

A photograph of several white Seneca County EMS ambulances parked in a row on a grassy area. The ambulances have blue and white stripes and emergency lights on top. The background shows trees and a cloudy sky. The text 'Seneca County EMS' is overlaid in large white letters across the center of the image.

Seneca County EMS

We are better when we work together

Common Ground

- Provide the citizens of Seneca County with a professional EMS service at the most reasonable cost. Our goal is to respond to all 911 EMS calls for service within 10 minutes in all districts covered by Seneca County EMS.
- Volunteerism is on the decline (2014: 140 volunteers; 2021: 75 volunteers, with 54 going on at least two runs).
- We don't currently have the financial resources for a full-time, four-squad or three-squad system.
- Each ambulance district is in a different position (\$, volunteers, call volume, population).
- We all want to find a solution with the least amount of drama.
- **Do we have alignment?**

What we know

- Financial resources are available that could potentially be used more efficiently (\$1.2 million in carryover entering 2021, \$829k in projected 2021 revenue for the five JADs. Adams, Pleasant and Green Springs also bring in about \$322,000 annually).
- Federal funding through the American Rescue Plan could accelerate our timeline.
- The county and the joint ambulance districts have a contract with specific stipulations.
- We all have invested significant dollars in this system, but have been saved millions by the blood, sweat and tears of our volunteers.
- Out-of-service times have generally increased as we face new obstacles.

Joint Ambulance District Financials

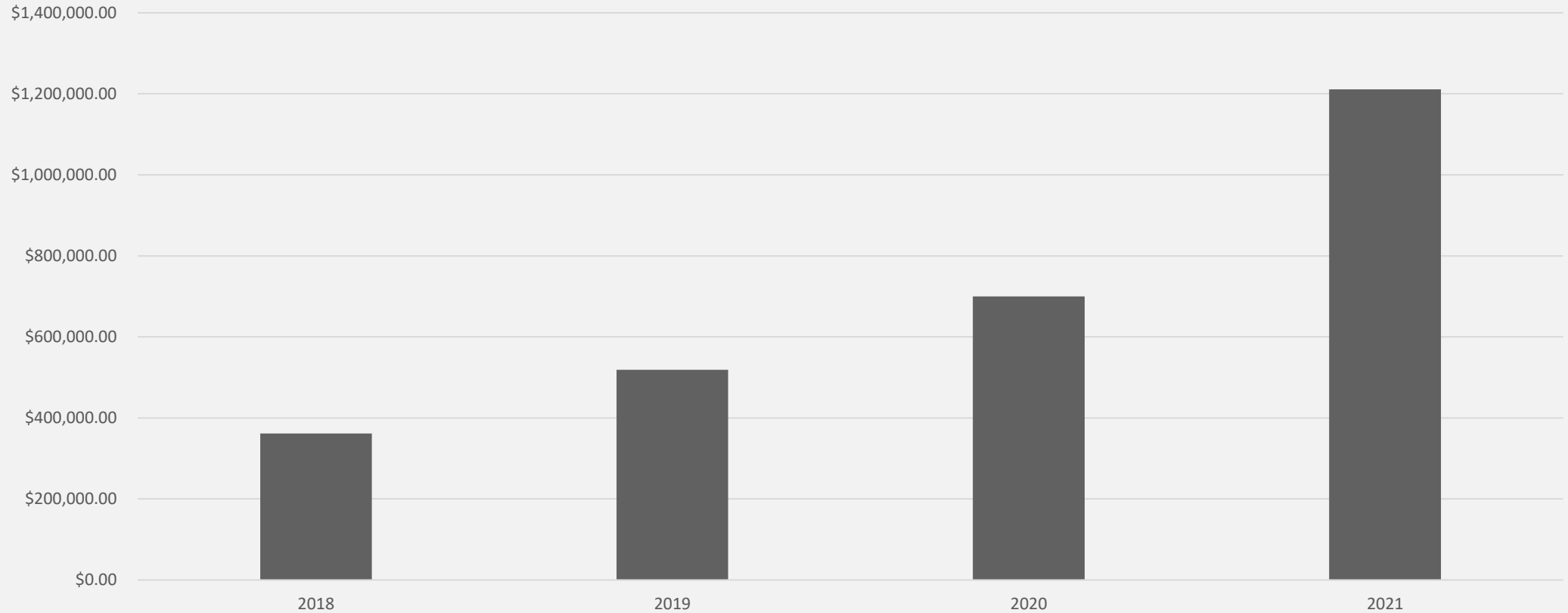
Year	Carryover on Jan. 1	Total Revenue	Implied Expenses
2018	\$361,697.64	\$599,825.55	\$442,472.39
2019	\$519,050.80	\$615,749.12	\$435,160.68
2020	\$699,639.24	\$971,767.94	\$460,440.08
2021	\$1,210,967.10	\$829,537.40	

** Data provided by the Seneca County Auditor's Office (18, 19 & 21 revenue are projected figures)*

*** Adams, Pleasant and Green Springs additionally generate about \$322,000 annually*

Joint Ambulance District carryover

Carryover on Jan. 1



Seneca County investment in EMS

Year	Funding
2018	\$536,860.28
2019	\$520,113.15
2020	\$735,536.65
2021 (budget)	\$1,255,846.00

Contractual agreement with JADs

- County: funds and provides a medical director, administration, ambulances, communications equipment, medical equipment, and supplies and training.
- County: handles billing, collections and data reporting.
- JAD: must provide, to the best of its ability, a “two (2) person certified crew 24 hours per day with necessary backup and support personnel with adequate facilities to house a 2-person crew if applicable.”

2020/21 out-of-service numbers

- **Volunteers are in decline.** 2014: 140 volunteers; 2021: 75 volunteers, with 54 going on at least two runs and only 37 averaging more than one run per month. A small group of folks is going on most of the runs, making the system fragile.
- OOS Figures may be misleading due to the use of EMRs to stay in-service, among other factors. We will begin to publicize these.
- We know the cost for two volunteer positions at \$3.50 an hour, 24/7/365 is about \$61,320. (Some pay different rates).
- Numbers are getting worse in 2021 due to the passage of Ohio HB 444, among other challenges. Could be counteracted by paid crews.

SQUAD	2020	2021
Bloomville	0.4%	6.4%
Republic	1.3%	10.0%
Attica	58.9%	92.7%
Bettsville	69.3%	85.5%
Bascom	1.9%	23.0%
NBS	3.5%	5.1%

***** 2021 figures are through Aug. 2**

Revisiting our history

- We have the opportunity to do something special and we owe it to our citizens to try our best.
- Zoom meetings have been a challenge, but we are proud to have all these people in one room ... we have much in common and believe our interests are aligned.
- We owe a major debt of gratitude to the volunteers who have made this system such a success over the past 40+ years.

Potential solutions

- Emergency Services Director Ken Majors has laid out several potential solutions, but we must determine what makes the most sense and what we can feasibly afford.
- **4-squad model:** four full-time squads placed strategically across the county. Cost: ~ \$3.2 million
- **3-squad model:** three full-time squads placed strategically across the county. Cost: ~ \$2.5 million
- Any system would continue to utilize volunteers.
- If one joint ambulance district was formed (without Tiffin, Fostoria and Clinton Township), a 3-mill levy would generate \$2.7 million annually.

Our vision, a path forward

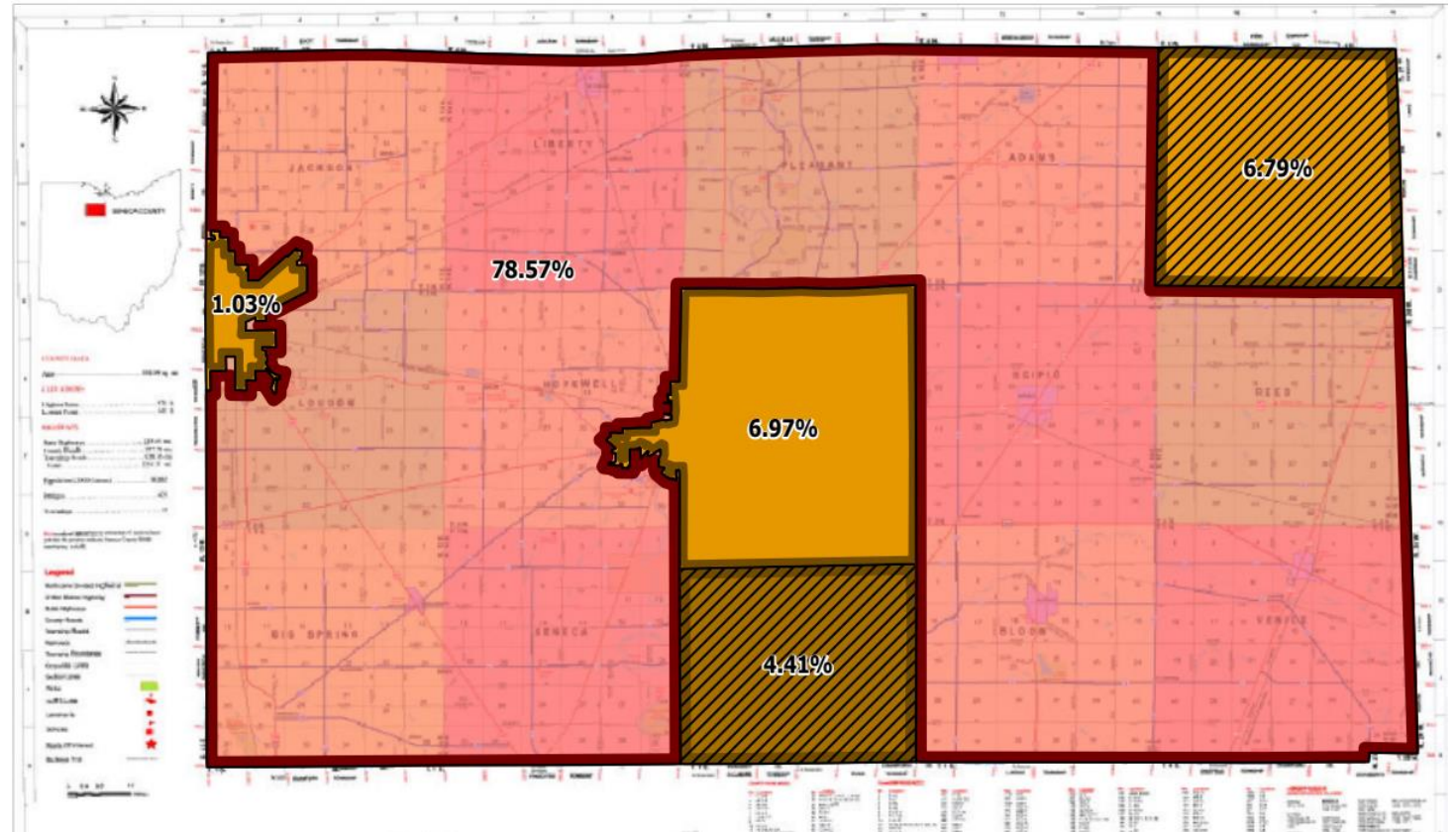
- Right now, we have a system that relies heavily on volunteers who are augmented by paid personnel. **In the long-term, we need to work toward a full-time system that is supplemented by volunteers.**
- There are several strategies we can use operationally to bridge the gap as we move toward our long-term goal.
- We can use existing resources to do a better job today than we did yesterday.

Improving our partnership

- The relationship between the county and the JADs/townships/villages has not been perfect, but our future will be defined by how well we can come together now.
- We cannot change the past, but we need YOU to make this work. Our conversations should center around our common interests: **to leverage existing resources to provide the best service possible to those who need it in our community. We must build off our previous successes to create a self-sustaining system.**
- We have invested millions and will continue to invest more if we know we have good partners in the JADs, who are willing to fully maximize non-discretionary, EMS levy funds.
- We are all part of Seneca County EMS.

Challenges and obstacles to face

- More than 78 percent of land to cover within the county, with a fraction of the population.
- A lower run volume, leading to less revenue to help offset costs.
- Our goal is to get to patients within 10 minutes.



Resources we have available

- The county has more than \$1.2 million budgeted for 2021.
- The JADs are expected to generate about \$829,000 in 2021.
- The JADs entered 2021 with a combined carryover of about \$1.2 million.
- Green Springs and Adams and Pleasant townships are expected to generate about \$322,000 in 2021.
- The county has received about \$10.7 million through the American Rescue Plan, while other political entities in the county also have significant funding through the program.
- **In total, there is more than \$1 million of annual levy funding available that must be used for EMS.**

What's next?

- Do we have common ground and interests that are aligned?
- We have considered our financial and operational landscape, revisited our history and considered potential solutions. We know how important it is to strengthen our partnership.
- **How do we do it? What are the next actionable steps that we can take?**