

# **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

## **OCTOBER 17, 2005**

### **TRAUMA SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

I missed the last meeting in September because I had to come back to prepare to receive Katrina evacuees.

### **HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL (H-GAC) EMERGENCY/TRAUMA CARE COUNCIL**

The council has not met since our last meeting. The Planning Committee is scheduled to meet on November 4<sup>th</sup> to receive a preliminary report from the Abaris Group. The next meeting of the council will be Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm at the H-GAC offices at 3555 Timmons Lane, Conference Room A on the second floor.

### **GRANT FUNDING**

#### **RAC Funds**

We have executed the contracts for the RAC Tobacco, Trauma (HB 3588) and 911/1131 funds but we have not yet received any funds. Additional Trauma funds are to be disbursed dependent upon the accumulation of funds. The disbursement date for those funds has not been determined.

#### **County Funds**

We have also executed contracts for county Trauma and 1131 funds that were collected in FY '05. Those funds will be distributed to the same providers that received 911 funds last year. Counties with multiple eligible providers will NOT need to execute new agreements.

Next month we should receive the contract for the FY '06 911/1131 funds combined. Those funds will be distributed to the providers that met FY '05 participation requirements. Counties with multiple eligible providers WILL need to execute new agreements.

As mentioned above in the RAC funding, there will be additional county Trauma funds disbursed dependent upon the accumulation of funds. The disbursement date for those funds has not been determined. The agreements executed for the 911/1131 funds will be applicable to these funds so additional agreements will NOT need to be executed. Notices will be sent to the providers (county representatives for the counties with multiple eligible providers) when funds are received.

## **HRSA FUNDS**

The HRSA Year 3 contract has been executed and funds are being disbursed on a deliverables basis. The original end date of Year 3 was August 31, 2005 but, since the contracts weren't executed until June, it was extended so that funds must be encumbered by February 28, 2006 and spent by August 31, 2006.

We have not yet signed the HRSA Year 4 (end date of August 31, 2006) contract. There were provisions in the contract that several RACs found unacceptable. At last count 14 of the 22 RACs have signed the contracts. That leaves 8 RACs including Dallas/Ft. Worth, San Antonio and Houston that have not signed the contracts. Since D/FW, San Antonio & Houston contain 75% of the hospitals in the state we are able to apply significant leverage in the negotiations. Representatives from those 3 regions are meeting with representatives from the Department of Health Services Wednesday, with a mediator from the Texas Hospital Association, to discuss the provisions that are of concern.

## **Texas EMS and Trauma Foundation**

Work is still progressing on the formation of the foundation. It was hoped that significant progress was going to be made at the August/September GETAC meeting but most of the key individuals either missed the meeting or had to leave early due to Katrina. Future meetings are pending. An Executive Summary of the foundation is posted on the SETTRAC web page.