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medical director for pediatrics at MIEMSS from 2000 until his retirement in December 2017, and as a member of the Statewide EMS Advisory Council from 1995 to 2014, having been the first pediatrician selected to serve on this council.

As chair of Pediatric Emergency Medicine and director of the Pediatric Emergency Department at Johns Hopkins Children Center, Dr. Walker was instrumental in the hospital’s transition to a Pediatric Base Station, enabling emergency responders immediate access to pediatric emergency medicine attending physicians. He was also a member of the leadership team that developed into the Hopkins Outreach in Pediatric Education initiative, an innovative outreach program that travels to rural areas of Maryland ensuring that the newest clinical challenges in pediatrics reaches a wide and diverse audience.

Dr. Walker established a liaison between the state Pediatric Emergency Medical Advisory Group (the state’s EMS for Children program committee) and the Maryland American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Pediatric Emergency Medicine. Through his role on the Maryland AAP Education Committee, Dr. Walker was instrumental in developing the first AAP conference focused on emergency medicine, which provided a platform for expert faculty from pediatric specialty centers to share clinical practice guidelines with other pediatric physicians serving rural, suburban, and urban areas throughout Maryland. Dr. Walker was also instrumental in bringing Pediatric Education for Prehospital Providers and the AAP’s Advances in Pediatric Life Support courses to prehospital and hospital workers in Maryland.

In addition to his significant contributions to pediatric emergency medical care, Dr. Walker is a nationally recognized expert in child victimization, and has worked closely with the child protective services and judicial branches of Maryland’s cities and counties to protect children and youth, advocate for their safety, and educate both primary and emergency care providers.

Right Care When It Counts Awards

This year, seven young Marylanders each received a Right Care When It Counts award for providing assistance to others in need during an emergency.

On February 23, 2017, Timothy Saunders (TJ) (aged 16), Matthew Saunders (aged 14), Ava Hittle (aged 9), Emma Hittle (aged 12), and Tyler Allnutt (aged 15) were playing with their friend Justin when he was accidentally hit in the chest with a high-speed lacrosse ball. Justin collapsed and was unresponsive. TJ called 9-1-1 and Emma called Justin’s father, who promptly alerted two adult neighbors to see if they could help. Matthew gave support to Ava, comforting and shielding her from the incident. Upon arrival, the neighbors began CPR while awaiting EMS while Tyler stayed with Justin and shared important details of the incident with the two adult neighbors.

EMS arrived seven minutes after TJ’s call and took control of the scene. Justin was defibrillated once in the field and intubated, and then transported to Bayview Medical Center via ambulance. He was later transferred to Johns Hopkins Hospital Pediatric Intensive Care Unit with a diagnosis of commotio cordis, a disruption of the cardiac rhythm that is often fatal, as well as complications following CPR. But Justin was discharged to home fully-recovered after ten days in the hospital. These youths were honored for their swift actions during this life-threatening event; they acted promptly to alert EMS and adults to get emergency medical care for Justin, saving his life.

Madison Aierstock (aged 10) and her mother were out walking their dog when a loose dog attacked them. Putting herself in harm’s way, Madison’s mother was viciously attacked and bitten. Madison immediately called 9-1-1 for assistance. Her mother had

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Not Pictured:

Valerie Kramer, Maryland EMS Citizen Award

Allen R. Walker, MD, MBA, FAAP, Maryland EMS for Children Award

Madison Aierstock, Right Care When It Counts Award

Team members of Frederick County Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) Care Program, one of the newest MIH programs in Maryland, accept an Executive Director’s Award for Excellence in EMS.

The Baltimore City Fire Department’s Leadership Team members receive a MIEMSS Executive Director’s Award for Excellence in EMS for Baltimore City’s Mobile Integrated Health Program.

From left, Senator Stephen S. Hershey, Jr., Maryland Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford, Senator Thomas “Mac” Middleton, Director of Dorchester County Department of Emergency Services Anna Sierra, and EMS Board Chair Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. Senators Hershey and Middleton were honored for their work addressing a critical need for mobile integrated health program funding at the state level. Anna Sierra was recognized for her leadership and advocacy on behalf of mobile integrated health in Maryland.