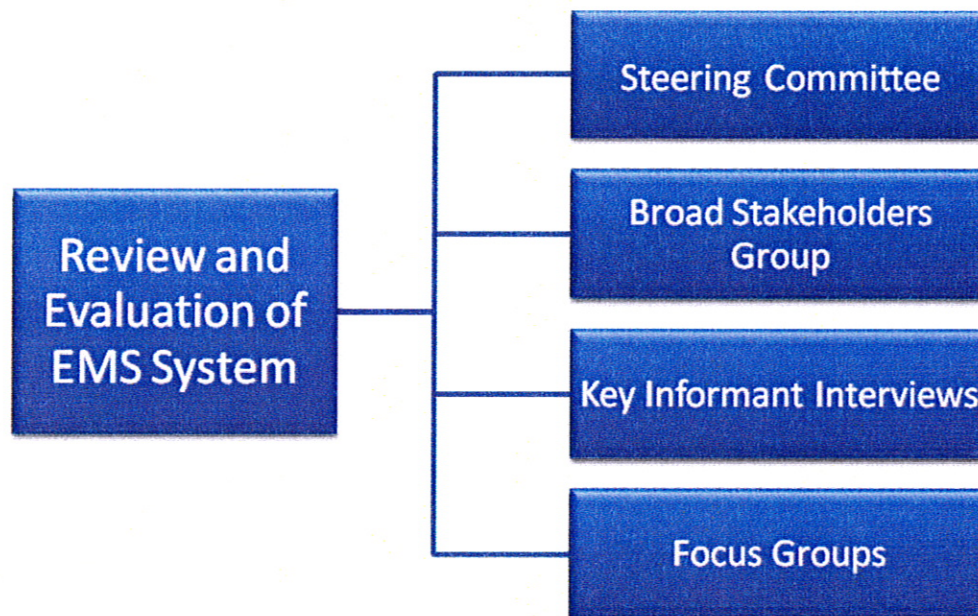


December 18, 2012

Dear EMS Stakeholder,

The County of Riverside has begun a comprehensive evaluation of the County's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system. This evaluation will provide the EMS Agency with recommendations for improving the EMS system including the County's master ambulance service agreement. The Abaris Group was hired to guide County staff and EMS stakeholders through the evaluation process. The EMS evaluation will be conducted using a four-pronged approach. This approach includes convening a Steering Committee, a Broad Stakeholders Group (Town Hall Meetings), Key Informant Interviews and Focus Groups. This effort is designed to be an inclusive and transparent process; one that will obtain valuable input from EMS stakeholders throughout Riverside County communities.



The Steering Committee will include members appointed as representatives or designees from the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, Western Riverside Council of Governments, Coachella Valley Association of Governments, the Riverside County Fire Chiefs' Association, the Hospital Association of Southern California, Riverside County Medical Association and Riverside County Law Enforcement Administrators Association. Riverside County staff included on the Steering Committee will be the EMS Agency Director, the EMS Medical Director, the County Fire Chief, the Director of Public Health and one

representative each from the Executive Office, the Department of Mental Health, the County Sheriff's office and Riverside County Regional Medical Center (RCRMC).

The Broad Stakeholders Group (Town Hall Meetings) will be comprised members of the greater Riverside County community including representatives from cities; ambulance providers; tribes; hospitals; education and training programs and institutions; skilled nursing facilities; law enforcement; mental health; emergency medical care committee; field personnel such as firefighters, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, dispatchers; and special districts such as community service areas.

In addition, The Abaris Group will conduct Key Informant Interviews and Focus Groups to gather information from community leaders about their thoughts, interests and needs concerning the EMS system. This will allow for more candid and in-depth responses. Focus Groups will be conducted to gather additional information from community partners and stakeholder groups to acquire an understanding of their organization or group's needs.

If you are interested in participating in the Key Informant Interviews, Focus Groups and/or you would like to meet individually with The Abaris Group, please contact Mr. Mike Williams, President - The Abaris Group, via telephone: (925) 933-0911; or e-mail: mwilliams@abarisgroup.com.

Results of the evaluation and recommendations for an improved County EMS plan will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors on or before March 2014. The EMS Agency will provide ongoing communications to the Board of Supervisors and post updates on the EMS website at <http://www.rivcoems.org/home/index.html> to help keep you informed on the activities and progress of the EMS system evaluation.

Accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act are available upon request. Requests must be made at least 72 hours prior to meeting. Later requests will be accommodated to the extent feasible.

Thank you for your continued interest and participation in this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Barton', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bruce Barton
EMS Agency Director
Riverside County Department of Public Health