

Certified Retirement Community Community Assessment

Tab 2-G Emergency Medical Services

The City of West Columbia, Texas is proudly served with Emergency Medical Service by **Central Emergency Medical Service, Inc.** Central EMS is a 501 (C)(3) non-profit corporation founded in 1979 by a group of volunteers who saw a need for quality ambulance service to the community. Over the thirty years of service to the community, Central EMS has become a leader in the emergency medical service in Brazoria County, as well as the state of Texas. The leadership of Central EMS is active in state and regional organizations designed to promote quality patient care. These organizations include Brazoria County EMS Director's Association, Brazoria County Fire Fighters Association, East Texas Gulf Coast Regional Trauma Advisory Council and the Texas Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council. In addition, Central EMS has partnered with the Brazoria County Health Department, the Emergency Management officials of both the City of West Columbia and Brazoria County, so as to develop and implement emergency action plans to ensure the safety and welfare of the citizens we serve during catastrophic events.

The emergency medical needs of the City of West Columbia and the approximate 450 square miles of unincorporated county area surrounding are addressed with **three Mobil Intensive Care Units**, all staffed with paramedics and EMTs who are highly trained and respected as true professional healthcare providers, licensed and certified by the Texas Department of State Health Services. **The service is available twenty four hours per day, seven days per week to meet the needs of the community.**

Patients are transported to local hospitals within a 35 mile radius of the city, to include **three Level IV Trauma Centers and two Level III Trauma Centers**, as certified by the Texas Department of State Health Services. In the event that a patient's needs cannot be met by the local facilities, patients are transported by air medical helicopter to the Texas Medical Center by **Hermann Life Flight**, one of the first and most respected air medical providers in the nation. **PHI Air Medical** is also available in the event that Hermann Life Flight cannot respond as quickly as the patient's condition may warrant.

Central EMS holds a Mutual Aid agreement with other regional EMS agencies as well as with the Texas Department of State Health Services so as to ensure that the citizens of Brazoria County and the State of Texas have access to emergency medical service in the event of disasters and mass casualty events.

As a founding member of the East Texas Gulf Coast Regional Trauma Area Council (RAC-R), Central EMS takes pride in the latest project acquired by the nine county upper Texas Gulf Coast region. With the use of Federal Bioterrorism and State Tobacco funds, the council has dedicated 1.5 million dollars toward the purchase of a mobile medical system. The **Regional Alternate Care Site (RACS)** is a state of the art, self contained - 5,000 sq ft climate controlled, 48 bed rapidly deployable Medical Facility and is designed to provide temporary critical care and a safe haven to victims of mass casualty and/or disasters. The system is complete with two 36 foot gooseneck trailers, as well as one 54 foot 18 wheeled trailer, each of which is equipped with satellite internet, television and phone capabilities to provide on site command centers, once the medical tents and equipment have been unloaded. The project is overseen by the Disaster Preparedness and hospital committees of RAC-R. The 501 (c)(3) organization will continue to build upon the project with future state and federal funding as well as donations from corporate and community sponsors.

Three Level IV Trauma centers are located in Brazoria County:



Sweeny Community Hospital- 11 miles from West Columbia
305 N. McKinney, Sweeny, TX 77480 - Phone: 979-548-1500

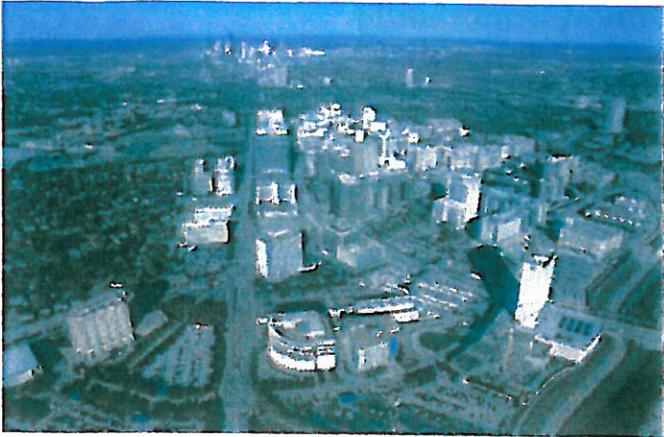


Angleton Danbury Medical Center- 18 miles from West Columbia.
123 E. Hospital Dr, Angleton, TX 77515 – Phone: 979-849-7721



Brazosport Regional Health System- 20 miles from West Columbia
100 Medical Dr, Lake Jackson, TX 77566 – Phone 979-297-4411

All three facilities are equipped with state of the art equipment and highly trained doctors and nurses so as to provide stabilization of stroke, heart attacks and other medical emergencies.



In addition, the **Texas Medical Center** is less than an hour's drive from the city, providing world renowned healthcare options to our citizens.