



LEXINGTON

LEXINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE

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Social Services and Public Safety
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- **Locally Defined**
 - Community paramedicine is an innovative healthcare model that expands the role of emergency medical services (EMS) to provide non-emergency care, focusing on bridging gaps in healthcare and addressing unmet needs within the community. In Lexington, this approach includes the Quick Response Team, Mobile Integrated Health, and the Crisis Response Team. These initiatives focus on supporting high utilizers of emergency services, managing chronic health conditions, addressing overdoses and mental health crises, and responding to low-acuity emergencies.
- **Program uniqueness**
 - Our community paramedicine program stands out by integrating emergency response with proactive, patient-centered care through teams such as Mobile Integrated Health, the Quick Response Team, and the Crisis Response Team. These teams address overdoses, behavioral health crises, and chronic health issues, working to improve overall community well-being.
- **Agility/Flexibility**
 - Our community paramedicine program is agile and adaptable, evolving to meet community needs by launching initiatives such as the Quick Response Team and Crisis Response Team. Through collaboration with diverse partners, we address pressing challenges like overdoses and behavioral health crises with innovative, proactive care.
- **Responsive**
 - Our community paramedicine program is highly responsive, addressing urgent community health needs through timely follow-ups, delivering care directly at the point of need, and collaborating with local agencies to provide comprehensive support.





- **2017: Awarded Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) Grant**
 - Grant received: \$272,000
 - Program launched on March 1, 2018, with Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services (KBEMS) approval
- **2018: Key Expansions and Partnerships**
 - Lexington Police Officer added to the team
 - Became a practicum site for the UK College of Social Work
- **2019: Strengthening the Team and Partnerships**
 - Secured Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Grant for opioid follow-up
 - \$500,000 grant awarded for two years
 - Hired Social Worker Maria Slone
 - Established partnerships with UK HealthCare, Baptist Health Lexington, and CHI St. Joseph
 - Covered 2020 funding with \$200,000 for one year
- **2020: Continued Opioid Follow-Up with BJA Grant**
 - Secured second BJA grant for continued opioid follow-up efforts
 - Awarded \$511,000 grant for three years
- **2021: Team Growth**
 - Hired second Social Worker, Mackenzie Gross





- **2021 Kentucky Overdose Response Effort (KORE) Grant (FY21-24)**
 - Allocated additional FF/Paramedic position
 - \$150,000/One Year
- **2023 Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program Grant (COSSUP)**
 - \$1,300,000 over three years, funding for Quick Response Team (QRT)
 - Expansion of staff, including:
 - Peer Support Specialist
 - Lexington Overdose Outreach Program Coordinator
- **2024 KY Department for Medicaid Services Grant**
 - \$875,000/Three years
 - Start-up funding for Crisis Response Unit
 - LPCA (Crisis Counselor) paired with LFD Paramedic to respond to low-acuity behavioral/mental health and substance abuse emergencies
- **2024 Launched CHI Saint Joseph Hospital/LFD Community Paramedicine Partnership**
 - Integrating an SJH Social Worker and Paramedic with Community Paramedicine MIH Team
- **2024 KORE Grant FY 2025-2026**
 - Continued funding for LFD Paramedic position for QRT
 - \$150,000/One year





- **BJA Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP) Grant:**
 - \$1,300,000 (3 years)
- **Department of Medicaid Services Crisis Co-Response (CCR) Grant:**
 - \$875,000 (3 years)
- **Kentucky Opioid Response Effort (KORE) Grant:**
 - \$150,000 (2025-2026)





- LFD Intranet Paramedicine Inquire Form
- Email Submissions
- Fire Department Personnel
 - Via Phone or Face-to-Face
- Police Department Personnel
 - Crisis Intervention Reports
- Community Members
 - University of Kentucky Health Care
 - CHI Saint Joseph Hospital
 - Social Service Agencies (e.g., New Vista, Voices of Hope, Hope Center)
- Data Analysis – ESO





2024 Calendar Year Review:

- Mobile Integrated Health Team (MIH)
 - **441 Individual Cases Served**
 - 36 - UK Population Health Follow-Ups
 - 97 - High-Utilizers (July-December 2024)
 - 51 - Lift Assist Individuals (August-December 2024)
 - 257 - LFD Crew Referrals (Submitted and Closed in 2024)
- Quick Response Team (QRT)
 - **1415 Reported Overdoses**
 - 517 Contacts Made – 42 Treatment Referrals
 - 218 Narcan Distributed
 - 134 Fentanyl Test Strips Distributed
 - 441 Resource Packets Provided
 - Added engagement of individuals affected by alcohol abuse in Q4 of 2024





- Addition of three firefighter/paramedics
 - Anticipated in Q1 of 2025
 - These positions will support:
 - **Quick Response Team (QRT)**
 - **Mobile Integrated Health (MIH)**
 - **Community Crisis Co-Response Team**
- Collaboration with CHI Saint Joseph Hospital
 - Social Worker
 - Paramedic
 - Integration with LFD Community Paramedicine
- Partnership with Voices of Hope
 - Ongoing collaboration with Peer Support Specialist
- **Situation Table**
 - collaborating with local community agencies
 - reduce acutely elevated risks among vulnerable populations
- Implementation of the Community Paramedicine Crisis Response Team
 - Funded by the Kentucky Department for Medicaid Services **CCR Grant**
 - Behavioral Health resource partnered with an LFD Paramedic
- Buprenorphine Integration (Currently in talks with LFUCG Substance Use Disorder Intervention Program) :
 - Buprenorphine Benefits
 - Buprenorphine Administration by EC Units
 - QRT Follow-ups



Questions?



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