



EMMCO WEST, INC. ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR (2025-26)

Authority

In accordance with the Pennsylvania Department of Health Rules and Regulations 28 Pa. Code § 1021.103, The regional council governing body shall submit an annual report to the Department.

**Reporting requirements of Appendix A – Work Statement.
Comprehensive Annual Report as related to, Coordinate and Improve
the delivery of EMS in the Council's region.**

**Reports are due within 30 calendar days of the end of each state fiscal
year (June 30th)**

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A Message from the Board President

On behalf of the Board of Directors of EMMCO West, Inc., it is my pleasure to present our Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2025–2026. This report reflects not only the work of our organization, but also the collective dedication of the emergency medical services professionals, healthcare partners, educators, volunteers, and community leaders who work tirelessly every day to strengthen the EMS system throughout northwestern Pennsylvania.

Emergency Medical Services continues to face significant challenges. Workforce shortages, increasing call volumes, financial pressures, evolving clinical standards, and rapidly advancing technology require constant adaptation and collaboration. Despite these challenges, the EMS community within our seven-county region has remained steadfast in its commitment to providing exceptional care to those who depend upon it. EMMCO West is proud to serve alongside our regional partners by providing leadership, education, quality improvement, technical assistance, and strategic support that strengthens our regional EMS system.

Throughout the past year, EMMCO West has continued to expand educational opportunities, increase public outreach, coordinate regional initiatives, support equipment acquisition, and foster collaboration among EMS agencies, hospitals, public safety organizations, and the Pennsylvania Department of Health Bureau of EMS. The accomplishments highlighted within this report demonstrate our shared commitment to continuous improvement and our unwavering focus on enhancing patient care throughout the region.

None of these successes would be possible without the dedicated professionals who serve on our Board of Directors, Medical Advisory Committee, Quality Improvement Committee, and numerous volunteer workgroups. We are equally grateful to the staff of EMMCO West, whose professionalism and commitment to service continue to make a meaningful difference for the agencies and providers we support. Their work, often behind the scenes, strengthens the EMS system every day.

As we look toward the future, the Board remains committed to ensuring that EMMCO West continues to be a trusted resource, collaborative partner, and strong advocate for emergency medical services throughout northwestern Pennsylvania. Together, we will continue building a stronger, more resilient EMS system while remaining true to the principle that has guided this organization for more than four decades - the bottom line is patient care.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support.

Respectfully,

Christopher Heile
President, Board of Directors
EMMCO West, Inc.

REGIONAL SUMMARY:

(Provide a summary of the council including regional background / demographic and other information unique to individual region / county)

EMMCO West (Emergency Medical Management Cooperative) was incorporated in 1983 as a non-profit regional EMS council and began its operations in 1984. Regional acute care hospitals were the corporate shareholders for EMMCO West. Prior to EMMCO West, the former region EMS council consisted of 14 Northwestern PA counties. The region area was divided into two separate regions, EMMCO East and EMMCO West. Through a contractual agreement with the PA Department of Health, EMMCO West is charged with the oversight of emergency medical service activities for seven Northwestern PA counties; those counties being Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Mercer, Venango, and Warren.

As of July 1, 2004, EMMCO West, Inc. reorganized its corporate structure. A new non-profit board appointee format was established and diversified the membership of the Board of Directors. The Board consists of 12 Northwestern PA hospitals representatives (Ed Directors, Physicians, RNs, Administration), EMS representation from each county, EMA directors, instructors, EMTs, Paramedics, ambulance administrators, Active Aging, volunteer and paid EMS services.

EMMCO West has four standing board committees –

- Quality Improvement
- Regional Medical Advisory
- Communication
- Executive

Since 1988, EMMCO West, Inc. has been recognized as an International Critical Incident Management Stress Team. Peer support and mental health personnel comprise the team. Team members respond to incidents, as requested by EMS and public safety agencies. One-to-one, defusing, and debriefings can be requested. Team members meet on a regular basis and complete on-going education programming.

Annually, since 1985, EMMCO West has conducted a regional educational symposium. This year's symposium was held on two days. A new conference venue, Bayfront Convention Center, Erie, PA housed this year's Symposium. National, state, and regional guest speakers updated regional providers on the latest information in prehospital care.

EMMCO West maintains a diverse online presence. EMMCO West's website, www.emmco.org, is a one stop site for regional EMS agencies and providers. Links to the Department of Health websites (EMS Registry & TRAIN PA), The latest breaking news, downloads of protocols, licensure, educational programs, etc... are at the click or swipe of any device. EMMCO West's Facebook and CISM pages provide instant access to information/resources.

EMMCO West helps to support regional EMS agencies to provide excellence in prehospital patient care. "...the bottom line is patient care..." has been EMMCO West's mantra since it was incorporated in 1983 and remains its premise today!

1. Board of Directors \ Health Council Officers

President: Christopher Heile (P)

Vice President: Robert Gross (P)

Treasurer: David Basnak (AL)

Secretary: Cindy Snyder (P)

(Please list all other members below)

1 Marcus Babiak (P)

2 Kara Bauer (A)

3 Heidi Boitnott (A)

4 Jason Chenault (P)

5 Douglas Dick (G)

6 Tim Fletcher (G)

7 Derek Frank (G)

8 Donald Hall (G)

10 Ben Hart (P)

11 Eric Henry (G)

12 Donald Holsten (A)

13 Matthew Horton (A)

14 Donald Hosey (P)

15 Evelyn Kerr (A)

16 Dr. Brandon Kramer (A)

17 Jeff Lockard (AL)

18 Joe Malinski (P)

19 Carrie McAnallen (A)

20 Timothy McGahen (P)

21 Heather Nulph (A)

22 Paul Pascuzzi (G)

23 Matt Potts (P)

24 Joseph Radachy

25 Kraig Rainey (G)

27 Phil Rozic (P)

28 Kim Schell (P)

29 Melissa Shaffer (P)

30 Michael Shaffer (AL)

31 Sarah Simmons (P)

32 Cynthia Wattier (A)

33 Patty White (A)

34 Rebecca Wilkinson (AL)

35 Tiffany Wyant (A)

P = Primary

A = Alternate

AL = At Large

G = Government

2. Regional EMS Council Staff:

Executive Director William McClincy

STAFF POSITION	NAME
Office Manager-Finance	Kim Pero
EMS System Specialist	Trisha Parker
EMS Medical System Spec.	Matt Scowden
EMS Education Specialist	Katie Sherretts
EMS Operations Specialist	Daryl Parker
EMS Office Specialist	Christine Mahler

3. Regional Medical Director(s)

1 Dr. Brian Risavi

2 Dr. Joseph Radachy (Assistant Regional Medical Director)

4. Financial Statement of income and expenses:

	Final Budget	Expended
Personnel Services	592,683.71	478,717.96
Consultant Services	1,000	1,000
Subcontracted Services	478,301.87	478,209.90
Patient Services	0	0
Equipment	0	0
Supplies	2791.00	2791.00
Travel	1507.74	1507.74
Other Costs	382,146.71	245,948.04
TOTALS	1,458,431.03	1,208,174.64

NOTE: THE AMOUNTS SHOWN ABOVE ARE PRELIMINARY END OF THE YEAR TOTALS AND ARE NOT A FINAL AUDIT AMOUNT.

5. **Special Project Funding:**

Projects as determined by the Department to be appropriate and necessary for the implementation of a comprehensive statewide EMS system. The amounts listed below are included in the categorical totals shown above.

Fireworks Tax Recruitment and Retention Initiative	Amount \$40,561.23
Students enrolled and successfully completing EMS training programming received financial assistance through the Bureau of EMS. EMS agencies that sponsored recruitment programming received financial assistance.	
Supplemental Funding Program	Amount: \$331,671.31
Through the Bureau of EMS, the Commonwealth approved a spend-down of the EMSOF fund, benefitting regional services with equipment that was determined to be relevant and timely to aid regional services in carrying out their mission.	
Regional Prehospital Provider Equipment Project Regional EMS agencies were reimbursed for equipment purchases or projects	Amount: \$147,049.00

6. **Regional Activities/ Organizational Management**

Date of the current Comprehensive Regional EMS System Plan	Date 07/2025
Number of Board of Director Meetings \ Health Council meetings	4
Public Education Stop-the-Bleed Events	14
Public Education CPR Events	14
Public Education Car Seat Inspections/Safe Kids Initiatives	18
Public Outreach/Awareness Events	9
Number of Legislative Inquiries or Contacts	3
Technical Assistance Request (local entities and elected officials)	As needed

7. **Continuous Quality Improvement**

	Quantity
Number of Clinical Cases Reviewed by Regional QI Committee	2
Accidents Involving Ambulances / EMS Personnel Reported in the Region	6
Number of Times the Regional QI Committee Met	3

8. Medical Direction

	Quantity
Regional Medical Advisory Committee meetings	4
Accredited Level I Trauma Centers	0
Accredited Level II Trauma Centers	1
Accredited Level III Trauma Centers	0
Accredited Level IV Trauma Centers	1
Accredited primary Stroke Centers	5
Comprehensive Stroke Centers	1
Thrombectomy Capable Stroke Centers	0
Acute Stroke-Ready Hospitals	0

9. Systems Operations*

	Quantity
Spot inspections conducted – EMS Agencies	9
Spot inspections conducted – EMS Vehicles	2
Spot inspections conducted – Continuing Education Sponsors	0
Spot inspections conducted – Education Institutes	0
Spot inspections conducted – Medical Command Facilities	0
Number of Safety Inspections Conducted	31
Number of Vehicles Inspected During Safety Inspection	76
Photo & Signatures Added to Certification Cards	75
BLS Psychomotor Examinations Conducted	18
Number of BLS Psychomotor Exam Candidates Tested.	208
ALS Psychomotor Examinations Conducted	10
Number of ALS Psychomotor Exam Candidates Tested	10

Certification Class Visits Conducted	13
Number of EMS Agency Re-Inspections Conducted	4
Number of Authorized Inquiry Reports Filed with the Bureau	4

10. **Emergency Preparedness Activities**

	Quantity
Coalition / Task Force Meetings Attended (only EMSOF funded staff attendance)	4
Table Top Exercises Attended / Conducted	2
Full Scale / Functional Exercises Attended / Conducted	0
Special Event Plans Submitted	4
Responses / Deployments	1
Strike Team Agencies	3

Emergency Preparedness Narrative:

EMMCO West maintains its preparedness assets at various locations throughout the region. Sites include Meadville, Greenville, and Clarion.

There are currently 3 EMS strike teams from the EMMCO West region. Included are Clarion Hospital EMS, Community Ambulance Service, and EmergyCare. These agencies have additional equipment and personnel credentialed to respond to in-out of state EMS system emergency responses. The region is actively recruiting new strike teams.

11. **Board of Director \ Health Council Meetings**

DATE:	TIME	LOCATION
09/09/25	12:00	EMMCO West, Meadville, PA
12/18/25	12:00	EMMCO West, Meadville, PA
03/10/26	12:00	EMMCO West, Meadville, PA
06/16/26	12:00	EMMCO West, Meadville, PA

12. **Medical Advisory Committee Meeting**

DATE:	TIME	LOCATION
09/09/25	10:00 AM	Cancelled Due To Limited Agenda
12/18/25	10:00 AM	EMMCO West, Meadville, PA
03/10/26	10:00 AM	EMMCO West, Meadville, PA
06/16/26	10:00 AM	EMMCO West, Meadville, PA

13. Quality Improvement Committee Meeting

DATE:	TIME	LOCATION
09/09/25	10:00 AM	Cancelled Due To Limited Agenda
12/12/25	10:00 AM	EMMCO West, Meadville, PA
03/06/26	10:00 AM	EMMCO West, Meadville, PA
06/12/25	10:00 AM	Cancelled Due To Limited Agenda

14. Regional Accomplishments:

EMMCO West Educational Symposium

EMMCO West proudly continued its long-standing tradition of delivering high-quality continuing education through its Annual EMS Educational Symposium, held at the Bayfront Convention Center in Erie, Pennsylvania. The day-and-a-half conference brought together EMS professionals from across the region to participate in nationally recognized educational programming while earning Pennsylvania-approved continuing education credits. The symposium continues to serve as one of the premier EMS educational events in northwestern Pennsylvania, providing providers with timely clinical updates, networking opportunities, and exposure to emerging trends in prehospital medicine.

This year's symposium featured two nationally recognized keynote speakers.

AJ Heightman, Editor Emeritus of the *Journal of Emergency Medical Services (JEMS)* and former EMS Today Conference Chairman, shared his decades of leadership and operational experience through presentations focusing on stroke care and emerging technologies that are shaping the future of emergency medical services. His presentations challenged attendees to examine how innovation can improve patient outcomes while preparing agencies for the rapidly evolving EMS environment. James "Jim" Schmidt, Secretary and Co-Founder of the Gabby Petito Foundation, delivered a powerful presentation on recognizing and responding to intimate partner violence. Drawing upon his family's personal tragedy, Jim discussed the critical role EMS and fire personnel play in identifying victims, intervening safely, and connecting patients with life-saving resources. His presentation served as a reminder that EMS providers are often uniquely positioned to recognize abuse and make a meaningful difference beyond the immediate medical emergency.

The symposium was further strengthened by the participation of Pennsylvania State EMS Medical Director, Dr. Daniel Bledsoe, who attended throughout the conference and addressed attendees on multiple occasions regarding statewide EMS initiatives and the future direction of EMS in Pennsylvania.

Looking ahead, EMMCO West has established a Regional Education Committee composed of representatives from throughout the seven-county region. This committee will guide future educational initiatives and will serve as the planning body for the 2027 EMMCO West Educational Symposium, ensuring that regional educational programming continues to meet the evolving needs of EMS providers.

Outreach and Community Engagement

Building a strong EMS system requires more than supporting today's providers, it requires inspiring tomorrow's workforce while strengthening the relationship between EMS and the communities it serves. Throughout the year, outreach remained a strategic priority for EMMCO West as we worked to increase public awareness, promote EMS as a rewarding profession, and demonstrate the critical role emergency medical services play in protecting the health and safety of our communities. EMMCO West staff embraced this mission by partnering with regional EMS agencies, the Pennsylvania State Police, schools, community organizations, and the Pennsylvania Department of Health to deliver meaningful educational and outreach initiatives across the region.

Among the year's accomplishments were continued participation in child passenger safety programs through regional car seat safety inspections, attendance at EMS agency open houses and community events, and the delivery of public education programs including Stop the Bleed and Hands-Only CPR training. These initiatives equipped community members with life-saving skills while strengthening public confidence in the EMS system.

Recognizing that workforce recruitment begins long before certification classes, EMMCO West expanded its engagement with students through classroom presentations, youth camps, career exploration events, and participation at the Pennsylvania Farm Show alongside the Department of Health Bureau of EMS. These interactions introduced young people to careers in EMS and highlighted the opportunities available to serve their local communities.

An important strength of EMMCO West is that every member of our professional staff continues to actively serve as an EMS provider within the region. This continued field experience ensures that our staff maintain a current understanding of the operational challenges facing agencies and providers while allowing us to deliver practical, experience-driven assistance to the EMS system we support every day.

To further expand communication throughout the region, EMMCO West also relaunched its quarterly electronic newsletter. Distributed to EMS stakeholders throughout northwestern Pennsylvania, the newsletter highlights regional accomplishments, shares important operational updates, recognizes provider achievements, and reinforces EMMCO West's commitment to supporting a collaborative, informed, and progressive EMS system.

Together, these outreach initiatives strengthen relationships with our communities, enhance public understanding of EMS, and help cultivate the next generation of emergency medical professionals.

Strategic Investment in Regional EMS Equipment

One of EMMCO West's highest priorities during the fiscal year was ensuring that state-funded equipment investments were directed toward resources that would have the greatest impact on patient care, provider safety, and operational readiness. Working closely with the Pennsylvania Department of Health and regional EMS agencies, EMMCO West strategically coordinated the acquisition and distribution of critical equipment that addresses both current operational needs and future system capabilities.

These investments enhanced regional preparedness, expanded access to advanced clinical technologies, improved provider safety, and strengthened the ability of EMS agencies to deliver high-quality patient care throughout northwestern Pennsylvania. During the fiscal year, EMMCO West facilitated the distribution of the following equipment:

Equipment	Quantity
Bariatric Patient Lifting Systems	2
Binder Style Patient Lifts	20
BLS CPAP Devices	96
Coop XL Stretcher	1
IV Infusion Pumps	12
Kardia BLS 12-Lead ECG Systems (including iPads)	17
Manual Stair Chairs	4
Mobile/Portable Radios	26
Pediatric Restraint Systems	2
Pulse Oximeters	7
Reeves Stretchers	4
Safety Camera Systems	1
Stryker Power-LOAD Systems	4
Stryker Power-PRO 2 Cots	4
Stryker Xpedition Powered Stair Chairs	4
Mass Casualty Triage Systems	7
Vehicle Monitoring Camera Systems	2
Video Laryngoscopes	80

These investments represent more than equipment purchases—they represent a continued commitment to improving patient outcomes, reducing provider injuries, strengthening EMS agency capabilities, and ensuring that the residents and visitors of northwestern Pennsylvania receive the highest quality emergency medical care possible.

Closing Statement

As EMMCO West looks toward the future, our commitment remains steadfast: to support the EMS agencies, providers, and healthcare partners who serve the citizens and visitors of northwestern Pennsylvania every day. Through collaboration, innovation, education, advocacy, and strategic investment, we will continue working to strengthen the regional EMS system and improve patient

outcomes. The accomplishments highlighted throughout this report are a reflection of the dedication of our Board of Directors, Medical Advisory Committee, Quality Improvement Committee, regional EMS agencies, healthcare partners, educators, volunteers, and the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Together, we are building a stronger, more resilient EMS system, one that is prepared to meet today's challenges while embracing tomorrow's opportunities. EMMCO West is proud to serve as the regional partner in advancing excellence in emergency medical services, because at the heart of everything we do remains our guiding principle: **"The bottom line is patient care."**