

Advisory/Stakeholder Committee Meeting Agenda and Minutes Paramedic Program

PROGRAM SPONSOR:	College of the Sequoias		
CoAEMSP PROGRAM NUMBER:	23026	DATE, TIME, + LOCATION OF MEETING:	January 5, 2024, 12:24 p.m. – 1:38 p.m., Visalia Industrial Park
CHAIR OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:¹	(TBD) Nick Branch		

ATTENDANCE

Community of Interest	Name(s) <i>List all members. Multiple members may be listed in the same category.</i>	Present – <i>Place an 'x' for each person present</i>	Agency/Organization
Physician(s) <i>(may be fulfilled by Medical Director)</i>	Chadi Kahwaji MD	x	Kaweah Health Medical Center
Employer(s) of Graduates Representative(s)	N/A		
Public Member(s)	TBD		
Clinical and Capstone Field Internship Representative(s)	Josh Lovejoy Phillip Ferjo	X X	
	Beth Sanchez	X	Adventist Health Tulare
	Nate Wright	X	American Ambulance of Fresno
	Dave Bly (remote)	X	American Ambulance of Visalia
	Dustin Espino	X	Dinuba Fire Dept.

¹ The chair should not be employed by the sponsor of the program. The Advisory Committee is *advising* the program.

Community of Interest	Name(s) <i>List all members. Multiple members may be listed in the same category.</i>	Present – Place an ‘x’ for each person present	Agency/Organization
	Stuart Nickles		Exeter Fire Dept.
	Scott Sheer Nelson Pleytez	X	Imperial Ambulance
	Dave Sanbongi	X	Kaweah Health Medical Center
	Smokey Beavers		Lifestar Ambulance
	Cameron Long (remote)	X	Tulare City Fire Dept.
	Ryan Munger Tom Van Grown Dan Griswald	X X X	Visalia Fire Department
	Courtney Mello	X	Adventist Health Hanford
Faculty ²	Tina Toth (remote)	X	College of the Sequoias Division Chair
Sponsor Administration ²	Jonna Schengle		Dean of Nursing/Allied Health
Student(s) (current)			
Graduate(s)	N/A		
Program Director, <i>ex officio, non-voting member</i>	Nick Branch	X	COS Paramedic Program Director
Medical Director, <i>ex officio, non-voting member</i>	Chadl Kahwaji* (remote)	X	Kaweah Health Medical Center
Other	Ashley Land	X	COS Apprenticeship Program Director
	Jolene Willis	X	COS CTE Program Coordinator
	Renée Church	X	COS Apprenticeship Program Assistant
³			

² Faculty and administration are ex-officio members.

³ Add rows for multiple members of the same community of interest

If the program has additional named communities of interest, list the community of interest and the name(s) that represent each.

Agenda Item <i>Do not leave columns blank, otherwise that topic will be considered not reviewed or discussed</i>		Completed/ Discussed <i>(Yes/No)</i>	Discussion <i>include key details of the discussion</i>	Action(s) Taken
1.	Call to order	Yes	Meeting called to order by Nick Branch at 12:24	
2.	Roll call	Yes	Introductions were made by all attendees in person and those remote.	
3.	Review and approval of meeting minutes	N/A		
4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program Overview 	Yes	<p>Discussed the implementation plan and the proposed formats and drafts of the program. COS huge emphasis in pathway programs. State provides funding CTE/Strong Workforce Funds – grant funded program – for 2 years – then determine if it is a fulltime funded COS or continue as grant funded.</p> <p>Health care programs are important to be maintained and a lot of emphasis is placed on program success. Admission criteria – application in March – transcripts, EMT or NREMT certify. 6mos highly recommended EMT's exp. Entrance exam testing. Placement will be based on a basic EMT/NREMT style exam. Will offer several testing sessions. Addition points for field exp, bilingual, entry testing - nothing complex right now. Can expand/contract as needed. Require the development of a new program and curriculum – has changed substantially throughout the years. Can pull from a variety of institutions and use parts from the successful programs and develop the curriculum. Curriculum is in the approval programs from local at cos up to the state this is required, not optional. Have to have this accreditation within two years of the implementation of the program. Curriculum process dept. of education and CAAHEP within first 2 years after application.</p>	
5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Needs 		<p>Chief Dan Griswold Visalia Fire Dept</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recruitment and retention for Visalia Fire paramedic – continuous need for paramedics or firefighter paramedics. A wave of retirements coming up. Shortage 	

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			<p>across the state – many opportunities. PD will hire an individual and put through police academy. Discussing doing this for paramedic. This program is appealing to help getting trained. Hoping to recruit locally – train and keep within the valley.</p> <p>Nelsen Playtez- Imperial Ambulance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - South portion of the county – struggled to bring paramedics in and come from LA county (down south past grapevine) issue driving 1hr to 1.5 hrs – will be great having local <p>Dustin Espino- Battalion Chief</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dinuba having recruitment and retention issues – back to hiring other firefighters or paramedics – hire 1 from down south the word spreads to others. Partnered with local healthcare – sponsored personnel to go through the paramedic programs. Very beneficial to have on local. Having preceptors at their facility. Single roll paramedics and firefighter paramedics. (Healthcare provided that sponsored – Alta Health Care Dist.) <p>Beth Sanchez Adventist Health Tulare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tulare having the same issues – needing people to hire. Hired two paramedics and sent to fire academy. – no single paramedics <p>Nate Wright- American Ambulance Fresno/Kings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kings – having staffing boom – keeping up with levels and normalize their levels. Had to slow down on hiring paramedics for now. Employees in Kings co. 60-70% live in kings some in south valley and a few moved here from LA 	
6.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Support 		<p>Program was built on community support. COS is asking in return for help to be successful one of the biggest pieces is the advisory board – is a part of the accreditation. Will attempt to meet twice a year and then</p>	

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			<p>eventually once a year Shortage of paramedics – labor marketing information is very helpful this program has the need for paramedics, but cannot go forward to accreditation without the data how many hired, Hospitals are not typically hiring paramedics (need emt/can for nursing) mix – aprox ¼ are emts – looking to become a nurse. Enticing to be a nurse rather than the hours as a paramedic or EMT. In the next few months contacts signed with places to put the students reaching out to everyone here with how many they can provide placement must have county preceptors (unless a hospital) how many you have and how many willing to place must have placement for all 24 students hospital – what and where will allow student placement conversations will take place for where the experience in the hospital setting what would benefit the students best.</p> <p>Biggest challenge – pediatric patient exp. Valley children's is overwhelmed with student/ training requests. Westhills see a lot in Urgent Care for pediatric exp. How many can take per shift (traditionally during the day) what depts. Can you offer – opportunity to at least oversee IVs, meds, cath labs, cardiac surgery, Acute care – some hours can be in urgent care, mental health, surgical center, liability signed off on both sides</p> <p>Popular location – Sierra View is very busy</p> <p>Within a month or two do some legwork and get back to Nick.</p> <p>Any ALS provider responder, ALS first responder, hospital (240 of their 480 hrs) Assist within the ems arena and moving into additional programs like Fire Technology – start building some bridges. Goal is a pathway to everything. Signed an agreement for LVN to RN and look to creating other areas. Hopefully retain people locally when people leave – it's a mixture of staying local or going back home to another area will transition to a bigger dept. a lot of programs are inundated with cohort they get 200+ applicants, so they go elsewhere for opportunities. Motivated students will find someplace to go.</p>	

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7.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apprenticeships & Workforce Development opportunities 		<p>Jonna and Ashley working closely with Kaweah and more students to get into the programs Apprenticeships – paramedics are an occupation within the Fire industries, although they are in other areas. Funding is available – doing research. cannot get a paramedic approved at this time took 10 years for a program working closely with a company down south Nick and Ashley plan to meet with Cal-JAC for a partnership win/win situations possible appreciate and need help from those in attendance between chancellors and state, discussion to move to trade from Fire. Amazing to tie in to Crafton Hills Paramedic apprenticeship program. Early December – Nick and Ashley discussed ISA agreements sign a contract for the agencies to have their employees to teach a class and receive funding from the state. Does not have to be a government entity. Provide preceptors and enroll anyone providing training into a course. Gets logged as training and get reimbursed (very similar to CalJAC) In a nutshell to get local people trained local and retain local. See this as retention. Within the hospital they are hand-selecting/upscaling individuals in apprentice programs that can work at Kraweah while completing education. There is an agreement for them to stay local pay for apprentices' costs for books, equipment, etc. additional grant funds available pay up to 90% of an individual's wages for profit up to 50%. Look at lower level to upskill. Funding available to upskill an EMT to paramedic CalJAC will approve an apprenticeship pre-apprenticeship only if there is an apprenticeship that it can lead to. They can approve and provide minutes to CalJAC to get a position approved.</p>	
8.	Meeting Motions	Yes	<p>Motion made to continue with the proposed plan in support of the local program and certificate/degree requirements as proposed was made</p> <p>Motion Made – Joshua Lovejoy American Ambulance Second – Tina Toth College of the Sequoias (Faculty)</p>	

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			<p>No additional discussion</p> <p>Vote In Favor- 19 Opposed- 0 Abstain- 0</p> <p>Motion approved Unanimously be all in attendance as proposed.</p>	
9.	Next meeting(s)	TBD	Next meeting to be held in May 2024	
10.	Adjourn	Yes	Meeting adjourned by Nick Branch at 1:38 p.m.	

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Minutes prepared by Nick Branch

Date 1/8/2024