

MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Environmental Health, Public Health, and Animal Services

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jeffrey S. Brown, M.P.H., M.S.W., Director of Health and Human Services
Robert Oldham, M.D., M.S.H.A., Health Officer/Medical Director

DATE: November 4, 2014

SUBJECT: Report of the Placer County Emergency Medical Care Committee

ACTION REQUESTED:

1. Accept the 2013 Placer County Emergency Medical Care Committee Report.

BACKGROUND:

State law permits counties to have an Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC) to advise on emergency medical services. The Board of Supervisors in Placer County established such a committee to advise the Board, the Public Health Officer, and the Sierra-Sacramento Valley Emergency Medical Services Agency (S-SV) on issues concerning provision of emergency medical services in Placer County.

The EMCC provides an opportunity for different providers of emergency medical services in Placer County to better know and understand one another, address shared challenges and opportunities, and share relevant information and best practices. Meetings are open to the public and provide policy-makers and the public with a forum with local experience in emergency medical services to discuss concerns and ideas related to emergency medical services.

Membership of the Placer County EMCC includes representation from: contracted ground ambulance and county-based air ambulance providers; acute care hospital emergency departments; Placer County Departments and associations; California Highway Patrol (CHP); and the American Red Cross (ARC). The Placer County Health Officer and Sierra-Sacramento Valley Emergency Medical Services Agency (S-SV) have non-voting ex-officio membership status.

The Health and Safety Code proposes that the EMCC shall, at least annually, review the operations of each of the following:

- Ambulance services operating within the county;
- Emergency medical care offered within the county, including programs for training large numbers of people in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and lifesaving first aid techniques; and
- First aid practices in the county.

This report to the Board, the Public Health Officer, and S-SV is a fulfillment of that responsibility.

In addition, this report highlights some key achievements from the previous year, and ongoing challenges facing emergency medical services in Placer County. Key achievements from 2013 include: improved collaboration with ski resort providers, equipment improvements, and continued support of and collaboration with community groups and large event planners. Remaining challenges from 2013 include: rebuilding staffing levels, limited and changing reimbursements, periods of elevated community need, and ongoing difficulties serving people with mental health crises.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact as a result of this report.

This report is on file with the Clerk of the Board for review.

