

**APPROVED**  
**01.13.25**



# GEORGIA TRAUMA COMMISSION

## Georgia Trauma Commission Finance & Budget Committee

October 21, 2024

Meeting Minutes

[Meeting Documents Link](#)

Zoom Meeting

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT	COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT
Dr. Regina Medeiros, Chair, GTC Secretary/Treasurer	Pete Quinones, GTC Member
Dr. Dennis Ashley, GTC Chair	Dr. James Dunne, GTC Vice-Chair
Courtney Terwilliger, GTC Member	
Jesse Gibson, Northeast Georgia Medical Center	

OTHERS PRESENT	REPRESENTING
Elizabeth Atkins	GTC, Executive Director
Katie Vaughan	GTC, Finance Operations Officer
Gabriela Saye	GTC, Business Operations Mgr
Becca Hallum	Georgia Hospital Association

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting began at 3:30 PM on Monday, October 21, 2024, with two committee members present. Due to a lack of quorum, Dr. Medeiros deferred the approval of meeting minutes until a quorum was established.

### **PROJECTS FOR FOUNDATION FUNDING**

*Presented by Regina Medeiros*

Dr. Medeiros and Dr. Ashley reviewed the projects for funding consideration discussed during the previous Committee meeting.

**Note:** *Jesse Gibson joined the meeting at 3:43 PM, and Courtney joined the meeting at 3:49 PM, establishing a quorum.*

The following projects were reviewed:

1. **Statewide Pre-hospital Blood Program (ATTACHMENT A):**

Dr. Medeiros reviewed the project to standardize the transportation and delivery of blood in pre-hospital settings. As this practice is becoming more widespread across different regions, including Regions 2, 3, and 10, there is a need to establish a foundation for storing and delivering blood.

The Committee discussed the importance of ensuring blood quality through specialized equipment. Jesse Gibson emphasized the recent GEMSA conference highlighted the widespread interest in pre-hospital blood programs, noting challenges in startup costs. Dr. Ashley expressed strong support for the project.

The logistics and cost of equipment were discussed. Dr. Medeiros proposed that further research be conducted on the overall budget requirements. It was noted that outfitting every ambulance with blood storage capabilities might not be feasible. The Committee proposed focusing on supervisor trucks or mutual aid agreements to ensure adequate coverage. Courtney Terwilliger mentioned that drones and rescue stops, used in Montana, could be explored as innovative solutions for delivering blood to prehospital settings.

Dr. Medeiros proposed collaborating with Kyle Gibson in Region 2 to gather more information on the cost estimates and operational logistics of pre-hospital blood delivery. A more comprehensive cost analysis will be prepared for the November Commission meeting. Courtney Terwilliger suggested including Crystal Shelnutt in the discussion.

**2. Mobile Simulation Lab (ATTACHMENT B):**

The group reviewed the project involving a mobile simulation lab to support training efforts across regions. Courtney Terwilliger highlighted the importance of this initiative and shared insights from a similar project in Wisconsin. He mentioned that operational costs, such as staffing and transportation, must be considered once the equipment is purchased. Dr. Medeiros added this project also aligns with the Foundation's goals and would significantly enhance training capabilities.

**3. Stop the Bleed Kit Program (ATTACHMENT C):**

Dr. Ashley reviewed the proposal estimate. Dr. Medeiros shared that the project is well-structured and has clear budget figures. The initiative has tangible benefits, and the costs are easy to quantify.

Dr. Medeiros proposed the three projects be presented to the full Commission for consideration and ranking. The Commission would then forward the ranked projects to the Foundation to assess the feasibility of raising funds.

Dr. Medeiros considered having Crystal Shelnutt, who had done most of the preparatory work and was the subject matter expert, present the projects and answer any detailed questions from the Commission.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

*Presented by Dr. Regina Medeiros*

With a quorum established, Dr. Medeiros requested a motion to approve the September meeting minutes.

**MOTION GTCNC BUDGET COMMITTEE 2024-10-01:**

**Motion to approve the September 20, 2024, meeting minutes as submitted**

**MOTION BY:** Courtney Terwilliger

**SECOND BY:** Jesse Gibson

**VOTING:** All members are in favor of the motion.

**ACTION:** The motion **PASSED** with no objections nor abstentions.

**FY2026 TRAUMA CENTER REGISTRY SUPPORT LANGUAGE REVISION**

*Presented by Katie Vaughan*

Katie Vaughn reported the updated language regarding registry funding eligibility has not yet been approved by the Attorney General's (AG) office (**ATTACHMENT D**). The revision will allow centers

pursuing initial or re-verification to be evaluated annually for funding eligibility rather than limiting support to two years. Dr. Medeiros stated that if the AG's office has concerns, the revision will be returned to the Committee for review.

Liz Atkins raised concerns regarding the ongoing financial support for trauma centers pursuing initial or re-verification. It was noted that there are centers actively pursuing re-verification and that support would continue on a need basis, as discussed in previous meetings. Katie advised that she could create a Smartsheet tracking system for centers pursuing re-verification. Liz suggested including the number of years of registry funding support to date.

### **GEORGIA TRAUMA FOUNDATION ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN REQUEST**

*Presented by Dr. Regina Medeiros*

The Georgia Trauma Foundation's request for funding a public awareness campaign was reviewed (**ATTACHMENT E**). The proposal outlined a \$154,000 total cost, with a \$75,000 request for support.

Questions arose regarding why Atlanta was not included in the initial campaign. Dr. Medeiros and Liz Atkins speculated that it might be due to the high costs associated with advertising in that market. The Committee requested clarification about the strategy for location selection and whether Atlanta could be included in future phases. Katie confirmed that contingency funds are available for the funding support request.

#### **MOTION GTCNC BUDGET COMMITTEE 2024-10-02:**

**Motion to approve the \$75,000 funding support for Phase 1 of the Georgia Trauma Foundation Advertising Campaign**

**MOTION BY:** Regina Medeiros

**SECOND BY:** Jesse Gibson

**VOTING:** All members are in favor of the motion.

**ACTION:** The motion **PASSED** with no objections nor abstentions.

After asking Cheryle Ward, Dr. Medeiros clarified that the campaign starts with regions where the Foundation has a strong presence and will eventually expand to Atlanta.

**Note:** *Jesse Gibson and Dr. Dennis Ashley left the meeting at 4:30 PM; Quorum was lost for the next agenda items*

### **SENATOR BURKE EMANUEL PURCHASE ORDER**

*Presented by Liz Atkins*

Liz Atkins brought up the aging Purchase Order (PO) from FY2021, indicating the remaining balance was at risk due to possible state budget constraints. A proposal was discussed to move forward with the expenditure of these funds in support of the Emanuel Medical Center readiness and IRR funding support.

Courtney Terwilliger proposed using the funds to purchase Trauma SimMan's, placing one within each region to facilitate training. Liz supported the idea, suggesting it would enhance training capabilities. Discussion arose regarding the logistics, housing, and equipment tracking once purchased. Liz expressed concerns based on past experiences with equipment management and personnel turnover. Liz proposed discussing a plan with Courtney offline to bring forward to the full Commission. Courtney suggested including Crystal Shelnutt in the plan discussion.

## **SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS & ADJOURNMENT**

- Committee members discussed the projects for Georgia Trauma Foundation funding:
  - Statewide Pre-hospital Blood Program (**ATTACHMENT A**):
    - Dr. Medeiros proposed collaborating with Kyle Gibson in Region 2 to gather more information on the cost estimates and operational logistics of pre-hospital blood delivery. A more comprehensive cost analysis will be prepared for the November Commission meeting. Courtney Terwilliger suggested including Crystal Shelnutt in the discussion.
  - Mobile Simulation Lab (**ATTACHMENT B**):
  - Stop the Bleed Kit Program (**ATTACHMENT C**):
- Dr. Medeiros proposed the three projects be presented to the full Commission for consideration and ranking. The Commission would then forward the ranked projects to the Foundation to assess the feasibility of raising funds.
- Dr. Medeiros considered having Crystal Shelnutt, who had done most of the preparatory work and was the subject matter expert, present the projects and answer any detailed questions from the Commission.
- Committee members briefly reviewed the updated language regarding registry funding eligibility (**ATTACHMENT D**); the Attorney General's (AG) office has not yet approved it.
- Katie advised that she could create a Smartsheet tracking system for centers pursuing re-verification. Liz suggested including the number of years of registry funding support to date.
- Committee members reviewed and approved the \$75,000 funding support for Phase 1 of the Georgia Trauma Foundation Advertising Campaign (**ATTACHMENT E**).
- Liz proposed discussing a plan with Courtney offline to bring forward to the full Commission for the remaining Senator Burke Emanuel Medical Center Purchase Order. Courtney suggested including Crystal Shelnutt in the plan discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 4:43 PM

Minutes by G. Saye.