



Ensuring Access to Outstanding Emergency Care for Texans:

Local Project Grants

Local Project Grants (LPGs) are a lifeline for many urban and rural EMS agencies in Texas because of the resources that they provide to EMS agencies. LPGs fund equipment, injury-prevention projects, and continuing education for EMS professionals to ensure that these communities have access to 9-1-1 services. The future of LPGs is threatened due to the “spend down” of the state’s tobacco settlement fund and other factors. It is critical for the 85th Texas Legislature to continue LPG funding.

EMS in West Texas

From 2009 to 2014, Scurry County EMS relied on LPGs to help create their STEMI (ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction) program through education for EMS professionals and the purchase of capital equipment and other supplies associated with cardiac care, stroke care programs, and critical care transport. PK Westlake EMS in Graham used a \$30,000 LPG to acquire a 2012 ambulance remount. Without the grant, the volunteer agency would not have been able to replace its 2000 model chassis.

Regional Advisory Council (RAC) D, which represents the Big Country region, has coordinated over \$107,000 in LPGs for 27 EMS agencies within the region. The LPGs have resulted in pulse oximeters, intubation kits, oxygen cylinders, stethoscopes, regulators, and many other reusable EMS supplies and equipment since the inception of LPGs.

Booker EMS & The Texas Panhandle

Without LPGs, Booker EMS may not have been able to have acquire the following items that have greatly improved the community’s 9-1-1 service over the past six years: a 2012 ambulance, three cardiac monitors, four IV pumps, two autopulse external cardiac assist device (CPR replacement device), and an iViz ultrasound device. Without the LPG funding, the agency likely would have only been able to purchase the ambulance and cardiac monitors through local tax dollars. The LPG funding allowed the agency to acquire the additional equipment.

Carrollton Fire Rescue & Urban Communities

Carrollton Fire Rescue, which is located in the Dallas area, utilized LPGs passed through its RAC to acquire vacuum mattresses to meet new spinal immobilization protocols for the new medical director. The granted helped the agency meet this unexpected and unbudgeted expense. FY 2014.

The Coastal Bend RAC

The Coastal Bend RAC, which represents EMS agencies in the Corpus Christi region, utilized LPGs in the FY 2015 period to purchase Stout-C collars for bariatric patients to be placed in every ambulance and every hospital emergency department in the RAC. In addition, an LPG purchased EZ IO needles for every EMS agency that requested them. The LPG also provided an EZ IO cadaver lab course to train 120 professionals from EMS agencies and hospitals.