



**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT
OF COMMUNITY HEALTH**

NOTICE OF DIRECT AWARD

STATE OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) CONSULTANTS, LTD.

RURAL COMMUNITY CARE COORDINATION TOOLKIT FOR EMS GRANT

POSTING DATE: TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2017

INQUIRY CLOSING DATE: THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2017

**JOANNE MITCHELL, GRANTS MANAGER
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT AND GRANTS ADMINISTRATION
2 PEACHTREE STREET, NW, 35TH FLOOR ATLANTA,
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DIRECT AWARD JUSTIFICATION

RURAL COMMUNITY CARE COORDINATION TOOLKIT FOR EMS GRANT EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES CONSULTANTS, LTD.

AGENCY BACKGROUND	The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) was created in 1999 by Senate Bill 241 and has the responsibility for insuring over two million people in the State of Georgia, maximizing the State's health care purchasing power, coordinating health planning for State agencies and proposing cost-effective solutions for reducing the number of uninsured. Within DCH, the State Office of Rural Health (SORH) serves Georgians by improving access to health care in rural and underserved areas to improve health status and reduce health disparities.
PROGRAM OVERVIEW	<p>The Department of Community Health, State Office of Rural Health works to improve access to health care in rural and underserved areas and to reduce health status disparities. SORH provides funding for institutional framework that links small rural communities with State & Federal resources to help develop long-term solutions to rural health problems.</p> <p>The primary objectives include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Empower communities to strengthen and maintain the best possible health care using existing resources;• Provide up-to-date health systems information and technical assistance;• Build strong partnerships to meet local and regional needs;• Provide incentives to local areas to implement integrated service delivery systems; and• Be the single point of contact for all regional issues related to health care. <p>EMS Consultants, LTD. was established in 1988 to provide the EMS industry with a professional consulting service and billing software product line aimed to increase reimbursement, improve operational efficiency, and provide education to the EMS community. EMS Consultants is the only consulting service in Georgia with the billing and legal experience to develop the contents of the toolkit and guide the necessary education needed for completion of this project. In addition to billing experts, the EMS Consultants team includes an attorney specializing in the ambulance industry, document development, and medicolegal liability.</p>
AWARD JUSTIFICATION	<p>The Georgia Department of Community Health intends to award Emergency Medical Services Consultants, Ltd. in the amount of \$47,249.00 to provide EMS leadership with the necessary resources and templates to establish non-traditional or specialty service agreements with local primary care facilities.</p> <p>The Rural Community Care Coordination Toolkit will assist EMS Directors with designing specialty services agreements, provide templates for routine documents such as protocols, patient consent and refusal forms, specialty service billing and financial tracking tools, and alternative destination patient tracking documents. The toolkit will also provide recommendations for community education of new service options, EMS staff education, and data collection and reporting. The benefit to expanding EMS services through partnerships with non-traditional local providers could result in a cost-saving option by connecting patients with local resources instead of having to transport every patient to an emergency department, sometimes several counties away. The anticipated outcome of this program will be both a time and cost savings to local EMS, improved EMS coverage for rural communities by keeping resources local more often, and connecting local residents with a medical home to reduce over-utilization of emergency departments for primary care needs.</p>
	DCH presents this funding as a direct award to Emergency Medical Services Consultants, Ltd. in that they provide recommendations and guidance for establishing professional relationships with new healthcare partners in their communities utilizing the Rural Community Care Coordination Toolkit.
AWARD(S)	TOTAL DIRECT AWARD FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$47,249.00

TO SUBMIT INQUIRIES TO THIS DIRECT AWARD NOTIFICATION

Joanne Mitchell, Grants Manager at jmitchell@dch.ga.gov no later than 2:00 PM on Monday, May 22, 2017.