

“Four For Life” Funding

Presentation to Senate Finance/Health and Human Resources Subcommittee

**Dr. Mark Levine, Deputy Commissioner for Emergency Preparedness
and Response**

Virginia Department of Health

October 22, 2009

Agenda

- **Brief overview of the components of Virginia’s EMS system dependent upon “Four for Life.”**
- **Overview of history of EMS funding with a review of the current Code of Virginia:**
 - **§ 32.1-111.3. Statewide emergency medical care system.**
 - **§ 46.2-694. Fees for vehicles designed and used for transportation of passengers;**
- **Review the “Distribution of Funds” per Code**
- **Describe the “Return to Localities” portion**
- **Detail the Virginia Rescue Squad Assistance Fund (RSAF) Grant Program**

Commonwealth's EMS System

Data as of September 2009

- **35,258 Certified EMS Providers**
 - 594 Certified EMS Instructors
 - 41 Certified Emergency Operations Instructors
 - 182 Certified EMS Physicians (Operational Medical Directors)
- **706 Licensed EMS Agencies**
 - 475 Volunteer – 67%
 - 97 Governmental – 14%
 - 134 Other (commercial, industrial or miscellaneous) – 19%
- **4,068 Permitted EMS Vehicles**

History of EMS Funding

- **1968** – The Office (formerly, Bureau) of Emergency Medical Services was established within the Department of Health with the passage of the Virginia Ambulance Law. Funding was provided through the state’s general fund and federal funds.
- **1978** – **Virginia Rescue Squad Assistance Fund** created by legislation. First grants awarded in June 1979.
- **1983** – **“One For Life”** legislation, adding a \$1.00 fee on motor vehicle registration to support EMS.
- **1990** – **“Two For Life”** legislation passed .

History (continued)

- **2002** – “**Four for Life**” legislation passed; however, the increased funding was withheld for Virginia’s Homeland Security general fund.
- **2004** – “**Four for Life**” less \$3.45 million retained in general funds was provided to the EMS system (\$20.9 million provided to EMS in FY05).
- **2006** – “**Four for Life**” was fully enacted by budget bill (\$23.5 million in FY06) and revised the % distribution.
- **2008** – General Assembly (HJR 743) approved a \$0.25 increase in “**Four for Life**” restricting the use of the increase to EMS training and continuing education as a recruitment and retention initiative.

Title 32.1 - HEALTH.

Chapter 4 - Health Care Planning

§ 32.1-111.3. Statewide emergency medical care system.

The Board of Health shall develop a comprehensive, coordinated, emergency medical care system in the Commonwealth.

- Eighteen mandates are in the Code that requires the *Virginia Department of Health, Office of EMS* to develop and maintain a comprehensive statewide emergency medical care system, incorporating:

§ 32.1-111.3 Mandates

- **Facilities, transportation, manpower, communications**, and other components as integral parts of a unified system;
- **Continuing improvement in system components** including ground, water and air transportation, communications, hospital emergency departments and other emergency medical care facilities, consumer health information and education, and health manpower and manpower training designed to upgrade the knowledge and skills EMS personnel
- **An EMS Advisory Board** appointed by the Governor that includes 27 members that represent EMS agencies and organizations, physician professional groups (surgeons, pediatrics and emergency medicine), hospitals, nurses, firefighter organizations, local governments (Virginia Municipal League and VA Assoc of Counties), public safety communications and a consumer to represent the general public.

§ 46.2-694 Code of Virginia

Para. 13 – EMS Funding

Commonly referred to as “Four for Life” Funding

- An additional \$4.25 per vehicle registration per year shall be charged and collected by DMV for each automobile and pick-up or panel truck**
- Collections will be set aside as a special fund to be used for EMS purposes**

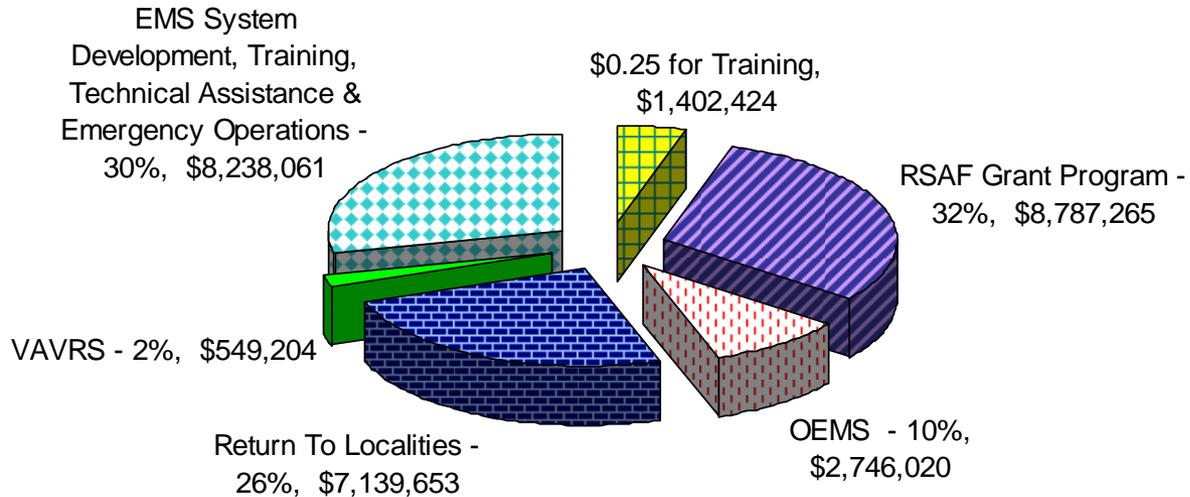
Distribution

- **Distribution of these funds shall be:**
 - \$0.25 shall be deposited into the Rescue Squad Assistance Fund and used as a recruitment and retention incentive for the costs associated with certification and recertification training of EMS personnel
 - \$4.00 portion is distributed as follows:
 - 2% - Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads
 - 30% - State Department of Health to support
 - Basic Life Support Training
 - Advanced Life Support Training
 - Recruitment and Retention programs
 - Emergency medical services system development, initiatives, and priorities
 - technology and radio communication enhancements
 - 32% - Rescue Squad Assistance Fund (Grant Programs)
 - 10% - State Department of Health for OEMS operations
 - 26% - Return to Locality in which vehicle was registered

Four for Life Funds - FY2009 Actual Collections and Distribution

\$28,862,628

Code of Virginia § 46.2-694



- \$0.25 for Training
- RSAF Grant Program - 32%
- OEMS - 10%
- Return To Localities - 26%
- VAVRS - 2%
- EMS System Development, Training, Technical Assistance & Emergency Operations - 30%

Return to Localities 26%

§ 46.2-694 Code of Virginia

- **Shall be returned to the locality in which vehicle is registered**
- **Funds to be used by licensed, nonprofit or governmental EMS agencies for:**
 - **Training of Volunteer or Salaried EMS personnel**
 - **Purchase of Necessary Equipment & Supplies**
- **Funds shall NOT be used to supplant local funds**
- **Local governing body shall report on the use of these funds. If a report is NOT submitted funds for the next FY will be withheld until such report is received.**

Return to Localities 26%

Listing of Potential Uses

- **Training Related Expenses to include:**
 - textbooks, workbooks
 - supplies used in training
 - training equipment (manakins, films, videos, etc)
 - expenses related to certification programs
 - expenses associated with specialty training programs
 - regional training programs
- **Equipment & Supplies to:**
 - gain access to patients
 - assess patient's medical condition
 - provide immediate medical care
 - transport patient to medical facility
 - communicate with dispatcher/medical facility

Return to Localities 26%

Items that do NOT conform with the intent

- **Furnishings or appliances for squad buildings**
- **Vehicle/building maintenance items**
- **Capital improvements**
- **Special use equipment for fire suppression**
- **Fund raising or public relations**
- **Office management**
- **Law enforcement**

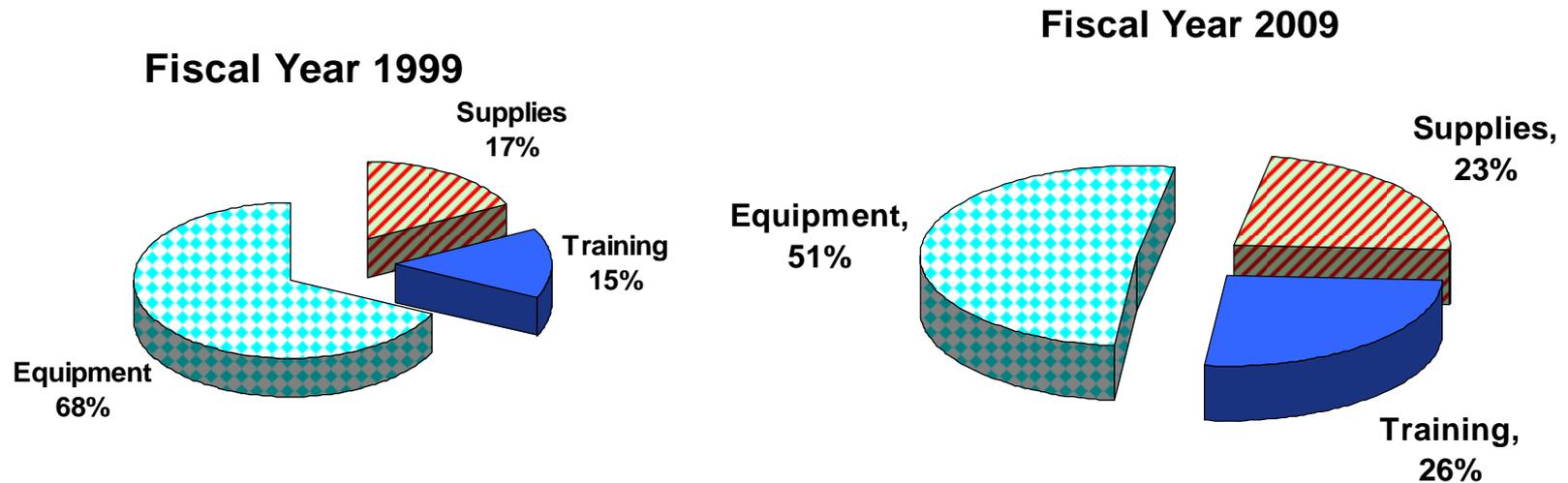
\$6.98 Million Returned to Localities for Emergency Medical Services in FY 2009

• Cities	\$ 2,010,682
• Counties	<u>\$ 4,965,287</u>
Grand Total*	<u>\$ 6,975,969</u>

***Note:** The annual payment is for the period March 2008 – February 2009; therefore, this annual figure will not correspond to previous figure noted in this presentation.

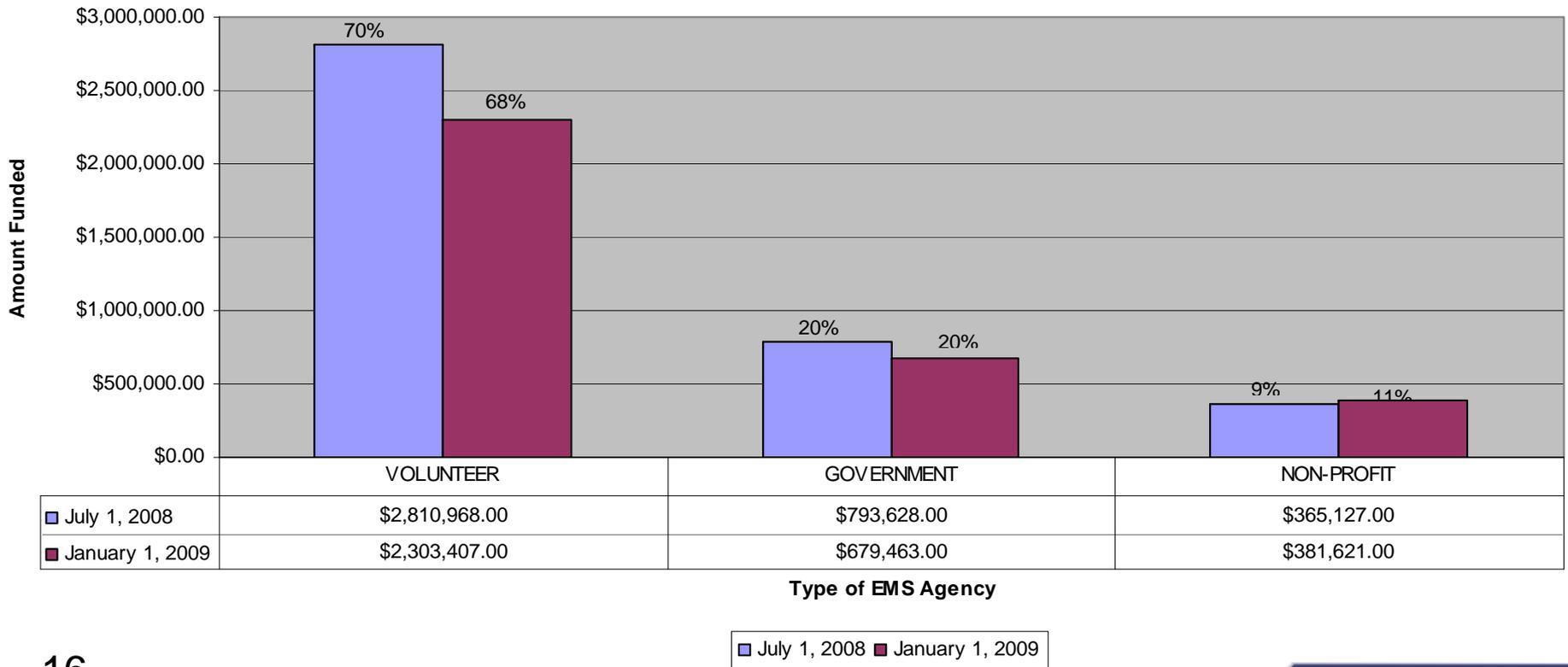
Return to Localities 26%

How funds were spent by the localities



Virginia Rescue Squad Assistance Fund Fiscal Year 2009 Grant Cycles

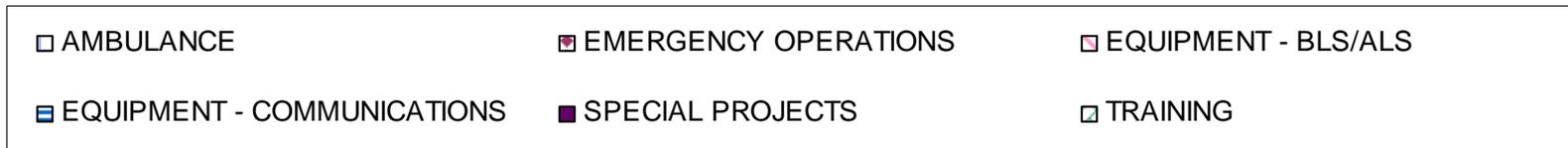
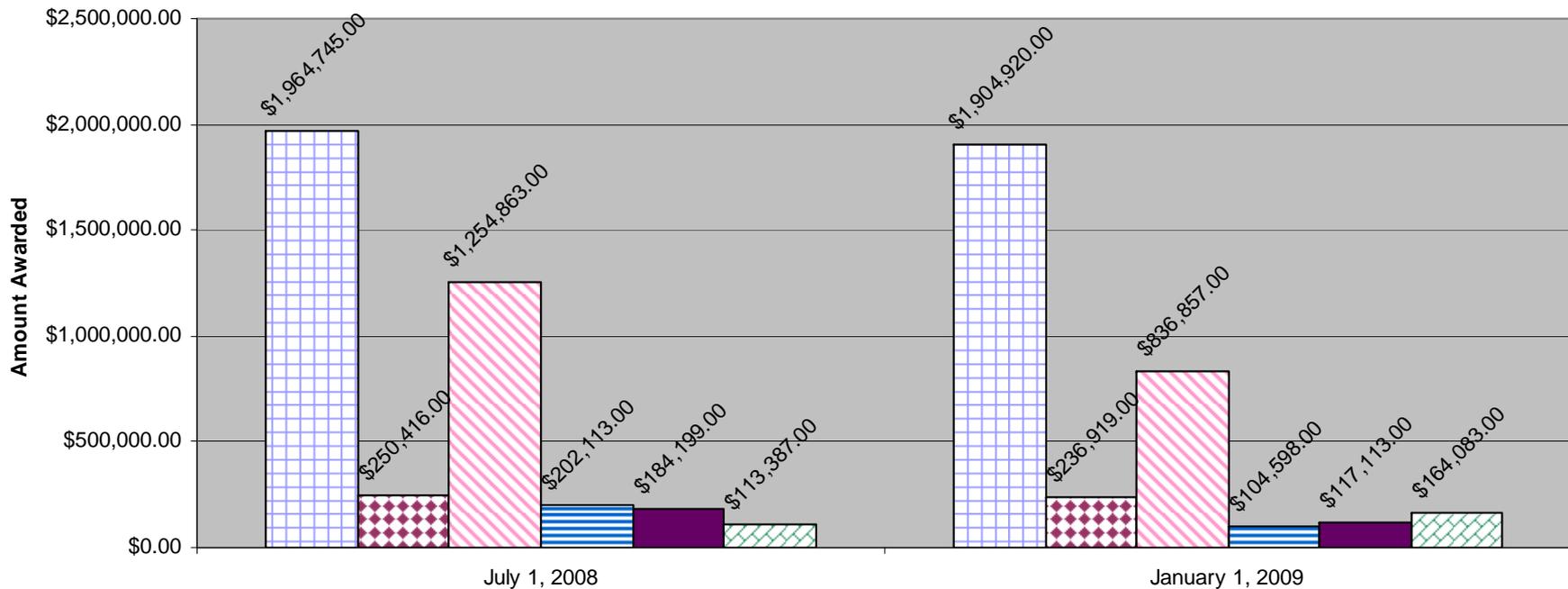
RSAF Grants by Agency Type
Awarded in Fiscal Year 2009



Virginia Rescue Squad Assistance Fund

Fiscal Year 2009 Grant Cycles

RSAF Grants by Grant Type
Awarded in Fiscal Year 2009

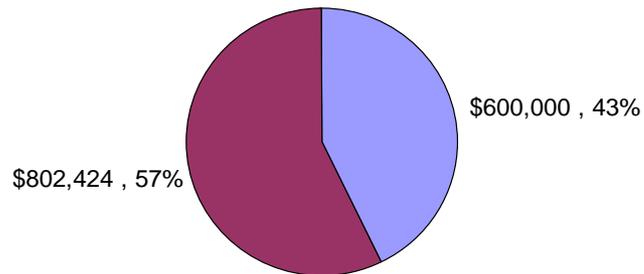


Economic/Fiscal Impact on Four for Life

- Revenue is dependent upon the registration of passenger vehicles
- Revenue from registration is variable – registrations may be for 1 or 2 year periods.
- Declining vehicle registrations (FY2010 YTD) – down by \$400K:
 - July 2009 – revenue down by **\$ - 342,499**
 - August 2009 – revenue down by **\$ - 56,655**
- **\$1,645,375 from RSAF Grant Program transferred to Virginia State Police MedFlight Program:**
 - Current:
 - \$1,045,375 – from the RSAF Grant Program
 - \$ 600,000 – from the \$0.25 portion reserved for EMS Training

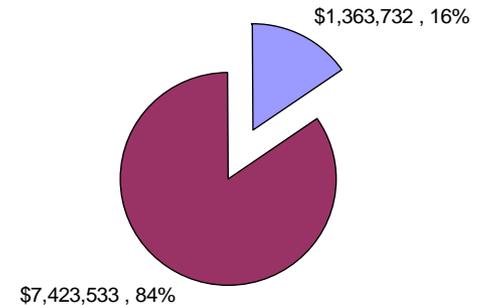
Components of the Training Funds and RSAF Grant Programs

\$0.25 for Training
\$1,402,424



■ State Police MedFlight ■ EMS

RSAF Grant Program Funds
\$8,787,265



■ State Police MedFlight ■ EMS

Economic/Fiscal Impact on Four for Life

- **Governor's FY10 Budget Reduction Plan allocates an additional \$1 Million from Four for Life funds to support the Virginia State Police MedFlight Program:**
 - \$298,242 from the 30% portion for EMS program development
 - \$318,357 from the 32% portion for RSAF grants
 - \$258,014 from the 26% portion for Local Governments
 - \$108,742 from the 10% portion for the state's Office of EMS
 - \$ 16,645 from the 2% portion for the VA Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads

Questions

???