

IMPROVING EMS IN RURAL SOUTH CAROLINA

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History of South Carolina EMS

- Early Player in “Modern Era” (mid-1970s)
- Primary Providers: Third Service County and Rescue Squads
- Strong Regulatory Agency and Regional Councils
- Very Institutional
- Last 10 Years have been Transitional

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South Carolina EMS Today

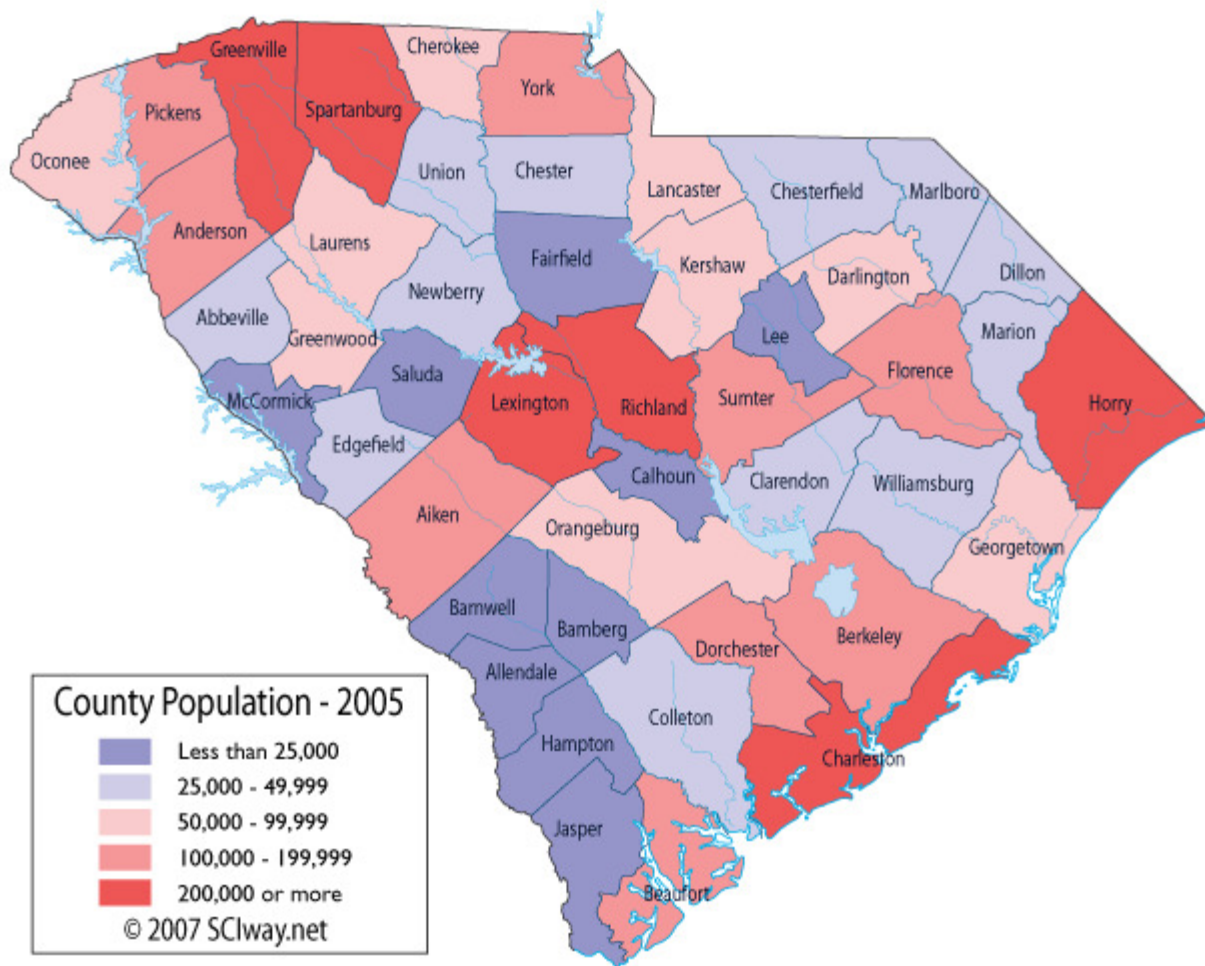
A Rural Perspective

- Delivery Models Changing
- Aero-medical “Madness”
- Paramedic “Black Holes”
- Under Representation
- Educational Inequality
- Foolish Funding
- Hispanic Explosion

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South Carolina EMS Today



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FLEX PROJECTS

Administered by the
South Carolina Office of Rural Health

- Improve Recruitment and Retention
- Educate EMS Community about Disparity and how and why Rural EMS is Special
- Improve Communications with Hispanic Patients
- Provide/Support Rural Focused Clinical Training
- Teach Rural EMS Leaders to Focus on What Works...Not What's Done in the Big City

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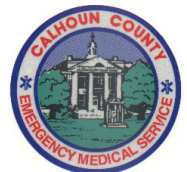


FLEX PROJECTS

Administered by the
South Carolina Office of Rural Health

- Tuition Assistance
- Rural EMS Leadership Conference
- Boot Camp
- Spanish Assistants
- Lunch & Learn's
- Sponsorship at State EMS Symposia
- Recruitment PSA

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Rural EMS Identity Crisis

- You have to know that you're different... before you can make a difference!
- Money Mitigates Disparity
- We can't be Rural...Someone in Washington who has never been here says so!

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