

Maryland EMS News

For All Emergency Medical Care Providers

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January 2015

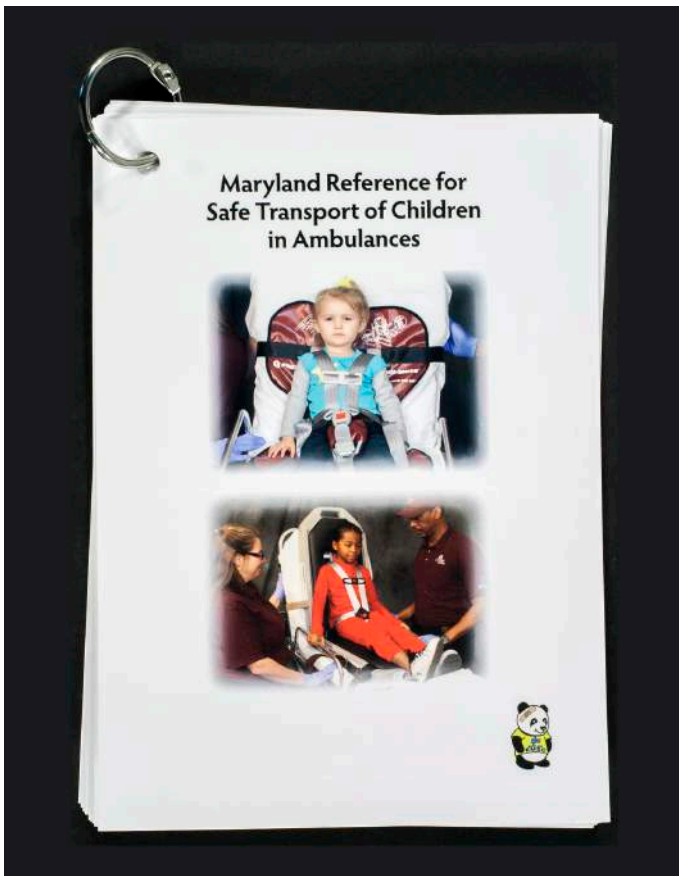
New Resource for Transporting Maryland Children via Ambulances

Ambulance crashes are not uncommon and can result in injury or death to the driver, EMS-provider-passengers and to patients being transported. Data on ambulance crashes involving child occupants is limited but according to one study up to 1,000 ambulance crashes in the U.S. involve children. (Winters & Brazelton, 2003). The risk of injury or death to everyone in an ambulance crash can be reduced by cautious driving (e.g., safe speeds and following traffic laws), by securing all equipment properly, and by having everyone in the ambulance properly restrained whenever possible.

In 2012, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) published the "Best Practice Recommendations for the Safe Transportation of Children in Emergency Ground Ambulances." These guidelines outlined the ideal way to transport children in five general scenarios. For instance, for a child who is not ill or injured the ideal is to transport the child in a vehicle other than the ambulance using the correct size/age-appropriate car safety seat. When transport by ambu-

lance is required, the guidelines state where and how to secure the child. These guidelines can be found at www.ems.gov (NHTSA website) or www.miemss.org on the Maryland Pediatric Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (PEMAC) webpage.

Recently, the Maryland EMS for Children (EMS-C) program used the NHTSA document to create reference cards for EMS providers for transporting pediatric patients in ambulances. The cards are based on the most up-to-date recommendations from NHTSA and they highlight several different devices that EMS providers may encounter in the field. While several products and their use are described in the cards, this should not be construed as an endorsement by MIEMSS. It is recommended that EMS providers read the detailed instructions available from restraint manufacturers and use these cards as a reminder tool. Each Maryland EMS agency has been provided with enough of the reference cards for every ground ambulance. Additional copies were provided to ENA TNCC and ENPC instructors and to each training academy. An electronic copy of the materials is available for tablet computers upon request. Please send an email to pepp@miemss.org to get a copy. In addition, there will be on-line training regarding this subject available on the MIEMSS website in the near future. EMS providers will be eligible for CEUs for taking the course.



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A Primer on Maryland Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Law

- **Need for Car Seats and Booster Seats**

In 2011, more than 1,100 children in the US died in motor vehicle crashes, and 30% of children below the age of four killed in accidents were completely unrestrained. CPS equipment, such as car seats and booster seats, has shown to reduce these fatalities by up to 71% for infants and 54% for toddlers.

- **State Requirements on Use of CPS Devices**

Maryland law requires that any child under the age of 8 ride in a federally approved car seat, booster seat, or other safety device unless the child reaches 4' 9" prior to age 8. Additionally, any child from 8 to 16 years old who is not secured in a child restraint must be secured in a vehicle seat belt.

- **Incorrect Installation Significantly Reduces Protection**

Approximately 70% of CPS devices are installed and used incorrectly. Incorrect installation results in increased risk for intestinal, liver, spleen and spinal cord injury during motor vehicle collisions. The most effective way to achieve proper installation is for CPS certified technicians to train parents on proper installation.

- **CPS Certified Technicians**

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has partnered with the non-profit group Safe Kids Worldwide™ to create an educational program to train people to educate parents about CPS laws and safety standards, and give hands-on support to parents to help them correctly install and use car and booster seats. These technicians undergo a three-day course with approximately 24 hours of instruction. Technicians must also re-certify every two years to keep abreast of new developments in CPS technology and safety standards. Since the program's inception in 1998, there have been 126,000 people who have completed training as CPS technicians, and 36,000 currently maintain certification.

- **Liability Protection for CPS Certified Technicians and Their Sponsoring Organizations**

In an effort to boost CPS education programs and encourage more people to become CPS technicians, Maryland grants CPS certified technicians and their sponsoring organizations immunity from civil liability. Immunity is granted for any act or omission that occurs solely in the inspection, installation, or adjustment of a child safety seat in a motor vehicle, or in giving advice or assistance regarding the installation or adjustment of a child safety seat. A sponsoring institution can be an employer of a CPS technician, an organization that

offers free child safety seat checkup events or fitting station programs for the general public, or an organization that owns property on which such events take place.

This protection only covers acts or omissions that are provided without charge to the owner or operator of the motor vehicle, and those acts or omissions that are not in conjunction with the for-profit sale of CPS equipment. Additionally, immunity is not given for gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct, meaning that a technician must exercise reasonable care and not purposefully ignore any known risks or dangers about a car seat.

Want to help PREVENT injuries and deaths?

Become a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician(CPST)!

A CPST can:

- Educate caregivers on what is the most appropriate car seat for their child.
- Assist with community events to check car seats and their installation.
- Teach how to properly use specific seats for actual children.

About the CPST certification course:

- 3 day standardized course from NHTSA and Safe Kids Worldwide
- offered 5-10 times/year in Maryland
- combines classroom instruction, hands-on work with car seats and vehicles and has a community safety seat check-up event at the end.
- open-book quizzes and skills tests are required
- \$85 registration fee but some scholarships are available for qualifying healthcare/EMS personnel

To learn details about upcoming courses or to register yourself, go to cert.safekids.org.

To learn about scholarships for healthcare/EMS personnel, contact CPS@miemss.org or call 410-706-8647.



2015 EMS Education Symposium

On January 15, 2015, the MIEMSS Office of Licensure and Certification held the

2015 EMS Education Symposium titled, “Evaluating the Student Evaluation”. It was a day long instructional and informational conference for EMS Education Program Administrators and Instructors. Dr. Seaman, MIEMSS Executive Director, gave an overview of current MIEMSS activities. The Annual EMS Education Program update was provided by staff from the Licensure and Certification Department.

The Keynote Symposium Presenter was David Page MS, NREMT-P. He is a paramedic instructor, EMS supervisor, JEMS columnist, and author. During the morning session, he presented “Effective Affective Evaluation”. This focused on holding EMS students accountable for bad behavior. The presentation covered objective behavioral measurements and how to incorporate them into student grades. His afternoon session was “Train like you’re going to fight – your skill labs will never be the same!” Participants were given the latest

information on teaching and evaluating team work behaviors. The new National Registry of EMTs Paramedic Psychomotor Competency Portfolio (PPCP) was also discussed. Mr. Page covered new national trends in making the most of skill labs and incorporating Crew Resource Management (CRM) into EMS scenario evaluations. Special thanks went to MFRI for their continuing support of the Annual EMS Education Symposiums.



Dr. Kevin Seaman, MIEMSS Executive Director, updates the attendees at the 2015 EMS Education Seminar with current MIEMSS activities.



Seminar speaker, David Page, is presented with a plaque of appreciation from (l-r) Dr. Kevin Seaman, David Page, and MIEMSS Licensure and Certification staff members, Terrell Buckson, and Rae Oliveria.

4th Regional Recruitment and Retention Meeting

The 4th Regional Recruitment and Retention Meeting for Fire-EMS recruiters, coordinators, officers, chiefs, and other interested parties will be held on Saturday January 31, 2015 from 11:00 – 3:00 pm at the Funkstown Volunteer Fire Company. This program is being hosted by the Maryland Fire Chiefs’ Association & the Maryland State Fireman’s Association.

A group facilitator will be on hand to help engage and keep the group on task. Please come prepared to engage for the benefit of others and yourself on these following topics:

- From knocking on the door to boots on the ground; what’s the process and hold up?
- Representatives will be asked to bring and share their processes describing how they “on-board” volunteers.
- How do you recruit and what’s the cost?
- Representatives will be asked to bring and share lists of their recruitment methods and the costs involved.
- Retention; how is it calculated, average length of service, reasons for leaving, and how are you obtaining those reasons (exit surveys?)
- Representatives are asked to bring and share their data.

There will also be new information from other Recruitment and Retention programs including Texas, Florida, and New Jersey. The event will be held at the Funkstown Volunteer Fire Company, Inc., 2 South Westside Avenue, Funkstown, MD 21734, (301) 790-0090. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP by January 29, 2015 to: pmellits@aol.com

Dr. Lee Ross awarded for Service to the Maryland Critical Incident Stress Team

Article submitted by Al Ward

On January 11, 2015 friends, family, and dignitaries gathered to recognize Dr. Lee Ross for his more than 25 years of service to the Maryland Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD) Team, as it was known in the early years. It was an occasion long overdue. In 1987, he was a professor of psychology at Frostburg State College when he attended a presentation by Jeffery Mitchell, a graduate student at the University of Maryland, on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) among emergency responders. He decided this was something he wanted to be involved with. And get involved he did. He teamed up with some like-minded people in the Social Services Department of the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center and formed what became the Maryland CISD Team. He became co-director of training and wrote the manual used to train additional team members, the core of which is still used today. He travelled the state recruiting and training not only mental health professionals but fire, EMS, dispatch, emergency room, and law enforcement personnel, known as peers, in the CISD process. Not one to simply oversee this new team, he became Clinical Director and the heart of the Region I team, mentoring the new members and conducting countless debriefings and defusings across the area and in neighboring jurisdictions, influencing countless lives and careers in the process. His dedication and expertise led



Dr. Lee Ross is presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for his service to the CISD Team by current and past MIEMSS staff members, as well as members of the Region I CISD Team.

him to become involved with FEMA and the American Red Cross. He traveled to disaster sites up and down the east coast, assisting responders following hurricanes, tornadoes, and other catastrophes. He also counseled troops returning from the Middle East.

Speaking at the presentation Dave Ramsey, former Region I Administrator, called Ross a true friend and supporter of EMS. Al Ward, current coordinator of the Region I CISM Team said "I may be filling

the position, but I can never fill his shoes." MIEMSS Director of Field Operations John Donohue read from the plaque presented to Ross that read in part, "in recognition of and appreciation for your service to the CISM Team as founder, instructor, mentor, and friend." Though his work, Dr. Ross truly made a difference in the lives of many individuals in Maryland as well as the nation.

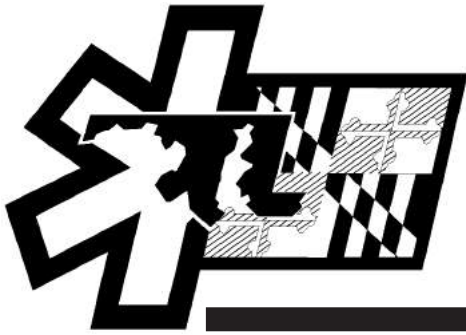
MIEMSS Infection Control Committee

MIEMSS has re-convened the Statewide Infection Control Committee. It is made up of jurisdictional and commercial company representatives, as well as infection control professionals from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) and hospitals. The group held its first meeting with discussions regarding influenza; including the proper use of PPE, the need for getting flu shots, the use of Yellow Alerts, and the law regarding Hospital Infection Control Reporting. The committee plans to meet quarterly and will be working on educational materials for emergency services providers and hospital personnel.

MIEMSS Safety Corner

EMS Provider Flu Precautions

- Get the Flu Shot!
- Use Universal Precautions (Droplet)
- Put a mask (Surgical) on the patient if they exhibit Influenza Like Illness (ILI) symptoms.
- Providers should wear a N-95 mask.
- WASH YOUR HANDS!
– <http://www.cdc.gov/handhygiene/>
- Disinfect your unit and equipment



MARYLAND'S STARS OF LIFE AWARDS

Each year, the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems celebrates EMS Week by honoring men and women across Maryland who have contributed to the EMS system. We use the term "Stars of Life" because it combines our symbol, the Star of Life, with our shared vision, "the elimination of preventable death and disability from injury or sudden illness." This year, we are again opening the award nomination process to everyone who receives the Maryland EMS News. Awardees will be selected by a statewide committee of career, volunteer, and commercial EMS providers. For further information, call 410-706-3994 or email awards@miemss.org.

The categories of Maryland Star of Life, Maryland EMS Citizen, EMS Provider of the Year, and EMD Provider of the Year relate to specific incidents occurring from January 1, 2014, through December 31, 2014. Multiple awards may be presented.

MARYLAND STAR OF LIFE AWARD

This award may be given to an individual, multiple individuals, or teams on the same incident for an outstanding rescue by EMS personnel.

MARYLAND EMS CITIZEN AWARD

This award is intended for citizen rescuers who have demonstrated quick thinking, fast action, and heroism.

EMS PROVIDER OF THE YEAR

For a provider who has made outstanding contributions in the past year to the continuous improvement of emergency medical services in Maryland (for example, in the areas of quality assurance, public or EMS education, prevention, delivery of EMS services, and new technology).

EMD PROVIDER OF THE YEAR

This award is given for extraordinary efforts in assisting the public in this vital portion of the Chain of Survival.

OUTSTANDING EMS PROGRAM

For a program that offers an innovative approach to reducing death and disability. The program must be affiliated with an EMS system component, such as a hospital, educational facility, rescue squad, or EMS organization.

LEON W. HAYES AWARD FOR LIFETIME EXCELLENCE IN EMS

This award is given to an individual who has devoted a lifetime of dedication to excellence in patient care, compassion and respect for each patient, and commitment to continuous improvement of the Maryland EMS system through his/her professional and personal life.

MARYLAND EMS-CHILDREN (EMS-C) AWARD

This award is given for an adult or program that has demonstrated ongoing dedication and commitment to improving the care for children and for promoting Family Centered Care in a Maryland EMS program or hospital.

MARYLAND EMS-GERIATRIC (EMS-G) AWARD

This award is given for an individual or program that has demonstrated ongoing dedication and commitment to improving the EMS care of the elderly in Maryland.

MARYLAND'S STARS OF LIFE AWARDS 2015 NOMINATION FORM

Individual(s)/Organization(s) Nominated: _____

If there is more than one nominee, please duplicate this form or use a separate sheet for the other names and addresses and attach it to this form.

***Address:** _____

(P.O. Box or Street)

(City)

(State)

(Zip)

***Telephone Nos.** (H) _____ (W) _____ (Cell) _____

Nominee's Level of Certification or Licensure (if applicable)

Professional Affiliation _____ Telephone No. _____

Award Category (Please select only one category on this sheet):

Maryland Star of Life Award

Outstanding EMS Program

Maryland EMS Citizen Award

Leon W. Hayes Award for Excellence in EMS

EMS Provider of the Year

Maryland EMS-C Award

EMD Provider of the Year

Maryland EMS-G Award

***** PLEASE NOTE:** *If there is more than one nominee associated with the same incident or activity, please DO NOT duplicate this form but rather list names, affiliation, and contact information on a separate sheet of paper and attach to this form.*

This individual/group/program/facility is being nominated for outstanding recognition because:

If applicable, please submit additional documentation such as newspaper articles, video footage, audio recordings, and letters of commendation.

Name of person submitting this nomination:

(Print or Type)

(Signature)

(Address)

Email Address _____

*** Telephone Nos.** (H) _____ (W) _____ (Cell) _____

FAX Nos. (H) _____ (W) _____

* Must be completed!!

NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT MIEMSS BY April 1, 2015

Mail to: Jim Brown, MIEMSS, 653 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD 21201-1536

FAX to: 410-706-3485 (attn: Jim Brown) or scan and email to awards@miemss.org

You can complete and submit this form online at <http://www.miemss.org> under "What's New"



The Right Care When It Counts Maryland EMSC 2014 Program



The Maryland EMS for Children program is In Search Of children and youth in Maryland who have demonstrated Steps to Take in an Emergency or Ways to be Better Prepared for an emergency. Actions taking place January 1, 2014, through December 31, 2014, are eligible for nomination. We will be recognizing children and youth who acted so that others would receive "The Right Care When It Counts." Each nominee will receive a patch and certificate and be eligible for a state award at a ceremony during EMS Week 2015. Questions? Email awards@miemss.org

Children and youth who have met one or more of the following criteria are eligible for Right Care Awards:

1. Activates the Emergency Response System by calling 9-1-1 in an emergency
2. Calls the Poison Control Center in an emergency (1-800-222-1222)
3. Provides family emergency phone numbers, address, and contacts to emergency responders
4. Knows and practices an emergency plan at home
5. Applies knowledge learned in a first aid class
6. Performs CPR and/or uses an AED effectively
7. Knows his or her medical history (allergies, medications, special needs, etc.) and shares this information with emergency care providers
8. Participates in fire and injury prevention education in the community
9. Prepares, with his or her family, to respond to a disaster
10. Provides emergency assistance in the community

NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT MIEMSS by April 1, 2015.

Mail to: Jim Brown, MIEMSS, 653 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD 21201-1536

FAX to: 410-706-3485 (attn: Jim Brown) or scan and email to awards@miemss.org

You can complete and submit this form online at <http://www.miemss.org/EMSCwww/RightCare.html>



The Right Care When It Counts Maryland EMSC 2015 Program



Contact information for the person submitting this recommendation:

Name: _____ Affiliation: _____

Best Phone Number(s) to reach you: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Fax: _____

Child or youth who acted so that others would receive
"The Right Care When It Counts":

Child/ Youth's Name: _____ Age: _____ Gender: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone(s): (H) _____ (W) _____ (cell) _____

Email: _____

Alternative contact person: _____

Best method to reach this person: _____

Primary language spoken at home: _____

Description of event/ incident and the action taken

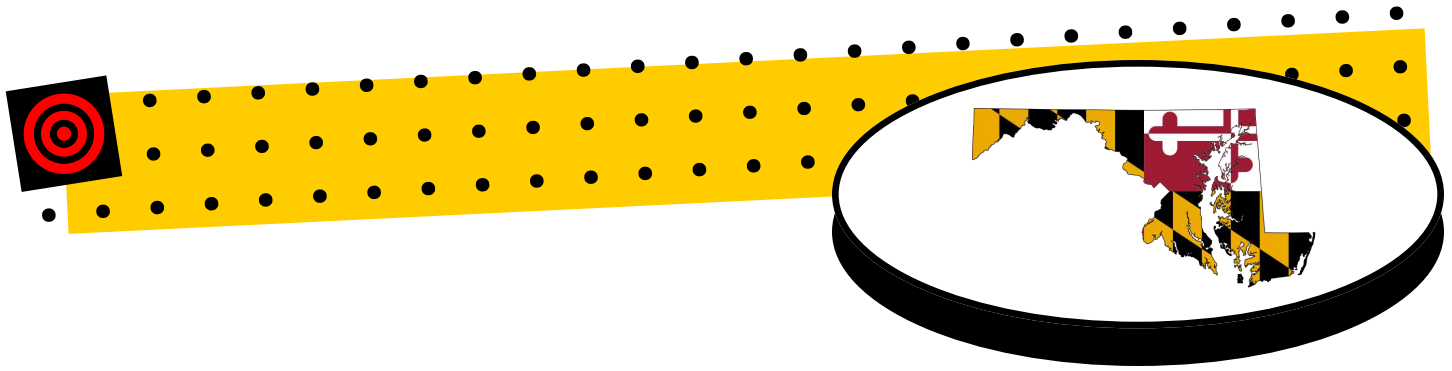
- PLEASE indicate if you have spoken with the family about this nomination
- PLEASE include any printed materials about this nomination and if the child/youth has been recognized locally

NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT MIEMSS by April 1, 2015.

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You can complete and submit this form online at <http://www.miemss.org/EMSCwww/RightCare.html>



Many of us are faced with the same recruitment and retention challenges

From knocking on the door,
to boots on the ground;
what's the process
and hold up?
How do you "on-board"
your volunteers?

How do you recruit and
what's the cost?

How do you calculate
retention? What's the average
length of service of your
volunteers; their reasons for
leaving, and how do
you find out why they leave?

Please Join Us

Share what's working for your recruitment program and
network with other Fire and EMS recruiters, from across the Maryland Regions.

Saturday, January 31, 2015

11:00 am—2:00 pm

**Presented by: Maryland Fire Chiefs' Association and the
Maryland State Fireman's Association**

Hosted by: Washington County / Funkstown VFC

Location: Funkstown Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.

2 South Westside Avenue

Funkstown, MD 21734



Lunch will be provided ~ Please RSVP by January 29th, 2015

Pete Mellits

pmellits@aol.com

2015 EMS and Prevention Educational Conferences

Please go to the MIEMSS website for details on these events.

EMS Today Conference (JEMS):

February 25–28, 2015
Baltimore, Md.

EMS Care 2015:

April 30–May 3, 2015
Clarion Resort Fountainebleau Hotel, Ocean City, Md.

Public Fire and Life Safety Educator Seminar:

March 28, 2015, MFRI
College Park, Md.

MSFA Annual Convention:

June 20–26, 2015 Ocean City, Md.

Miltenberger Emergency Services Conference:

April 10–11, 2015
Wisp Ski Resort, McHenry, Md.

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653 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD 21201-1536



Governor Lawrence Hogan, Jr.
Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford

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