Dear State Stakeholder Organizations,

We want to update you on the status of the dispatcher-assisted CPR project. As a reminder, the Medical College of WI, Wisconsin EMS Association, American Heart Association, and other partner organizations teamed up to secure a 3-year grant to help implement dispatcher-assisted CPR statewide.

The funder for this program is the Advancing a Healthier WI (AHW) Endowment. They are the same funder that supported the Milwaukee County dispatcher-assisted CPR program a few years ago. With these additional resources, and our experience with the Milwaukee program will be able to assist communities across the state with implementing or improving their dispatcher-assisted CPR programs.

The 3-year grant started on July 1, 2018. Our plan is to use the HERC defined regions to work region by region until we have covered the entire state. In each region we will first develop a list of PSAPs and their current dispatcher-assisted CPR practices. Next, we will invite stakeholders from the region to come together and discuss the current status of CPR pre-arrival instructions in the region and to collectively develop a plan for the region on how best to offer dispatcher-assisted CPR. This may include PSAPs delivering instructions or transferring callers for instructions, considering local resources and challenges. PSAPs and/or support agencies that will provide dispatcher CPR instructions will also determine the type of CPR instructions they will provide. We are currently working with DHS to identify the acceptable options. Our staff will then offer no-cost training to those agencies that select the non-commercial option. Finally, we will also assist with implementation as needed and will offer continuing education resources.

We have started with region 7 since that is the area our staff is most familiar with. Once the plan for that region is completed we will move to region 5 and continue until we have worked with all of the regions by the completion of the grant. In preparation for this we have already begun contacting PSAPS in region 7, 5, and 4.

Our hope is for this to be a collaborative process. We are preparing to schedule our first stakeholder meeting in region 7. Simultaneously, we have been meeting with staff from the Department of Health Services and members of the Interoperability 9-1-1 subcommittee at the Department of Military Affairs. This will ensure that are efforts align with the rule making that is currently taking place. Finally, we plan to send regular updates through these letters to state stakeholders so that you are all aware of our efforts.

Please get in touch with any of us if you have questions or suggestions, our staff includes:

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As we continue the implementation in region 7, we are excited to engage the entire state, and we welcome and encourage your partnership. We hope that you will share this information with your members and assist us in spreading the word about our efforts. If you have any questions, please reach out to us

Sincerely,

Marc Cohen and Brooke Lerner