

The Value of a Regional Medical Operations Center (RMOC)

Eric Epley, Executive Director
Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma
San Antonio, TX

MEDCOM (Day to Day Operations)

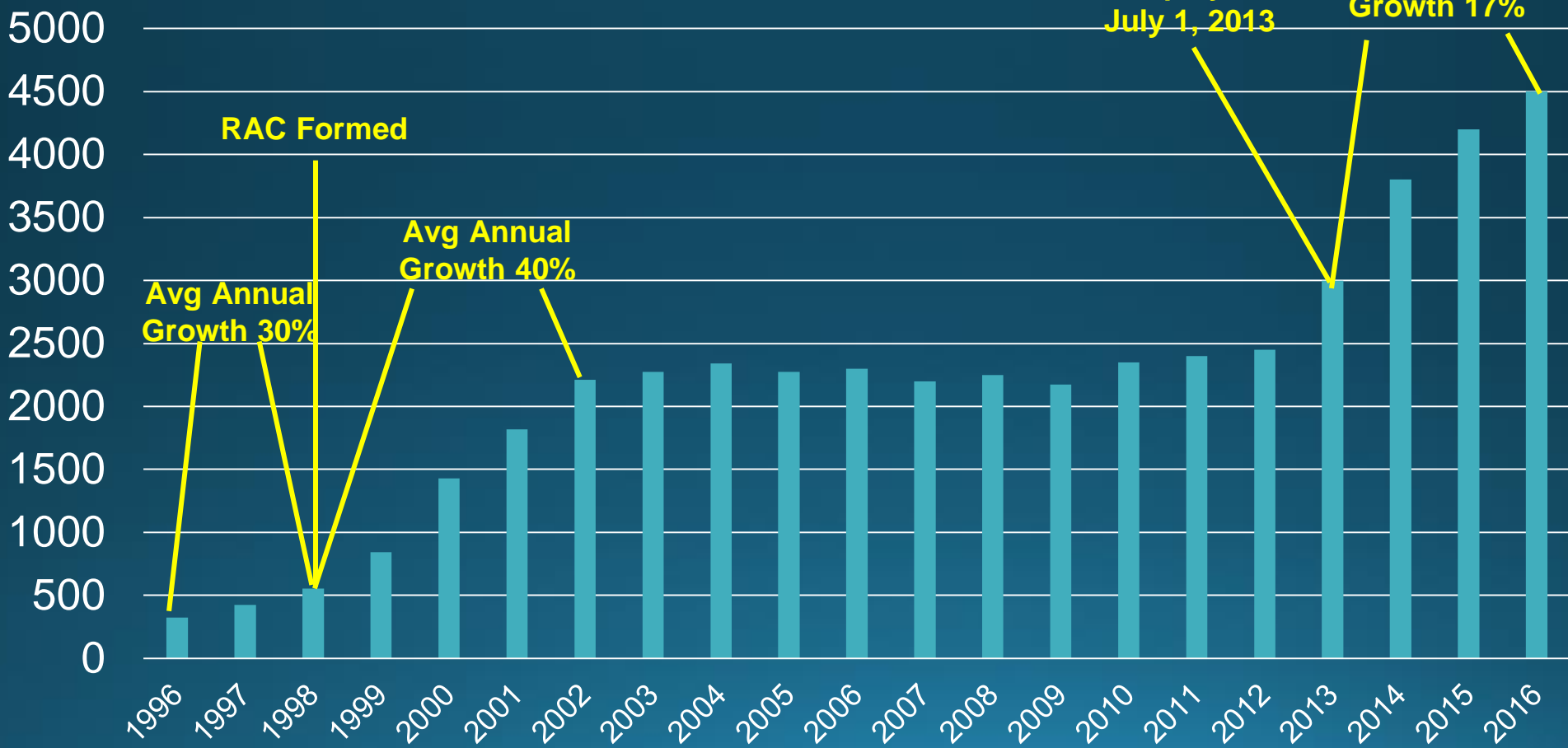
Agreement to always accept trauma transfers between & among:

- University Hospital
- Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC)
- Wilford Hall Medical Center (WHMC)

” No trauma patient will ever be stranded again”

MEDCOM Requests for Transfer 1996-2016

Requests



Cooperation + Competition = “Coopetition”



MEDCOM and MCI Incidents

- Real-time bed status at Trauma Centers and other Emerg Depts
- Patient Navigation and Tracking for EMS and Air Medical
- Activation of Regional Mutual Aid



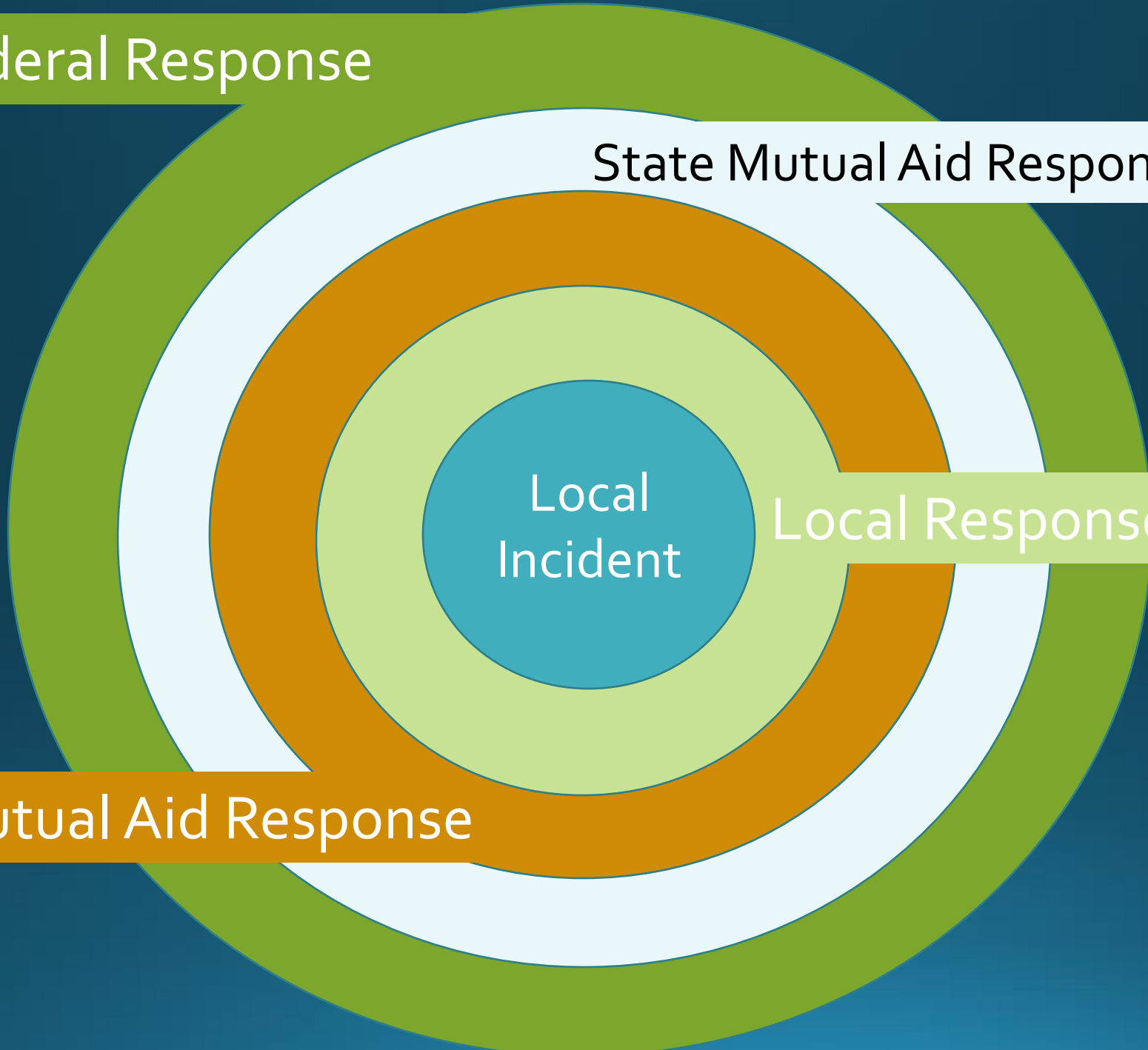
Federal Response

State Mutual Aid Response

Local Incident

Local Response

Mutual Aid Response



Regional Medical Operations Center – San Antonio (RMOC-SA)

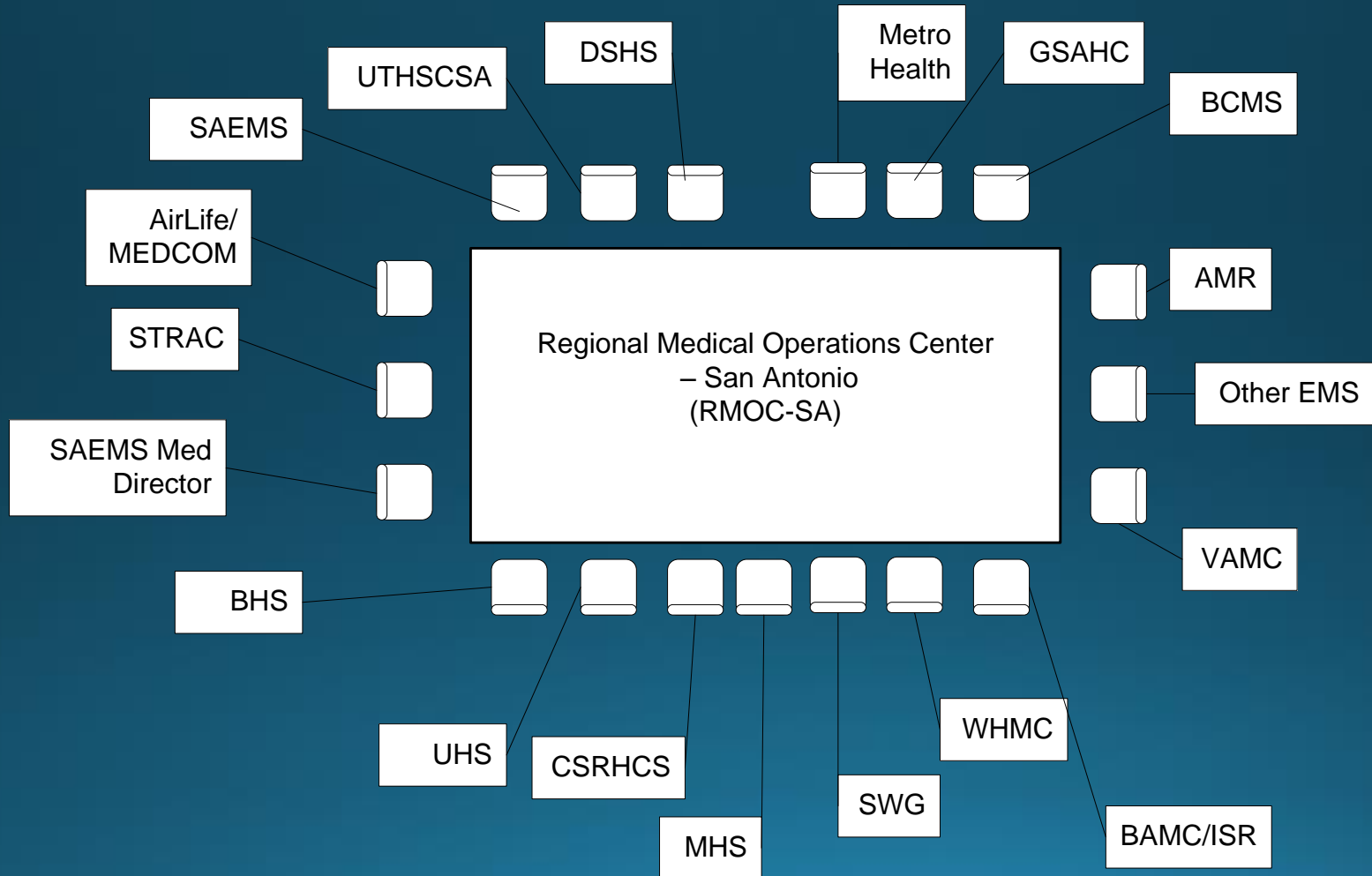
- “EOC” for Medical issues (ESF-8), for EOC/DDC
- Fosters rapid consensus development among health professionals
- Allows needs and capabilities to be matched and addressed quickly



Regional Medical Operations Center – San Antonio (RMOC-SA)

- Responsible for:
 - Coordination of patient distribution (including co-horting)
 - EMS disaster response/coordination
 - Workforce/Equipment sharing
 - Evaluation of capacity/capability
 - Contribute to development of medical portion of media releases
 - Informs EOC of status changes and needs of healthcare/public health response

RMOC-SA Participants



RMOC Implementation Leads to Improved:

- Coordination between agencies and stakeholder
- Communication between agencies and facilities
- Distribution of resources
- Understanding of local need
- Information sharing
- Patient tracking

Regional Medical Operations Center – Katrina/Rita response

- Hospitals and Shelters
 - Patients (108 planes/36 hrs, 98 FEMA, 10 NDMS)
 - Acute hospitalized patients -- 535 patients
 - Special needs patients/evacuees -- 1,500 patients
 - Non-medical evacuees -- 25,000
 - Equitable and efficient distribution to hospitals



Questions?

**Eric Epley, Executive Director
Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma
San Antonio, TX**

@eepley

eric.epley@strac.org