What are the strengths of your area?:

Academic Quality: The quality of the program is ensured by The National EMS Core Content. This document is published by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Health Resources and Services Administration that promotes universal knowledge and skills for EMS personnel. California Code of Regulations, Title 22 dictates the EMT-B Scope of Practice, and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s National EMS Education Standards outline the minimum terminal objectives for entry-level EMS personnel. All equipment used in the program is up-to-date equipment currently being used on emergency ambulance. This equipment is supplied by American Ambulance of Visalia. All instructors are approved by the Central California Emergency Services Agency (CCEMSA).

Student success (instructional areas): Student success is measured in two ways. One, by the overall pass rate of the students registered in the class. Secondly, success is also measured by those students who take and pass the National Registry examination. During the academic year 2013-2014, the EMT program had a total of 60 students. Of these 60 students, 30 failed the course. Reasons for failure were attributed to academic failure (17) and failure due to lack of attendance (13) or a combination of both. A total of 18 students did not show-up for the final examination. A total of 26 students went on to take the National Registry Exam. 13 out of the 26 (50%) passed on the first attempt.

What improvements are needed?:

An improvement needed is to develop an evaluation process for student satisfaction of the EMT program. This would help to determine satisfaction with classroom instruction, clinical instruction, textbooks, and EMS equipment. It would also be beneficial to know the reasons why the student is taking the course (for firefighter prerequisite, to work as an EMT, to advance as a paramedic) Need to improve success rates which are at 47% by implementing EMT admission standards and exploring other methods of student support.

Describe any external opportunities or challenges.: At one point, the Emergency Department at Kaweah Delta Medical Center was used to satisfy observation hours. Due to the requirements of the hospital (immunizations, background checks, hospital orientation) It has become too involved for students. Also, the cost of the background check is prohibitive to some.

Overall Outcome Achievement: Of the four outcomes assessed, 1 out of the 4 outcomes met the goals. Due to the wording of the goals requiring 100% of the students being proficient in all outcomes, the goals were unable to be met because they were unrealistic. Outcomes measured skills return demonstration, legal/ethical questions, assess of signs and symptom of illness/trauma, and skills testing in real-life scenarios.

Changes based on outcome achievement: Goals revised to state that 75% of the class will be 100% successful in each outcome.

Action: Increase success rate

Increase success rate of the class by 25%. As reported in the strengths of the program, pass rate overall was low. This will increase during school year 2014-2015.


Start Date: 08/11/2014

Completion Date: 05/11/2015

Status: New Action

Identify related course/program outcomes: All 4 course outcomes currently listed in tracdat.-Given skills practice and lecture content, students will be able to provide emergent and non-emergent care, by return demonstration of all emt-B skills. Given lecture content, students will be able to assess and identify signs and symptoms of illness and/or traumatic injury by multiple choice tests.

Outcome # 3 Given skills lab practice with actual equipment and real-life sceneries, students will be able to implement appropriate emergency care procedures to...
Outcome # 4 Given lecture on legal and ethical practices, students will be able to identify the legal and ethical ramifications of the care provided by multiple choice test

Person(s) Responsible (Name and Position): Dennis Lukehart

Rationale (With supporting data):
- Priority: High
- Safety Issue: No
- External Mandate: No

Currently, 50% of students passed the course.