

Maryland EMS News

For All Emergency Medical Care Providers

Vol. 44, No. 6

June 2018

MIEMSS Presents Annual EMS Awards

The annual Stars of Life and Right Care When It Counts awards ceremony was held in Annapolis during EMS Week (May 20–26) on May 23, 2018, a day also recognized statewide and nationally as EMS for Children Day. This year, 43 well-deserving individuals, organizations, and teams who have made extraordinary contributions to emergency medical services in Maryland received awards. **Maryland Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford** joined the celebration and presented two proclamations on behalf of the Governor: one recognizing EMS Week and a second naming May 23 as EMS for Children Day.

The Stars of Life and Right Care When It Counts award winners who are selected by a statewide committee of career, volunteer, and commercial EMS providers, were nominated by peers or a member of the public.

The Stars of Life awards were presented by MIEMSS' Acting Co-Executive Directors Pat Gainer, JD, MPA, and Richard L. Alcorta, MD, as well as Lt. Governor Rutherford and Maryland EMS Board Chair Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. They were joined by the Associate State EMS Medical Director for Pediatrics Jennifer F. Anders, MD, and Maryland EMS for Children Program Director Cynthia Wright-Johnson.

This year's EMS Week theme was EMS Strong: Stronger Together. Each individual in Maryland's EMS system performs a necessary service, moving the patient one step closer toward a better outcome. Maryland's EMS providers are strong, but stronger together in their commitment to their lifesaving work. MIEMSS heartily congratulates this year's award winners and salutes all of Maryland's outstanding EMS providers. To access and download the press release regarding this event, please visit www.miemss.org and click on the Public tab.



Mobile integrated health program representatives and individuals who received a MIEMSS Executive Director's Award for Excellence in EMS attend the annual Stars of Life celebration on May 23, 2018, in Annapolis.

Stars of Life Awards

MIEMSS Executive Director's Award for Excellence in EMS

Many EMS systems throughout the United States are expanding the role of emergency medical services through innovative Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) programs. These programs link frequent users of EMS services to the preventative and chronic health services that those patients need, thereby reducing 9-1-1 EMS call volumes and helping patients avoid costly treatment at an emergency department. This new model of health care delivery is the foundation for seven MIH programs in Maryland that have embraced this expanded role for EMS. Maryland's MIH programs have identified the health care needs of their local communities and partnered with other health care providers to link patients who rely heavily on EMS for non-emergency care with the most appropriate services. MIH programs not only help address patients' health needs, these programs also improve the availability of EMS for actual emergency incidents and drive down the cost of health care. These seven programs each received an Executive Director's Award

for Excellence in EMS for their efforts: **Queen Anne's County Mobile Integrated Health Program, Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department's Mobile Integrated Health Program, Charles County Mobile Integrated Health Program, Montgomery County Non-Emergency Intervention and Community Care Coordination Program, Salisbury-Wicomico Integrated FirstCare Team (SWIFT), Frederick County Mobile Integrated Health Care Program, and the Baltimore City Fire Department Mobile Integrated Health Program in West Baltimore.**

Maryland MIH programs are increasing patient access to quality health services while simultaneously reducing health care expenses and hospital-based costs. Despite filling this much-needed role in health care, MIH programs have no long-term stable source of funding. **Senator Stephen S. Hershey, Jr.** and **Senator Thomas "Mac" Middleton** worked to address this critical need during the 2018 Maryland General Assembly. Senator Hershey represents Caroline, Cecil, Kent, and Queen Anne's Counties; Senator Middleton, who is the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, represents Charles County.

(Continued on page 2)

MIEMSS Presents Annual EMS Awards

(Continued from page 1)

Senators Middleton and Hershey, who have long supported EMS in Maryland, introduced legislation to provide reimbursement to EMS for treating patients who participate in MIH programs. Their work to obtain adequate and ongoing support for new models of EMS care delivery such as MIH is helping to open new pathways for the future of EMS and to provide secure and stable funding for EMS in Maryland. Senators Hershey and Middleton each received an Executive Director's Award for Excellence in EMS.

EMS needs informed and passionate advocates to help new models of care delivery like MIH programs become established and grow. Such leaders encourage innovation while being mindful to ensure that EMS continues to meet the needs of each citizen who needs emergency care and calls 9-1-1 for help. In this regard, **Anna Sierra** also received an Executive Director's Award for Excellence in EMS. Sierra promoted MIH programs while serving as the MIEMSS

associate administrator for EMS Region IV and continues to be a champion for MIH and new models of EMS care delivery in Maryland in her new position as director of Dorchester County Department of Emergency Services.

Maryland Star of Life

Receiving the Maryland Star of Life award this year were 17 first responders who performed a complex extraction and provided lifesaving medical care to the victims of a helicopter crash in Leonardtown last year. Representing Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad, awardees were **EMT-IVT Kerry Klear, PM Dylan Lowmiller, Driver Mock Mattingly, and EMT-IVT Rocky Woodburn**. Representing St. Mary's County Advanced Life Support, **PM Paul Koch** received an award. Representing Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department, awardees were **FF Andy Bell, FF Bradley Bell, FF Chris Bell, Driver Tim Janey, FF Jared Trossbach, FF Thomas "Buck" Trossbach, FF Warren Trossbach, and FF Keith Watts**. Representing Hollywood

Volunteer Rescue Squad, awardees were **Driver Greg Casoni, Vickie Gray, EMT-IVT Kim Heiss, and EMT Earl Newton**.

On April 17, 2017, a United States Army Black Hawk helicopter crashed on the green at the Breton Bay Golf Course, hitting a tree upon impact. Three crew members were on board; two occupants were critically injured. Tragically, a 22-year-old US Army Specialist onboard did not survive and was pronounced deceased at the scene. Responding EMS crew members initially had difficulty accessing the scene due to a blocked road, but upon arrival began immediately to tend to the victims. The pilot was trapped inside the wreckage, necessitating extrication by fire department crew members, while other responding EMS providers tended to the crew member found critically injured outside the aircraft. The patient was suffering from a pelvic fracture and lacerations, but was conscious and alert. The pilot suffered several broken bones and a spinal deformity, but was successfully extricated. Both patients were airlifted by Trooper 7 of the Maryland State Police Aviation Command to R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center with life-threatening injuries.

Under extremely challenging conditions, these EMS providers from several neighboring companies demonstrated remarkable teamwork to provide lifesaving trauma care to the injured crew members.

A second team received Maryland Star of Life awards for their response to a medical emergency in Anne Arundel County. **PM Tyler Balas, EMT Emma Baukhages, EMT Nora Brown, FF/EMT Thomas Delgaudio, FF/EMT Trevor Eckley, PM Ryan Higgins, Lt. Joseph Holland, EMT Miles Jordan, PM Lester Schoelkoph, and FF/EMT Michael Walsh** each received a Maryland Star of Life award for their efforts.

In the early morning hours of April 23, 2017, Anne Arundel County Fire Department responded to a call for help regarding a mother and her newly born infant. The baby had arrived unexpectedly at home a month early. When EMS crews arrived, they discovered that the infant was suffering from gastroschisis, a condition in which some of the internal organs are outside the body. EMS crews clamped and cut the umbilical cord, dressed the exposed organs, and transported the newborn to Johns Hopkins Children's Center.

The postpartum mother, who was stable but still in need of medical care, needed to be transported as well. EMS secured a second transport unit, and started the challenging task of transferring her up a flight of stairs using

(Continued on page 3)



EMS providers from several EMS companies in St. Mary's County receive Maryland Star of Life awards. The first responders performed a complex extraction and provided lifesaving medical care to the victims of a helicopter crash in Leonardtown.



EMS providers from Anne Arundel County Fire Department receive Maryland Star of Life awards for their response to a medical emergency that required complex neonatal and postpartum maternal care.

MIEMSS Presents Annual EMS Awards

(Continued from page 2)

a stair chair. She was transported to Johns Hopkins as well so she could be reunited with her newborn as soon as possible while they both received the postpartum care they needed.

The providers on this call maintained focus and communicated well while simultaneously implementing lifesaving care and delivering viable patients to the appropriate definitive medical facilities. The newborn reportedly received a good prognosis for a healthy life going forward.

Leon W. Hayes Award for Excellence in EMS

This year's awardee of the Leon W. Hayes was **John "Jack" Hulet**, who dedicated more than 50 years to emergency medical services, nearly 20 of which was in service

to EMS in Maryland. Hulet became an EMT instructor in 2000, cumulatively teaching nearly 2,700 hours at the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute and countless additional hours at other training facilities. Throughout his career, Hulet helped develop EMS training videos, textbooks, presentations, and practical scenarios, and served many times as an evaluator for state practical exams.

Hulet was a member of several MIEMSS committees, including the Maryland Pediatric Education for Prehospital Providers Steering Committee; the Pediatric Emergency Medical Advisory Committee, also serving as co-chair of its Education Subcommittee; the BLS Committee; and the Provider Review Panel, having served as chair.

Of the remarkable contributions he has made to EMS, Hulet was one of the first

responders to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, having been a US Army colonel assigned to the Pentagon at the time, assisting others after American Airlines flight 77 crashed into the building. He traveled overseas to teach EMT skills to firefighters and fire officers and, for a number of years, served as the EMS coordinator for the popular Maryland Renaissance Festival.

Hulet has been inducted into the Anne Arundel County Volunteer Firefighters Association's Hall of Fame in addition to receiving numerous top responder and outstanding service awards from multiple fire companies. He received the Maryland State Firemen's Association Francis L. Brannigan Instructor of the Year Award in 2004, the Northern Anne Arundel County Chamber of Commerce Firefighter of the Year in 2005, and the American Red Cross Hometown Heroes Award in 2006.

Hulet's lifetime of dedication to EMS, 20 years of contributions to Maryland's EMS system, and substantial and significant contributions to EMS provider continuing education are a few of the many reasons he was selected to receive the Leon W. Hayes Award this year.

Maryland EMS Citizen Award

Baja Amusements in Ocean City is closed for business during the winter months, but **Valerie Kramer**, this year's winner of the Maryland EMS Citizen award, was in the office working when she heard a commotion outside. A car crash had just occurred in front of the amusement park, and Kramer observed that the operator of the vehicle was slumped over the steering wheel.

(Continued on page 4)



From left, MIEMSS Acting Co-Executive Directors Dr. Richard Alcorta and Pat Gainer, Jean Hulet, John "Jack" Hulet, Maryland Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford, and EMS Board Chair Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. Jack Hulet is this year's recipient of the Leon W. Hayes Award for Excellence in EMS for his decades of dedication to EMS in Maryland.



Team members of the Non-Emergency Intervention and Community Care Coordination Program in Montgomery County accept an Executive Director's Award for Excellence in EMS. Montgomery County is facing an increase of about 3,000 in 9-1-1 calls to EMS each year; this program is designed to reduce this number.



The Salisbury-Wicomico Integrated FirstCare Team (SWIFT), a partnership between the Salisbury Fire Department and Peninsula Regional Medical Center, receives an Executive Director's Award for Excellence in EMS.

MIEMSS Presents Annual EMS Awards

(Continued from page 3)

She grabbed an AED from her office and ran out to the vehicle. With the assistance of a Maryland Natural Resources police officer, they removed the patient from the vehicle, started CPR and applied the AED. They provided CPR until the EMS units arrived and took over care. The victim survived and recovered from this incident, which was believed to be a medical cardiac arrest that caused the vehicle to crash. Kramer's selfless heroism gave this victim a chance at survival; either incident could have alone been fatal had she not reacted so quickly and selflessly.

EMS Provider of the Year

Firefighter/Paramedic Jorge Paucar was selected as this year's EMS Provider of the Year, having been instrumental in the development of Prince George's County Fire and EMS Department's innovative hands-only CPR program for the public. With the help of other dedicated EMS providers, he was actively involved in helping train over 7,800 county residents and visitors in 2017, achieving a remarkable success beyond expectations. In addition, being multilingual helped Paucar expand the program to include Spanish-speaking training aides and Spanish language literature.

Paucar was pivotal in streamlining the process for collecting and reporting data on cardiac arrest patients, helping departmental EMS supervisors and providers obtain important feedback that improves the delivery of patient care.

In addition to his role in the department's hands-only CPR program, Paucar was recently selected to become an instructor at the Maryland Resuscitation Academy. This unique program was designed to improve cardiac arrest management for Fire and EMS agencies and only accepts the highest-qualified applicants.

Through his dedicated efforts, Paucar made substantial contributions to Prince George's County's initiative to improve cardiac arrest survival rates and was deservedly selected as EMS Provider of the Year.

EMD Provider of the Year

On February 27, 2017, **Emergency Communications Specialist Verlon Dukes** received a cell phone call from a caller in severe medical distress, possibly a stroke, who was unable to clearly communicate his address and medical information.



From left, MIEMSS Acting Co-Executive Directors Dr. Richard Alcorta and Pat Gainer, Firefighter/Paramedic Jorge Paucar, Maryland Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford, and EMS Board Chair Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. Paucar is this year's recipient of the EMS Provider of the Year award for his efforts to train citizens in Prince George's County in hands-only CPR.



From left, MIEMSS Acting Co-Executive Directors Pat Gainer and Dr. Richard Alcorta, ECS Verlon Dukes, Maryland Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford, and EMS Board Chair Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. Dukes is this year's recipient of the EMD of Year award for tracking the location of a 9-1-1 caller experiencing a medical emergency based on cell phone information.

In order to explain the remarkable lengths Dukes went to in order to assist this caller, it is necessary to understand why 9-1-1 calls from cell phones can sometimes be difficult for dispatchers to process. When calls are made from a cell phone to a 9-1-1 center, the exact location of the caller may not be as easy to determine as it would if using a traditional landline phone. A cell phone works by transmitting radio waves to tower sites that are nearby, but not necessarily in the exact location of the caller. The cell signal will pass a signal to the 9-1-1 center to update the location of the caller, helping to isolate their location, but this process is not always possible. In these cases, the dispatcher may have to rely on obtaining subscriber information from cell phone companies that

may be able to provide an address to assist those seeking help.

The call that Dukes received was not transmitting the exact location of the individual in need. Using his years of experience, he was able to utilize the call center's mapping system to locate the patient based on the limited information provided by the cell phone. Using the department's computer aided dispatch system, he examined previous incidents at the apartment complex and was able to determine the exact apartment of the caller. Dukes' tenacity during this challenging call ensured that the patient would receive prompt medical care. For this reason, he was selected as the EMD Provider of the Year.

(Continued on page 5)

MIEMSS Presents Annual EMS Awards

(Continued from page 4)

Outstanding EMS Program

Frederick County Division of Fire and Rescue Services' EMS Section provides emergency medical services to over 250,000 residents and visitors of the county as well as the US Department of Homeland Security's National Emergency Training Center, the Naval Support Facility Thurmont (also known as Camp David), and three National Park Service sites.

In 2017 Frederick County EMS completed several system improvement projects, earning the department an Outstanding EMS Program award for its innovative approaches to reducing death and disability. In the last year, the program completed its accredited in-house paramedic training program, with a 100% first-time National Registry exam pass rate for its inaugural graduating class; fielded a tactical EMS program to provide advanced life support services to specialized police tactical teams within the county; implemented a mobile integrated health program, with a full-time dedicated staff, that serves to reduce EMS overuse and unnecessary emergency room visits and hospital admissions; and partnered with the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center to train personnel on the use of prehospital ultrasound devices and other advanced technologies to better drive the recognition and management of critically ill and injured patients. Furthermore, the EMS Section worked tirelessly to coordinate and train EMS providers and law enforcement in joint sessions to provide emergency medical care in the event of an active assailant incident.

Also of note, Frederick County Division of Fire and Rescue Services partnered with the US Army and Frederick Memorial Hospital to develop a MIEMSS-recognized High Consequence Infectious Disease transport team, which serves as the primary response and transport team for patients suspected of exposure to certain infectious diseases.

Through their recent initiatives and ongoing quality improvement programs, the EMS Section of Frederick County Division of Fire and Rescue Services demonstrated a sincere commitment to enhancing the quality and delivery of emergency medical care for their patients.

Maryland EMS for Children Award

Allen R. Walker, MD, MBA, FAAP, has been a leader in pediatric health and emergency medical care in Maryland for more than 20 years. He served as the associate EMS
(Continued on page 6)



Frederick County Division of Fire and Rescue Services' EMS Section receives the Outstanding EMS Program of the Year award for a number of system improvement projects completed in 2017.



From left, MIEMSS Acting Co-Executive Director Pat Gainer, EMS Board Chair Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq., Maryland Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford, and MIEMSS Acting Co-Executive Director Dr. Richard Alcorta. Lt. Governor Rutherford presents a Proclamation on behalf of Governor Larry Hogan declaring May 20–26, 2018, EMS Week in Maryland.



From left, MIEMSS Acting Co-Executive Director Dr. Richard Alcorta, EMS Board Chair Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq., MIEMSS Acting Co-Executive Director Pat Gainer, Maryland EMS for Children Program Director Cynthia Wright-Johnson, Associate State EMS Medical Director for Pediatrics Jennifer F. Anders, MD, and Maryland Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford. Lt. Governor Rutherford presents a Proclamation on behalf of Governor Larry Hogan declaring May 23, 2018, EMS for Children Day in Maryland.

MIEMSS Presents Annual EMS Awards

(Continued from page 5)

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 Allnut** (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

(Continued on page 7)



Five young Marylanders receive Right Care When It Counts awards for calling 9-1-1 and providing support when one of their friends was hit with a high-speed lacrosse ball in the chest. From left, MIEMSS Acting Co-Executive Directors Dr. Richard Alcorta and Pat Gainer; EMS Board Chair Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq.; Maryland Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford; Matthew Saunders; Tyler Allnut; Ava Hittle; Justin (last name withheld for privacy), the patient who suffered the life-threatening injury; Emma Hittle; Associate State EMS Medical Director for Pediatrics Jennifer F. Anders, MD; and Maryland EMS for Children Program Director Cynthia Wright-Johnson. Not Pictured: Timothy (TJ) Saunders.



From left, MIEMSS Acting Co-Executive Directors Dr. Richard Alcorta and Pat Gainer; EMS Board Chair Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq.; Maryland Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford; Alex Dale Nelson; Associate State EMS Medical Director for Pediatrics Jennifer F. Anders, MD; and Maryland EMS for Children Program Director Cynthia Wright-Johnson. Alex received a Right Care When It Counts award for securing medical care for his mother, who experienced a seizure while driving.

MIEMSS Presents Annual EMS Awards



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.

(Continued from page 6)

to be taken by ambulance to the hospital for medical care. During the ride to the hospital, Madison revealed that she was a Girl Scout and that she knew what to do and what to say to the dispatcher because she had just participated in 9-1-1 training during the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Girl Scout Day.

The FEMA event included hands-only CPR training, 9-1-1 dispatch and call services, home fire safety and family fire planning, a family emergency kit relay race and training session, a mock disaster exercise, and a panel featuring career safety professionals. Putting her new skills to use, Madison made the right call for help during this frightening incident.

Alex Dale Nelson (aged 12) was riding in the car with his mother, who suffers from seizures, when he observed that her behavior changed suddenly. Alex had his mother pull over to the side of the road, locked her car door as she tried to get out and walk around, and took ice from her, fearing she could choke. He called his father, who immediately left work to assist. But only a few moments later, Alex's mother began to suffer a seizure; Alex then called 9-1-1 for help.

Solomons Rescue Squad arrived only a short time later to provide medical care to Alex's mother. His quick thinking and actions, and proper use of the 9-1-1 system, likely saved him and his mother from a motor vehicle crash or further injury.

MIEMSS deeply appreciates the heroism, commitment, and service of each of these awardees. These citizens, providers, and programs epitomize those values that make EMS systems in Maryland among the best in the world. Congratulations to all award winners, and a sincere thank you to all EMS providers for their service to the citizens of Maryland.

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

(Continued on page 8)

MIEMSS Presents Annual EMS Awards

(Continued from page 7)



Team members of Queen Anne's County Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) Program accept an Executive Director's Award for Excellence in EMS. The Queen Anne's program is Maryland's longest-running MIH program, having launched in 2014.



Team members from Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department's Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) Program, accept an Executive Director's Award for Excellence in EMS. The department partners with a number of local organizations and hospitals to ensure patients have continual access to health care.



The Charles County Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) Program receives an Executive Director's Award for Excellence in EMS for their program, which launched in 2017 and is a collaborative effort among several county agencies, including the Department of Emergency Services.

State EMS Leaders Receive Maryland ACEP Awards

The Maryland chapter of the American Academy of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) has awarded their EMS Physician of the Year award to **State EMS Medical Director Dr. Richard Alcorta** and their Emergency Nurse of the Year award to Maryland EMS Board member **Mary Alice Vanhoy**.

“Dr. Alcorta’s dedication to EMS in Maryland is unparalleled,” says Tim Chizmar, MD, FACEP, chair of Maryland ACEP’s EMS Committee, a position that Dr. Alcorta himself held for many years. He also served as the president of Maryland ACEP during the mid-2000s. Dr. Alcorta was selected for this award in part for the more than 25 years he has served the citizens of Maryland, including as chair of the MIEMSS Region V Advisory Council, interim executive director of MIEMSS, and state EMS medical director, a position he has held since 1995.

Earlier this year, Dr. Alcorta announced that he is retiring from MIEMSS in the fall of 2018. “With Dr. Alcorta’s leadership as state EMS medical director, Maryland EMS has become one of the most progressive and innovative systems in the country over,” says Dr. Chizmar. “He is recognized nationally as a leader and tireless advocate for the advancement of EMS. We sincerely wish Dr. Alcorta a healthy and fulfilling retirement.”

EMS Board member Mary Alice Vanhoy is currently the nurse manager at both University of Maryland Shore Emergency Center at Queenstown and Shore Medical Center at Chestertown and a member of the Emergency Nurses Association’s national clinical practice guideline committee. Vanhoy is a trained paramedic as well as a nurse, giving her a unique perspective that motivates her dedication to emergency medical care.

The awards were presented during the Maryland ACEP’s Annual Educational Conference on April 19, 2018, in Baltimore.

Trauma Survivors Day Celebration at The Johns Hopkins Hospital

Trauma affects all of us; some of us have been a trauma patient, some of us have cared for a trauma patient, and some of us have simply known a trauma patient. Trauma is the leading cause of death among persons ages 1 to 44 (CDC.gov). However, each year millions of patients survive many trauma-related injuries. The strength to heal and the courage to keep fighting after setbacks and complications remind all of us of the power of the human spirit.

On May 16, 2018, National Trauma Survivors Day—a day to honor and celebrate trauma survivors all over the country—Adult Trauma Service at The Johns Hopkins Hospital honored two extraordinary trauma survivors. Various members of their care teams shared their reflections of the trauma survivors overcoming many health-related complications and setbacks. They shared stories of near cardiac arrests, excruciating dressing changes of wounds, and countless returns to the operating room. Yet the survivors showed their determination and perseverance to fight through another day. **Dr. David T. Efron**, chief of Adult Trauma Service at The Johns Hopkins Hospital said, “Today is about our survivors. We, those of us who have chosen to work in this field, do not get to meet people on their best day; in fact more often than not, we meet them on their worst days.”

This event also paid tribute to the families and friends who supported each trauma survivor and to their care teams, including the EMS providers who delivered prehospital care and transported them to the hospital.

During the event, these trauma survivors were honored for their courageous journey and thanked for their bravery in allowing their stories to be told.

Many thanks to guest writer *Judy Schroeder, MS, RN-BC, Adult Trauma PI/Injury Prevention Coordinator, The Johns Hopkins Hospital.*



From left, Dr. Tim Chizmar and Dr. Drew White, the Maryland ACEP recent past president, present State EMS Medical Director Dr. Richard Alcorta, center, with the EMS Physician of the Year award. Photo courtesy of Maryland ACEP.



From left, Dr. Drew White, the Maryland ACEP recent past president, and Kaitlyn Mannon, the president-elect of the Mid-Maryland chapter of the Emergency Nurses Association, present EMS Board member Mary Alice Vanhoy, center, with the Emergency Nurse of the Year award. Photo courtesy of Maryland ACEP.



Chief of Adult Trauma Service Dr. David T. Efron speaks at The Johns Hopkins Hospital’s National Trauma Survivors Day celebration.

CPR/AED Awareness Week an Opportunity to Educate

CPR/AED Awareness Week was observed June 1–7, serving as a reminder that anyone can help save a life from sudden cardiac arrest (SCA), given the right knowledge and empowerment. As one of the leading causes of death in the United States, SCA can happen to people of all ages, even those who seem healthy. It leads to death within minutes if the victim does not receive immediate medical care. Therefore, it is critical that the public be informed about what they can and should do when they witness someone experiencing SCA.

Emergency medical health care providers across the country are joining the movement to educate their communities about SCA. Nationwide, only 1 in 10 who experience SCA will survive ([sca-aware.org](http://www.sca-aware.org)). But EMS/fire services can do a part to increase that rate in Maryland by promoting these three keys for survival: Call 9-1-1, administer hands-only CPR, and find and use an AED.

Given that the fear of getting involved may prevent bystanders from helping, it is important to give the public every opportunity to

learn and practice these basic steps. EMS/fire services are uniquely positioned within their communities to educate the public on these lifesaving procedures by holding CPR training classes, posting tips and resources on social media, or staffing an informational tent at a community safety fair. Educational content and resources are available from the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation (www.sca-aware.org) and its public awareness project, callpushshock.org, co-sponsored by the Parent Heart Watch organization.

Training members of the public to recognize SCA, initiate CPR, and apply an AED (Maryland's Public Access AED Program has increased the number of and accessibility to AEDs throughout the state) is one of the key recommendations of the Institute of Medicine's *Strategies to Improve Cardiac Arrest Survival*. In addition to providing lifesaving medical care on-scene, EMS/fire services can improve SCA survival rates through targeted campaigns to empower citizens to act quickly, provide CPR, and use an AED until EMS arrival.

Allegany County Public Schools Conduct Stop the Bleed Training

On May 24, 2018, the Safety and Security Office of Allegany County Public Schools (ACPS) conducted its first "Stop the Bleed" course for staff. The training was made possible through a partnership with Western Maryland Health System and Allegany County EMS.



Allegany County EMS presents bleeding control kits, funded by a grant from MIEMSS, to staff representing ACPS. From left, Allegany County EMS Assistant Chief Christopher Biggs; ACPS staff members David J. Hobel Jr., Carol Garner, Richard King, and Glenn Rice Jr.; MIEMSS Region I Administrator Dwayne Kitis; and Western Maryland Health System Trauma Program Manager Elizabeth Wooster, PhD, RN. Photo courtesy of Allegany County Public Schools.

Additional funds provided by MIEMSS through Allegany County EMS financed bleeding control trauma kit supplies for county high schools.

"Stop the Bleed" campaign is a nationwide initiative that provides bystanders at emergency situations with the tools and knowledge to stop life-threatening bleeding. No matter how rapid the arrival of emergency responders, bystanders will always be first on the scene. A person who is bleeding can die from blood loss within five minutes, and therefore it is important to quickly stop the blood loss. "Stop the Bleed" empowers individuals to act quickly and save lives.

The Safety and Security Office educates, trains, and empowers school staff and students to react and respond to incidents that may occur in a school setting, and to also be confident in their level of situational awareness and personal safety.

For more information on the "Stop the Bleed" initiative and training, visit <http://www.bleedingcontrol.org>.

New Online Course Available for EMS Provider CEUs

The Emerging Infectious Disease Course is now available on MIEMSS' Online Training Center. The course was developed by University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) through a grant. It includes ten sections, each of which has been approved for 0.5 hrs. of continuing education credit. ALS providers who complete the program will have met the state/local requirement (2018) for emerging disease and PPE while also logging additional approved individual continuing education hours.

To access this course, visit www.emsonlinetraining.org. For assistance with the Online Training Center, please email OnlineTraining@miemss.org or call 800-762-7157.

Training Announcement
Active Threat Integrated Response Course
July 24-26, 2018
Community College of Baltimore County Dundalk Campus

The Active Threat Integrated Response Course (ATIRC) is a 24-hour performance level direct delivery course designed to improve integration between law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services (EMS) in active shooter events. The course provides law enforcement officers with key medical skills based on tactical emergency casualty care (TECC) guidelines which can be used at the point of injury (POI) to increase survivability of victims. The course also provides a model framework for law enforcement, fire, and EMS to integrate responses during an active shooter event through the rescue task force concept using the Active Shooter Incident Management Checklist.

Target Audience: The primary target audience for the Direct Delivery version of this course includes: • Police officers • Fire personnel (fire fighters) • EMS personnel working or volunteering for local, state, and tribal jurisdictions throughout the United States and US territories The course is designed to accommodate 18 law enforcement officers and 12 fire or EMS providers minimum to conduct the course.

This training is sponsored by The Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions in partnerships with the Department of Justice- Maryland, Baltimore County Police Department and Louisiana State University (LSU).

There is a strict deadline of 3-weeks prior to the course start date for registration.

8:00am-5:00pm Each Day

Baltimore County Police Training Academy
Community College of Baltimore County Dundalk Campus
7200 Sollers Point Rd, Baltimore, MD

Please Note: This class is restricted to 30 Law Enforcement and 20 Fire/EMS personnel. Students from Fire/EMS agencies *only* can submit a signed [MPCTC registration form](#) to Katie.Johnson@maryland.gov in order to enroll. Law Enforcement agencies must enroll via their training coordinators and the MPCTC Online Registration System. **LIMITED to 5 per Law Enforcement Agency, and 3 per EMT/Fire Agency. (MDLE Announcement: https://training.mdle.net/public_class.php?ID=11069)**

Every participant needs to have registered for a FEMA SID # before the course date.

Visit cdp.dhs.gov/FEMASID to register/retrieve a FEMA SID#.

There is a strict **registration deadline of July 3, 2018.**

Any questions can be directed to the Point of Contact (POC):

Gary L. Miconi

Law Enforcement Training Unit

Law Enforcement In-Service Training Unit Manager
CCBC Associate Instructor/MPCTC Certified Instructor
Maryland Child First Coordinator
Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commission
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
6852 4th Street
Sykesville, Maryland 21784, Room H034
Office: [410-875-3463](tel:410-875-3463)
Mobile: [443-600-6129](tel:443-600-6129)

MIEMSS, *Maryland EMS News*
653 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD 21201-1536



Governor Larry Hogan
Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford

Copyright © 2018 by the Maryland Institute for
Emergency Medical Services Systems
653 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD 21201-1536
www.miemss.org

Chairman, EMS Board: Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq.
Acting Co-Executive Directors, MIEMSS:
Richard L. Alcorta, MD, FACEP & Patricia Gainer, JD, MPA

Managing Editor: Aleithea Warmack (410-706-3994)
Design & Layout: Gail Kostas
Photography: Jim Brown & Brian Slack
(unless noted otherwise for specific photos)