



# Fiscal Year 2015 Quarterly Activity Report

## Western RETAC

**Quarter 1**  
July, August, September

Current Issues
1. Accept proposal for new website design, and move forward to replace the old website with a new functional website to meet the needs of the WRETAC
2. Work with regional facilities and agencies to improve working relationship with WRETAC
3. Work with training facilities, trauma facilities, and prehospital providers in the region to offer accessible certification classes and continuing education in area
4. Work with agencies and offer grant writing assistance to help them find funding sources through CREATE Grants, Provider Grants, Foundation Grants, and other sources to fund training of personnel and purchase needed equipment to enhance the quality of emergency medical and trauma services in the region
5. Work with the Western Colorado EMS Leadership Council as the fiscal agent for the Regional Medical Direction Grant and help establish medical direction, policies and protocols for the region
6. Work with collected data in the region to find what skill training is needed to maintain proficiency of the providers and offer classes and skills training to enhance the quality of health care in the region
7. Investigate funding sources available and obtain funding for data driven injury prevention programs and continue with the Western Regional Occupant Safety Coalition
8. Provide training to the WRETAC Board of Directors to enhance the effectiveness of Board procedures

**RETAC Activity/Accomplishments**

Describe activity within the region during the reporting period. In particular include progress toward biennial plan goals and local/regional projects. Please list any partners on specific projects or accomplishments.

The WRETAC Board accepted proposals for a new website design and approved the proposal received from TreeFeather Creative at the Executive Board Meeting in September. The action will be ratified at the November Quarterly Meeting of the Board of Directors. The new website will allow WRETAC to bring updated information and training opportunities to agencies, EMS providers, and the public.

The WRETAC Coordinator and staff has worked with regional facilities and agencies to improve the working relationship with WRETAC. The Coordinator continues to work with and communicate with the regional EMS agencies. An effort has been made to visit monthly agency training meetings to meet EMS providers and share information on what is happening in the region and the State. Agency visits the first quarter included Norwood EMS training and monthly meeting, Olathe Fire Protection District EMS training and monthly meeting,

Nucla/Naturita Ambulance, Crested Butte Fire Protection District-EMS, Delta County Memorial Hospital Trauma Nurse Coordinator, Montrose Memorial Hospital Trauma Nurse Coordinator and their ER Supervisor, and St. Mary's Hospital EMS Outreach. Randy Kuykendall and Jeanne-Marie Bakehouse attended the August WRETAC Quarterly Meeting and gave an update from CDPHE. The Coordinator and Board have continued to encourage all agencies to submit Letters of Interest for Ad-Hoc positions on the Board or send representatives to the quarterly meetings.

The WRETAC Coordinator attended the SEMTAC meetings held in Denver and the RETAC Forum held in Grand Junction with the Board President. Active involvement has continued with area emergency service and health organizations. Meetings attended included: the West Regional Health Care Coalition meetings, Western Regional Occupant Safety Coalition meetings, Montrose Emergency Telephone Service Authority meetings, West Area Emergency Managers Meetings, the Delta County ESF8 meeting, and the ADRC and PACE meetings to learn regional resources for the elderly and disabled and discuss the possibility of finding a need in the area for community paramedicine.

**The WRETAC continued to work with training facilities, trauma facilities, and prehospital providers in the region to offer accessible certification classes and continuing education in the area.** E-mail notification continued to be used to inform trauma and EMS agencies of continuing education classes and webinars. The proposed website will offer another information source for training opportunities. The Coordinator continued to work with the Education Coordinators at Montrose Memorial Hospital, Delta Montrose Technical College EMS Program, St. Mary's Hospital EMS Outreach, Professional EMS Education, Health One, Denver Health, and other RETAC Coordinators to inform agencies of upcoming classes. This information along with training posted on COEMS has provided a number of training opportunities to regional providers. The WRETAC continued to promote attendance at conferences. A CREATE Grant was submitted by WRETAC and was approved to send twenty individuals to the Rocky Mountain Trauma Conference in Breckenridge. Fourteen providers were able to take advantage of the funding. WRETAC submitted a CREATE Grant to send 20 EMS providers to the State EMS Conference at Keystone in November. The Special Programs Coordinator began work on the System's Improvement Grant that was awarded to fund a one-day training conference in Montrose with the help of Professional EMS in Grand Junction. The Coordinator continued to work closely with the Regional Medical Director for the RMD program to incorporate training for the regional agencies.

**WRETAC continued to work with local agencies and offer grant writing assistance to help them find funding sources through CREATE Grants, Provider Grants, Foundation Grants, and other sources to fund training of personnel and purchase needed equipment to enhance the quality of emergency medical and trauma services in the region.** The Special Programs Coordinator and thirteen EMS providers were able to attend the Rocky Mountain Trauma Conference in Breckenridge with the help of CREATE Grant funding received by WRETAC. The WRETAC applied for CREATE grant funding to help 20 EMS providers in the region attend the State EMS Conference in Keystone in November. The WRETAC Special Program Coordinator met with other grant writers in the area to talk about trends and what programs were available in the region, and she began work on the System's Improvement Grant received to bring a one-day training conference to Montrose. The WRETAC Coordinator participated in meetings with the committee formed to review the RETAC Consolidated Grant process to make it more accountable in the future.

**The WRETAC Coordinator and staff has worked with the Western Colorado EMS Leadership Council to move forward with the Regional Medical Direction Grant process and establish medical direction, policies and**

**protocols for the region.** WRETAC is now the fiscal agent for the RMD Program. The staff met with the Regional Medical Direction Coordinator and Regional Medical Director to assist them with the State grant reporting requirements and deliverables required for this fiscal year. Discussion continued to see what was needed for continuing education in the region and funding was approved through the System's Improvement Grant to bring a one day conference to Montrose with the support of the RMD Regional Medical Director. The group looked into the possibility of setting up webinars for rural training of the EMS providers in the region and work began to bring the Children's Hospital's Simulation Trailer to the region. Both groups agreed that skill training updates were needed for providers in the rural areas and the data gathered from the call reviews should be used to schedule needed training for agencies. There has been good support of the RMD program from the medical directors in the region and the regional protocols were approved and are being adapted to each agency. A resolution was passed by the WRETAC Board to continue to support the Western Colorado EMS Leadership Council as the lead body for the RMD program. State and local data continued to be monitored to see what training was needed in the region to maintain skill levels of EMS providers through the QA process.

**The WRETAC staff investigated possible funding sources available for data driven injury prevention programs and continue sponsoring the Western Regional Occupant Safety Coalition Program.** A wellness program was introduced to the WRETAC staff with the help of a Health Links Grant received by the WRETAC. The Community CPR Program was completed before the end of the fiscal year. The Special Programs Coordinator met with Montrose Memorial Hospital to discuss the results of the project, and 21 individuals received training in CPR through grant funding received by the WRETAC from the Montrose Community Foundation. The project was a combined effort with Montrose Memorial Hospital and will improve community knowledge towards EMS and strengthen the chain of survival for community access and action. Other injury prevention programs were looked at that could be implemented in the region. The Coordinator and Special Programs Coordinator attended meetings with the Coalition for Suicide Prevention to offer support and help with grant funding in the future. The Special Projects Coordinator participated in the Injury Prevention Group call in meeting during SEMTAC, attended three Colorado Teen Driving Alliance conference calls, and sponsored the Western Regional Occupant Safety Coalition meetings. The WROSC sponsored Booths at the Montrose County Fair and the San Miguel County Fair and volunteers passed out certificates at the Delta Drive-In Theater. Funding was approved for the CDOT Grant for Occupant Protection. The Special Projects Coordinator met with the Colorado Department of Transportation Program Manager to talk about grant deliverables, and she continued to talk to other CDOT Coordinators to discuss projects in their areas. The Western Regional Occupant Safety Coalition Program continued to be sponsored by WRETAC.

#### **Regional/Local Funding Overview for prior contact year**

There were no local projects funded in the prior fiscal year. Regional funding was requested by Hinsdale County in the Amount of \$15,000 and the payment was issued directly to the county. The annual payment was designated for Emergency Medical Services in the Hinsdale County Budget. The amount was used for continuing education and conference registrations, rent on ambulance bays, EMS office, and training space, and dispatch costs.