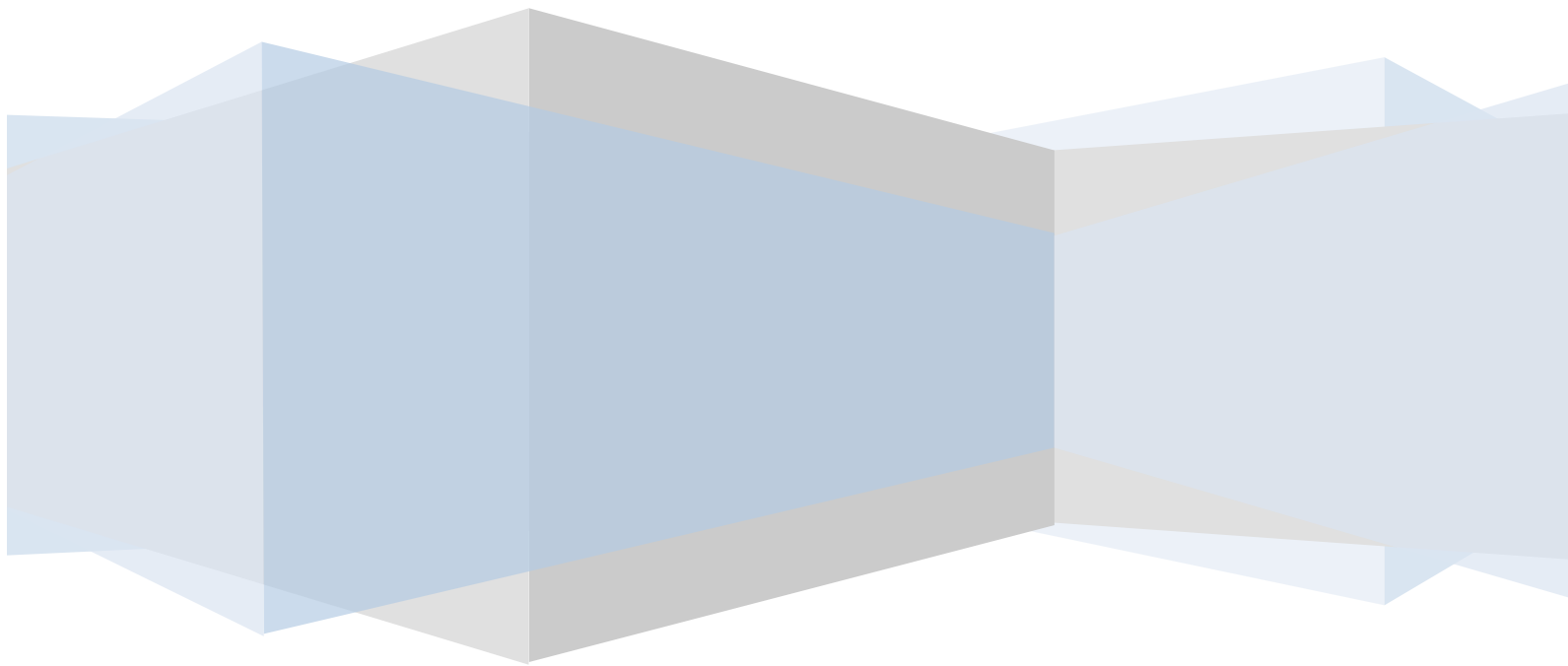


**NASEMSO / NOSORH
Joint Committee on
Rural Emergency Care**

2013 Workplan



Rural EMS / JCREC 2012 Workplan

NASEMSO / NOSORH Joint Committee on Rural Emergency Care

A coalition of NASEMSO and NOSORH EMS committees - formed to engage each association on topics relevant to rural and frontier emergency care

2013 Workplan

The JCREC's 2013 workplan will undertake strategies focused on the following issues:

- Strategic plan – The JCREC continues to implement measures in the strategic plan adopted in 2010.
- Develop and Promote Rural Emergency Care Policy Agendas - The JCREC strategic plan anticipates development of several position papers or 'call to action' papers which will advocate specifically for key rural issues.
- NOSORH/NASEMSO Learning Session – Implementation of a face-to-face session between committee members and other to facilitate networking and coordination of key projects and issues.
- State-Level Expertise in EMS leadership development – The future and viability of rural EMS services is directly dependent upon strong service manager and medical director leadership. The JCREC will finish implementation and analysis of a leadership survey and reporting on what leadership programs states are conducting.
- Community Paramedicine – Communities around the world and U.S. are developing and implementing community paramedicine programs as an approach to help ensure provision of emergency and primary healthcare in areas where health services are limited and challenging. The JCREC will continue to participation in numerous activities related to the development and implementation of these programs in the U.S.

Rural EMS / JCREC 2012 Workplan

Goal #: EMS recognized as a public safety industry

Objective: TBD

Description of the objective and expected outcome

Task	Responsibility	Due Date	Done	Budget
TBD				

Task	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	done
TBD													Y

Goal: Promote a Rural Emergency Care Policy Agenda

Objective: Develop and implement a 3-5 year strategic plan

Revisions to the Strategic Plan: In 2009, the committee initiated development of a strategic plan which is to serve as a template of the goals and strategies the committee plans to undertake over the next few years. While most elements of this plan are based upon concepts already in documents such as the Rural and Frontier Agenda for the Future, Agenda for the Future, IOM reports and other guiding documents and research, this document attempts to describe achievable goals, strategies and action steps to improve rural emergency care. This document was completed and approved in 2010 by both organizations and will serve as the basis for the JCREC's annual workplan for the next several years. A review of the plan will occur in 2013.

Goal: Promote a Rural Emergency Care Policy Agenda

Objective: Position paper describing Universal Minimum Assess-EMS, community paramedicine and regional core service models

Position paper - In 2009,

Goal: Promote a Rural Emergency Care Policy Agenda

Objective: Promote development and implementation of a model state statute for rural states

Position paper - Promote development of a model state statute which can be used by State officials to help develop universal minimum access to Universal Medical Access-EMS and other key concepts.

Goal: Promote a Rural Emergency Care Policy Agenda

Objective: Promote creation of health insurance incentives which support UMA-EMS

Position paper – Develop recommendations for insurance incentives which support the development and implementation of Universal Medical Access-EMS

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Goal: Promote a Rural Emergency Care Policy Agenda

Objective: Promote prehospital employee health and safety

Position paper – Position paper outlining the minimum standards for “contemporary employee health and safety guidelines, processes, supplies, and equipment” for an agency to provide EMS”.

Goal: Promote a Rural Emergency Care Policy Agenda

Objective: Position paper on EMS regionalization related to prehospital career advancement

Position paper – Develop a position paper describing guidelines for inter-agency mechanisms in an EMS core region to coordinate career advancement opportunities including education/training ladders and bridges and career/position ladders and bridges, which connect most/all agency and institutional staff positions involved in the provision of EMS in the region.

Goal: Promote a Rural Emergency Care Policy Agenda

Objective: Advocate for elimination of 35-mile rule

Advocate for the elimination of the 35-mile isolation test for CAH-affiliated ambulance services.

Goal: Promote a Rural Emergency Care Policy Agenda

Objective: Re-establishment and funding of a Rural EMS/Trauma Technical Assistance Center

Advocate for re-establishment and funding of a Rural EMS/Trauma Technical Assistance Center.

Goal: Promote State level expertise in EMS Service Manager and Medical Director leadership development

Objective: Develop and publish a best practices report relative to implementation of leadership programs

Best Practices Report - Contingent upon the results and implementation of the leadership survey report, a follow-up activity of the committee will be to work on a compendium on best practices for providing such education which can be a resource for states to refer to in the development and conduct of their programs.

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Goal: Promote strategies and activities which support the use of data communications and electronic health information for EMS

Objective: Participate generally in the development of data and electronic health information for EMS activities.

Technologies have been identified that can improve the efficiency and effectiveness of emergency care, particularly in rural areas. These technologies can reduce the time intervals from injury/illness to definitive care and they have the potential to improve medical oversight in patient care on long emergency transports and in community paramedicine. Medical video and imaging, biotelemetry, transmission of patient electronic health information to and from the scene and technologies to improve situational awareness are among the applications that could be utilized. In order to realize the potential of these, however, numerous communications bandwidth, infrastructure, and funding issues need to be addressed.

Goal: Promote strategies and activities which support the use of data communications and electronic health information for EMS

Objective: Promote EMS utilization of the Universal Service Fund

Universal Service Fund - The Rural Health Care Program of the Universal Service Fund makes discounts available to eligible rural health care providers for telecommunication services and monthly Internet service charges. The program is intended to ensure that rural health care providers pay no more for telecommunications in the provision of health care services than their urban counterparts. However, EMS is specifically excluded from eligibility for use of these funds and attempts at EMS partnering with other projects have resulted in excessive paperwork and long delays in any outcome. JCREC believes that fund guidelines need to be revised to include EMS and the process of receiving these funds needs to be streamlined.

Goal: Promote strategies and activities which support the use of data communications and electronic health information for EMS

Objective: Promote inclusion of EMS in HIT/HIE

JCREC proposes to develop and distribute information which educates association members about the subject and potential funding opportunity for health information technology. This information will include model letters which can be modified by states and sent to their Regional Extension Centers to request that EMS be included in the distribution of the funding.