



RHPC Board Meeting
November 7, 2025
Harris County OEM/TranStar
6922 Old Katy Road
Houston, Texas 77024



Call to Order

Dr. Kevin Schulz called the meeting to order at 1:31 pm.

RHPC Board Roll Call

Ms. Schulz called roll for the Board members in attendance.

Stephen Bennett	Dr. Kevin Schulz
John Fleming	Ashlee Thurman (for Michael Olivier)
Michael Nixon	Eric Steffel
	Lydia Worthen

Approval of Minutes (C101)

Dr. Schulz requested review and approval of the September minutes. Cynthia Crespo-Bonaparte (UT Health Harris County Psychiatric Center) made a motion to approve the minutes, John Fleming (Houston Health Department) second the motion, and the coalition members carried the motion.

New Business

- Preparedness Coalition Symposium Review**

SETRAC acknowledged and thanked the following Award of Excellence winners:

- Small – Tyler County Hospital
- Medium – Houston Methodist West
- Large – Memorial Hermann Texas Medical Center
- Partnering Organization – Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management

Attendance at this year's symposium declined due to budget cuts and the government shutdown; however, despite these challenges, participation still reached approximately 350 to 400 attendees, speakers, and sponsors.

Healthcare Preparedness Capabilities

Long Term Care Update (C102)

Fidel Calvillo reported on the Special Populations activities as follows:

- Emergency Preparedness Bootcamps in our Region have been held on September 18th for South Corridor in Brazoria County. Bootcamps, June 24th in Montgomery County for West Corridor and August 14 East Corridor Chambers County.
- Participated with Texas HHSC Region 4 annual provider meetings (4) on emergency preparedness in August and September.
- Providing SP presentations to community events and local committees.
- Continue to work with new facilities to be part of RHPC and provide emergency preparedness guidance.
- Reached out to the TDEM STEAR Rep to discuss the new STEAR online registration for LTCS and home health/hospice providers.

- New EMResource event for LTC/ALFs to provide facility and operational updates during an event.
- FSEDs meetings were held on July 17th and August 19th to discuss FIFA WC regional plans and patient tracking.
- Special Populations meeting scheduled for October 7th to discuss FIFA WC regional plans.

Dr. Schulz noted that this event will have an impact across the entire region, meaning communities farther out will also be affected and should prepare accordingly. On December 5th, the schedule will be released, revealing which teams are playing in which locations which is information that will give us a clearer picture of what to expect on game days. Then, in January, we'll learn whether our city has been selected as a training camp site for any of the teams.

Training and Exercise Update (C104)

The Training and Exercise Schedule was distributed to the coalition members. (*T&E schedule filed with RHPC Board minutes filed binder*).

- Timothy Chapman reported the CHEMPREP Workshop that was scheduled for November 19th but due to the government shutdown there have been no conversations to reschedule; therefore, this class is cancelled. SETRAC is moving forward, utilizing this same work group, to work on the regional exercise and tabletops for next year.
- More Pulsara training will be pushed out to prepare for the World Cup. Pulsara has also uploaded a “How to Evacuation” training onto the SETRAC website.
- An Off the Grid drill has been scheduled for December 3rd and CMOC-101 training at the Houston Emergency Center (HEC) will begin on December 5th. Registration is open for both on the website.
- There is now a resource tab on the SETRAC website under the World Cup webpage that SETRAC worked with the forensic nursing partners with a list of hospitals that can conduct the SANE exams as well as a list of hospitals outside our region, and a group that will conduct mobile SANE exams. There is also a tab for NTZ, for human trafficking training and to help identify the signs.

EMTF Update (C104)

Grant Kelley submitted his EMTF report as follows:

EMTF Activity

- EMTF continues to support the search and recovery efforts in Kerrville by providing force protection for the Texas Task Force and DPS Dive teams.
- Fire weather is significant across the state and EMTF has multiple Wildland Fire Support Teams prepositioned to provide force protection to the Wildland Firefighters.
- 10.15.2025 - MMU 2.0 was on display at the SETRAC Symposium. EMTF is working with SCO to house it beginning in Q1 of 2026 for training prior to the World Cup.
- 10.23.2025 - EMTF completed its initial hotwash of the Texas Hill Country response — a few good takeaways for improvement.
- 10.28.2025 - EMTF 6 Held regional Workgroups at Humble Fire Rescue. Discussions on future trainings and regional program development.
- 11.12.2025 - MMU Training at the Medical Center of SETX in Port Arthur TX
- 11.19/11.20 - EMTF MIST Training in San Antonio
- 11.23.2025 - EMTF Workgroups at the EMS conference (In Person only)

EMS Update (C104)

Deferred

Inventory Update (C104)

Mr. Calvillo reported the WAVE app is going to be discontinued and emails should go out to the users identifying the end date.

World Cup Update

World Cup update was covered in the Special Populations and EMTF updates.

Sub-Committee Updates

RHPC Award of Excellence Committee (C101)

The awards winners were announced under “New Business”.

Symposium Planning (C101)

SETRAC will begin planning for the 2026 symposium in January. Anyone that would like to become a member of the planning committee, please send an email to Lisa Spivey (lisa.spivey@setrac.org) or Roxie Ward (roxie.ward@setrac.org). Minimum requirements are you must be able to attend symposium planning meetings (initially they are once a month and as we get closer to the date they will be scheduled more frequently), and you must be able to stay through the duration of the symposium and participate and assist where needed.

Clinical Advisory Committee (C101)

Deferred

Corridor Updates (C101)

Downtown Corridor – Ashlee Thruman shared that the Downtown Corridor convened on October 3rd at SETRAC, noting increased attendance. During the meeting, Jax Kincaid provided an overview of Pulsara. The next Downtown Corridor meeting is set for December 5th at the Harris Health Corporate Offices.

South Corridor – Mike Nixon reported the South Corridor is scheduled to meet next Friday (November 14th).

East Corridor – Lydia Worthen reported that the East Corridor met on September 19th, with their next meeting scheduled for December 5th in Chambers County. Attendance has been lower than usual, and efforts are underway to increase participation. The corridor is also coordinating MCI and Pulsara training sessions. Jeremy Way led training in Chambers County in October, followed by another session yesterday in Mont Belvieu for several fire departments. An additional training is being planned for Liberty County in January.

West Corridor – Joe Schorre shared that the West Corridor recently convened at Houston Methodist West, where HCA Houston Healthcare Kingwood presented on the back-to-back MCIs that occurred in September. The next meeting is planned for December at Memorial Hermann Memorial City and will feature a presentation on EMTF MIST. In February, the group will meet at City Ambulance for an AMBUS tour, along with an overview of evacuation procedures and the resources required.

North Corridor - Stephen Bennett shared that the North Corridor convened on Wednesday, September 10th, at the Lufkin Civic Center. During the meeting, the Acadian AMBUS was showcased and discussions focused on pediatric evacuation. The next session is set for November 12th at The Fredonia Hotel & Convention Center in Nacogdoches.

Partners Update Summary (C101)

Public Health

Harris County Public Health

Kimberly Hobson reported Harris County Public Health recently conducted their FEC Exercise, and the After Action Report is now in progress.

Galveston County Health District

The Galveston County Health District, in coordination with the Office of Emergency Management, is preparing a forward disaster response plan to support evacuation efforts for both residents of Galveston County and visitors to the area and is expected to be available in 2026.

Houston Health Department

John Fleming reported the Houston Health Department hosted a Regional Administrative Preparedness Workshop on 10/13/25. Thanks to Troy Erbentraut for presenting on EMTF and the recruitment process used by SETRAC to roster EMTF partners. The Workshop provided needed discussion on emergency contracting, procurement, and staffing as well as touching on a handful of systems-based needs like whole community/DAFN integration, EMPower individual dataset request and utilization processes, Patient Unified Lookup System for Emergencies (PULSE) national level health information exchange, Medical Reserve Corps as a staffing resource, and public health law updates. The discussion was fruitful and included expert direction in creating \$0 contracts with spending authority within a government (e.g. City of Houston) context. Several participants indicated that they intend to implement different aspects of the workshop.

On Tuesday 11/18/25 HHD will be hosting a Bird Flu TTX. The TTX will include an overview of Bird Flu, the One Health approach needed to stay on top of this ever-emerging threat, and scenario-based exercise play. Participation from healthcare partners (e.g. Infection Control Practitioners, Long Term Care, ED and Family Medicine Physicians, Nurses, and patient screening staff) is welcome. The invitation flyer will be distributed through SETRAC.

OEM

Deferred – no reports given.

EMS

Fort Bend County EMS

Michael Nixon announced they have new ultrasound technology supporting the whole blood program. Fort Bend County EMS also introduced a refreshed brand identity for their fleet, sharing the update across social media.

Open Discussion/New Business

- Partner Updates Minutes Recording**

Roxie Ward (SETRAC) sought approval from the coalition members to begin asking partners to submit their updates in advance or directly following the meeting, allowing for more accurate documentation in the meeting minutes starting with the January 2026 meeting. The coalition members expressed their support for the proposal. Dr. Schulz then brought the request to a vote. Scott Reeves moved to approve the request, John Fleming seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the coalition members. A reminder will be added to the agendas and meeting reminders.

- End of Year Survey**

SETRAC will be sending out the End of Year survey next week with responses due back in January.

- Decontamination Team Coverage**

Carrie Cox with Texas Children's Hospital asked coalition members with decontamination teams to share how they manage coverage across all shifts and how this is monitored. Dr. Schulz encouraged those facilities to connect with Ms. Cox to support the development of their processes and procedures.

Adjourn

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting, the motion was seconded, and Dr. Schulz adjourned the meeting at 2:05 pm. The next RHP Board meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2026, at Harris County OEM/Transtar, 1st Floor Conference Room (6922 Old Katy Road, Houston, TX 77024).

Attendees

Nancy Mathew, Nancy McKelvy, Jonathan House, Joe Schorre, Crystal Williams, Sarah Morris, Meghna Bhatt, Angela Cone, Trey Urech, Omar Metwalli, Michael Nixon, Glenda Self, Barry Moore, Lasandra Brown, Timothy Chapman, Grant Kelley, Trisha DeGroot, Corrie Dwigans, Eric Steffel, Patrick Mccabe, Lydia Worthen, Benson Kumenda, Jonathan Keels, Matthew Grout, Michele Carter, Katie Linn, John Gomolka, Ashlee Thurman, Scott Reeves, Rene Leal, Fidel Calvillo, Cynthia Crespo-Bonaparte, Sandra Leyva, Jenny Pfannes, LaShonda Giddins, Katherine Samuel, Angela Lee, Kimberly Hobson, Caleb Glenney, Trey Frankovich, John Fleming, Danielle Calhoun, Charles Brockett, Allison Reimers, Robert Scott, Dawn Wood, Michael Jaquez