

# EMS Community Health Paramedic Program: Update to the Public Safety Commission

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# Current CHP Program

- Total of 9 FTE's
  - 1 Commander
  - 1 Captain
  - 7 Medic-II's
- Staff are permanently assigned to the program & work independently
- Referrals received from various sources, including public safety, hospitals, clinics, HOST, etc.

# Focus Remains the Same

- Develop methods of delivering medical care & service that improves the health and wellbeing of the patient, while attempting to increase efficiency and reduce cost
- CHP continues to provide medical expertise that is patient centered, mobile and community based
- Remove “silos” and work collaboratively with the surrounding healthcare system

# Homeless Outreach Street Team (HOST)

- Proactively provides “wrap around” service to those experiencing homelessness downtown & on the “Drag”
- Multi-disciplinary team comprised of mental health professional, police officer, paramedic & case manager
- Partners:
  - Austin Police Department
  - Integral Care
  - Downtown Austin Community Court (DACC)

# Street Med

- Providing primary & specialty medical care in the field/community to those experiencing homelessness
- Partners a CHP with a nurse practitioner or physician in the field that delivers comprehensive, ongoing medical care
- Partners:
  - Community Care Clinic System
  - Central Health

# Opioid Overdose Response

- CHP is getting ready to implement processes that will allow EMS to enhance our response to and service for those that experience an opioid related crisis
- Provide rapid follow up that allows distribution of “rescue kits” (Narcan) and connection to ongoing rehab treatment (i.e. MAT, peer support, etc.)
- Partners:
  - Community Care Clinic System
  - Integral Care
  - Austin Harm Reduction Coalition

# Collaborative Care Center

- Currently establishing a CHP role within EMS Communications Center at CTECC
- Provide support to field staff (HOST, CHP & Medic units) that can facilitate rapid navigation to services and linkages to various agencies and providers
- Partners:
  - EMS
  - Integral Care
  - Community Care Clinic System
  - Hospital Networks

# Pop Up Resource Clinic (PURC)

- CHP has lead the development & coordination of bringing various critical stakeholders together to move this method of delivering coordinated services out into different areas of the community
- Events bring together agencies that can rapidly address critical needs (i.e. ID's, insurance, medical care, warrant resolution, etc.) and move the individual closer to housing and better health
- Partners:
  - COA: EMS, Public Health, APD, DACC, PARD, Library, etc.
  - Others: ECHO, Integral Care, Community Care, etc.



# Other Ongoing Projects & Initiatives

- Incarcerated populations
  - CHP works with medical staff at Del Valle Jail & Austin Transition Center to address health related needs for medically vulnerable inmates preparing for re-entry or in transitional housing
- Remote Medical Monitoring
  - Will provide a force multiplier to free up staff but provide more frequent & comprehensive means to monitoring a patient's health status
- Del Med Residency Partnership
  - Developing relationship that may provide resident physicians opportunity to work along side CHP to deliver community based medical care

# Questions?

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