Community Paramedic
Keys to Community Paramedic Program

Flexible

Resourceful

Gap-filling

Rural and Remote Centric
Roles of the CP

- **Gap Analysis**
  - Assess and Evaluate Community Healthcare Services and Needs
  - Propose and Develop Strategies to Fill the Gaps in Healthcare

- Help Communities Overcome Barriers to Accessing Healthcare
Education & Training

- Standardized but Flexible
- International Consistency
- Adaptable
- Pathway to Higher Levels of Practice
Nova Scotia Community Paramedic Model
Impressive Results

28%  40%

REDUCTION IN EMERGENCY ROOM VISITS  REDUCTION IN CLINIC VISITS

OVER 5 YEARS
Saskatchewan, CAN

2nd year of operation
Mobile clinic staffed by Community Paramedics
Sometimes operates at the Main Clinic to relieve overcrowding
Frequent Flyers Program

- Paramedics stop in on scheduled visits to patients with chronic illnesses
  - Monitor medication compliance
  - Vital signs
  - Counsel
  - Coordinate
  - Consult
Paramedic referrals increase acceptance of care from 98% v 28%

- Evaluation of an EMS-Based Social Services Referral Program for Elderly Patients
  - Kue, Ramstrom, Stacy-Weisberg, Restuccia

- “Paramedics have the ability to accurately assess both the patient’s clinical condition and the environmental context”
DC Fire Department
Proactive visits to frequent 911 flyers reduced calls

- 20 most frequent callers
  - 10% of 127,000 annual calls
    - 10 called ~ 650 times per year (twice a day!)

- EMS Insider  March 2008
  - David C. Lipscomb (originally in the Washington Times)
  - 49,000 unnecessary 911 calls each year
Paramedics do not generally make good decisions when it comes to not transporting

- Researchers Study Whether US Medics can Make Transport Decisions
  - K. Wesley, M.J. Washick
  - JEMS.com; Dec 14, 2009