EMS Agency Funding

Kyle Thornton, Chief NMDOH EMS Bureau

EMS in New Mexico

Over 350 individual EMS agencies

 Respond to over 300,000 requests for service per year.



Types of EMS Agencies

- First Response / Medical Rescue
 - Almost all are publicly operated, and vast majority are fire department based.
 - EMS activity and personnel are regulated by the DOH EMS
 Bureau

- PRC certified Ambulances
 - Both public and private entities
 - Approved to transport patients to appropriate facilities, and bill for that transport.
 - Agency business
 practices are regulated
 by PRC; personnel and
 other EMS activity by
 EMS Bureau

Types of EMS Agencies

- Air Ambulance
 - Primarily "for-profit" entities.
 - Federally regulated,
 with some medical
 oversight such as
 personnel, equipment,
 and protocol standards
 granted to states.
- Special Event Agencies
 - Cover unique situational events; ski patrol, SAR, concert venues, etc.
- Emergency Medical Dispatch
 - Use dispatchers trained in pre-arrival instructions to facilitate bystander care

Primary Funding Sources

- Gov't agencies

 (primarily fire based career and/or volunteer)
 - Municipal and County funds
 - Most use volunteerism for personnel costs
 - For PRC approved ambulance agencies, reimbursement through billing for services.
 - EMS Fund.

- Private agencies

 (primarily PRC
 approved ambulance
 agencies; hospital
 based, not-for-profit,
 and for-profit)
 - Corporate funding
 - Reimbursement
 - If contracted by public entity, may receive municipal/county funding, and are eligible for EMS Fund.

EMS Fund

The purpose of the EMS Fund is to make money available to municipalities and counties, in proportion to their needs, for use in the establishment and enhancement of local emergency medical services in order to reduce injury and loss of life.

History of the EMS Fund

- Original statute passed in 1978
- Allocated \$500,000
- 96 EMS services funded the first year

- From 1978-1988, EMS services receiving support grew from 96 to 227
- Level of funding resulted in an average distribution decrease by 59%

EMS Fund History

- In1988, the Fund Act changed to the "Dollar for Life"
- Provided \$1.00 from each NM motor vehicle registration
- From '88-'94, the number of EMS services increased again from 227 to 294
- Number of participants increased beyond the available dollars, and existing EMS services experienced a significant decrease in the average distribution

EMS Fund History

- In 1994, the EMS Fund source became the general fund through the DOH budget.
- Amount available in 1994 was \$2.94 million, which increased available funds by approximately 31%
- Provided funds to 316 EMS Services
- Average Distribution was \$7,105

EMS Fund History

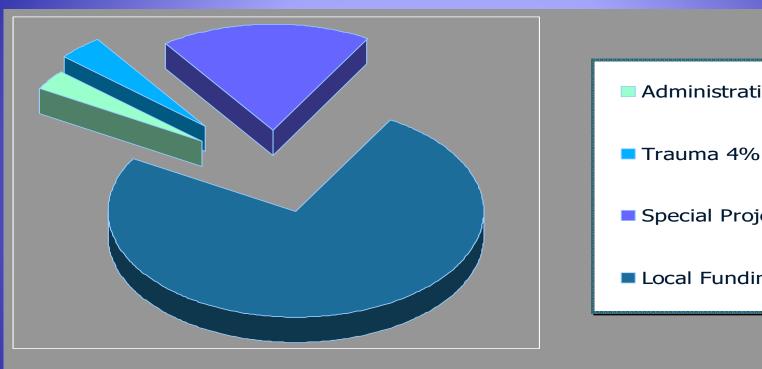
- EMS Fund reached an amount of \$3.875 million, which was the amount distributed in FY 2008, 2009, and 2010.
- Since then, the EMS Fund has been decreased each year due to budgetary challenges.

EMS History

- For FY19, the distribution will be \$2,906,500.
 - A small amount of carry-over from FY18 is added to this amount.
- 75% of the fund is distributed as "local system funding".
- Over 300 EMS services receive funding

- Average distribution is about \$8,000.
- 18% is distributed through "special projects".
- 4% is used to support trauma system development
- 3% goes towards DOH administrative costs.

Distribution of Funds



- Administration 3%
- Special Projects 18%
- Local Funding 75%

Local System Funding

- Most of LSF distributed by the level of service provided by the applying agency.
 - Each county's applicants are grouped and assigned one of the following levels:

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Start Up - $1500
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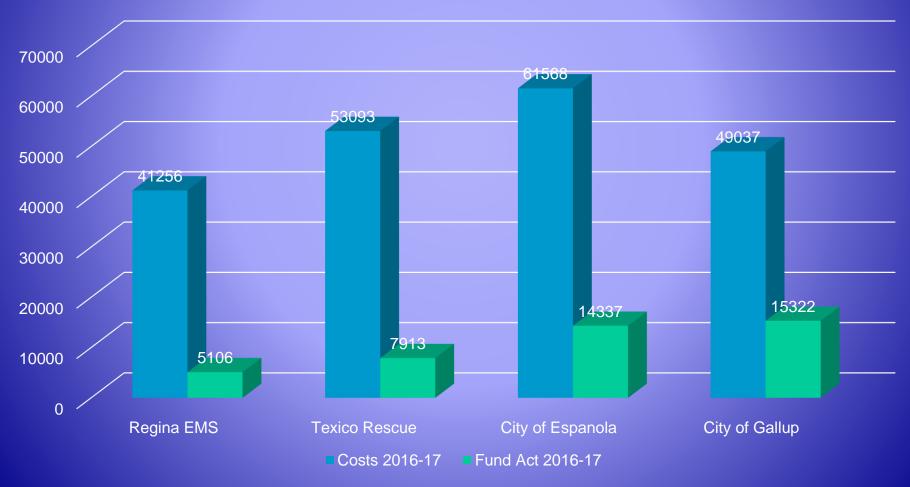
- Entry Level \$1500
- First Responder \$3,000
- Basic \$5,000
- ILS/Advanced \$7,000

Local System Funding

- Remainder is distributed to counties based on two factors:
 - the percentage of the state's land area for which the given county's land area accounts.
 - the percentage of the state's population for which the given county's population accounts.
- This amount is then distributed to the county applicants using applicant's call volume to determine what share of this particular amount the applicant should receive.

EMS Service Costs and Fund Act Distributions 2016-2017

Portion of Expenses



Impact on Special Projects/Vehicle Purchase

- In FY 2007, DOH was able to support the purchase of 7 EMS transport capable vehicles
- In FY 2019, DOH was able to support the purchase of three transport capable vehicles



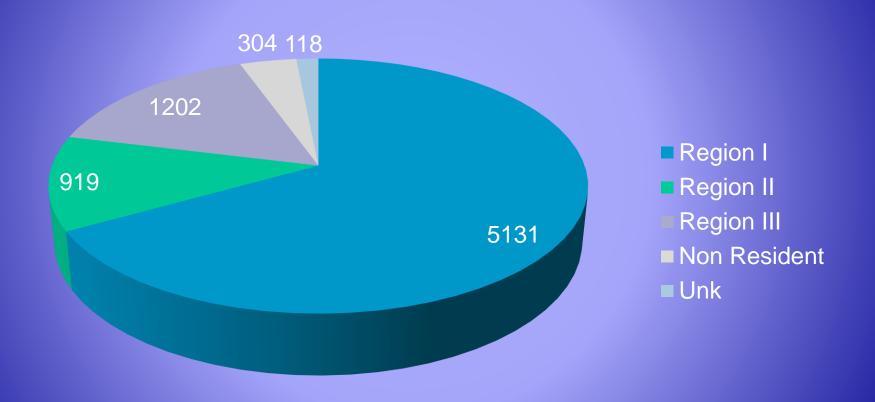
EMS Costs Continue to Rise...

- Education and training
- Medical equipment, medications, and supplies.
- Vehicle Costs
- Fuel
- Protective equipment and uniforms
- Etc.

Licensed Personnel 06/19/2018

- 7674 Statewide
 - Emergency Medical Dispatchers (EMD) and EMD Instructors (550 – 7.1%)
 - EMS First Responder (368 4.8%)
 - EMT Basic (3112 40.6%)
 - EMT Intermediate (1745 22.7%)
 - EMT Paramedic (1899 24.7%)

Total Active EMS Personnel





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