

# **KANSAS BOARD OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

*2009 Strategic Plan*

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Summary Document Containing

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## Mission

As the lead agency for Emergency Medical Services, the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services (KBEMS) exists, primarily, to ensure that quality out-of-hospital care is available throughout Kansas. This care is based on the optimal utilization of community resources that are consistent with the patient's needs. The delivery of optimal care is supported through the adoption of standards; definition of scopes of practice; and provision of health, safety, and prevention education and information to the public, and is achieved in collaboration with Emergency Medical Services services/agencies, Emergency Medical Services providers/instructors, related health care professionals, and other public service, health care and political entities.

## Vision

The Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services will provide leadership to the Kansas EMS community to ensure that optimal care is available to all citizens of, and visitors to, Kansas, by:

- Promoting the need for, and access to, personnel, equipment, agency and system resources to support quality care in each community as well as on a regional and statewide basis; and by
- Integrating the entire spectrum of emergency medical services into the broader health care system so as to reduce duplication of services and to support the survival, maintenance and improvement of care across Kansas.

## Core Values

These values apply specifically to the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services but are equally applicable to Emergency Medical Services agencies and individual providers at all levels of service. The five core values of Kansas EMS are:

- Integrity/honesty
- Excellence
- Professionalism
- Proactive posture
- Leadership model

## Goals and Objectives

The goals and objectives are broken into two categories, short-term (1-3 years) and long-term (3-5 years). They are further ranked by perceived importance within those two categories. It should be clearly noted that even though the goals may not be fully attained for several years it is expected that activities on each goal would begin immediately. Many goals will require on-going attention beyond their original attainment.

### Short Range Goals – 1-3 Years

<sup>TM</sup> **Create a clear identity for the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services that is consistent and supportive of the integration of Emergency Medical Services into a public health model at local, regional and state levels.**

- Concurrent with the completion of the strategic plan, KBEMS staff will develop a series presentations on the KBEMS priority activities, targeted at a variety of audiences, including EMS personnel, medical advisers, government officials, and the general public.
- Upon securing the fiscal and staff resources necessary for printing, distribution, and web-based posting, KBEMS staff will develop a series of informational brochures/newsletters for our identified “customers” that summarize and describe KBEMS’s role and programs, regional activities and local EMS.
- Based on a format approved by the KBEMS, at the close of each fiscal year, the Executive Director and section coordinators of the KBEMS will develop an annual report that describes activities and programs of the KBEMS
- Develop a semi-annual electronic newsletter that will be distributed to EMS service directors and medical directors that highlights BEMS accomplishments, changes and activities.
- Using a format approved by the EMS medical directors and service directors, KBEMS staff will develop reports that share data, information and resources with local medical directors and service directors from the Kansas EMS Incident Tracking System.
- KBEMS staff will develop and disseminate a press kit to all daily and weekly newspapers, and radio and television stations that will support the improvement of the KBEMS “image”.

**TM Maintain current sources of funding to support the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services, specifically, and Emergency Medical Service providers, generally, in the State of Kansas.**

- The Planning and Operations Committee will identify and analyze, in written form, other funding alternatives including a fee-based structure, private foundation grants, corporate donations and federal grant programs; and present findings from this effort to KBEMS for approval.
- In order to provide legislators with information about EMS and the funding plan and to document the interagency and organizational support of the plan, the Planning and Operations Committee will develop relationships with agencies and organizations to help KBEMS and these entities coalesce for the overall improvement of health care in Kansas.

**TM Examine the need for, and provide efficient provisions for, expanded scopes of practice for Emergency Medical Services providers that are consistent with the needs of the patients and the local community.**

- Under the direction of the Planning and Operations Committee, KBEMS staff will conduct needs assessments of EMS and other health care agencies and organizations to determine what additional roles EMS providers might play -- based on a staffing enhancement not a staffing replacement model -- that will benefit all parties, including patients.
- Under the direction of the Education, Examination, Training and Certification Committee, KBEMS staff will identify impediments to expanding the scope of practice for EMS personnel.
- The Planning and Operations Committee will make recommendations to the Executive Committee concerning legislative action to more efficiently accommodate changing scopes of practice for EMS providers.
- The KBEMS will develop and implement the training and recognition requirements necessary for EMS personnel to participate in expanded scopes of practice.

**TM Encourage an increased presence of Emergency Medical Services agencies in disaster planning and preparation at all levels of service in Kansas.**

- The Planning and Operations Committee will identify an ad hoc sub-committee to work, in conjunction with the Kansas Commission on Emergency Planning and Response, EMS Regions, Kansas Department of Health and Environment; Fire Services, County Disaster and Emergency Services, Bioterrorism, Kansas Hospital Association and the Kansas Division of Emergency Management and other pertinent organizations to develop standards of integration of EMS providers into disaster responses and incident management, common decision-making models to categorize incidents, and funding for pre-disaster training and preparation.
- The Planning and Operations Committee will support the identification and development of training programs, resources and opportunities to more fully prepare EMS providers to respond to disaster situations of all types and magnitudes.
- The EMS Regions will periodically assess the need for updating a regional disaster response plan that maximizes the effectiveness of emergency medical response to disasters of various scopes and magnitude both within and outside the region.

**TM The KBEMS will facilitate and oversee the development of a statewide EMS plan for Kansas.**

- Identify a key planning group comprised of KBEMS, regional, professional association and select agency representatives.
  - TM Establish a timeline and assign responsibilities for completing the plan.
  - TM Review NASEMSO model EMS planning document.
  - TM Review other recent EMS plans.
  - TM Draft the skeleton of a statewide plan, incorporate key issues such as
    - f* Medical direction
    - f* Minimum standard protocols
    - f* First responder credentialing
    - f* Recruitment and retention of personnel
  - TM Widely circulate the draft plan.
- Convene a larger group of stakeholders to achieve additional input and consensus.
- Key planning group to revise plan based on stakeholder input.
- Approve and adopt statewide EMS plan as a guiding document for the evolution of the Kansas EMS system.

## Intermediate Range Goals – 3-5 Years

**™ Establish a method by which the KBEMS will ensure the public’s well-being by applying adequate measures of knowledge, skill and performance competencies from EMS training programs.**

- Provide resources for extraordinary expenses that may be associated with the knowledge, skill and performance assurance processes (if any).
- Develop, promote, deliver and evaluate quality training programs specifically for Emergency Medical Service providers, medical directors and service directors.
  - This includes both programs of initial instruction and continuing education and also encompasses issues such as curriculum review and revision.
- Under the guidance of the Education, Examination, Training and Certification Committee, KBEMS staff will conduct assessments of the real and perceived training needs of EMS providers, medical directors and administrators/service directors, encompassing possible variations due to geographic location and service delivery affiliation.
- Based on the findings of the needs assessments and under the guidance of the Education and Examination Committee, KBEMS staff will examine and list options for meeting the identified training needs through both traditional and non-traditional delivery structures.
- Based on the needs assessment findings, and under the guidance of the Education, Examination, Training and Certification Committee, KBEMS staff will review and revise, develop and/or deliver curricula to meet the identified needs for initial and ongoing training.
- Under the supervision of the Education, Examination, Training and Certification Committee, KBEMS staff will evaluate satisfaction, process and outcome data to determine the effectiveness of EMS training programs and their delivery methods to be used in the continual revision and refinement of training programs and curricula.

**™ Continue to participate in the development and refinement of a statewide communications system that will allow for effective communication between Emergency Medical Service providers and their medical control authorities, and between and among public safety agencies responding to the scene of a medical emergency or injury.**

- The Planning and Operations Committee with the assistance of KBEMS staff will identify liaison representatives to serve on the Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee to ensure the ability of all out-of-hospital and hospital agencies to communicate with each other during normal operations and during large scale events.
- The Planning and Operations Committee will continue to ensure the viability of existing communications infrastructure until such time as all EMS agencies and hospitals are fully connected to, and operational within, the Kansas statewide 800 MHz trunked system.