



Office of Medical Examiner and Trauma Services

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December 20, 2024

TO: Mayor and Members
Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Dr. Frederick Keroff, Chair
Broward Regional EMS Council

SUBJECT: EMS Grants Committee's Project Recommendations for EMS Trust
Fund Monies Fiscal Year 2024-2025

BACKGROUND

Following the notice of the FY 2024-2025 EMS County Grant Funds from the State of Florida Department of Health (DOH) the FY 2024-2025 EMS County Grant Application, a competitive ranking process, was conducted by the Broward Regional Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Council's Grant Committee ("Grants Committee").

For the FY 2024-2025 EMS County Grant program, available grant funds are \$98,736.50. The Grants Committee reviewed two (2) EMS County Grant projects ("Projects"), but based upon grant funds available, the Grants Committee is recommending full funding of one (1) project and partial funding of one (1) project. The projects recommended for funding on the Attachment met the criteria of improving and expanding prehospital emergency medical services in Broward County.

In accordance with the Broward Regional (EMS) Council's objectives set forth in Broward County code of Ordinances, Chapter 15, Health, Article V., Broward County EMS Council met on December 19, 2024, and accepted the Grants Committee's recommendations.

SUMMARY

The EMS Council, through the Office of Medical Examiner and Trauma Services, recommends approval of the following actions: (1) recommendation for full funding of one (1) project and partial funding of one (1) project; and (2) adoption of the budget Resolution included with the agenda item providing for County EMS Grant Fund monies to be used to improve and expand prehospital emergency medical services in Broward County.

Attachment

c: Monica Cepero, County Administrator
Rebecca MacDougall, MD, Director/Chief Medical Examiner, OMETS
Javier Navas, Assistant County Attorney
Alison Zerbe, Trauma Agency Manager, OMETS

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25-01 Fire Chiefs' Association of Broward County

28th Annual First There First Care Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Conference

Funding Requested - \$75,000.00 (Countywide) – **63.00 points**

Funding Recommended - \$75,000.00

The Association shall host the 28th Annual First There First Care (FTFC) EMS Conference: EMS Education (the "Conference") in June 2025 at the Hard Rock Hotel in Hollywood, Florida. The Conference shall provide didactic lectures and hands-on instructional training to emergency medical services ("EMS") field staff and students who desire to work in the EMS field.

Last year, the 27th FTFC Conference provided innovative EMS education to more than 1,500 EMS and nursing professionals working in prehospital and emergency department settings in Broward, Miami Dade, Palm Beach, Monroe, and other countries. The three-day event allows the opportunity for networking, allows for trend and treatment tracking, and provides EMS and nursing professionals continuing education credits to ensure that Broward County residents, and its visitors are receiving the best care possible.

This Project will improve or expand prehospital emergency medical services by providing lectures and hands-on training to the Conference participants.

The Conference hosts competitions that will hone the skills and teamwork of paramedics, emergency medical technicians and emergency department nurses. These competitions improve and advance patient care. The Conference and competitors will help to keep all EMS and nursing providers at the forefront of the prehospital care.

Both the Broward Regional EMS Council and Fire Chiefs have jointly provided direct financial assistance via grants and supplemental funding for event development, coordination, support services, and staffing.

25-02 Broward Sheriff's Office

Enhancing Prehospital Trauma Care in Broward County through Collaboration and SPARC

Funding Requested - \$98,736.50

- 58.50 points

Funding Recommended - \$23,736.50

This proposal seeks funding to provide Broward County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) agencies with standardized blood fluid warmers and rapid infusion systems to enhance trauma care. These tools will enable EMS providers to deliver advanced resuscitation, preparing for prehospital blood product administration if available at that agency or in preparation for collaboration with mutual aid agencies that carry blood,

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reducing preventable deaths and improving outcomes. By equipping all EMS agencies with consistent tools and comprehensive training, this initiative will streamline advanced resuscitation efforts during both routine and mutual aid responses. Standardization will decrease time, funding, and logistical efforts required to deliver lifesaving interventions to injured patients, ensuring seamless care and improved outcomes.

Additionally, a collaborative equipment exchange program with trauma centers will ensure the sustainability of equipment, reduce costs, and improve the continuity of care. This program will ensure Broward County EMS adopts best practices in trauma care, promoting consistency across agencies and collaboration with trauma centers.

Trauma is a leading cause of death in Broward County, and hemorrhagic shock is a primary contributor to preventable mortality. Early and effective resuscitation is crucial to improving survival. Evidence has demonstrated that advanced resuscitative tools and prehospital blood delivery, improves outcomes by addressing hypovolemia and coagulopathy before hospital arrival.