For All Emergency Medical Clinicians

Vol. 48 No. 6 September 2022

National Night Out – Working Together for Safer Communities

COMMUNITIES ACROSS MARYLAND

and throughout the Nation celebrated National Night Out on Tuesday, August 2, 2022. Since 1984, local communities have been observing National Night Out on the first Tuesday of August to promote positive police-community partnerships and neighborhood comradery to make all neighborhoods safer places to live. Safety advocates have embraced National Night Out events as a way to support local communities and law enforcement while spreading safety messages and doing their part to share injury prevention education.

Through the EMS for Children's Bike Safety Project, MIEMSS has supported a network of bike safety advocates across the state. Now in the grants sixth year, the project supports existing Safe Kids Coalitions and Community Partners as well as other safety advocates such as hospitals, Trauma Centers, EMS, and fire departments. Many of the grant participants attended NNO in their own and surrounding communities, spreading bike safety messages, and in some cases, distributing helmets.

UPMC Western Maryland Trauma Center and the Cumberland Fire Department participated in National Night Out Cumberland. They pro-



UPMC Western Maryland Trauma Center and the Cumberland Fire Department participated in National Night Out Cumberland. They provided free bicycle helmets, accessories, and safety materials along with complimentary fitting services.

vided free bicycle helmets, accessories, and safety materials along with complimentary fitting services. Trauma Roo was also available to draw children to the Helmet Fitting Station. Four staff members fitted 120 helmets throughout the evening.

Tidal Health participated in the Salisbury Maryland National Night Out. They distributed bike helmets to attendees who received free bikes from local law enforcement - a total of 88 helmets. Safety information distributed included Be Seen Be Safe magnets, information on concussions, and helmet fitting. Trauma Roo also made an appearance to help support bike helmet safety.

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EMS News Digest

- **■** Carroll County Receives Federal Grant to Purchase New Radios for EMS, Firefighters (Journal of Emergency Medical Services). Carroll County's firefighters and emergency medical services staff will soon be outfitted with new two-way radios for improved communications, thanks largely to a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, according to a county news release. A FEMA grant of \$797,227 is anticipated to cover 90% of the costs associated with the equipment, with Carroll County government responsible for a 10% match of \$79,723. Read more here: https://bit. ly/3LUgma8.
- On the Ground in Puerto Rico with Maryland's Task Force 1 (EMS1). A 35-member FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Task Force from Maryland was dispatched to Puerto Rico in the wake of Hurricane Fiona. Comprised of specialty rescue technicians, medical professionals, physicians, canines, and canine handlers from Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service (MCFRS), Howard County Fire and Rescue and Rescue

- Services, and Prince George's County Fire Department, will participate in the island's recovery efforts for 10-14 days, according to MCFRS Public Information Officer Pete Piringer. Read more here: https://bit.ly/3SifSg2.
- Maryland Health and Education Officials Urge Parents to Keep COVID Vaccinations on Their Back-to-School Checklist (Maryland Department of Health). With summer vacations ending and schools heading back into session, Maryland Department of Health (MDH) and the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) are urging parents statewide to keep COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters at the top of their back-to-school checklists. "Our children deserve the strongest protection against CO-VID, exactly like they do with other potentially dangerous childhood diseases such as polio and measles," said MDH Deputy Secretary for Public Health Services Dr. Jinlene Chan. "If you have not already done so, please get your children updated on all their required vaccines and
- protect against COVID at the same time as part of your back to school routine this year. We can work together to keep our kids safely learning and growing together." Read more here: https://bit.ly/3LN6puY.
- First 2022 Human Case of West Nile Virus Confirmed in Baltimore Metropolitan Area (Maryland Department of Health). On August 25, the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) announced that an adult living in the Baltimore Metropolitan area had tested positive for the West Nile virus - the first confirmed human case of the virus in Maryland this year. The West Nile virus is transmitted to humans by mosquitoes who have been infected by feeding on birds that have the virus. In rare instances, the virus may be spread from person to person through organ donation, blood transfusion, breastfeeding, or from pregnant mother to fetus. Read more here: https://bit.ly/3BOSAaS.

Submit recent EMS-related news and headlines for consideration to ptandy@miemss.org.

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New Faces at MIEMSS

MIEMSS WELCOMES the following personnel to its dedicated team



HOLLY TREGO has joined MIEMSS as Operations Chief of EMRC/SYS-COM, MIEMSS' statewide communications system comprised of Emergency Medical Resource Center Communications and SYSCOM Helicopter Communications, effective June 15, 2022. In her new role, Trego is primarily responsible for ensuring that EMRC/SYSCOM is fully staffed. She currently manages a team of four EMS Communications Operators and 16 EMS Communications Operator; she assists in both the hiring and training of EMRC Operators as well as the training of SYSCOM Operators.

Trego's extensive experience includes 32 years as an EMT and member of a volunteer fire company, 26 years as a 9-1-1 dispatcher, and 16 years of supervisory experience, including six years leading a quality assurance/improvement

program. Her background as a field clinician and emergency telecommunicator, coupled with her previous supervisory experience, enable Trego to "apply my knowledge and experiences to ensure that our operators continue to be supported in their functions in new and various ways," she explains.

Hailing from a family with deep roots in Fire/EMS, Trego maintains her EMT certification and remains active with her fire company, although her career path has meant fewer and fewer rides. Nevertheless, she always plays a role. "I recently drove the ambulance to our county fair for several nights," she recalls. "One evening, we had a second ambulance standing by with us. I gave them the low-down of the events that night, and a young EMT looked at me and asked, 'You're not going to let us go in there by ourselves, are you?' I simply responded, 'I won't let you go in by yourselves — I have your back."

"I like to think that, in my new role, I have the backs of our EMRC/SYSCOM Operators, and that there isn't anything I would ask them to do if I couldn't do it myself," she adds.

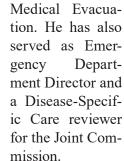
DR. KENNY BARAJAS has joined MIEMSS as Chief of the Office of

Care Integration, effective June 1. 2022. In his new role, Dr. Barajas is responsible for a department that monitors and designates 100 specialty programs in the State of Maryincluding: land. Adult and Pediatric Trauma Centers: Adult and **Pediatric** Burn Centers: Level III and Level IV Perinatal Refer-

ral Centers; Stroke Centers; Cardiac Interventional Centers; and Free Standing Emergency Centers.

Previously, the retired US Army field grade officer and combat vet-

eran has worked in Emergency Departments, Critical Care, and



"I joined MIEMSS to lead a team that can coach and mentor hospitals and specialty teams to elevate the level of care for Marylanders," says Dr.

Barajas. "When it comes to timesensitive, disease-specific care, a skilled, specialized team can play an important role in preventing deaths as well as lifelong disabilities."









The Maryland Resuscitation Academy (RA) is pleased to announce the dates of our Fall 2022 two-day Academy. This course is being offered Tuesday and Wednesday November 29 & 30, 2022 at Howard County's James N. Robey Public Safety Training Center in Marriottsville, MD. The Maryland RA is a two-day, intensive course dedicated to improving survival rates of patients suffering out of hospital cardiac arrest, and is suitable for Medical Directors, Fire/EMS Chiefs, EMS supervisors, EMS personnel of all levels, and hospital staffs across the state of Maryland and surrounding states and regions. Based on the curriculum of the world-renowned Resuscitation Academy in Seattle WA, the Maryland RA is co-sponsored by the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services (HCDFRS), The Maryland Institute of Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS), and the Heart Rescue Project.

Through your attendance, you will increase your understanding of the interventions important to pre-hospital cardiac arrest survival and learn to implement ways to improve survival rates in your own community. The academy features acclaimed faculty who are accomplished in the field of cardiac arrest survival, with a focus on the science of CPR, the importance of time, the importance of measuring performance, the critical role of dispatch, pediatric cardiac arrest, and more. Additionally, the academy includes an extensive, in-depth, practical train-the-trainer session where all class participants will learn and become confident in delivering High Performance CPR. Each participant will also leave with a standardized curriculum (including instructor guide and standardized videos) to begin to teach this practice in your department.

The Academy is held both days from 8:30am–5:00pm and includes a continental breakfast and working lunch. Tuition is complimentary, and generously covered by Academy sponsors. Additional details will be provided following acceptance into the academy.

The deadline to apply is COB Friday, October 28th however registration may be closed sooner if all seats are filled. Go to https://bit.ly/3SDOM2Q for the application form and apply at your earliest convenience. Preference will be given to groups that can send two or more people in leadership, training, and field positions, capable of making system-wide improvements. Organizations outside Maryland are also encouraged to attend. For questions, feel free to email us at careshoward@gmail.com.

The Maryland RA Fall 2022 Two-day Resuscitation Academy





When: Tuesday & Wednesday November 29 & 30, 2022

8:30am-5:00pm

Where: James N. Robey Howard County Public Safety Training Center

2200 Scott Wheeler Drive Marriottsville, Maryland 21104

Who: Medical Directors, EMS supervisors, Fire/EMS Chiefs, EMS personnel of all levels,

and Emergency Department staff across the state of Maryland and surrounding

regions

Through your attendance, you can expect to increase your understanding of the interventions important to pre-hospital cardiac arrest survival and learn to implement ways to track and improve survival rates in your own community.

Topics to be covered:

- Factors that determine cardiac arrest survival
- The science behind CPR and current resuscitation practices
- Best practices from regional EMS agencies
- Maintaining a cardiac arrest registry
- Providing cardiac arrest QA and QI to EMS field providers
- Telephone-assisted Dispatch CPR
- High-performance CPR train-the-trainer practical session
- Pediatric cardiac arrest care

**Tuition is complimentary, and conference costs are generously covered. The deadline to apply is COB Friday, October 28th however registration may be closed sooner if all seats are filled. Go to https://bit.ly/3SDOM2Q for the application form and apply at your earliest convenience. Preference will be given to groups that can send two or more people in leadership, training, and field positions, capable of making system-wide improvements. Organizations outside Maryland are also encouraged to attend. For questions, feel free to email us at careshoward@gmail.com.



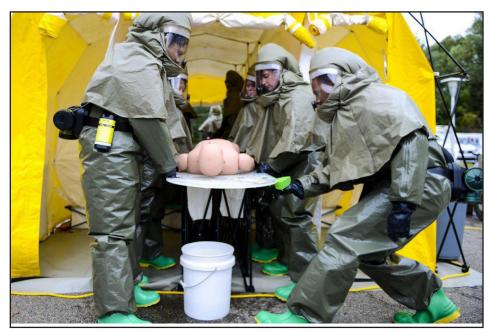


First Receivers Train on Mass Decontamination Operations in the Maryland National-Capital Region

TO PREPARE FOR A POTENTIAL RE-**SPONSE** to individuals exposed to unknown hazardous substances, seven hospitals within the Maryland-National Capital Region participated in a series of First Receiver Operations Training (FROT) course offerings throughout the Spring of 2022. These two-day trainings educated first receivers on the knowledge, skills, and abilities to recognize a hazardous material exposure, triage patients, initiate field treatment, conduct decontamination, and transition patients to definitive care.

On the first day of the FROT training, students engaged in a classroom discussion that focused on identifying various hazardous materials, protecting against potential exposure, and the detailed process of setting up and operating a field decontamination site. The DECON, LLC instructor introduced various types of contaminants used in realworld events, the symptoms associated with different hazard agents, the proper protocols for donning and doffing personal protective equipment (PPE), and discussed the operation of mass decontamination sites.

During the second day of training, students received hands-on instruction and demonstrated their ability to properly configure a field decontamination site and establish hot, warm, and cold zones, while wearing full PPE. Each of these decontamination sites includes an inflatable shelter with running water to augment permanent infrastructure inside healthcare facilities. Students practiced implementing triage



First receivers in the Maryland-National Capital Region treat and decontaminate a simulated patient exposed to an unknown hazardous substance.

These two-day trainings educated first receivers on the knowledge, skills, and abilities to recognize a hazardous material exposure, triage patients, initiate field treatment, conduct decontamination, and transition patients to definitive care.

methodologies, deploying equipment, and facilitating both ambulatory and non-ambulatory patient decontamination practices.

To culminate the training, students completed a capstone exercise on a hazardous waste operations and emergency response (HAZWOPER) scenario. The scenario necessitated that each team demonstrate their ability to sufficiently deploy and staff their field decontamination site within a specified time limit. During the scenario, students demonstrated mastery of their ability to appropriately don their PPE, deploy the mobile decontamination shelter, connect to running water, triage, and treat a simulated patient.

FROT training remains an imperative step to enhance the safety of first receivers while improving their abilities to manage a large-scale decontamination response. This training continues to provide an unparalleled opportunity to conduct hands-on training under real-world conditions that may be called upon to save lives within Prince George's and Montgomery Counties.



Meet the Region II Pediatric EMS Medical Director and Pediatric EMS Champions

MARYLAND'S EMS SYSTEM is comprised 27 EMS operational programs divided into five regions. In this month's article, we will highlight the Region II Pediatric Medical Director (below) and Pediatric EMS Champions (page 8).

ANAND BUDI, MD | REGION II PEDIATRIC MEDICAL DIRECTOR



ANAND BUDI, MD is the Region II Pediatric Medical Director. Additionally, he is also the Medical Director of Hospital Programs for Meritus Medical Center and a physician at Opal Courts Pediatrics.

Dr. Anand Budi was born and raised in India. Dr. Budi attended All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), which is one of the premier medical schools in Southeast Asia. He completed a pediatric residency at both AIIMS as well as the University of Connecticut. Additionally, Dr. Budi completed a fellowship in neonatology in Sydney, Australia.

Growing up, Dr. Budi loved to read superhero comics or books from the Hardy Boys series. To help decompress, he loves to hike and take short walks as well as play cricket, which was one of his favorite games growing up. Dr. Budi is multilingual – speaking English, Hindi, and Telugu.

Dr. Budi is excited to join the Maryland EMS for Children team as he has a passion for ensuring equitable and appropriate pediatric care in the community and wanting to improve communication between EMS, Emergency Departments, and Primary Care. He loves that his career choices allow him to spend time being with children and newborns.

Transporting Children Safely When They Are Not the Patient

 $\sim Pilot\ Project\ Underway\ in\ Maryland \sim$

The safe transport of children in all vehicles is a priority for the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System (MIEMSS), even when an adult, and not the child, is the patient. However, EMS clinicians may find properly buckling up a healthy child and transporting them to a temporary guardian challenging. According to Maryland's Child Passenger Safety

Law, every child under age 8 must ride in an appropriate car seat or booster unless the child is four-feet,



nine-inches (4'9") or taller. Often, EMS and law enforcement agencies do not have the range of seats to accommodate different child sizes and ages in vehicles other than an ambulance.

With the help of a grant from the Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration's (MDOT MVA) Highway Safety Office, MIEMSS' EMS for Children program is conducting a pilot program to address this problem.

"We are always looking to partner with other state agencies to

See PILOT PROJECT page 9

EMILY AUSTILL, NRP

WASHINGTON COUNTY PEDIATRIC EMS CHAMPION

EMILY AUSTILL, NRP is a Pediatric EMS Champion for Washington County. Emily started her healthcare career in emergency/ trauma care before coming to the pre-hospital field. Working in the pre-hospital field has given her flexibility she needs as a mom. Additionally, Emily has been able to be involved with



multiple public education events within Washington County and work closely with the County's Outreach Programs to make sure all kids in Washington County receive the benefits and care that they need.

Emily's favorite time of year is just around the corner as she reveals her favorite holiday is Halloween. She says her family loves fall time and all the

See Austill page 9

MELANIE HIGGINS, NRP

WASHINGTON COUNTY PEDIATRIC EMS CHAMPION



Melanie Higgins, NRP is also a Washington County Pediatric EMS Champion. Melanie serves as the EMS Captain for Quality Assurance/Improvement in the Washington County Division of Emergency Services. In addition, Captain Higgins is a Car Seat Technician and Forensic Investigator with the Office of the

Medical Examiner.

Given all of her experience, it comes as no surprise that Captain Higgins was interested in being a Pediatric EMS Champion. Her goals include increasing the survivability of pediatric medical and traumatic incidents through prevention, training, and pre-hospital care. Additionally, Captain Higgins

See **Higgins** page 9

MARGARET NOWACZYK, NRP

Frederick County Pediatric EMS Champion

MARGARET NOWACZYK, NRP is as a Pediatric EMS Champion for Frederick County. She is a Lieutenant Medic for the Fredrick County Division of Fire and Rescue and serves as the Quality Assurance Officer/ EMS Supervisor fill-in. Lieutenant Nowaczyk shares that she has had an interest in EMS for as long as



she can recall and has been in the fire service for 18 years and a paramedic for 14 years. She has spent 3.5 years in ALS training and education, furthering her passion for teaching. Lieutenant Nowaczyk strongly believes there is always something to learn from any and every clinical experience. She says the best thing about the job is the ability to make a difference

See Nowaczyk page 9

ANNE JOHNIKIN, NRP

Frederick County Pediatric EMS Champion



ANNE JOHNIKIN, NRP is also a Frederick County Pediatric EMS Champion. She serves as the Captain/EMS Education Program Manager for the Fredrick County Division of Fire and Rescue. Her clinical roles include Firefighter/Paramedic and EMS Training-Program Director. Captain Johnikin was drawn

to the medical field from a young age and became an EMT when she was 16. She enjoyed the fast pace and the ability to help people in an atypical environment. Captain Johnikin shares that she came into EMSC after having three children of her own and realizing the value of pediatric education for EMS clinicians. She feels that many clinicians do not come into EMS

See **JOHNIKIN** page 9

Austill...

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fun activities it has to offer. Now that her kids are older, they enjoy the more thrilling activities of Haunted Woods and Haunted Houses. When not at work, Emily loves coaching basketball and simply getting outdoors – which makes sense since as a child she loved to build forts in the woods. She loves to hike and explore State and National Parks.

Given her love of the outdoors, it should come as no surprise that she would love to sit down and talk with Franklin D. Roosevelt over coffee if there was ever an opportunity to do so. Despite all of the hardships FDR lived through, Emily shares that he was inspirational with amazing visions and created beautiful things with the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC).

Nowaczyk...

(Continued from page 8)

through so many venues.

Outside of work, Lieutenant Nowaczyk enjoys spending time with her son and friends, refinishing furniture and gardening/growing plants. She shares that over the years she has received a ton of valuable advice over the years but the best has probably been "your work will speak for itself!" If a time machine was available, Lieutenant Nowaczyk shared she would love to go back in time to see the progression of medicine. And, if superpowers were available, she would love to know how to "read minds" even though she thinks every superpower can have a downfall.

JOHNIKIN...

(Continued from page 8)

with a lot of pediatric experience and that exposure is needed for the high risk/low frequency events.

Summertime is special to Captain Johnikin as her favorite tradition is watching the Fourth of July fireworks at Antietam Battlefield. esides her whole family enjoying the sights, July 4 is extra special as it is her oldest daughter's birthday!

Growing up, Captain Johnikin's favorite board game was Sorry! and she loved doing jigsaw puzzles which she still does to this day for fun outside of work. However, nowadays, Captain Johnikin also enjoys quilting (mainly t-shirt quilts) and playing video games with her kids. Her first job was a waitress at an upscale nursing home serving independent living residents in the facility's three different restaurants.

HIGGINS...

(Continued from page 8)

wants to improve the availability of pediatric training not just to EMS, but also to all fire and police first responders.

As a child, Captain Higgins enjoyed playing capture the flag, doing

gymnastics/tumbling in the yard, juggling any item that could be juggled, and, of course, Atari. Her favorite subjects in school were Math and Science. And, when asked what the best piece of advice she has ever been given, Captain Higgins said "Just Keep Swimming".

PILOT PROJECT...

(Continued from page 7)

help solve the problems our EMS and law enforcement agencies are facing – especially when it involves transporting children," said MDOT MVA Administrator Chrissy Nizer, who also serves as Governor Larry Hogan's Highway Safety Representative. "We encourage everyone to buckle up – every seat, every time – and now we can ensure children are properly secured when being transported in an emergency."

In the pilot program, four EMS agencies were trained to properly use and install the Graco Slim Fit car seat in their supervisors' vehicles, with each agency receiving between three

and five of these all-in-one car seats, designed for use with children from birth through booster seat sizes, to keep and use. The four participating agencies included Allegany County Emergency Services, Calvert County Division of Emergency Services, Ocean City Fire Company, and Washington County Division of Emergency Services. This project was patterned after a successful 2020-21 project between MDOT's Highway Safety Office, Kids in Safety Seats (KISS), and MIEMSS to provide nearly 100 law enforcement agencies with the Graco Slim Fit car seat to help transport children in patrol vehicles.

(Continued on page 11)

Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration's (MDOT MVA)

Maryland Highway Safety Office

The MDOT MVA Highway Safety Office (MHSO) is dedicated to saving lives and working with many partners across the State to reduce the number of crashes each year. In addition, the MHSO looks for ways to reduce crash severity and ways to treat crash victims easier and faster.

Maryland aims to reduce the number of crashes, and the resulting deaths and injuries, to zero by 2030.

Help MDOT Put Litter in its Place!

MDOT recently launched a new campaign aimed at educating Marylanders on the price we all pay for litter — urging everyone to put litter and recycling materials in their proper place.

- **Littering is Expensive:** \$60 million over eight years and takes MDOT crews away from other important maintenance work.
- Littering Hurts Our Environment: Nearly all litter ends up in our waterways. Besides being unsightly, litter blocks storm drains which can lead to flooding, property damage and traffic disruptions.
- Littering is Dangerous: MDOT employees who pick up trash piece by piece along our roadways face traffic hazards as they perform their work.

Check out MDOT's Anti-Litter Campaign webpage for additional information and tips on how we can all help make this campaign a success!



Emphasis Area Team Meetings

Looking to become more involved in local road safety? MHSO welcomes participation from the EMS community for all emphasis areas. Mark your calendar for the upcoming meetings:

• **Pedestrian & Bicycle**: September 22, 2022 (1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.)

Contact MHSO@mdot.maryland.gov to register

Getting Kids Back to School Safely

It's that time of year again, kids are headed back to school, which means additional traffic — vehicle, bike, and pedestrian — on our streets and roadways. It's important to ensure you know Maryland law regarding stopping for school buses. Failure to obey the law may result in a costly ticket at best and at worse, the injury or death of a child.

When to Stop for a School Bus:

Once the bus driver has activated the flashing red lights and stop signal, all vehicles sharing the roadway with the school bus *must* stop a minimum of 20 feet from the bus, regardless of the direction of travel if either of these conditions are met:

- You are traveling in the same direction as the school bus. This is true whether the road has one lane, multiple lanes or a central turning lane.
- You are traveling in the opposite direction and the road does not have a dirt, grass or barrier median. In other words, if there is no physical median, you *must* stop even if the bus is on the other side of the road.*
- You are making a left-turn onto a street and you notice a school bus stopped in the opposite direction, and must make a decision whether to stop in oncoming traffic or pass the bus. In this case, you must still stop and not pass the stopped school bus.

*In Maryland, if the roadway is separated by a physical median – such as dirt, grass, or barrier – you are not required to stop, but you should proceed with caution. (Note: In some states, you must stop for school buses even on a divided highway.)

Check out our <u>back-to-school blog posts</u> for additional information on keeping children safe on their way to and from school as well as additional safety tips for drivers. Together we can ensure a safe and happy school year for all Maryland children.

PILOT PROJECT...

(Continued from page 9)

"Maryland EMS for Children has a long history of bringing child passenger safety to the local, county, and state agencies involved in EMS, Fire & Rescue," noted Cyndy



Wright-Johnson, MSN RN, Director of EMS for Children at MIEMSS. "In the trainings with this pilot project, we emphasize the philosophy of 'good, better, best' to help EMS clinicians transport children in the safest way possible."

"The Pediatric EMS Champions in the four counties participating in the 2022 pilot will provide ongoing feedback and help to expand the program to other communities in Maryland in the future," added Wright-Johnson.

For more information about this project or participation, please contact Susanne Ogaitis-Jones at sogaitis-jones@miemss.org.

SAVE THE DATE





Saturday, November 12th 2022 8a-12p

Critical Issues in Trauma 2022

Suburban Hospital Auditorium
4 Hours Trauma-related Continuing Education



National Teen Driver Safety Week

October 16-22, 2022

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for teens (15-18 years old) in the United States. In 2019, 2,042 people were killed in crashes involving a teen driver, of which 628 deaths were the teen driver. In recognition of National Teen Driver Safety Week (October 16-22, 2022), the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has prepared campaign materials for use by law enforcement and public safety personnel focusing on subjects such as distracted driving, impaired driving, seat belt use, number of passengers, and speeding. Download them here: https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/teen-safety/national-teen-driver-safety-week/rules-road.





NATIONAL NIGHT OUT...

(Continued from page 1)

Howard County Safety Kids participated in the Na-

tional Night Out event at Clarks-ville Commons. They provided a questions and answer table about Maryland Bike Laws and used an anatomy of the brain display to explain brain functions and why bike helmets are so important. "Several kids said well I don't need that portion of the brain," said Terri Taylor, of Howard County Safe Kids, "so we would have them walk a straight line, then close their eyes and walk a straight line, and then turn them around a few times and walk a straight line. Point made."

Carroll County Safety Kids participated in National Night Out in

eight different locations around the county. Teams from the health department paired up to cover each location, staffing a table of safety information, including injury prevention and Safe Kids materials.

Many other advocates provided safety information at

National Night Out. In addition to learning about bikes safety, participants were offered information on child passenger safety, safe sleep for infants, fire safety, and many other important topics.

The EMS for Children's Bike Safety Project at MIEMSS is funded by the Maryland Highway Safety Office. ■



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Governor Larry Hogan Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford

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(unless noted otherwise for specific photos)