

**BERKS COUNTY EMS/MEDICAL WORKING GROUP
MEETING MINUTES
January 4, 2011**

ORGANIZATIONS PRESENT:

Boyertown, Southern Berks, SV, Lower Alsace, RHMC, DES, Council, RCTTF, Hamburg, Kutztown, SJMC, SIR, Muhlenberg, Penn Star, Co 25 QRS. RFD, Western Berks

Meeting called to order 10:03. Previous months minutes approved.

Sheriff's Department attended and provided a presentation on project "Lifesaver"

Reorganization:

- All incumbents will remain in office
- 2011 will remain the same each EMS organization has 1 vote, support services have no vote.
- We will be reaching out to QRS organization and allowing them to attend the meeting but will not have a vote in the meeting.

DES:

- Nothing to report at this time

RADIO ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

- Dave expressed his appreciation to the Brian and the Committee who worked on the Radio System RFP

REGIONAL COUNTER TERRORISM TASK FORCE:

- Development of a medical based function exercise has begun. The scenario is chemical contamination with multiple fatalities. Any provider that wishes to be included in the play should contact, Jim Bitler, Mike Whalen or Jim Conrad.

EMS COUNCIL:

- Rack and Roll Thursday night at 1800.
- Command forms due by the end of the month.

READING HOSPITAL:

- January 19, 1900 Grand Rounds " Will the real William Tell please stand up"
- AED – "HeartSAFE Berks County" project

- *The Reading Hospital Regional Heart Center and The Friends of The Reading Hospital and Medical Center* are partnering together to **decrease the time from sudden cardiac arrest to first defibrillation** with an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) in Berks County. To meet this goal, one AED will be placed in every police patrol car that would potentially respond to a medical emergency.
- Each Police Department in Berks County will be:
 1. Supplied with a LIFEPAK CR Plus, carrying case, 2 sets of Adult electrodes (patches) per police patrol car;
 2. Provided annual education/refresher on use of the AED; and
 3. Given replacement QUIK PAK electrodes by The Reading Hospital when patches are used in the field for medical emergency.
- Collaborating With EMS:
 1. The LIFEPAK CR Plus QUIK PAK electrodes are compatible with EMS's LifePak 12 and 15's, saving time and equipment in the field during cardiac emergencies.
 2. If a patient is being transported to The Reading Hospital following the use of a police department AED (application and/or defibrillation), we are asking that EMS providers transport the AED along with the patient to TRH ED.
 3. The ED will collect the AED to download patient rhythm from the monitor.
 4. Police departments will be responsible for picking up the AED from The Reading Hospital.
- HeartSAFE Berks County is a multi-phase program. The first phase, distribution of AEDs to police, should be concluded in December 2010. The second phase includes educating the community on the chain of survival: early 9-1-1, early CPR, early AED use, and advanced care (access to EMS). Additional AEDs will then be distributed to assure public access to defibrillators, the final step in building HeartSAFE Berks County.
- *HeartSAFE Berks County is made possible by the generous support and partnership with The Friends of The Reading Hospital and Medical Center.*
- *Program Medical Director: Michael Koslow, MD, FACC, FSCAI*
- For questions, please contact the program coordinator, Danyelle Whalen, at whalend@readinghospital.org or (610) 988-4906.
- C.A.R.E.S. Project – Merv Wertz & Danyelle Whalen, RN
 - Met with new PA State C.A.R.E.S. Project coordinator in November
 - Goal for 1-1-2011 dependant on Berks County EMS System participants' paperwork
 - Next week, the National C.A.R.E.S. staff is meeting with the PA coordinator

- Plan to have Berks County paperwork submitted to the new state coordinator for her meeting next week.
- Emergency Department
 - Microwave Update:
 - December or January there will a one and a three hour period that the hospital EMS Microwave will be out of service, date of switch to be determined, prior notice will be communicated
 - Reading Hospital is reviewing relocating the Microwave as well as installing redundancy
 - Planning in progress to minimize any impact on EMS's daily operating procedures
 - 800 Open Sky Patch test with Medcom completed, it works but with a 1 to 2 second delay
 - Medcom to Reading Hospital patch via telephone line in progress, currently will work for telephone calls from EMS, however UHF to landline patch ability in progress.
 - EMS Dinner & Learn 2011 schedule will be distributed via List Serve on Friday. December's Triage session was attended by 52 providers.
 - January 5, 2011 - Hypothermic Therapy
 - February 2, 2011 - Go RED – Women and MI's
 - March 2, 2011 - O.D. – When you least expect it!
 - April 6, 2011 - Neuro Interventional Radiology
 - Paramedic Education Program applications are due January 31, 2011 for class starting in August 2011. For Nursing, Pastoral, Rad Tech and OR Tech, please check on-line at www.readinghospital.org or contact the School of Health Sciences at 610741-0100.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL:

- A Pyxis machine will be placed into service soon. Directions will be emailed and posted. It is very important that all providers sign out all supplies that are taken from the machine.
- Life net
 - 74 Transmissions. Southern 19, Reading Fire 18, Muhlenberg 13
 - STEMI: 1 case the DTB time exceeded the 90 minutes expectation.
 - EMS Rhythm Challenge: 1st session winner Jesse from Fleetwood, 2nd session was won by Tim Hornberger. An overall prize will be awarded at the EMS week picnic.
 - EMS Week
 - Kick off on Monday at the Peanut Bar
 - Tuesday: Triage Tuesday for those that wish to participate. SJMC will distribute the tags, all reports will include that the is "RED, YELLOW, GREEN"
 - Sammy Steaks for lunch, express line will be established for EMS
 - WED: RHMC
 - Thursday: Lunch and dinner picnic. Dunk tank from 1200-1300.
 - Spring Con-Ed will be announced soon

- Emergency Preparedness:
 - HERT offered to conduct rehab at the apartment fire in Wyomissing. We had a staff of 6 ready to go with bottled water, 5 heated tents with 8 chairs, 10 cots and medical supplies.
 - HERT and SJMC Ambulance were onsite for the Kris Kringle running race at the Hospital, 600 runners participated. 1 reported injury.
 - The HVA will be reviewed and altered as needed next week. Annual exercises will be developed after the HVA is approved.

SURGICAL INSTITUTE OF READING:

- No current issues or EMS related activities.

LEHIGH VALLEY MEDEVAC

- No representative present

PENN STAR

- **Aircraft Upgrade**
 - PennStar 4 is currently using a back up BK-117 aircraft which is white with blue and marked "Life Star", LZ offers should be aware. Regular aircraft is expected back soon.
 - For the Wyomissing apartment fire, PennStar 5 was at the Reading Airport for inspection and remained there until PennStar 4 returned.
- **December 2010 Statistics for Berks County**
 - 7 Pre-Hospital flight requests
 - Adult Burn – Western Berks EMS – LHVCC
 - Adult Trauma – Kutztown EMS – TRHMC
 - Adult Burn –Western /Muhlenberg EMS – LHVCC
 - Adult Trauma/burn – Spring Twp – LHVCC
 - 3 stand downs/cancels
 - 1 missed flight due to other flight in progress
- If anyone has any questions or concerns regarding PennSTAR, please contact Chris Chamberlain RN, Base Site Manager.
 - Christopher.chamberlain@uphs.upenn.edu
 - 610-378-4903 ext. 2

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- CARES Project
 - Get your forms to Merv.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Compliments given to Berks regarding the moving of EMS units during the fire in Wyomissing to insure EMS coverage.
- It was discussed to develop a relocation guideline for further situations.

NEXT MEETING

- February 1, 2011 at Direct Link at 10:00

Meeting Adjourned: 11:20