

S O U T H D A K O T A

Foundation for Medical Care

Regional Services Designation



**Strengthening and Sustaining the EMS
infrastructure**

Meet the Team



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Overview of the EMS Regional Services Designation Grant

- Purpose: Enhancing EMS capacity and sustainability through regional collaboration
- Goals:
 - Establish coalitions
 - Conduct community EMS assessments
 - Create & Implement improvement plans
 - Deliver quality improvement initiatives
 - Provide EMS/community training
 - Launch an awareness campaign



Building a Strong EMS Coalition

- Identified potential partners within key districts and communities
- A diverse coalition ensures broad input and feedback
- EMS professionals and volunteers bring critical firsthand knowledge and expertise
- Inclusion of key community leaders helps identify strengths and weaknesses
- EMS-specific needs assessments will guide targeted process improvement plans
- Focus on sustaining essential EMS services in rural communities

District 4	Interest Requests	Meeting Poll Response
Aberdeen	6	2
Huron	8	2
Miller	7	4
Redfield	10	5
Sisseton	4	1
Webster	15	7
TOTAL	50	21

District 7	Interest Requests	Meeting Poll Response
Eagle Butte	2	0
Gettysburg	1	0
Lemmon	6	0
Mobridge	8	6
Selby	7	2
Timber Lake	3	1
TOTAL	27	9

EMS Assessments

Conducting a needs assessment to identify EMS gaps

- Identify the Key Needs
- Gather Community Input
- Analyze Data
- Assess Financial and Sustainability Challenges
- Identify Community Strengths
- Consider Public Awareness and Engagement

Improvement Plan

- Developing a structured approach to address EMS challenges
- Key components:
 - Policy and protocol enhancements
 - Infrastructure and technology improvements
 - Workforce recruitment and retention strategies

Improvement Workgroups

Formation of specialized workgroups

Focus areas:

- EMS service delivery
- Training and education
- Quality improvement
- Public awareness

Quality Improvement Project



Implementing data-driven quality improvement (QI) initiatives



Monitoring and evaluation of EMS performance metrics



Continuous improvement through feedback loops

EMS/Community Training Programs

Emergency response best practices

- Infection Control and Prevention
- Pediatric Care

Chronic Disease Management

- Better Choices Better Health
- Dementia Education

Community CPR and first aid

- Cardiac Ready Community
- Stop the Bleed
- Falls Prevention

Awareness Campaign

Public outreach to improve community understanding of EMS services



Strategies:

- Social media engagement
- Community events and workshops
- Educational materials and campaigns

Patient Protection & Ambulance Agency Sustainability Project



Project Description:

The South Dakota Ambulance Association, working with engaged stakeholders, retained PWW Advisory Group (PWW|AG) to assist with the development of a strategy to improve the reimbursement model for ambulance service in South Dakota, to include:

- **Patient protection from balance billing for ambulance service**
- **Payment for treatment in place without transport**
- **Essential service designation for EMS**



Task	Activities
Project kick-off	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *Site Visit* Brief SDAA members on the project goals and activities at annual educational conference.
Collect cost and revenue data from agencies able to develop cost data.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute cost and revenue data Excel workbook to all SDAA Members. • Create secure file share platform for SDAA members to upload Medicare Ground Ambulance Data Collection (GADCS) reports submitted to Medicare. • Provide technical assistance with above.
Legislative language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review examples of enacted state legislation related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Patient protection from ground ambulance balance billing. ○ Payment for Treatment in Place (TIP). ○ Designation of EMS as an essential service. • Draft legislative language for potential use with the South Dakota Legislature for all three initiatives.
Conduct an analysis of the cost and revenue data provided.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarize data for educational materials, specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Amounts billed and amounts collected by payer classification. ○ Revenue analysis based on payer classification. ○ Analyze payer data to determine the most frequent commercial payers based on patient volume, amounts billed, and amounts reimbursed Summarize costs compared to revenues for ambulance service provision.
Payer Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using data analysis, develop communication tools and strategy to educate commercial payers on the value of legislation to protect patients from ambulance balance billing and reimbursement for treatment in place for patients, ambulance agencies, and the payers.
Educational Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an education and communication strategy for the SDAA to educate legislators on the value of legislation to protect patients from ambulance balance billing and reimbursement for treatment in place for patients, ambulance agencies, and the payers. • Using the data analysis from the data collection, create discussion points for the value of designating EMS as an essential service.
Advocacy Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *Site Visit* Meet with SDAA members to review educational materials and assist with delivery of key message points for stakeholders.

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Conclusion



Leveraging Resources, Programs, and Training for Stronger EMS integration.



Bridging gaps between EMS services and the communities we serve.



Focus on training, education, resource management, and local empowerment.

Together We Save Lives

A call to action for Our Community and the EMS System!



Thank You

Coalition Interest Request Form

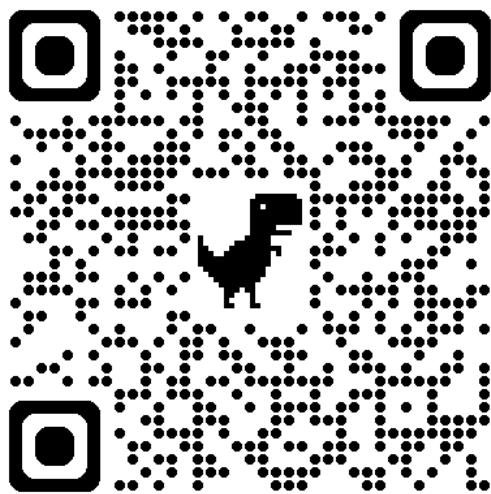
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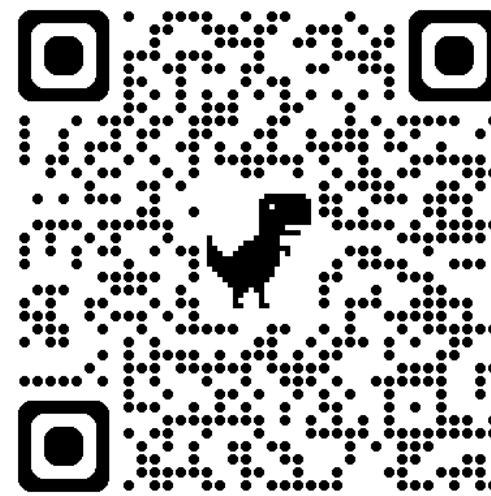
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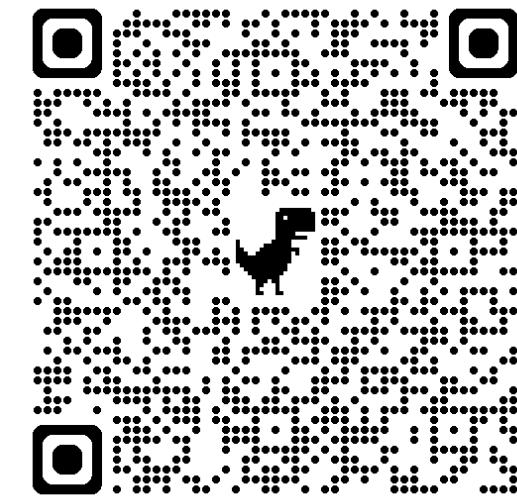
Additional Resources



South Dakota Project
Firstline Training



Dementia Dialogues
Information



Cardiac Ready Community

Thank you!

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