

EMS Community Benefit & Financial Distress Pilot Project for Rural Ambulance Services

What is it?

The Rural Ambulance Community Benefit & Financial Distress tool is an Excel spreadsheet. The agency fills in information about the agency and its finances. The agency adds additional information about services it provides to the community for free or at a reduced rate.

Who should participate?

Any ambulance service that self-describes itself as serving a rural area. It can also be used by urban or suburban ambulance services, but technical assistance and a subject matter expertise are provided only to rural ambulance services.

Why participate?

The ambulance service is essential to every rural community. Many agencies struggle with how to communicate their value to their governing body, elected officials, and actual or potential funders. This tool is designed to give you a standardized way to tell the value part of your agency's story.

The tool calculates the financial benefit the community receives from the ambulance service. When completed, the agency consults with a subject matter expert, free of charge, to review the information submitted and receives suggestions on how to use the information. Since the tool was designed after a tool used by hospitals, the hospital and ambulance community benefits can be combined to tell an even more compelling story about the emergency healthcare system.

Our ask of you:

- Complete the tool and realize how much, in dollars, you contribute to your community!
- Learn how to communicate the value and story of your ambulance service, and why it is beneficial to do so. You will have a session tailored to your agency and your results with a subject matter expert.
- To complete the tool, you will need to have access to the agency's financial information such as budgeting data and billing information and data related to non-billable activities.

How to participate?

Contact Nicole Clement at nclement@ruralcenter.org

