FL Association of Rural EMS

(FAREMS)
MISSION

• Provides unified voice to expand and improve delivery of EMS in rural areas
• Addresses challenges facing rural EMS providers- personnel shortages, scarce administrative and technical resources and limited funding from rural counties
HISTORY

• Council on Rural EMS organized in 1980 for cooperation and communication among EMS agencies
• Statewide Rural EMS Network evolved from discussion between Florida Office of Rural Health (FORH), FL Bureau of EMS and rural EMS providers
• FORH sponsored initial meeting in 2004 and assisted with development of FAREMS
• RHN Planning Grant (2005)
• RHN Development Grant (2006)
• Won award for recruitment video in 2010
POPULATION SERVED

• FAREMS serves Florida’s 33 rural counties:
• Home to over 1.2 million people
• 18% living in poverty
• 20% over age 65
• 9% require special equipment due to a health problem
ONGOING ACTIVITIES

• Group purchasing
• Information sharing
• Continuing Education
• Assistance with recruitment and retention
• Community Planning
• Grant Writing
• Paramedic and EMT scholarships
FORH SUB-CONTRACT

• Funded 46 paramedic and EMT scholarships to individuals living/working in rural Florida from 2007 to 2011

• In process of implementing Community Paramedic Program- FAREMS, FORH, Department of Elder Affairs, Bureau of EMS

• Funded continuing education, training and development of recruitment video
Contact

• Robert_Pannell@doh.state.fl.us
• Joel_Libby@doh.state.fl.us