

REGIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Project Title: "REMSA Community Health Early Intervention Team (CHIT)"

Geographic Reach: Nevada

Estimated 3-Year Savings: \$ 10,500,000

Funding Amount: \$ 9,872,988

Summary: The Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority of Reno, Nevada, a non-profit provider of ground and air ambulance services, in partnership with Renown Medical Group, the University of Nevada-Reno School of Community Health Sciences, the Washoe County Health District, and the State of Nevada Office of Emergency Medical Services, is receiving an award to create a Community Health Early Intervention Team (CHIT) to respond to lower acuity and chronic disease situations in urban, suburban, and rural areas of Washoe County Nevada. CHIT is designed to reduce unnecessary ambulance responses, as well as hospital admissions and readmissions, while improving the patients' health care. A central component to the success of CHIT is the adoption of a new non-emergency phone number to provide an alternative pathway to care for patients with lower acuity problems. Goals of this initiative include reductions in non-urgent emergency department visits, unreimbursed emergency department costs, hospital admissions, and hospital readmissions, as well as decreased hospital stays, fewer ambulance transports, and improved overall health care and continuity of care.

Over a three-year period, the Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority's program will train an estimated 22 workers and create an estimated 22 jobs. The new workforce will include community paramedics, communication specialists, an educator, continuous quality improvement coordinators, an outreach coordinator, an information technology specialist, a statistician, an administrative support specialist, and a project director.