USFA plans to add a new Incident Type code 556 – Community paramedic calls for year 2016, until then 553 – Public Assist, is a much better choice.

Due to the service that is being provided and due to the expected increase in this type of service by the fire departments, the incidents should be reported in NFIRS. These calls should not be grouped as non-reportable NFIRS calls such as inspections, school visits, etc. The codes in the 300 series suggest an actual emergency situation; whereas, the 500 series suggest a non-emergency situation (e.g., assist invalid). If the situation changes to an emergency while doing an assessment, the reported type of situation found changes to a 321. In the meantime, departments are also encouraged to use a plus-one code to further identify these incident types.

Community Paramedicine
Incident Type: 553 – Public Assist
Actions Taken: 70 - Assistance, other.

If the situation warrants transport to an urgent care facility or Emergency Department, then the FD can escalate the incident type to 321 – EMS Call