Attended <small>(only EMSOF funded staff attendance)</small>	33
Table Top Exercises Attended / Conducted	1
Full Scale / Functional Exercises Attended / Conducted	1
Special Event Plans Submitted	5
Responses / Deployments	0
Strike Team Agencies: (SREMS, JSAEMS, Mansfield, Old Lycoming, Gale Hose)	5

Emergency Preparedness Narrative:

Council Director serves as the Chair of the Northcentral Task Force Health & Medical Committee as well as Chair of the NCTF Healthcare Coalition. Monthly meetings are conducted concurrently of these two entities with participation from hospitals, EMS, EMA, Public Health, Coroners, Long-term Care Facilities, and Home Health/Hospice. In addition, to 11 Coalition Meetings, Director Participated in 3 NCTF Executive Board Meetings.

Director is active participant on Healthcare Coalition Council, actively seeking 501.c3 status to elevate the capabilities of Healthcare Coalitions in the Commonwealth.

Facilitate the design and manufacture of Evacuation Vests for Long Term Care Facilities to be provided to all LTC in the Northcentral HCC 7 county region

Director completed the following Training which completed requirements for both Municipal and County Professional EMA Certification:

- G-205 Recovery from Disaster: The Local Government Role – Dauphin County
- G-557 – Rapid Needs Assessment at Lebanon County

Field Coordinator completed the following Training in pursuit of EMA Advanced and Professional Certification:

- G393 Introduction to Hazard Mitigation – Pema, Harrisburg, PA
- L146 Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program, Allegheny County Emergency Services, Moon, PA
- G205 Recovery from Disaster: The Local Community Role, Allegheny County Emergency Services, Moon, PA
- G386 Mass Fatalities Incident Response – Northampton County, PA
- G-290 Basic Public Information Officers Course -Lancaster County
- G-271 – Hazardous Weather and Flooding Preparedness – Lycoming County
- G-235 – Emergency Planning - PEMA HQ

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- G-289 Class – Public Information Officer Awareness - Delaware County
 - G-557 – Rapid Needs Assessment at Lebanon County
 - IS-366.a – Planning for the Needs of Children in Disasters
 - IS-703 – NIMS Resource Management
 - IS-02200 – Basic Emergency Operations Center Functions
 - IS-15.b – Special Events Contingency Planning for Public Agencies
 - IS-00547.a Introduction to Continuity of Operations
 - IS-393b – Introduction to Hazard Mitigation
 - IS-130 Class – How to be an Exercise Evaluator

Conducted Annual Hazard Vulnerability Assessment of the Healthcare Coalition

Director Attended the National Healthcare Coalition Conference; Houston, TX.

Attended 2-day Statewide Healthcare Coalition Leadership Meeting; State College

Participate in monthly redundant communications test facilitated by HAP Manager for the North Central Healthcare Coalition.

Staff met with Red Cross Disaster Coordinator to confirm identity of key contacts in conjunction with the updating of the Region's Mass Casualty Plan.

Staff served as ESF#8 and PIO for Lycoming County full-scale and evaluated EMC Certification Exercise Jan.2020. (To also include a TTX prior to the Full-Scale Exercise)

Staff served as ESF#8 for 2019 Little League World Series, maintaining KC-HIMS event logs as needed.

Field Coordinator participated in Cyber Security Symposium and Tabletop Exercise at DeSales University

Director attended *Violence in the Healthcare Setting* training at Geisinger Bloomsburg; sponsored by HAP.

During the 2019-20 reporting period, normal operations were significantly altered due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and many activities were focused on the sharing of timely information from reliable sources as well as:

- Conducting conference calls with Public Safety, Council Staff, 911, and Regional Medical Director to provide updates, share ground truth, and facilitate rumor control.
 - Assist in the distribution of PPE to EMS and other First Responder Agencies in the LTS Region through the HCC and county EMA.
 - Facilitate the purchase of an Aeroclave Decontamination Unit, provide education on its use to EMS Agencies, Hospitals, and Long-term Care Facilities.
 - Director and Co-chair of the Northcentral HCC provided decontamination services to a COVID-19 acutely affected LTC facility in Lycoming County.
 - Conduct weekly COVID-19 Zoom "check-in" sessions with HCC Partners to share information and identify any unmet needs.
 - Participated in 2 Conference Calls with PA-DOH BEMS related to COVID-19 and modifications of practices.
 - Work closely with Tioga and Lycoming PSAPs to assist in the implementation of screening questions to 911 callers and communicating information about suspected COVID-19 cases to responding field units.
 - Participate in countless conference calls and Virtual meetings related to COVID-19 response (PEMA, BPHP, BEPR, HAP, CDC, and others)
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10. Board of Director \ Health Council Meetings

DATE:	TIME	LOCATION
10/24/19	1930	Tioga County Emergency Operations Center
1/23/20	1900	Lycoming County Emergency Operations Center
3/26/20	1900	Virtual – Zoom Platform
6/18/20	1900	Virtual – Zoom Platform

11. Medical Advisory Committee Meeting

DATE:	TIME	LOCATION
		N/A

12. Quality Improvement Committee Meeting

DATE:	TIME	LOCATION
10/24/20	1900	Tioga County Emergency Operations Center
1/23/20	1900	Lycoming County Emergency Operations Center
3/26/20	1900	Virtual – Zoom Platform
6/18/20	1900	Virtual – Zoom Platform

Regional Accomplishments:

Narrative:

Education & Training:

EMS Training Coordinator actively participates with the Education Coordinators and their on-going activities.

Until COVID-19 curtailed activities, council staff met monthly with the staff of Penn College Paramedic Program and Workforce Development to strategize education opportunities.

Training Coordinator participates in Quarterly WATCH Program activities.

Registered EMT Class for Penn College Main Campus and Wellsboro North Campus.

Registered HACC EMT Classes – Loyalsock FD & Clinton Twp FD (Lycoming County)

Registered HACC EMR Class – Hughesville FD (Lycoming County); Morris (Tioga County)

Facilitated National Registry Webinar for EMS Instructors/Evaluators

Staff participated in a virtual training – RQI Resuscitation Academy

Field Coordinator attended EMS Issues in PA, "Rethinking Pennsylvania's Emergency Medical Services" - Widener University Commonwealth Law School, Harrisburg, PA

Director attended the PANO Fire/EMS Administrative Officer's Course at Lancaster County Public Training Center.

Staff attended 8th Annual Coroner/Law Enforcement/EMS Continuing Education Day; Lycoming County

Working with the Eagles Mere – Laporte Lions Club, Sullivan County EMA, local Sullivan County EMS Agencies, and various EMS Training Institutes to facilitate an EMR Program in the Sullivan County High School that would meet the requirements for graduating seniors to possess an Industrial Certification as recommended/required by the PA Department of Education.

Committed to the retention of current EMS Providers, staff personally contacts each provider quarterly whose certifications are due to expire to assist with meeting the requirements of recertification.

During the COVID-19 Pandemic, LTS Staff assisted 12 providers to renew expired certifications through the completion of continuing education.

Additionally:

The LTS EMS Council serves as the Centralized Coordinating Agency for the distribution of Naloxone to 66 “first responder” agencies in Lycoming, Tioga, and Sullivan Counties. Reporting usage/leave behind to PCCD.

Work in conjunction with the Seven Mountains EMS Council to provide administrative oversight to the Seven Mountains/Susquehanna Valley CISM Team.

Provides daily technical assistance to providers with DOH Registry and TrainPA access issues.

Maintain database of LTS EMS Agencies seeking and receiving CLIA waivers and assisting with the Application process.

Maintain database of LTS EMS Agencies seeking Tier 1 Staffing Waivers during COVID-19 Disaster Declaration.

Implemented a 50% EMS Tuition reimbursement for Lycoming County students who successfully complete certification programs and are affiliated with a Lycoming County EMS Agency through the Lycoming County Commissioners and facilitated by the Council. During the 2019-20 reporting period, 22 students applied for this reimbursement. (Both Sullivan and Tioga Counties have similar programs to reimburse 100% tuition for successful candidates)

Continue to promote the CARES Registry and share statistical data with our ALS and Hospital Partners.

Maintain council website to include upcoming training, certification classes, and current events.

Assisted with the planning and execution of the Sullivan County Health Fair attended by over 600 residents and over 40 vendors with numerous health screenings and presentations to include Hands Only CPR and Stop the Bleed.

Monitor and provide status of Fire/EMS State Grant program through the Office of the State Fire Commissioner to EMS Agencies in the LTS Region.

Regional Field Coordinator presented PowerPoint Presentation to Leadership Lycoming candidates on the EMS System.

Completed 10 Fatality Accident Reporting Forms to the PA Department of Transportation.

In the absence of an annual regional EMS Banquet, Special EMS Week/COVID-19 T-shirts were designed and hand delivered to EMS Agencies and working crews to show appreciation for their ongoing efforts.

Continue to recognize the crews who successfully resuscitate cardiac arrest patients to discharge with special ROSC bar pins.