

EMS Profile: Cypress Creek EMS

Number of personnel: Cypress Creek EMS (CCEMS) is the nonprofit 9-1-1 prehospital care provider serving the unincorporated area just north of Houston. CCEMS also houses an ambulance and provides EMS coverage for Huffman, Texas. The service area is more than 250 square miles and is home to nearly 500,000 people. CCEMS has more than 170 employees and 75 active volunteers (contributing 24+ hours per month).

Years of service and number of units: In 1975 a group of citizens, concerned that their area of the county did not have adequate prehospital care, started an ambulance service. It began with one pre-owned ambulance purchased with monies raised by going door to door in their neighborhoods. In the years since, CCEMS has grown into an all-MICU fleet of eleven 24/7 units and up to four 12-hour peak hours units each day.

Supporting the response fleet and a variety of reserve ambulances and specialized response vehicles is a dedicated fleet maintenance center. This full-service shop is capable of all types of vehicle repair and provides cost-saving unit remount and refurbishment services.

Number of calls: The Communications Center manages emergency communications for CCEMS

	Texas Department of State Health Services	Periodical
	Office of EMS Trauma/Systems MC 1876	Rate Paid
	PO Box 149347	At Austin, Texas
	Austin, Texas 78714-9347	

and 14 other public safety agencies. The center dispatches over 4,000 responses each month, and more than 2,400 of those are Cypress Creek EMS calls.

Current activities: The Charles R. Hooks Education Center provides community education to lay persons, including CPR, first aid and Safe Sitter classes. Injury prevention programs are also provided to the community in the form of free car seat inspections and bike rodeos. Prevention activities are funded in large part through strategic partnerships with area hospitals such as Cy-Fair and Houston Northwest Medical Centers (The Tenet Healthcare Foundation) and Texas Children's Hospital. The CCEMS education program also trains as many as 200 EMT and paramedic students each year. Community-supported fundraisers are held year round, raising money for EMT and paramedic scholarships. These

fundraisers provide 10 scholarships to be awarded to area citizens annually. Monthly continuing education programs are open to anyone in the EMS community at no charge.

Strategic partnerships are also a key to CCEMS's successful STEMI program. Working closely with North Cypress and Houston Northwest Medical Centers, paramedics diagnose a cardiac blockage in the field, activate the cath lab, and bypass the ER at the hospital. On average, Cypress Creek EMS patients arrive in the cath lab 30 minutes faster than the national average of 90 minutes.

Cypress Creek EMS also provides AEDs to individual first responders, police officers and fire departments. Each year, twenty AEDs are awarded to local business, churches or community centers. Training is also offered to the employees of the organizations housing an AED.



Cypress Creek EMS provides 9-1-1 service, community outreach and education to a 250-square-mile area north of Houston. Their crown jewel is the Charles R. Hooks Education Center, which offers community and EMS education year-round.