

## QUARTERLY AND FINAL SUMMARY REPORT



### COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT – MEASURE Z Report Form

**Organization Name:** K'ima:w Medical Center Ambulance **Report Date:** 12 /31/2020

**Contact Name:** Emmett Chase, CEO **Phone:** (530) 625-4261

Please attach a narrative report addressing the items outlined in section I below. Feel free to attach any other relevant materials or reports.

#### I. QUARTERLY NARRATIVE

##### A. Results/Outcomes

- 1. Please describe the Measure Z activities completed.

Hoopa Ambulance is able to remain local in the closest vicinity of the Willow Creek community. Our furthest response times are within 11-14 minutes for motor vehicle accidents and the majority of our medical calls are around 4 minutes. The Measure Z funding that is provided to the Ambulance allows us to maintain ALS coverage 24/7. Over the last few years St. Joseph Hospital became a Trauma and Cardiac center, Level 3 Hospital. Willow Creek is within the Golden Hour criteria, this is very positive for any life threatening event that may occur. Hoopa Ambulance provides ALS paramedic unit, ETA to the hospital is about 1+ hour away. Immediate response and properly trained paramedics saves lives.

- 2. How many people have been served and how?

The Willow Creek coverage area runs from mile marker 22.22 West on State Highway 299 to mile marker 42.56 East on State Highway 299, and mile marker 6.18 North on State Highway 96. The call volumes for Willow Creek: Oct- 26 calls; Nov-32 calls; Dec 28 calls for a 3 month total of 86 calls.

- 3. Who has benefited from the enhanced services?

In the Willow Creek response area we provide ALS coverage to the community, which includes care for the elderly, visitors/tourists, business etc. We also transport patients from the two clinics that are serving the area. The Hoopa Ambulance covers over 20 miles of Highway 299. The 299 corridor allows travel from I-5 to Highway 101. This road is very heavily traveled, and supports many locals who seek work in the Redding or Eureka area. It also supports travel for merchandise sales as many trucks use this Highway for business, shopping, tourism, etc. In the last 3 months, we responded to 10 Motor Vehicle Accidents with injuries in the Willow Creek area. The area is fortunate to have a Trauma and Cardiac Center in Humboldt County.

St. Joseph Hospital (level 3) gives us a better perspective on the Golden Hour when a life threatening event occurs.

- 4. What difference did Measure Z funding make in our community and for the population you are serving?

Please quantify the short-term impact on your project for the current year. *If you have evaluation materials that document outcomes and impacts of your work, feel free to attach them in lieu of answering this or other questions.*

With the funding K'ima:w Medical Center receives from Measure Z, Hoopa Ambulance is able to maintain fully staffed ALS coverage for the Willow Creek area. The Ambulance base is located down town Willow Creek with the easy access to State Highway 299. Hoopa Ambulance is able to provide updated 4-wheel drive units that are equipped with highly advanced life support equipment, which includes LP-15 heart monitors, 12 lead, external pacing, automated blood pressure cuffs, pulse oximeters, advanced intubation equipment, C-Pap (advanced breathing equipment), radio equipment/repeater, and advanced IV equipment. Our crews are trained in low angle rope rescue and the ambulance carries 600 feet of rope and hardware to reach the patient quickly. Hoopa Ambulance also carries some extricate equipment. We are also equipped with water rescue gear. Our equipment is always in the finest condition, or it is replaced.

Outcomes and Impact Oct – Dec: Motor Vehicle Collisions-10 MVC: Critical- 3. MVC Related Death -1, OTB Rope Rescue -3; Other Injuries-13 with 3 critical. Medicals-63 with 10 critical and 4 Deaths. Life Flighted-1;

Average response times: In the city limits - 4 minutes, Highway 299 11-14 minutes to the furthest boundary.

- 5. Please quantify the long-term impacts of your project. This would be for the entire time period that Measure Z has funded your project, With the funding the Ambulance receives from Measure Z.

We have been able to purchase much needed life saving equipment in our rural area (refer to #4 for equipment detail). Being in a super rural area it is extremely difficult to keep good experience EMT-1 & paramedic. With increase funding from the measure Z, we are starting to compete with the higher paying companies in the Humboldt county area. After Reach / Cal-ore moved into the area, this has increased wages up considerably along with better benefits. Hoopa needs to meet the financial and benefits increase. Willow Creek needs to maintain a high quality of EMS personnel. We are not close to any Hospital.

We have also been able to keep a backup unit at the Willow Creek base in case of any unforeseen break downs to our first out unit or in case of a road closure due to road conditions and bad weather. Having a 2<sup>nd</sup> unit 4x4 available will allows us to strategically hand off patients just in case of a Closure. Our area is known for high altitude and unpredictable weather. Power outages are common in the willow creek area. Placing the backup Ambulance with 4x4 capabilities, assures coverage at all times.

- 6. Describe any unanticipated impacts of receiving Measure Z funding, positive or negative, not already described above.

The funding received from Measure Z allows us to provide funding for the Willow Creek ALS Ambulance, high quality skilled EMT's equipment and housing. This allow us to keep up with the cost increases that are happening on the coast the Willow Creek area is needing to compensate staff wages to be competitive with other local Ambulance companies.

Being in the Willow Creek area makes it possible to have a quicker response time.

## **II. FINAL SUMMARY REPORT** (please attach a maximum of 2 pages, exclusive of attachments)

## A. Lessons Learned

- 1. Describe what you learned based on the results/outcomes you reported in Section A above and what, if any, changes you will make based on your results/outcomes.

We will continue to provide the best care for the Willow Creek area. If both units are transporting, Arcata is called to cover. Having worked as a Paramedic for 30 years in the Willow Creek area, I have seen many positive lifesaving outcomes due to Hoopa Ambulance being able to fund an Advanced Life Support (ALS) Ambulance located in the Willow Creek area. Prior to being located in Willow Creek, the Ambulance average response time was 25 minutes up to an hour, longer specially if there was any road closure. Due to the Measure Z funding, and being located in the willow Creek area the responses are much quicker, motor vehicle accidents on the 299 corridor are now around 11-14 minutes. We are approximately an hour and 15 minutes from a level 3 Hospital. The average response for medical calls is around 4 minutes, with an hour and 15 minutes to a cardiac center. The Measure Z funding provided to the Ambulance allows us to maintain ALS coverage 24/7. This saves lives!

- 2. What overall public safety improvements has your organization seen as a result of receiving Measure Z funding?

Measure Z funding has allowed us to take up residency in the Willow Creek area 24/7. The short ETA's provide quicker response times. The community is overwhelmingly grateful for our services and our concern for the well-being of the Willow Creek community. We have also been known to check on local patients from time to time. Hoopa Ambulance is no stranger to welfare checks, or personally assisting the community. Patients are not treated as numbers, but as real people with real needs. Our presence in Willow Creek also helps and supports the Sheriff's officers and the Volunteer Fire Department.

It would be greatly appreciated if the Hoopa Ambulance was placed on continuous funding allowing us to maintain the excellent care that Hoopa Ambulance provides to the Willow Creek community.

Over the last 3 months we have updated some of our equipment. This includes low angle rescue Equipment, a new LP 15 heart monitor, GPS to help locate Residents, and just ordered a new GSA ambulance unit.

Covid -19- We are still taking great precaution in protecting the community and the EMS crew. This includes wearing gloves, N-95, constant hand cleaning, face shields, full isolated zip up suits, newly purchased Respirators and disinfecting sanitizer steamer, we use a strong Decontaminant cleaner. This is used after every call.

We are taking units out of service when we have a High Risk unconfirmed case and switching into the 3rd out unit, it is always up and ready to go. If we have a positive case, the Unit is taken out of service and put through a deep cleaning. We have recently required a Disinfecting sanitizer Steamer. We are following the CDC and local Hospitals strict Guide lines, we all have families to go home to. My EMS crew has been great through all of this high stress difficult times. I am proud of them. No positive cases, so far within the EMS staff.

Thanks for supporting us.