

2022

CHA

DISASTER PLANNING
CONFERENCE PASADENA

Uvalde Texas: School Shooting Medical Response Teams

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DISCLAIMER

Our discussion today will focus solely on the medical response to the Robb Elementary School Shooting.

We will ***not*** be discussing the law enforcement response.

DISCLOSURE






No financial disclosure; no relevant, real, or apparent personal or professional financial relationships with proprietary entities that produce healthcare goods and services.

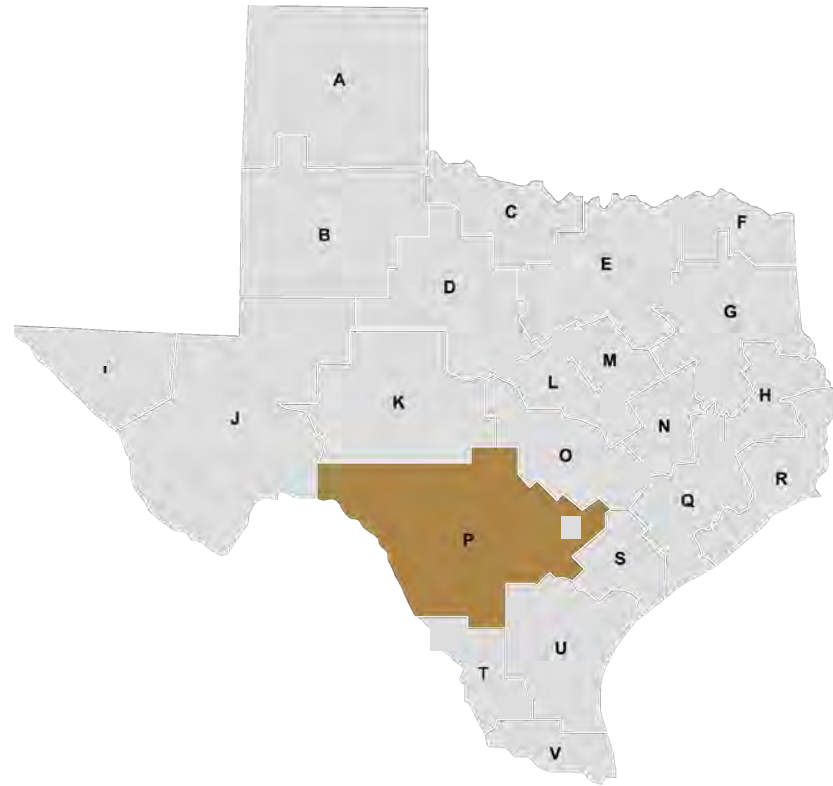
TEXAS IS A BIG PLACE...








WHAT IS STRAC?

Mission: To reduce death / disability related to trauma, disaster, and *acute illness* through implementation of *well-planned and coordinated regional emergency response systems*.

-  22 COUNTIES
26,000 SQUARE MILES
-  3M PEOPLE
-  71 EMS AGENCIES
-  18 AIR MEDICAL BASES
-  PUBLIC HEALTH
AUTHORITY



-  63 HOSPITALS
-  2 LVL I TRAUMA CENTERS
-  16 CARDIAC CENTERS
-  17 STROKE CENTERS
-  BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



STRAC ORGANIZATION

Acute Care

- Trauma/Cardiac/Stroke
- EMS and EMS Medical Directors
- Air Medical
- Pediatric
- MIH
- Perinatal
- MEDCOM
- EMS EMR
- Clinical Registries

Behavioral Health

- Southwest Texas Crisis Collaborative Steering Committee
- Law Enforcement Navigation
- Homeless Acute Care
- ER Crisis Transfer
- Social Determinants of Health
- Data Collection

Emergency Preparedness & Response

- Healthcare Coalition
- Regional Medical Operations Center
- Rescue Team
- Logistics
- EMTF
- Disaster IT
- Patient Tracking
- AssetTrak

REGIONAL LTOWB PROGRAM



 South Texas Blood & Tissue Center
A subsidiary of Biobridge Global

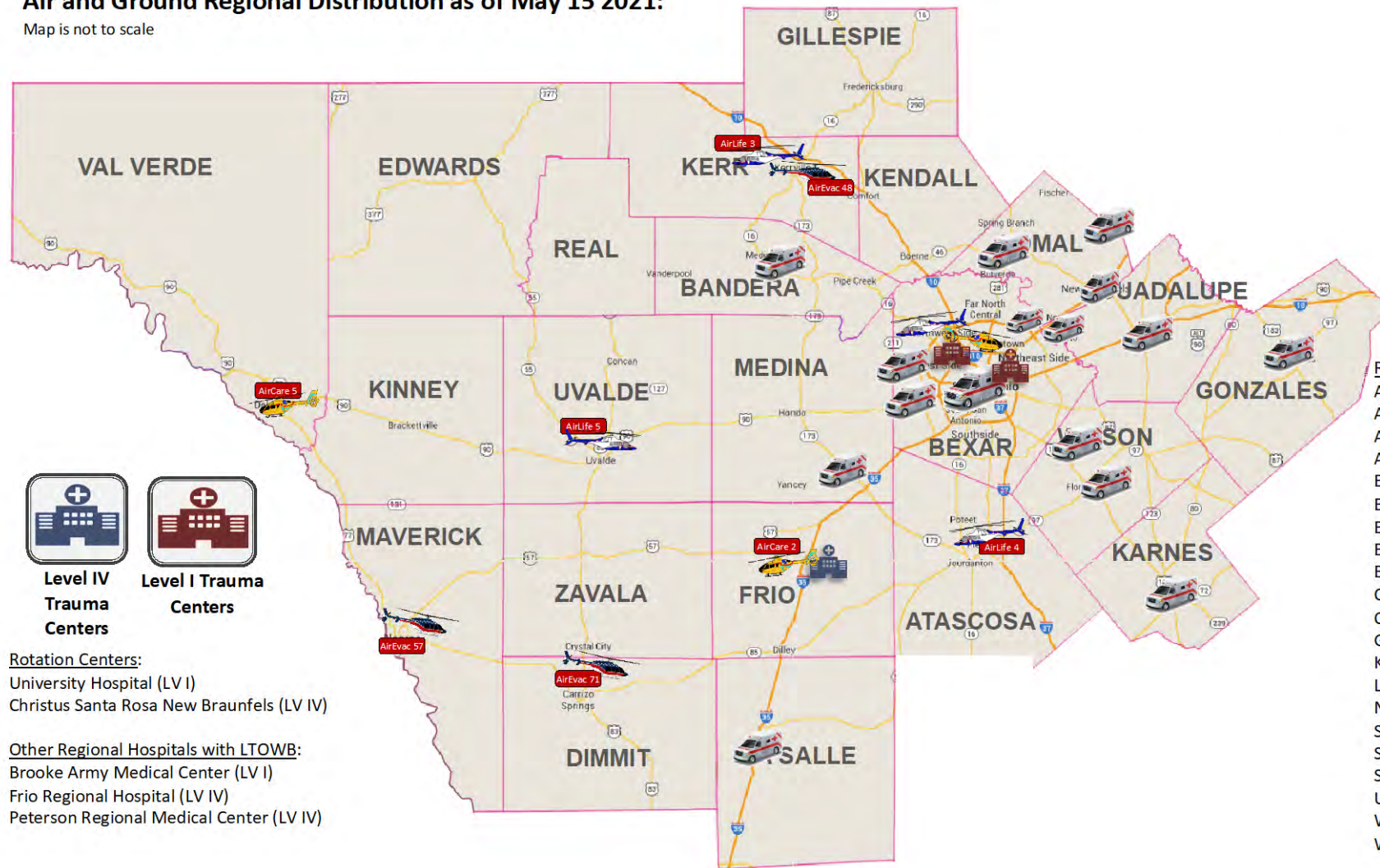
@connectforlife   SouthTexasBlood



REGIONAL LTOWB PROGAM

Air and Ground Regional Distribution as of May 15 2021:

Map is not to scale



**Level IV
Trauma
Centers**



**Level I Trauma
Centers**

Rotation Centers:

- University Hospital (LV I)
- Christus Santa Rosa New Braunfels (LV IV)

Other Regional Hospitals with LTOWB:

- Brooke Army Medical Center (LV I)
- Frio Regional Hospital (LV IV)
- Peterson Regional Medical Center (LV IV)

Rotation Sites:

- Acadian Ambulance (x2)
- AirEvac/MAC (x6)
- AirLife (x4)
- Alligance EMS
- Bandera EMS
- Bexar Co Emergency Services
- Bexar Co ESD 2 EMS
- Bexar Co ESD 7 EMS
- Bulverde-Spring Branch EMS
- Canyon Lake EMS
- Converse EMS
- Gonzales Co ESD 1 EMS
- Karnes Co EMS
- La Salle County EMS
- New Braunfels EMS
- San Antonio Fire Dep EMS (x8)
- Schertz EMS
- Seguin EMS
- UT Health SA EMS Fellows
- Wilson Co ESD 2 EMS
- Wilson Co ESD 3 EMS

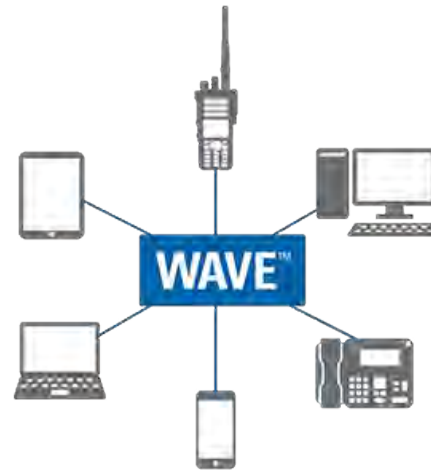
MEDCOM (24/7)

- Trauma Transfers
- Air Medical Management
- Trauma Team Paging
- MCI load-balancing
- Navigation of mental health patients via Law Enforcement directly to psychiatric facilities





DATAPATH

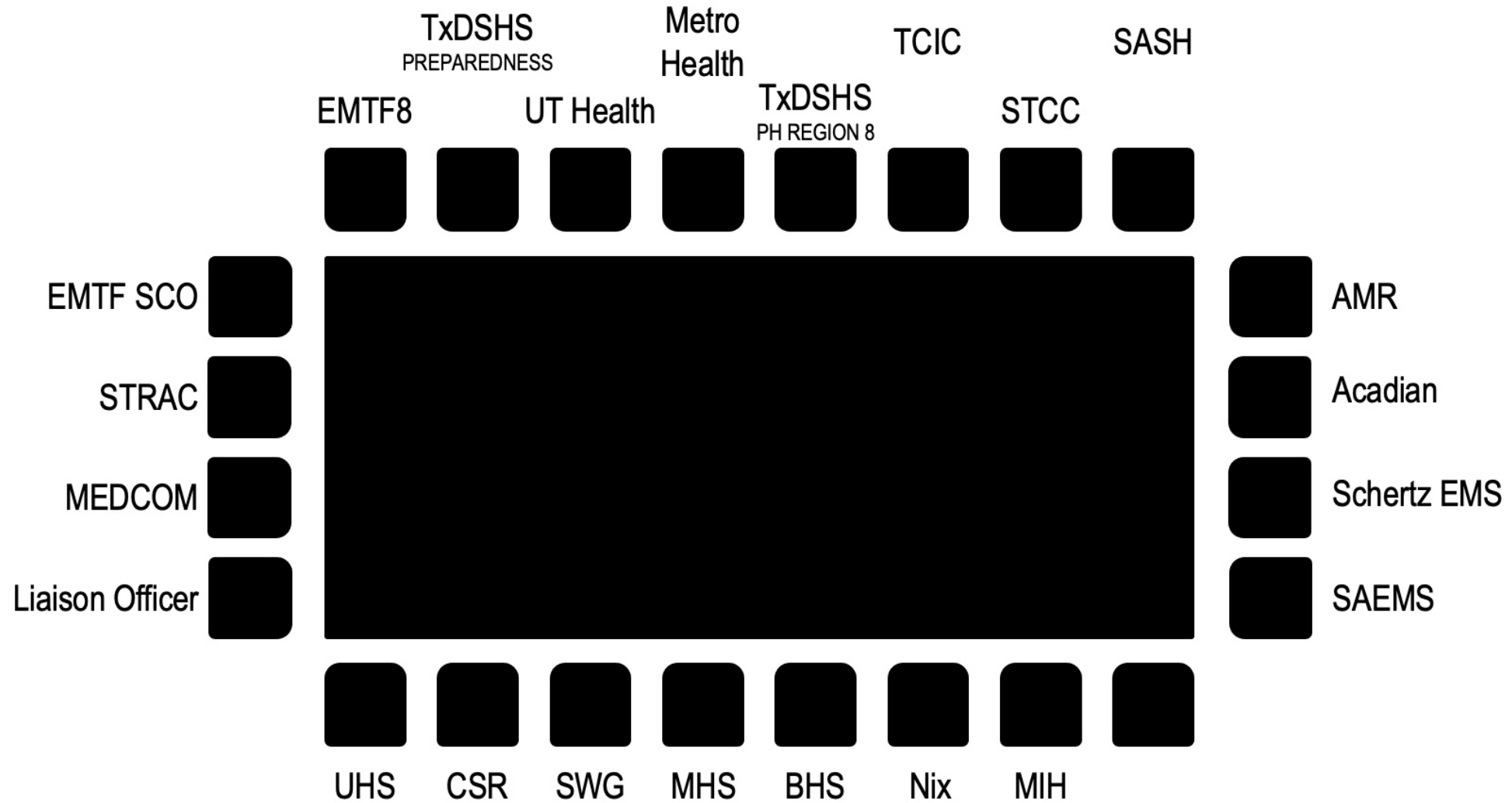


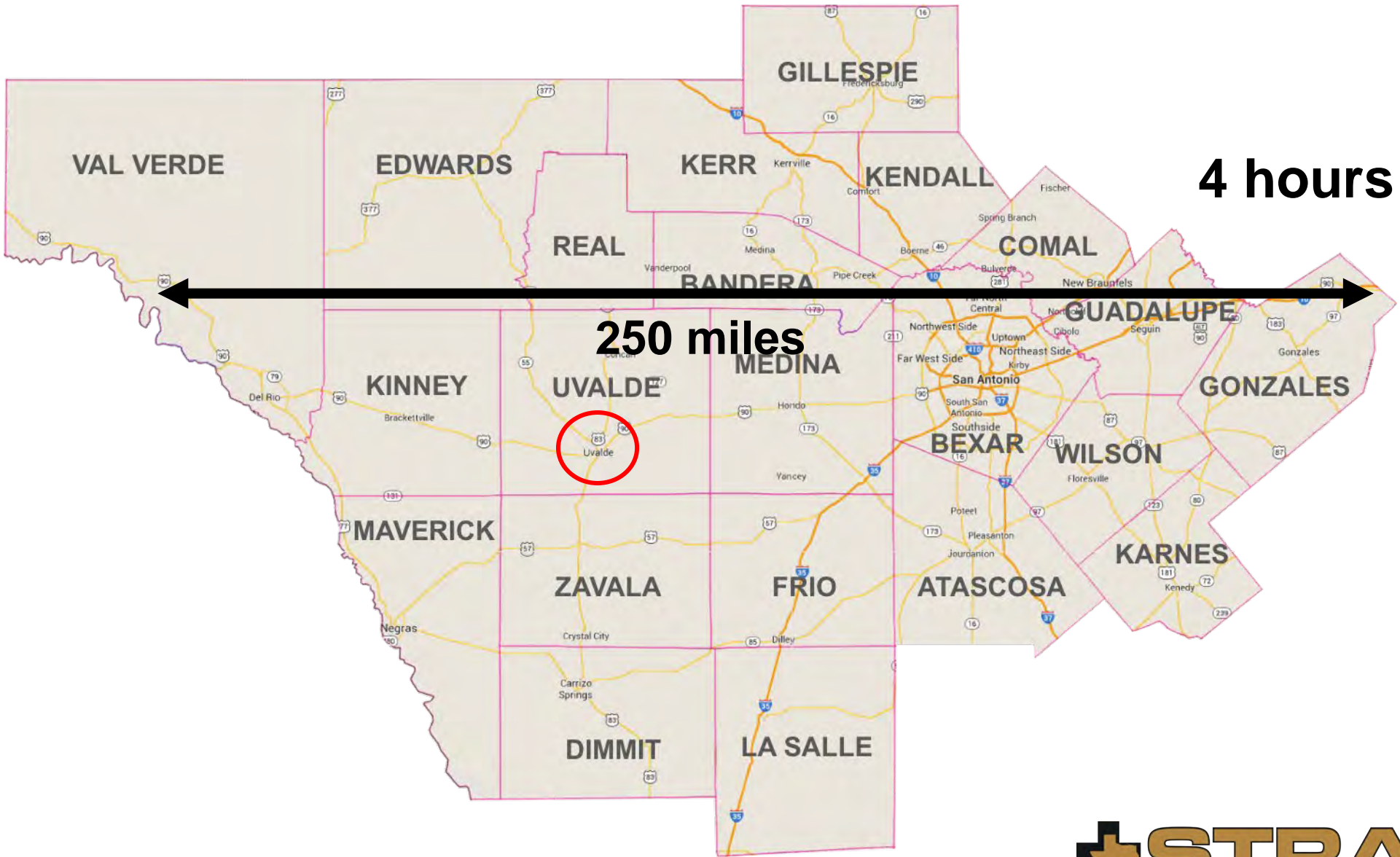
RMOC DISASTER RESPONSE

- Regional Trauma System is the backbone of effective disaster response
- An effective, integrated day to day Regional Trauma System is best way to immunize against MCI
- Functional communications systems used daily, are essential

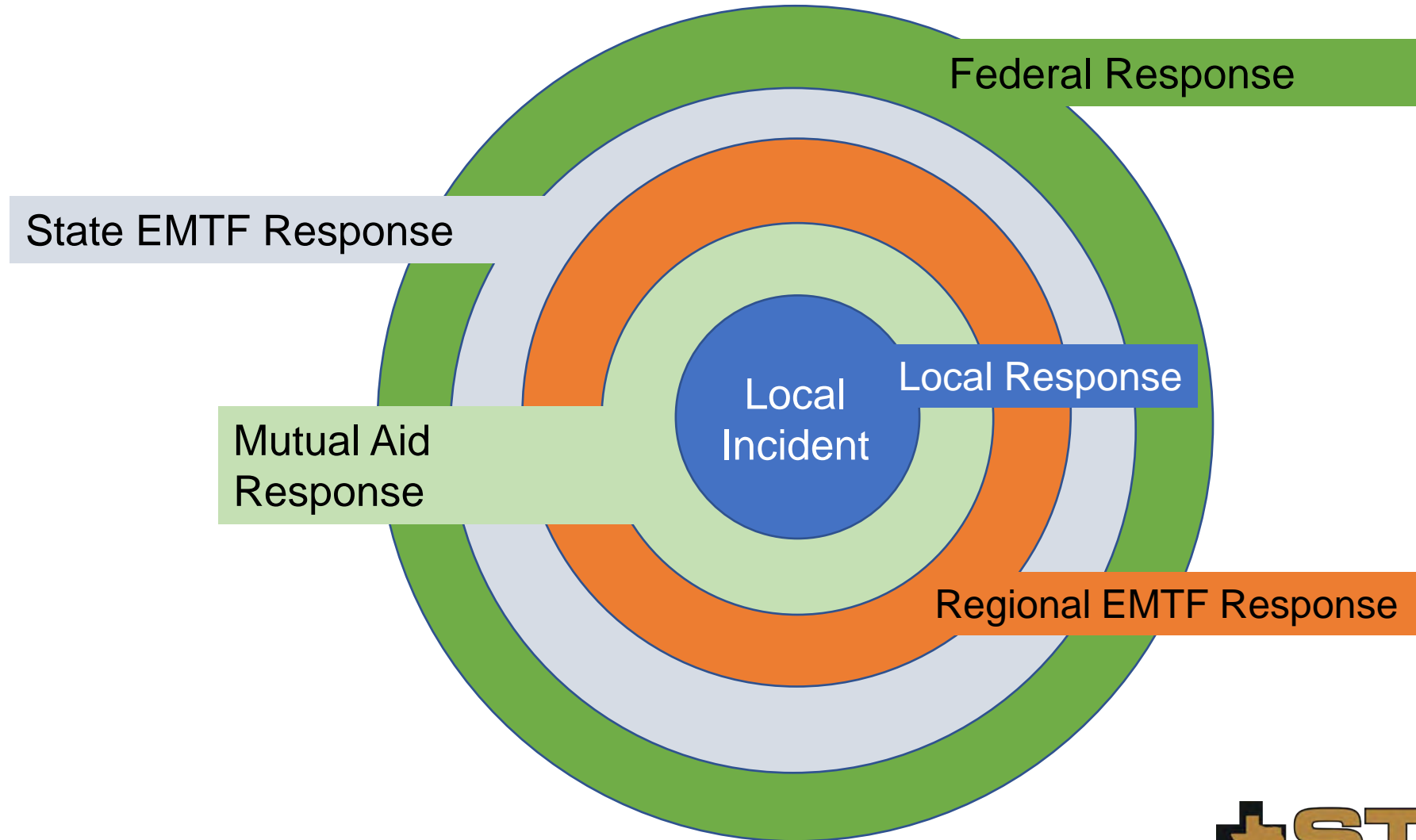


REGIONAL MEDICAL OPERATIONS CENTER (RMOC)

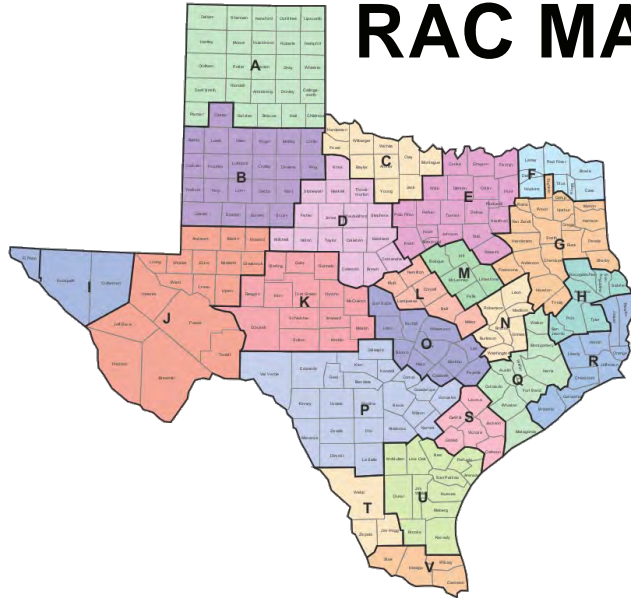




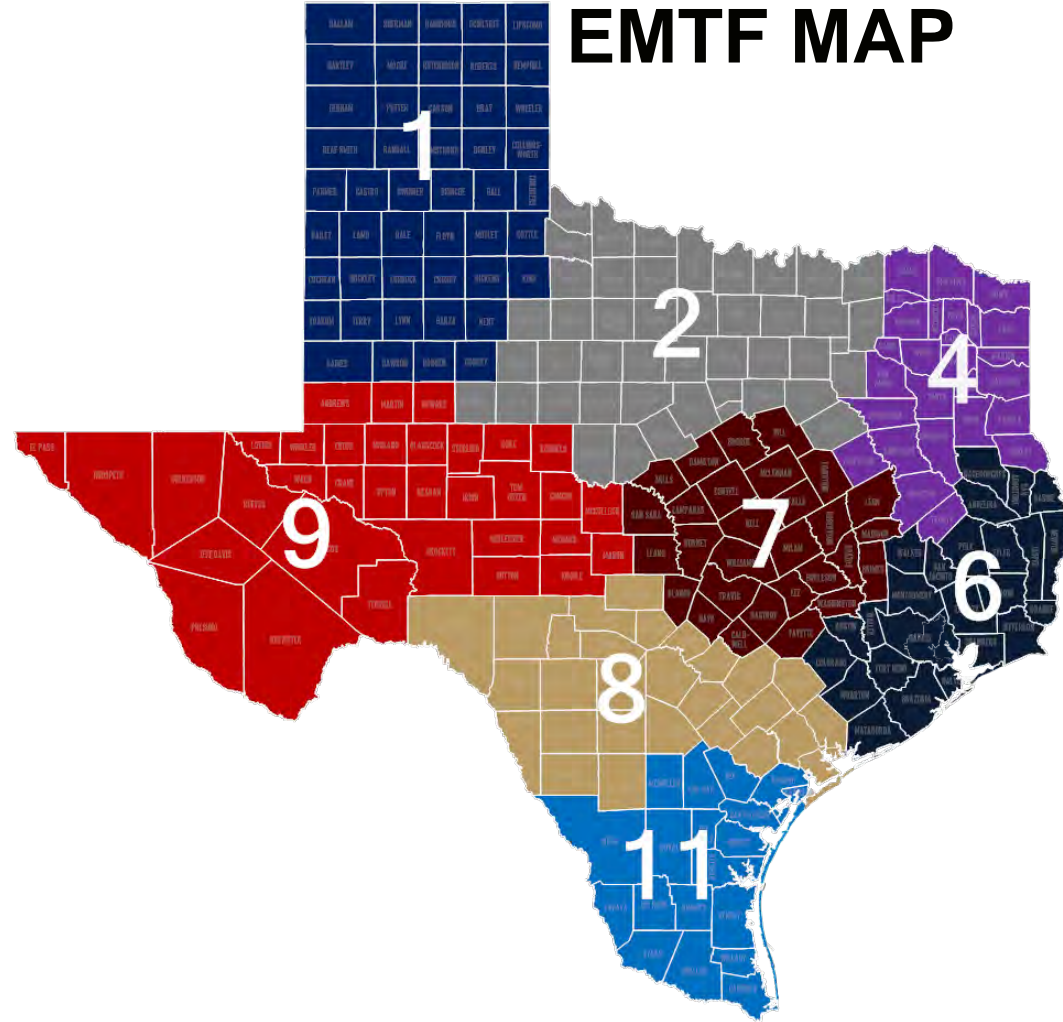
ESCALATING MEDICAL RESPONSE IN TEXAS



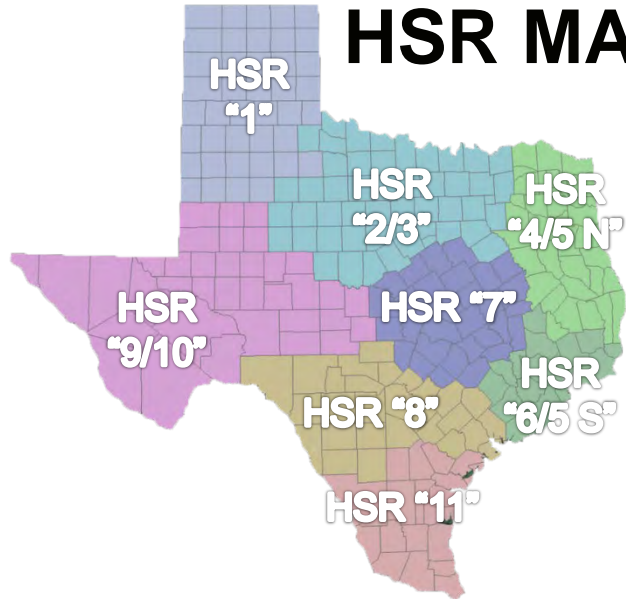
RAC MAP



EMTF MAP



HSR MAP



EMERGENCY SERVICES



- Medical Incident Mgmt. Personnel Augmenting Operations Centers &/ Command Posts
- Subject Matter Experts & Leaders in the ESF-8, Health & Medical Arena

Medical Incident Support Team



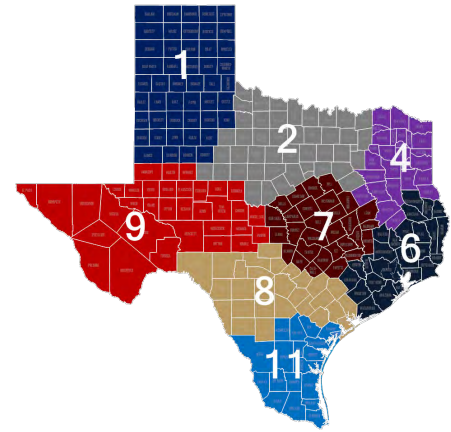
- Public Safety Logistics Subject Matter Experts in Staging Large Numbers of Assets
- Manages the Staging Site, Mobilization, & Tracking of Activated ESF-8 Resources

Ambulance Staging Mgmt. Team



- Custom Multi-Patient Vehicles with a Transport Capability of 20+ Patients
- Care & Mass Transport / Evacuation of Injured / Ill
- REHAB / Force Protection for Responders

AMBUS / MPV



- Temporary Healthcare Infrastructure that Rapidly Deploys & Provides High Quality Patient Care in the Field
- Deployable Emergency Room with Scalable Teams & Assets

Mobile Medical Unit



- Teams of 5 Ambulances with a Strike Team Leader
- Supplemental Medical Transport of Large-Scale Patient Movement Missions

Ambulance Strike Team



- Teams of 5 Nurses with a Strike Team Leader
- Augment Nursing Staff Shortages in Disasters that are Specialty Specific (ED, ICU, Burn, etc.)

Registered Nurse Strike Team



- Dedicated Medical Response & Force Protection Teams & Assets for Firefighters Working Moderate- to Large-Scale Wildland Fires
- Covering the Fireline to Staging & Base Camps to Incident Command Posts

Wildland Fire Support Unit



- Provide Assistance with Site, Morgue, Victim Identification & Information Center Operations to Medicolegal Authorities in a Mass Fatality Incident

Mass Fatality Operations Response Team



- Deployable Pre-Hospital & Hospital Teams Capable of Caring for &/ Transporting a HCID Patient
- PPE Caches Pre-Positioned Across the State

Infectious Disease Response Unit



- Teams of 5 Air Ambulances with a Strike Team Leader
- Supplemental Medical Transport for Critical and Large-Scale Patient Movement Missions

Air Medical Strike Team



- Dedicated Medical Support for Law Enforcement Entities During High Risk Incidents
- Specialized Teams of 2 Paramedics / APPs / Physicians & an ALS / MICU Ambulance

Tactical Medic Support Unit





Texas EMTF Memorandum of Agreement



MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
between
LEAD REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
and
SPONSORING ENTITY
for
EMERGENCY MEDICAL TASK FORCE

1. PARTIES

The Parties to this Memorandum of Agreement ("Agreement") are a Department of State Health Services designated Lead Regional Advisory Council ("Lead RAC") **Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council (STRAC)**, properly authorized to do business in the State of Texas, and **University Hospital- University Health System**, as a Sponsoring Entity, hereafter referred to as "Sponsoring Entity" that wishes to participate as a member of the Emergency Medical Task Force ("EMTF").

Entities eligible to participate in the Emergency Medical Task Force Program include:

a. Pre-hospital Emergency Medical Services Providers

- i) Must be a DSHS Licensed Emergency Medical Services Provider or First Responder Organization (FRO).
- ii) Must meet Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) requirements for minimum, lawful staffing per applicable DSHS licensure.
- iii) Must have at least twelve (12) months of experience providing emergency medical services in the State of Texas.
- iv) Must maintain a business office within the boundaries of the State of Texas.
- v) Must adhere and abide by all federal, state and local laws and rules and must adhere and abide by the Texas Health & Safety Code, Chapter 773, Emergency Medical Services and the Texas Administrative Code, Title 25: Health Services, Chapter 157: Emergency Medical Care during the time of its deployment to provide mutual aid in a pending or actual disaster.

b. Healthcare Facility Clinical Personnel

- i) Must operate a Department of State Health Services licensed General Hospital.
- ii) Must maintain a business office within the boundaries of the State of Texas.
- iii) Must adhere and abide by all federal, state and local laws and must adhere and abide by the Texas Health & Safety Code, Chapter 241, Hospitals and the Texas Administrative Code, Title 25: Health Services, Chapter 133: Hospital Licensing.

c. Physician and Professional Clinical Groups

- i) Must be a business doing business in the State of Texas, providing board certified Emergency Medicine Physicians, Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners.

- Over 600 EMS Providers, Hospitals, and Physician Groups have signed the MOA.
- Single, state-wide MOA signed by all TX EMTF Sponsoring Entities.
- Sets up the mechanisms for activation on behalf of the State through a State Mission Assignment.
- Sponsoring Entities have the right to accept or decline an activation request
- Sponsoring Entity personnel deploying on a State Mission Assignment remain employees of the Sponsoring Entity

SUTHERLAND SPRINGS SHOOTING



November 5th, 2017

26 dead, 22 injured.



REGIONAL RESPONSE TO THE UVALDE SHOOTING





Uvalde
CITY LIMIT

May 24th, 2022 – 113 days ago



INITIAL NOTIFICATION

 Alerts MCI Regional Notification 

Units EMS Leaders Medcom - Staff

Date May 24, 2022 at 11:53:05 AM CDT

REGOPS: REPORTS OF an active shooter at Rob Elementary School IN INVOLVING APPROX unk pt 2 currently PTS. MORE TO FOLLOW.
-MEDCOM

- 11:33 – Shooter enters school
- 11:36 – MEDCOM contacted by Uvalde EMS Chief advising of possible AS at elementary school
- 11:44 – MEDCOM notifies STRAC leadership
- 11:48 – MIST enroute
- 11:53 – Regional notification to all EMS leaders

WHAT DOES REGIONAL MUTUAL AID LOOK LIKE



ON SCENE RESPONSE

UVALDE, TX

Population estimate: 15,217

Population per square mile: 15.8

Persons under 18 years: 28.1%

Ethnicity: 72.5% Latino

Median home value: \$103,000

Median household income: \$41,683

Without healthcare coverage: 18.8%

Persons in poverty: 21%

Language other than English spoken at home: 56.8%

Source: 2020 US Census

<https://data.census.gov/cedsci/profile?g=1600000US4874588>



LOCAL MEDICAL RESOURCES

Uvalde Volunteer FD

(1) Full-time paid firefighter on 24 hours a day

(1) Station

Do not run any EMS-related calls

Uvalde PD dispatched

Uvalde EMS

501c3 non-Profit

Runs 911 and transports from Uvalde Memorial

Staffs 3 full-time ambulances

Annual transports 4,000

Uvalde PD dispatched

Uvalde Memorial Hospital

501c3 non-profit

25 in-patient beds

16 ER beds

New facility (3 months old)

AirLife

Bell 407 helicopter

Single patient transport

Alamo Area Ambulance

Backup to Uvalde EMS, Crystal City, and Zavala

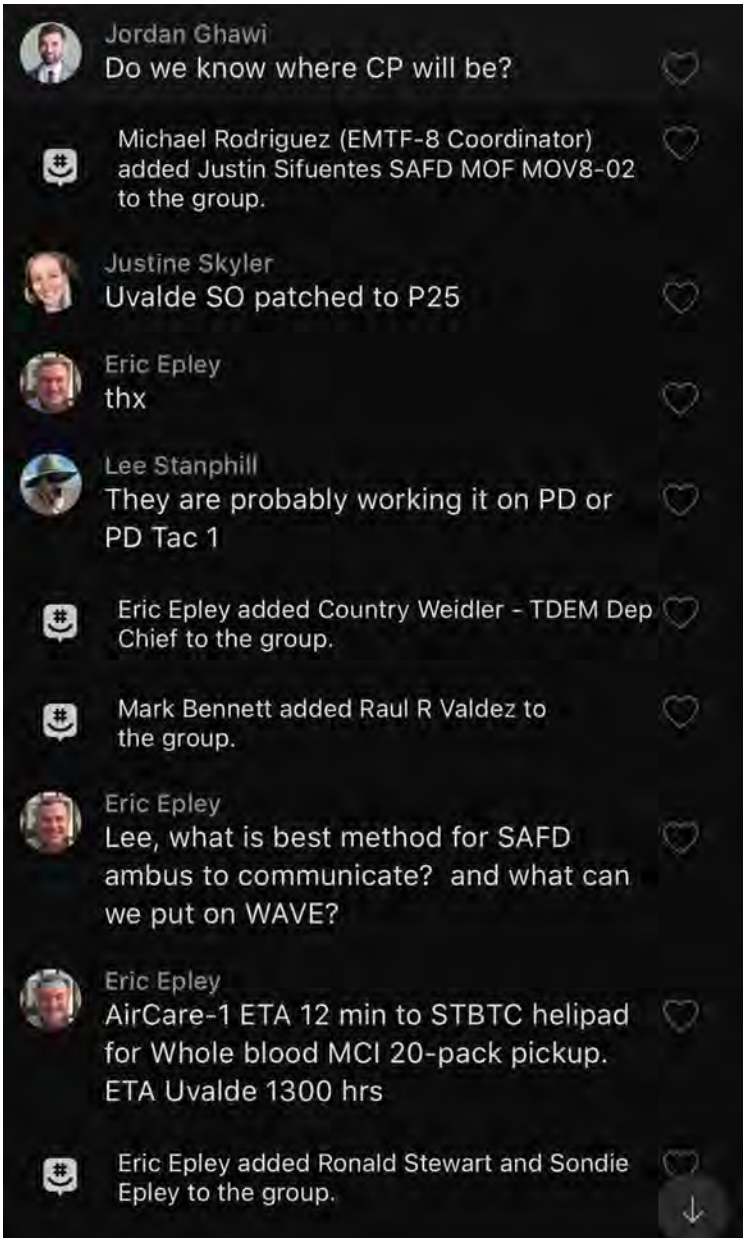
2-5 ambulances on per day

Dispatched by three different agencies



11:44 – MEDCOM notifies STRAC leadership
11:48 – Jordan departs STRAC for Robb

BENEFITS OF ON-THE-FLY COMMUNICATIONS



← Regional EMTF Coordinator adds AMBUS Crew-chief

← Eric adds Deputy Chief for statewide emergency management

← STRAC EP&R Director adds Uvalde hospital emergency manager

← LTOWB MCI push-pack

← Eric adds Level 1 Surgery Chair



#KSATnews

KSAT
abc 12

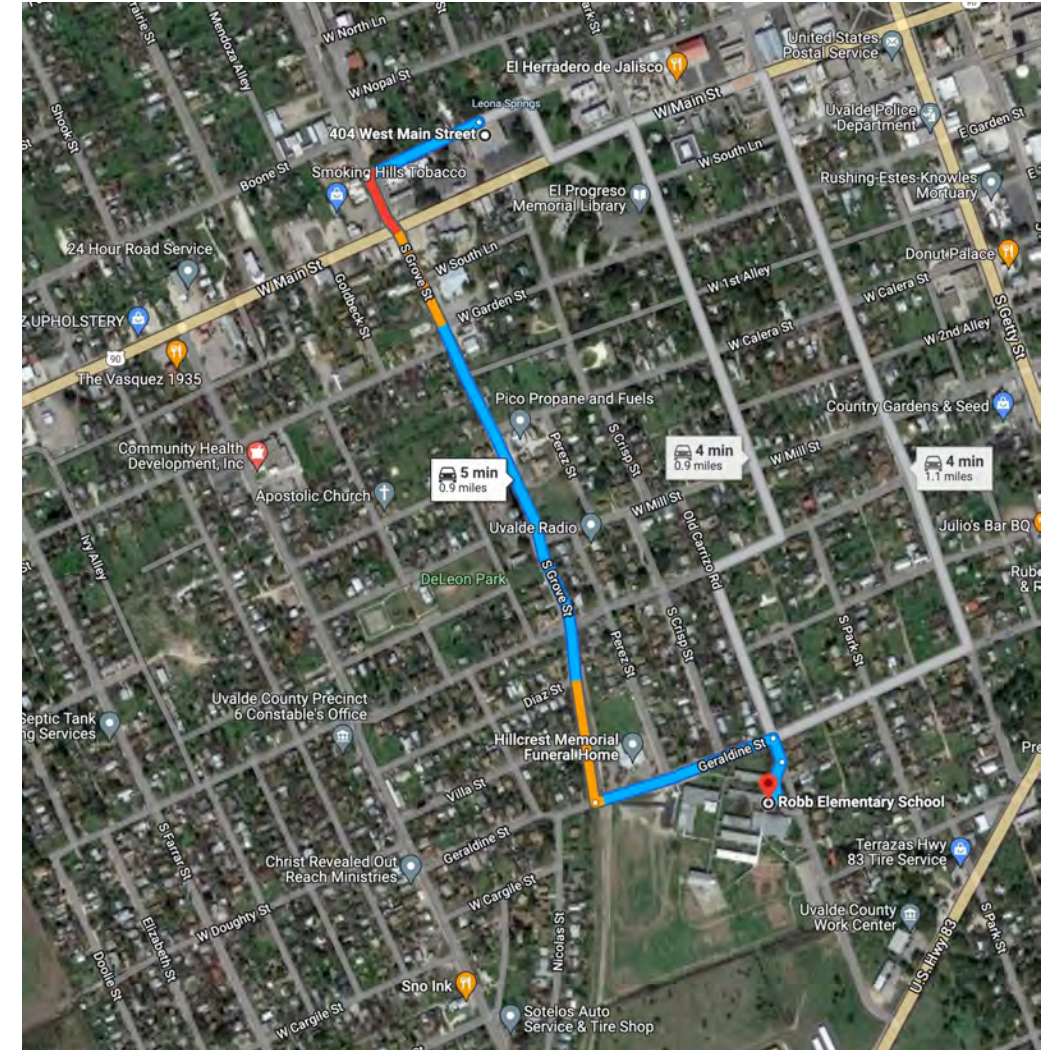
TEMP 83°

12:46 – Jordan arrives at Robb Elementary

58 minutes after leaving STRAC



STAGING



STAGING (cont.)



2022 CHA Disaster Planning Conference

12:50 – Shooter is neutralized





2022 CHA Disaster Planning Conference



GERALDINE ST.

OLD CARRIZO RD.

Enters school through this door.

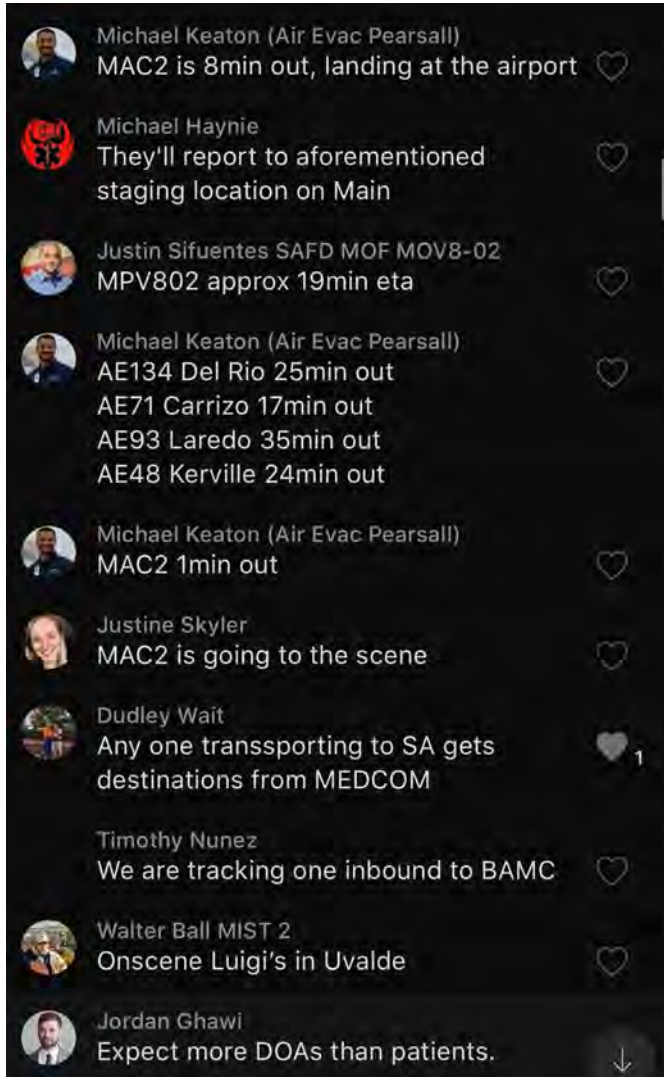
Gunman crashes truck.

Fires into school from parking lot.

Shoots students and teachers in two connected fourth-grade classrooms.

Robb Elementary School

COORDINATION



San Antonio Fire AMBUS



Additional aircraft inbound

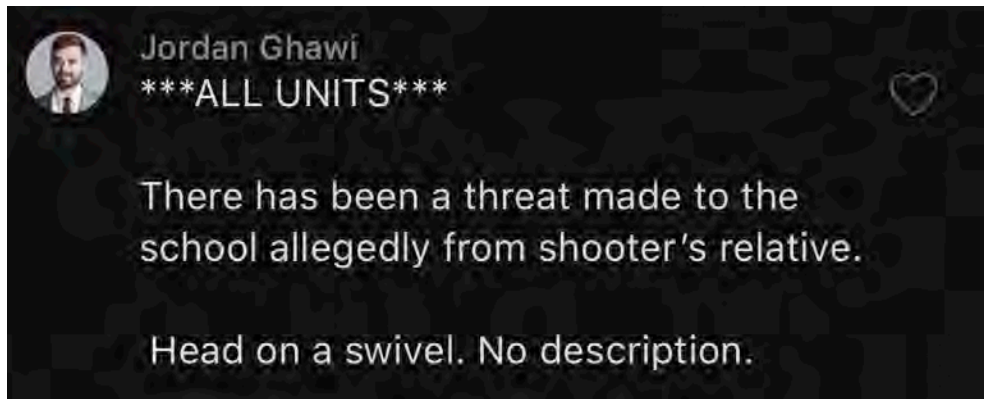


MEDCOM ensuring that we are load-balancing patients



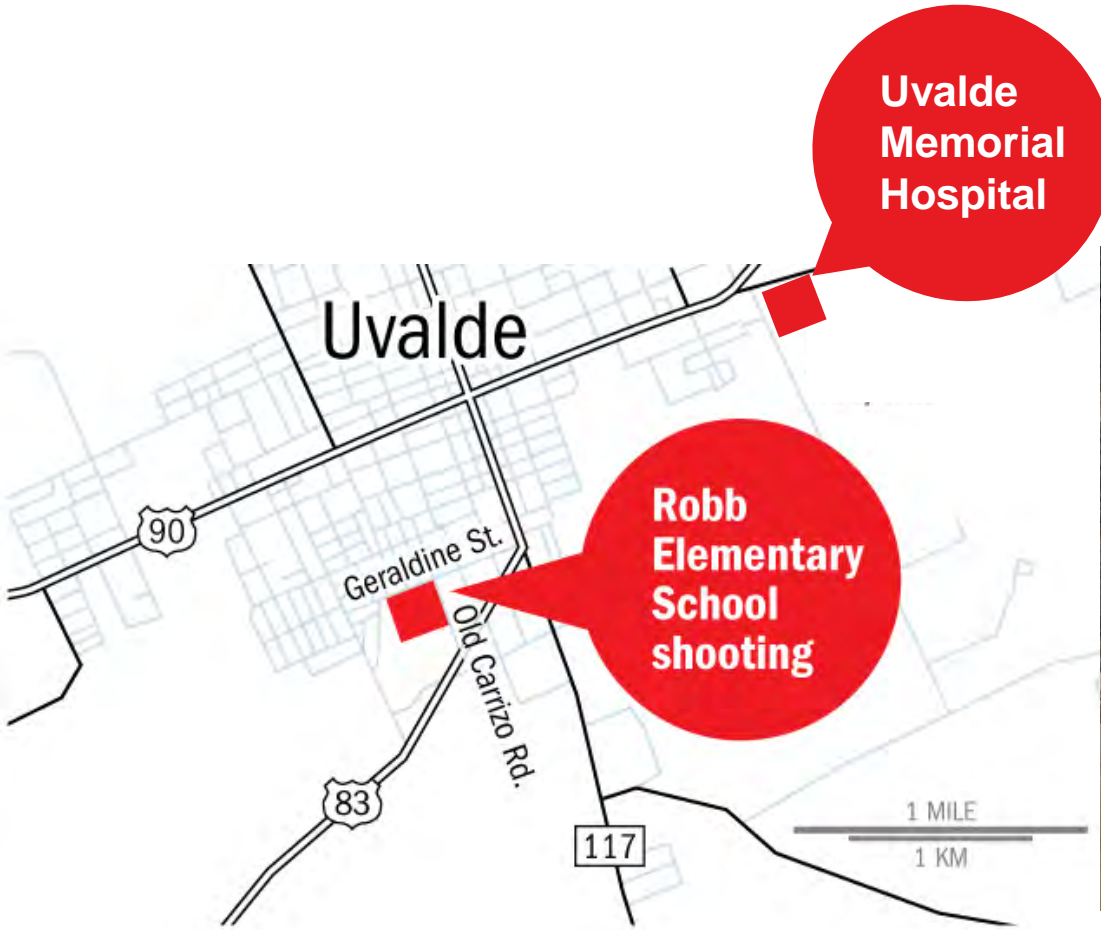
Setting expectations

“FOG OF WAR”





SUPPORTING HOSPITAL

2.1 miles from Robb to Hospital (7 mins)



SUPPORTING HOSPITAL



 Walter Ball MIST 2
Uvalde- 5 current pending transfers needed  1



1 Red GSW - 45y/o male
1 Red GSW- 10y/o female



The other 3 transfers are not related to the Shooting but require emergent transfer.


As of now the remaining 13 patient are less acute schrapnel injuries and will hold at this time.

They also 2 fatalities- one male/one female both pediatric

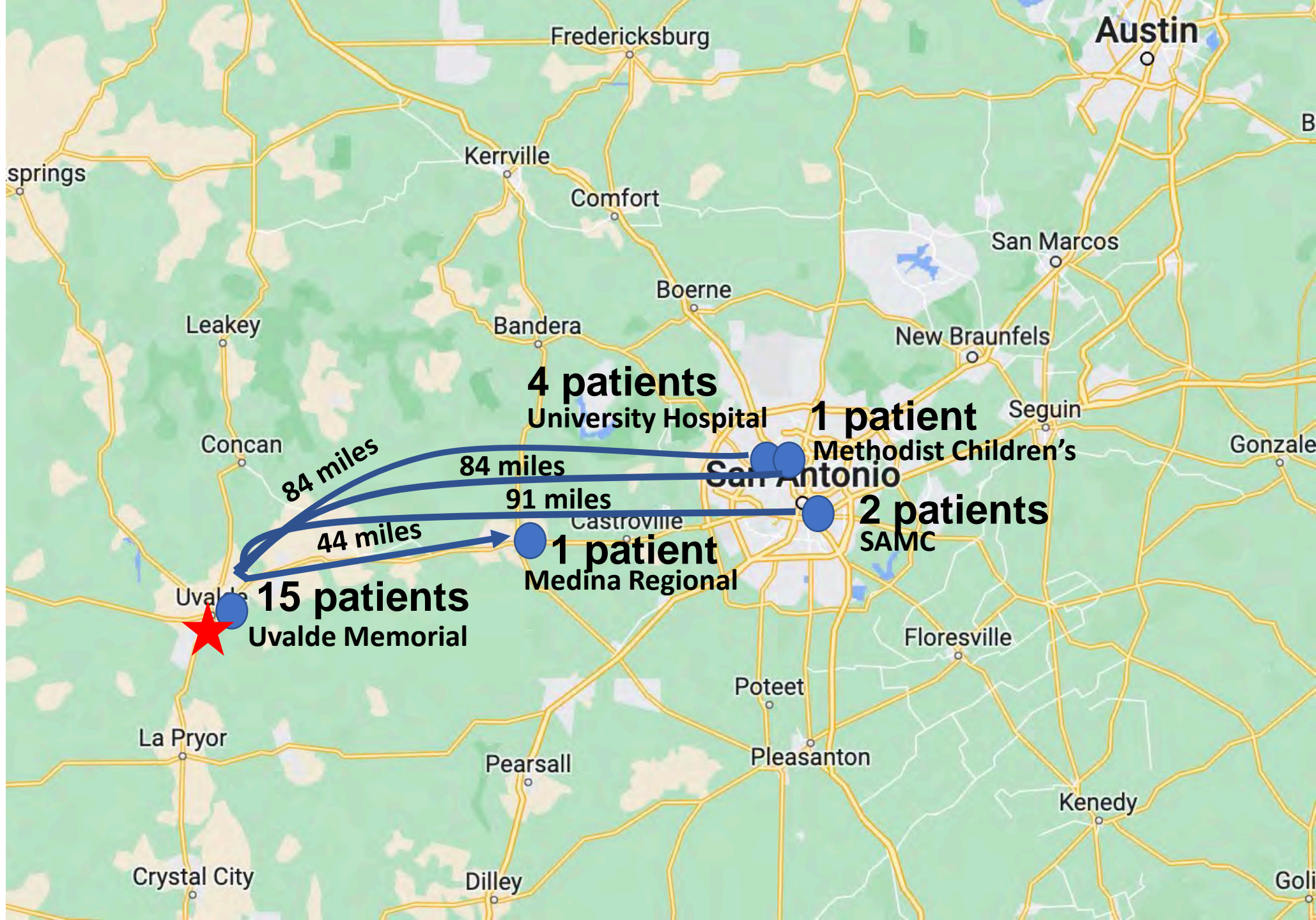
 Michael Keaton (Air Evac Pearsall)
AE48 just landed at the helipad 

 Eric Epley
Thx. Both UH and BAMC are in great shape, tell them send away, plenty of capacity. 

 Eric Epley
@Walter Ball MIST 2 How is the 20 pack of MCI blood holding up? Do we need to consider sending another pack of blood to you? 

Walter Ball MIST 2
Updated numbers for Uvalde Memorial-  1
30 Patients with 2 Fatalities here at Memorial.

21 dead
18 injured



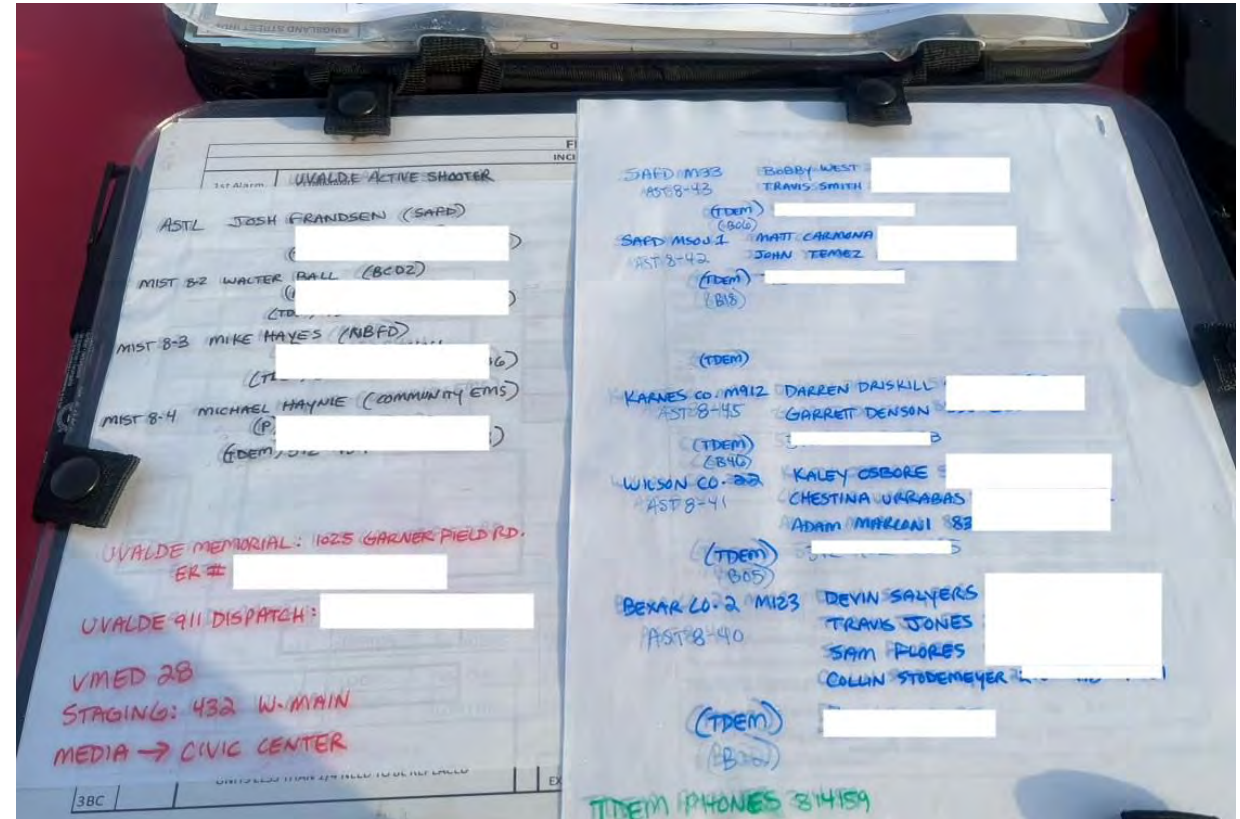
REPLACING LOCAL EMS COVERAGE



REPLACING LOCAL EMS COVERAGE (cont.)



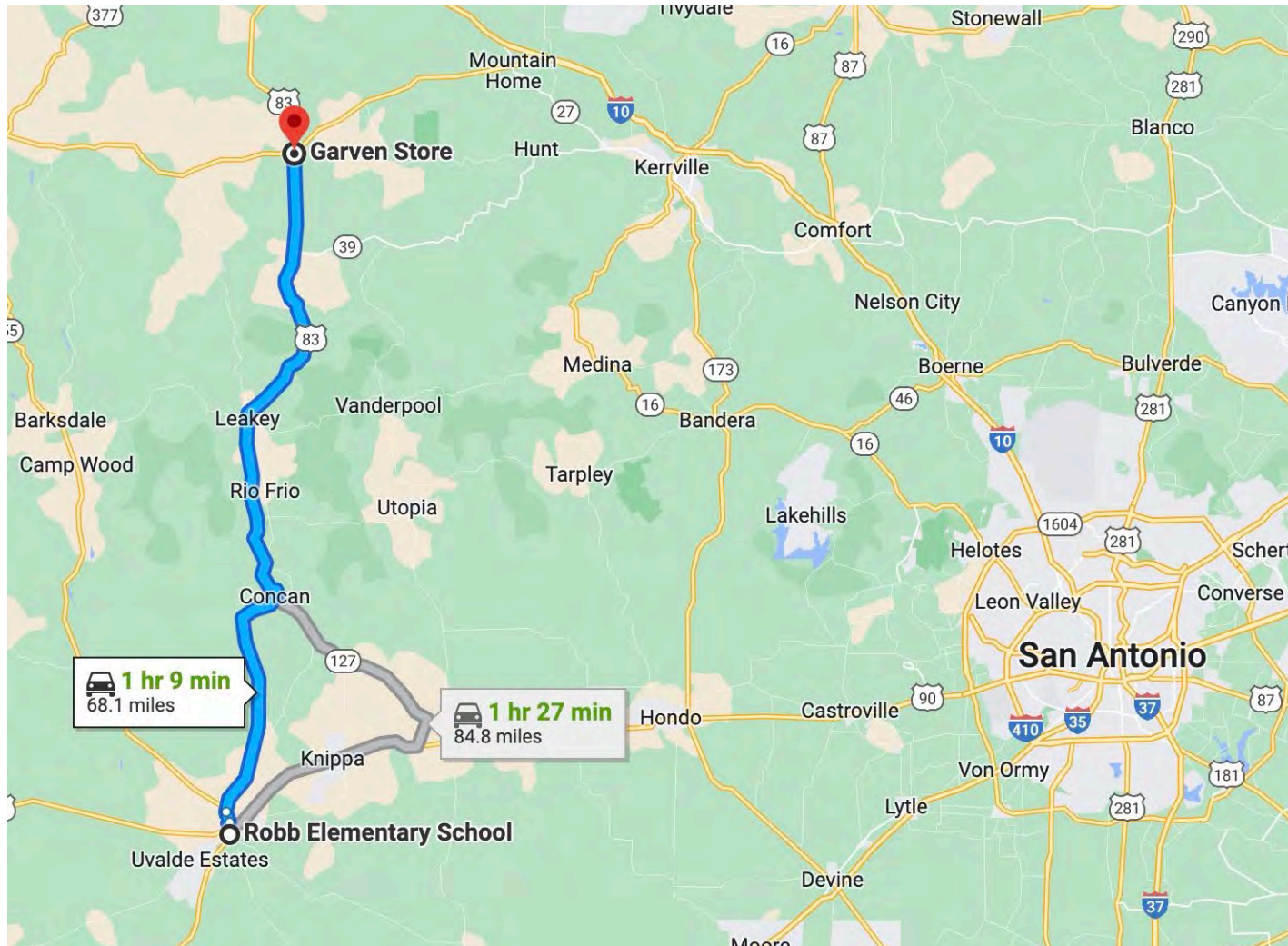
It doesn't need to be fancy. It just needs to work.





Not sure if its correlation or causation, but you should always find the mustached firemen

MCI WITHIN AN MCI

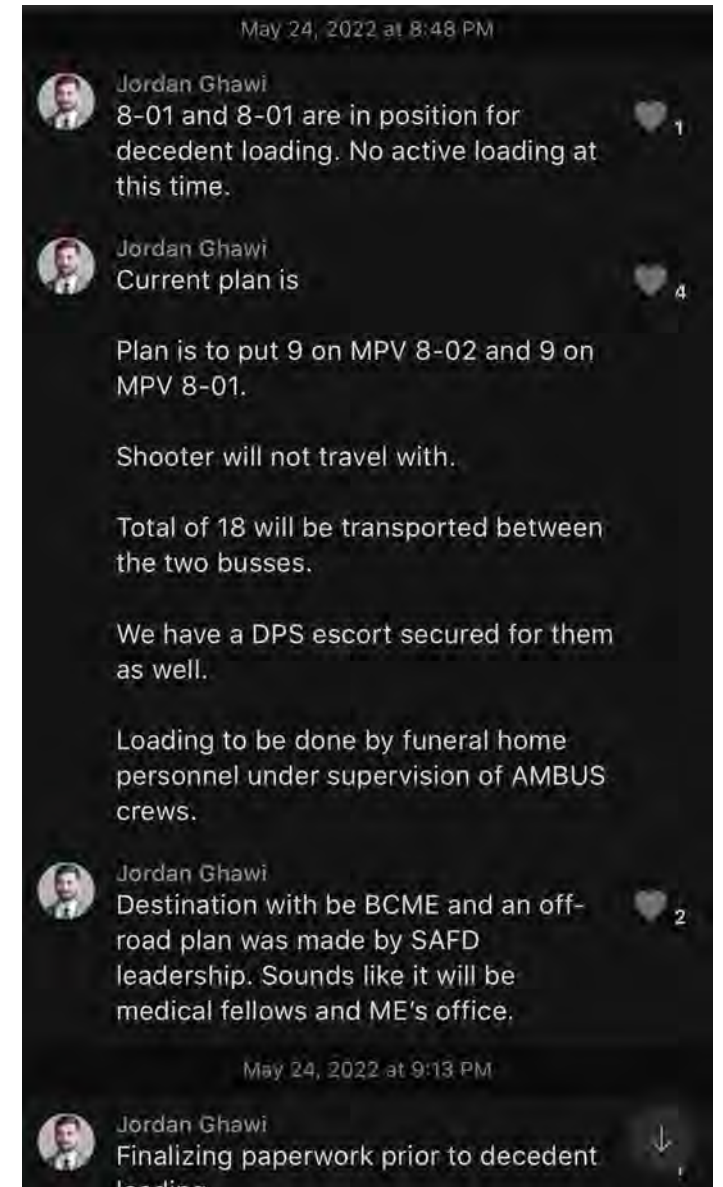


At 1953, MEDCOM was notified of an MCI in Kerrville.

Released two units from scene to support.

1 DOS, 1 refusal, and 9 transports

DECEDENT CARE





Mrs. Betty Bowers
@BettyBowers

Uvalde has Tesla police cars? That helps explain why such an incompetent police department can still suck up 40% of the town's budget



7:58 AM · 6/4/22 · [Twitter Web App](#)

281 Retweets 14 Quote Tweets 1,349 Likes



LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT



REMAINING 21 DAYS

Funeral home media issues

- Family privacy

Requested additional EMTF assets

- 2 MICU
- 2 ASAP
- 1 MMU (graveside)

Governor visits

- Allocate (1) MICU and (1) MIST

POTUS visit

- Allocate (1) MICU and (1) MIST
- Integrate Uvalde EMS into procession and PR

Increase RN Strike Team

Continued media (civilian interaction) issues

Utilization of MMU at gravesite

- State LE providing security overnight

Additional VIP/Dignitary visits

CISD/CISM Teams

- Overwhelming

Billeting

Mental Health awareness of EMTF

Heat became an issue early

- Memorial and gravesite

Bailouts

Continued ER Support

PD dispatch support

PD threats

- Home coverage
- Package searches



Disaster Planning

A Hospital Perspective on the Robb Elementary Shooting Response on May 24, 2022



Uvalde Memorial

Where to Begin?



- ✓ Common misconceptions/barriers
- ✓ UMH Preparedness prior to 5.24
 - ✓ Hospital Response on 5.24
 - ✓ Post Event Response
 - ✓ Lessons Learned



Common Misconceptions and Barriers

- ▶ “We’re a small town”
- ▶ “It’s such a peaceful community”
- ▶ We do drills...
- ▶ We’re a big hospital...we can handle...
- ▶ “It’ll NEVER happen here”
- ▶ Staffing
- ▶ Cost
- ▶ Turnover
- ▶ Experience or lack of
- ▶ Training
- ▶ Drills in silos



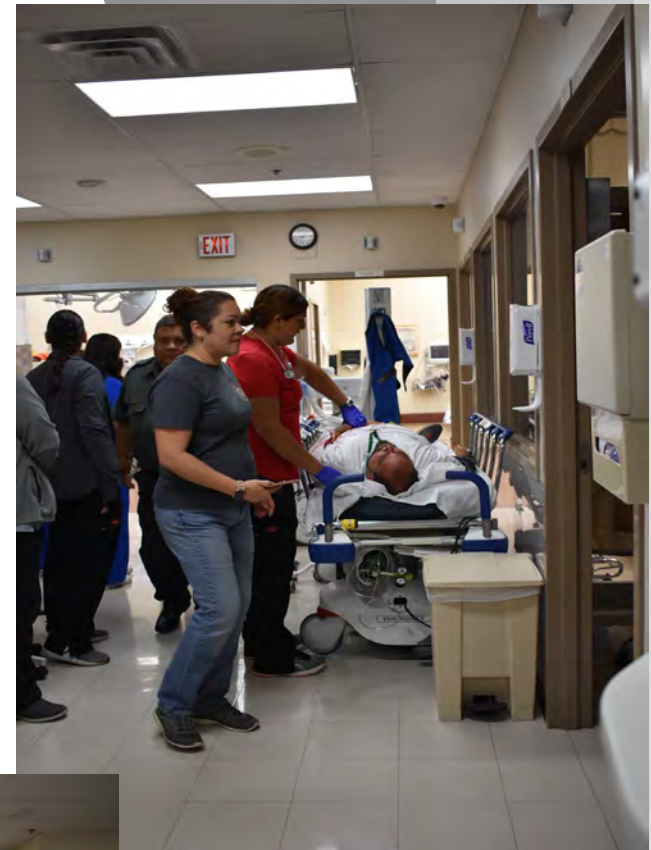
Are We Prepared?

- ▶ Ready today?
- ▶ Evaluate your readiness
 - ▶ Processes/Protocols
 - ▶ Resources
 - ▶ Staff training
 - ▶ Drills
 - ▶ When was the last and how often do they happen?
 - ▶ What kind
 - ▶ What resulted/improvements made?
 - ▶ Who participated?



UMH Preparedness Before 5.24

- ▶ Prior MCIs
- ▶ Drills- use actual people of all ages
- ▶ Processes/Protocols
 - ▶ Internal vs Regional
- ▶ Staff Training
 - ▶ Investing in staff
- ▶ Resources
 - ▶ Internal vs Regional



UMH Response on 5.24



Response on 5.24



The Aftermath



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SHOOTING VICTIMS UVALDE, TEXAS



Moving Forward



It's a Balancing Act



RESOURCES & SUPPORT



Lessons Learned

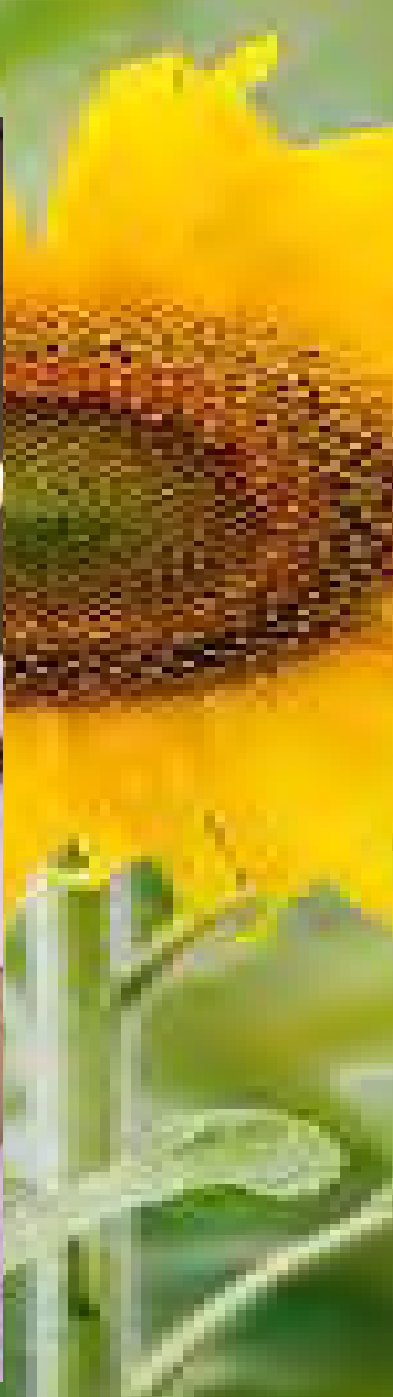
- ▶ Early activation is critical
- ▶ Incident Command Center
- ▶ Effective communication
- ▶ Safety and Crowd Control
- ▶ Resource management
- ▶ Communication w/ EOC
- ▶ Collaboration w/ external resources
- ▶ Designated Care Teams
- ▶ Briefings
- ▶ Staff response and availability
- ▶ Supplies



Lessons Learned (cont.)

- ▶ Availability of ORs
- ▶ Intake/Registration
- ▶ Triage stations
- ▶ Patient identification
- ▶ Clear roles
- ▶ WebEOC
- ▶ Outcomes
- ▶ Post event debriefing
- ▶ Post event follow up/counseling
- ▶ Post event nursing support response
- ▶ Continued assistance





Uvalde Memorial



Questions?

2022

CHA

DISASTER PLANNING
CONFERENCE PASADENA

Thank you

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