

To the Select Board of Bristol, VT,

As you are aware over the past three years Bristol Rescue and our members have been on the front line of the response to the COVID pandemic and an increasing volume of calls related to everything from medical emergencies, traumatic events and behavioral emergencies.

As you determine the best use of the ARPA funding being provided to the Town of Bristol, we would like to request that you consider assisting Bristol Rescue through this current crisis, and to prepare for the next, by allocating \$130,000 to the support of the following critical initiatives that need to be completed over the coming years:

Ambulance: Bristol Rescue Squad would also like to request \$95,000 towards the purchase and outfitting of a new ambulance to offset the discontinuation of an older model ambulance and to take the strain off the two primary ambulances that we are regularly running on emergencies.

Training: A wide variety of complex emergencies have left Bristol Rescue in need of updated training equipment. We are looking for \$35,000 to cover the cost of a simulation mannequin and a simulated cardiac monitor, along with supporting equipment.

These purchases will play a significant role in assisting BRS in continuing the high-quality care that Bristol Rescue Squad has set for our providers. These purchases also will also aid in the growth and response of healthcare emergencies in the prehospital medical field.

While Bristol Rescue has a line in our budget for training, these funds are the only funds for funding initial training for new EMS practitioners and for elevating the licensure of current practitioners. We are also seeking to budget for a new ambulance; however, the cost of staffing, education, supplies and fuel have typically left us struggling with covering future costs.

Respectfully,

William D. Elwell, NRAEMT

Chief, Bristol Rescue Squad

Maria Bedell, NREMT

President, Bristol Rescue Squad