



Ground Ambulance & Patient Billing Advisory Committee

Large Government Systems



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What are Government Systems

- Government Systems may come in multiple forms
- Government Systems vary by governance model
 - Municipal
 - County
 - Independent Taxing District
- Government Systems vary by delivery model
 - Fire-Based
 - Independent Third Service

Austin-Travis County EMS

- Municipal Independent Third Service serving the City of Austin and Travis County, Texas
- Approximately 1.4 Million Residents across 1,100 square miles
- 665 sworn EMTs and Paramedics responding to 156,000 calls per year
- \$112M Budget

Unique Mission Profile

- Public Service
 - All funding/investment is to support public good
 - Services are provided regardless of ability to pay
 - Ancillary services are provided when/where others would not
- Emergency-Focused
 - Safety Net

Services from an Equity Lens

- Government Services often take on an even greater safety-net role
- Outcomes-based deployment
- Services focused on the underserved
 - Persons Experiencing Homeless
 - Substance Abuse
 - Behavioral Health



Services from a Utilization Lens

- Reduced utilization of ambulances
- Goal to avoid transport to emergency department and use of law enforcement
- Utilization of alternative dispositions and sources of care



Funding Model

Patient
Revenue

Charity Care
Funding

Other
Revenue

Healthcare
Subsidies

Tax
Subsidies

Cost Drivers

- Labor Costs
- Innovative Medicine
- Outcomes-based Deployment
- Public Education
- Safety-Net Services
- Alternative Delivery Models*



Revenue Limitations

- Rate Setting
 - Based on Cost
 - Can not exceed Cost
 - Equity Focus
- Non-Transport Programs
- Uncompensated Care

Non-Emergency Transport

- Franchise Agreements
- Rates set by Municipality
- Certificate of Need

Future of Government Systems

- Reduced utilization of ambulances
- Focus on equity of service
- Continued role as safety net

