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Denver Health
2016 Paramedic Division Annual Report

The Denver Health Paramedic Division (DHPD) is the sole provider of emergency medical services for the City and County of Denver, Colorado. DPHD also provides service to the City of Sheridan, City of Glendale, City of Englewood and Skyline Fire Protection District. Our mission is to provide professional, compassionate and clinically excellent care to every patient, with every encounter, through a culture of integrity and continuous improvement.

DHPD employs 217 paramedics, 41 emergency medical technicians (EMTs), 27 vehicle support personnel, 25 dispatchers, 10 EMS Educators and has a command staff of 31. There are 34 advanced life support ambulances, 2 critical care transport and 5 emergency service patrol ambulances. During peak staffing, there are 21 DHPD ambulances on the streets of Denver. In 2016, our fleet drove a total of 1,363,012 miles.

Through the Rita Bass Trauma and EMS Education Institute, Denver Health Paramedics provide training for EMTs and paramedics, as well as continuing education and community training.

217 PARAMEDICS

1,363,012
MILES

34 AMBULANCES

DENVER HEALTH

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Significant Events in 2016

- Denver Health Paramedics provided medical coverage to 116 special events in 2016 including NHL hockey at Coors Field and the Denver Broncos Super Bowl Victory celebration, which brought over one million fans to the Denver metro area. DHPD also participated in 42 community outreach events and had 13 wildland team deployments.

- DHPD created Explorer Post 1025, a career exploration program, in conjunction with Learning for Life. This program allows high school students to spend 12 weeks exploring a career in EMS through classroom learning and hands-on workshops. After they graduate, students are allowed to work alongside Denver Health Paramedics and EMTs at community events and participate in an ambulance ride-along. The first class of explorers graduated in June.

- The EMS Education Department launched Paramedics at the Podium, a monthly continuing education lecture series available to staff and community members. Topics presented in 2016 included pediatric diabetes, psychological interventions and how to manage combative and excited delirium patients.

- DHPD trained the entire Denver Police Department (DPD) Patrol Division, all Denver Fire Department (DFD) Operations and all Division personnel in the 5280 method of patient extraction from high-risk events. The 5280 program was jointly developed by DPD SWAT and DHPD. All paramedic vehicles were outfitted with ballistic vests and helmets in June.

- In October, DHPD acquired EVMARS, the company which provides service and maintenance to the entire fleet of 42 ambulances and command vehicles. The acquisition secures DHPD's ability to maintain vehicle operations in the most efficient and fiscally responsible manner.

- The Peer Support Team provides ongoing support to staff members and other first responders in the community and welcomed the Division's first therapy dog, Cooper, into the program.

Mechanisms of Injury		
	Number	Percent
Falls	8,707	33.6
Motor Vehicle Accidents	6,934	26.7
Assaults/Fights	5,014	19.3
Pedestrian Traffic Accidents	606	2.3
Bicycle Accidents	544	2.1
Stabbings/ Cuttings	390	1.5
Gun Shot Wounds	219	0.8
All Others	3,771	14.5
TOTAL	**26,185**	**100**

Other System Highlights	
Cardiac Arrest Saves	52
Babies Delivered in the field	9
Naloxone Uses	960
STEMIs Identified	137
Patients treated with CPAP	420
New EMTs graduating	82
New Paramedics graduating	35

Transports by Age		
	Number	Percent
Under 15	3,158	4.2
15-24	8,045	10.6
25-44	24,221	32.0
45-64	24,879	32.8
65-74	6,870	9.1
75+	8,592	11.3

Systems Wide Call Volume			
	2015	2016	Percent Change
Incidents	112,158	120,828	7.7
Responses	106,715	112,406	5.3
Transports	70,734	79,572	7.5

Response Time Compliance			
	2015	2016	Goals
Code 10	91.0%	90.2%	>90%

Responses by Priority		
	Number	Percent
Code 10	75,902	69.9
Code 9	25,624	23.6
Airport/Special Event/ Other	7,167	6.6
TOTAL	**108,693**	**100**

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