



# MIEMSS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

March 2023

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## EMS NEWS DIGEST

**Counties Support Creation of Emergency Services Task Force, Request Representation** (*Maryland Association of Counties*). On February 21, 2023, Maryland Association of Counties Associate Policy Director Dominic Butchko submitted testimony to the House Health and Government Operations Committee in support of HB 0274 – Task Force on Reducing Emergency Department Wait Times with amendments. HB 0274 calls for the establishment of a study group tasked with identifying best practices for reducing emergency department wait times in the State. The Task Force will analyze just how states with similar demographics to Maryland have managed emergency department staffing, triage, and bed availability. As major players in administering emergency services, counties applaud the intent of this legislation, and ask for representation on the Task Force. Read more: <https://tinyurl.com/39mumdz5>.

**Maryland Considers New Bill Requiring AEDs in Food Service Facilities** (*NewsBreak*). Maryland is considering a new bill requiring certain food service facilities to have automated external defibrillators (AEDs) on hand. The bill, also known as the Joe Sheya Act, is sponsored by Delegate Cullison and assigned to the Health and Government Operations and Economic Matters committees. Under the proposed law, food service facilities with an annual gross income of over \$400,000 would be required to develop and implement an AED program that meets certain requirements. Read more: <https://tinyurl.com/y8hntx76>.

**Cropper Appointed Director of Emergency Services for Wicomico County** (*Maryland Association of Counties*). Lorenzo Cropper has been appointed as Director of Emergency Services. Cropper has an extensive background in the fire and emergency services having served 25 years in many different capacities. He has been employed with Wicomico County for more than 11 years in the Emergency Services Department. Mr. Cropper has an A.A.S Emergency Medical Services from Wor-Wic Technical Community College. He has a well-rounded background in both emergency management and emergency services. Read more: <https://tinyurl.com/ycxv245u>.

**Talbot Paramedic Foundation** (*The Star Democrat*). The Talbot Paramedic Foundation recently elected officers for the next two years, re-electing Wayne Dyott as president. Dyott has served for over a decade as the president and has led the TPF through unprecedented growth to become a nationally recognized leader in public access defibrillation through the SaveStation program. In addition, Ruth Ann Jones was elected as vice president, Teri Simmons was reelected as treasurer, and Jenny Madino was elected as the foundation's secretary. Read more: <https://tinyurl.com/2d8vxxr6>.

**Governor Moore Visits Deep Creek VFC During Tour of Western Maryland** (*Office of the Governor*). Governor Wes Moore joined members of the legislature and local officials on February 6 to visit Garrett and Allegany Counties, touring civil service and small business locations that are vital to the counties' rural communities, including Deep Creek VFC. Among other stops, Governor Moore's visit to the Town of Lonaconing marked the first time since 1996 that a sitting governor visited the town. Read more: <https://bit.ly/3ldyyuV>.

**Providing Top-Notch Care to Patients with Service Animals** (*EMS1*). As one of the busiest fire-based EMS agencies in the country, Baltimore City Fire Department (BCFD) personnel go above and beyond the call of duty, providing top-notch pre-hospital emergency medical care not only for the patients they serve, but for their four-legged service animals, as well. In 2012, BCFD created an operation memo dedicated to the appropriate treatment of service animals, according to Baltimore City Fire Department

Deputy Chief of EMS James Matz. It spells out the definition of service animals, how they can be identified, and how the department will transport them along with their owners for treatment. Read more: <https://bit.ly/3K0eptE>.

**Backing the First Responders: Recent Bills Empower EMS Systems** (*National Conference of State Legislatures*). As EMS systems across the country continue to face challenges in workforce, funding and administration, providing timely and quality emergency medical services to all residents is a common priority. Several factors have long strained EMS systems, which were further stretched by the COVID-19 public health emergency. Challenges include the supply of EMS clinicians, limited funding, violence against EMS clinicians, long ambulance offload times and supply chain delays. Read more: <https://bit.ly/3jRDr3J>.

**Foundation Has Awarded \$400k in Scholarships to Students, Firefighters, and EMS Clinicians** (*EMS1*). Over its 17-year history, the Charlie Riley Community Service Scholarship Foundation has awarded 333 scholarships totaling over \$400,000 to Harford County students and Fire/EMS personnel, including \$29,500 in scholarships awarded during its annual awards ceremony held November 9, 2022, at Level Volunteer Fire Company in Havre de Grace, MD. Read more: <https://bit.ly/3WYhc9D>.

Submit recent EMS-related news and headlines for consideration to [ptandy@miemss.org](mailto:ptandy@miemss.org).



## **MARYLAND EMS CLINICIANS AND JURISDICTIONAL PROGRAMS**

### **Infectious Diseases:**

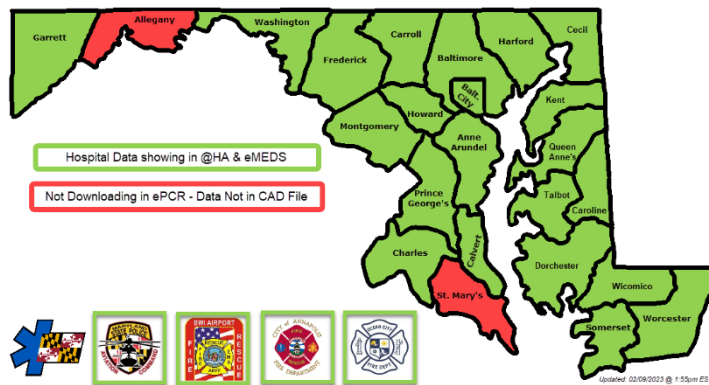
- **Respiratory illnesses – Don't Let Your Guard Down.** Although hospitalizations for both COVID-19 and influenza have decreased from peak levels, patients and EMS clinicians should continue to wear surgical masks, at minimum, on all calls for service. For patients with suspected or proven COVID-19 illness, EMS clinicians should remember to use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including: gloves, gown, eye protection, and a fit-tested N-95 respirator.

**At Hospital Ambulances (@HA).** MIEMSS developed and released a web-based application showing ambulance activity at the many hospitals utilized by Maryland's jurisdictional EMS clinicians. The application is known as the At Hospital Ambulances (@HA) dashboard. This application runs on iOS, Android, and Windows mobile devices as well as on desktop computers. The application displays the hospital name and number of ambulances at a hospital, as well as the minimum and maximum length of stay of a unit or units at the hospital. The information may be sorted by Length of Stay, Alphabetically by Hospital, or by Unit Count. If there are no units at a hospital, then the hospital is not listed (unless there is an associated CHATS Alert). Not all of the jurisdictions are participating. A map, available on the dashboard, shows which jurisdictions are supplying data and those yet to come onboard. Access to the @HA dashboard is available to clinicians via a link on the eMEDS® patient care reporting system dashboard. It may also be viewed at <https://aha.miemss.org>. Jurisdictional EMS administrators have

credentials to login to view additional details, including the ambulance’s unit number and jurisdiction. At this time, 22 of the 24 counties are submitting the necessary data to support the dashboard. MIEMSS continues efforts to improve the utility of the application.

### **Electronic Maryland EMS Data System (eMEDS®) Updates.**

- **NEMSIS v3.5 & eMEDS Release:** MIEMSS continues to work on various updates needed to bring our eMEDS patient care reporting system in compliance with NEMSIS newest version of 3.5. Various work is being done within the eMEDS run form, validations, data elements, and integrations to ensure compliance. Currently, NEMSIS is will no longer accepting our current v3.4 as of the end of CY 2023.
- **Ambulance @ Hospital Dashboard (@HA):** MIEMSS continues to work with the remaining EMSOPs to submit their CAD data to ImageTrend® in order to populate the @HA Dashboard in near-real time. In addition to counties submitting their data to the @HA Dashboard, this also improves the “CAD Download” feature used by clinicians in the field to complete their eMEDS® report in a more timely and accurate manner, with information coming directly from the county’s CAD/9-1-1 system.



- **Mobile Integrated Health (MIH):** Since October 2020, MIEMSS has been working with the Statewide EMS Advisory Council’s (SEMSAC) MIH Workgroup to implement ImageTrend®’s MIH module. EMSOPs have continued to utilize the MIH module within eMEDS® since Quarter 1 of 2021. MIEMSS’ OMD/eMEDS® is working with the Office of Clinician Services to incorporate various MIH levels into the eLicensure application in order to allow enhanced syncing between these two applications.
- **eMEDS® Support:** eMEDS® support continues to receive tickets from EMS clinicians, hospital personnel, and other stakeholders throughout the state for issues like password resets and login issues, access questions, report writer functionality, and other various needs. Emailing the support desk is the preferred method of contact. Each new email received, will generate a new ticket for MIEMSS staff to process. Users will automatically receive a system-generated email with a unique ticket number upon receipt of the new ticket.
  - o Email: [emedss-support@miemss.org](mailto:emedss-support@miemss.org)
  - o Phone Number: (410) 706-3669
- **Quarterly ImageTrend® Releases:** MIEMSS and ImageTrend® continue to work to minimize the amount of downtime that occurs during periodic updates to the eMEDS® site. Since Quarter 1 of 2020, it was decided to stop automatic, twice-per-month updates from being pushed and to

move to a quarterly update schedule. When these updates occur, the site will be updated to the latest version available from ImageTrend®. We do not expect any prolonged outage during these updates as all necessary precautions are being taken to prevent this. However, some updates may take up to six (6) hours to complete due to the complexity during these times.

**eMEDS® / ESSENCE Integration.** In conjunction the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), MIEMSS has developed a near-real time data exchange between the State of Maryland’s EMS electronic patient care report (eMEDS®) and MDH’s syndromic surveillance system. This linkage allows EMS data to be utilized by MDH for the early identification of intentional or natural emerging infectious disease outbreak(s), providing for expedient public health threat and risk assessment for situational awareness, and ensuring prompt applications of public health interventions in the event of a public health emergency. Additionally, MIEMSS has partnered with MDH and the Johns Hopkins University Advanced Physics Laboratory to engage in the development of an EMS data module within the State’s syndromic surveillance system. This new EMS module is available to other states for the purposes of integrating EMS data with ESSENCE. These technical aspects of this program were recently completed.

**eMEDS®/CRISP Integration.** MIEMSS continues to collaborate with the Chesapeake Regional Information System for our Patients (CRISP), Maryland’s designated health information exchange (HIE). This ongoing relationship has yielded a number of recent fruitful projects:

- Enhanced COVID-19 data collection to include pediatric emergency department boarding patients, and data visualization.
- Implemented expanded healthcare continuum of care’s access to pre-hospital EMS data to include electro-cardiograms and other media through the CRISP portal.
- Through collaboration with CRISP, three hospitals are now fully online and importing the pre-hospital EMS data report into their hospital electronic medical records.
- Established roadmap to achieve incorporation of Mobile Integrated Health data from eMEDS® into CRISP.

**Statewide EMS Communication System Upgrade.** The MIEMSS EMS Communications System Upgrade Project is in the Implementation Stage of Phase 1, which encompasses the Southern Maryland – EMS Region V. The Implementation Stage began in May 2021, after the successful completion on Factory Acceptance Testing of the Phase 1 equipment in March and delivery of Phase 1 Equipment in April. Current work includes the integration of the NICE audio recording system with the InterTalk™ console system and enhancements to the system software. All microwave installations associated with Phase 1 as well as a significant portion of the Phase 2 microwave have been completed. System core integrations and console configurations will be completed in the second quarter of 2023; these are precursors to performing Regional Acceptance Testing in 4Q23. MIEMSS has approved the contractor, OCI, to commence work on the Phase 2 (Region III and Western Maryland) to mitigate timeline challenges due to Phase 1 equipment installation delays, COVID-19 impacts (e.g., travel ban, personnel quarantines) and resolving issues related to new equipment, e.g., tuning/optimization, firmware updates, and addressing the occasional part failure. The project team continually looks for targets of opportunity to mitigate timeline challenges. Current projected CUP Final Acceptance is estimated to be July 9, 2025.

**Medicaid Supplemental Payment Program.** MIEMSS continues to work with the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) on the Medicaid Supplemental Payment Program that will help rebalance reimbursement to EMS for the unreimbursed costs of providing services to Medicaid patients by calculating and obtaining the appropriate portion of federal reimbursement for these services. Eligible to participate in the program are EMS Board-designated Jurisdictional EMS Operational Programs that is funded directly by public (tax) dollars; bills Medicaid for EMS transports; and documents expenses paid with public (tax receipt) funds.

The 13 JEMSOPs that participated in the program in FY22 will receive a total of for costs incurred during a nine-month period in FY22. The 13 JEMSOPs include: Allegany County; City of Annapolis; Anne Arundel County; Baltimore City; Baltimore County; Caroline County; Dorchester County; Frederick County; Harford County; Howard County; Montgomery County; Prince George’s County; and Queen Anne’s County.

More than 80 percent of all emergency service transports provided to Medicaid members, and 23 percent of all emergency transports overall, by participating JEMSOPs are potentially eligible for a supplemental payment. ESPP will continue for the foreseeable future to provide annual federal reimbursement for EMS Medicaid costs. JEMSOPs that did not participate in the first year of the program have the opportunity to do so in the future.



## **EMS PREPAREDNESS AND OPERATIONS**

### **General Report:**

Work continues within several active workgroups; these include:

- ***Crisis Scene Collaboration Workgroup.*** This group was formed to identify best practices, training, and tools to assist Fire/EMS and Law Enforcement (LE) personnel to safely and effectively work together in assisting agitated individuals at incident scenes. This workgroup is made up of representatives from Fire/EMS departments, Medical Directors, LE, mental health clinicians, the Attorney General’s Office, and a civil rights expert. The workgroup has met several times and is currently collecting expert advice and information and completing a draft guidance document.
- ***Active Assailant Interagency Workgroup.*** This workgroup continues efforts in support of Governor Hogan’s Executive Order “Active-Assailant Incident Preparation and Coordination,” issued in February 2019. The Maryland State Police and MIEMSS continue to co-chair the work group. Meetings have resumed virtually after a short pause caused by the COVID-19 outbreak. Participants include representatives from hospitals, public/private education, federal, state, and local Fire, EMS, emergency management, LE, and other organizations. Several subcommittees continue to make progress towards completion of identified goals and objectives. Last year, the workgroup completed work on a new website, <https://aaiwg.maryland.gov/>, where workgroup

and related materials are located. The focus in the coming year will be on community outreach and recovery. Recovery efforts will focus on emergency people search and family support to assist those involved in or affected by active assailant events. A statewide symposium was held on October 14, 2022, in Annapolis.

- **Responder Health and Wellness Workgroup.** In 2019, a workgroup was formed with the goal of improving the health and wellness of Maryland’s first responders. The group brings together critical incident stress management and peer support team members from Fire/EMS, Law Enforcement, 9-1-1 centers, and commercial ambulance agencies. Licensed mental health clinicians also support the workgroup. The vision of this group is to ensure that *“Every Maryland first responder has the health and wellness knowledge and support necessary to thrive.”* During the 2022 legislative session, a Peer Support Bill (SB 446) was passed and signed by the governor. The Bill provides confidentiality protection for peer support team activities as well as other provisions. The new law also requires the Behavioral Health Administration, in consultation with MIEMSS, to study and write a report on specified items related to peer support teams. The study is getting underway. BHA has tasked the University of Maryland, Baltimore Systems Evaluation Center with coordinating the work and preparing the draft report. A group of well-qualified wellness folks from the Fire and EMS community as well as MIEMSS staff has been assembled to assist and provide input.
- **Automatic Electronic Defibrillator (AED) Program.** The Region IV office is responsible for managing the AED registration and renewal process as required by COMAR and the Annotated Code of Maryland. For the month of November 2022, they:
  - o processed 16 program renewal requests,
  - o renewed 64 AEDs located at sites throughout the state,
  - o processed seven (7) new programs,
  - o approved the placement of 13 new AEDs at sites throughout the state, and
  - o continued to answer a multitude of questions from organizations participating in the AED program.

#### **Field Operations:**

- Working with state, federal, and local partners on the Baltimore National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) plan update.
- Finalizing implementation plan for the Maryland Emergency Medical Resource Alerting Database Next-Generation (MEMRAD-NG) system for MIEMSS.
- In conjunction with the Regional Coordinators and SOCALR Director, continuing distribution of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and COVID-19 Test Kits (PCR and Antigen) to Maryland Public Safety and Commercial EMS Agencies.
- In conjunction with our Data Manager, continuing to work on pre-hospital patient care report data (eMEDS®) integration and analysis with the Maryland Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics (ESSENCE) team. MIEMSS recently completed an opioid analysis project with the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) and the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab.

## EMRC/SYSCOM:

- The Center continued to address staffing challenges brought about by resignations and sick leave occurrences. Several FTE and PCS vacancies have been filled. The new team members are currently in training and serving as EMRC operators.
- EMRC/SYSCOM management is coordinating SYSCOM (Phase III) training sessions for staff members not yet qualified for medevac operations. Both MIEMSS and MSP training representatives have been collaborating in the presentation of the joint agency curriculum.
- The center has provided operators to the Communications Engineering Department to function as “trouble shooters” and evaluators for the Intertalk equipment (CUP) project.
- Supervisor meeting(s) and full staff continuing education sessions will commence in early March.

## Programs:

- **Critical Care Coordination Center (C4).** MIEMSS continues to utilize the C4 to help physicians identify available hospital critical care resources when patient transfers are necessary. Over 5,300 assists have been generated. C4 is staffed with two (2) critical care coordinators and a Central Intensivist Physician (CIP) 24/7. Any Maryland hospital with a patient needing a critical care transfer or treatment guidance can contact the C4 at 410-706-7797 and select Option #1 to be connected with the Adult ICU coordinator and physician team. The C4 coordinator has a near-real time view of statewide hospital critical care bed capacity. The CIP then works with referring physicians to identify patients’ anticipated critical care needs. The C4 coordinator and CIP, working jointly with the sending and receiving facilities, match the patients with available critical care resources that can manage the patients’ conditions. MIEMSS has expanded the C4 to also include Pediatrics, accessed by calling 410-706-7797 and selection Option #2, which connects the caller with the Pediatric coordinator and pediatric emergency care and critical care physician team. “C4-Pediatrics” provides an EMS Coordinator and Central Advisor Pediatric Physician available 24/7 by phone. C4-Pediatrics provides consultation and facilitates the transfer of patients requiring a Pediatric Intensive Care Unit or Pediatric Acute Care Unit utilizing the intensive care bed surveillance system at MIEMSS. Efforts are underway for a statewide tour to promote the CH this fall.
- **Voluntary Ambulance Inspection Program (VAIP).** The VAIP document has been completed and posted to the MIEMSS website in conjunction with the 2022 *Maryland Medical Protocols for Emergency Medical Services*; go to <https://miemss.org/home/vaip>.

## Regional Highlights:

- **Regions I and II:**
  - o Regional Coordinators continue to deploy rapid and PCR tests to public safety EMSOPs.
  - o Regional Coordinators have been visiting hospital emergency departments to offer assistance during latest surge with several facilities under “crisis standards of care.”
  - o VAIP inspections being coordinated for Region I EMSOPs.
- **Region III:**
  - o Coordinating final review of NCR Regional Trauma Plan.



- Completed CHEMPACK exchange with Trooper 1.
  - Finalizing VAIP inspections and certificates for Harford and Carroll counties.
  - Facilitating CPR manikin kits distribution to requesting EMSOPs for training purposes.
  - Supporting the Critical Care Coordination Center (C4) in staffing shifts.
  - Revise & resubmit C4 operations manuscript for publication.
  - Supporting EMS Care 2023 program review.
  - Continuing to support training opportunities for region III EMSOPs.
  - Supporting the Regional Healthcare Coalition Training and Exercise Workgroup.
  - Leading the Region III Base Station Coordinators group and staffing the Cardiac Arrest Steering Committee.
- **Region IV:**
- Continue working with several recipients of the 2021 Cardiac Device grant with their reimbursements.
  - Working with the 2022 Cardiac Device Grant awardees from Region IV on the final grant documents.
  - Completed all Region IV Hospital Base Station re-designations assuring COMAR compliance.
  - Continuing work on the VAIP program including trialing improved methods to conduct and document inspections.
  - Supporting the Office of State EMS Medical Director with the Somerset County EMS SWOT Analysis. A group of stakeholders from Somerset County and neighboring jurisdictions are meeting every three weeks to develop recommendations to improve the EMS System in Somerset County.
  - Working with various stakeholders in the First Responder Health and Wellness area on statewide projects.
- **Region V:**
- Completing Base Station re-designation process as part of the COMAR requirement.
  - Continue to work with regional EMSOPs in support of ongoing financial awards.
  - Continue to work with the MWCOG to support inter-agency development and coordination.
  - Continue to work with MIEMSS leadership and CRISP in support of the Emergency Department Advisory System (EDAS).
  - Continue to collect, collate and validate the daily hospital COVID census, capacity, and bed availability data and reporting to state partners coordinating the ongoing COVID response.
  - Coordinate with the Communications Division and Region V hospitals to support the Hospital Communication Upgrade Project and assist partner hospitals in orienting on their new equipment
  - Work with EMS agencies to support the VAIP inspection process.



## HOSPITAL PROGRAMS

All applications for Trauma and Specialty Center Programs due for re-designation in CY 2023 have been received. The Office of Care Integration is contacting organizations to schedule on-site surveys in CY 2023. A 30-day notice will be given.

Trauma and Specialty Center Programs due for re-designation in CY 2024 have submitted their Letters of Intent. A notice for public solicitation will be published in the March 10, 2023, edition of *The Maryland Register* listing the centers seeking re-designation. Application for re-designation in CY 2024 will be mailed out to the centers and will be due back to MIEMSS by October 20, 2023.

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## CARDIAC

**Public Access AED Program.** AED information, including application information, is located in the public information tab under “Public Access Automated External Defibrillator”.

**Cardiac Arrest Steering Committee.** The mission of the Cardiac Arrest Steering Committee (CASC) is to improve cardiac arrest survival in all communities in Maryland. In the past year, the CASC has been evaluating two new educational and implementation strategies that utilize feedback of high-fidelity simulation data on CPR performance to EMS clinicians and on telephone CPR data to 9-1-1 Specialists. Results of these trials are positive and have been presented to the 9-1-1 Board and to SEMSAC. Plans are underway to share the results of these pilot programs and identify a few early-adopter communities that may be interested in trying new educational and quality improvement strategies to improve survival in their communities. The next Cardiac Arrest Steering Committee meeting will be held in April, date TBD. Attendance may be in-person or virtual.

SAVE THE DATE: The 37<sup>th</sup> Maryland Resuscitation Academy will be held on Thursday and Friday, June 1-2, 2023, in Marriottsville, Maryland. Register online at [Spring 2023 Maryland Resuscitation Academy \(google.com\)](https://www.google.com).

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## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

**Emergency Medical Services for Children Department (EMS for Children).** PEMAC met on March 1, 2023, for the regular business meeting followed by Safe Kids Maryland state coalition meeting. PEMAC will have an in person only meeting in May 3, 2023 at MIEMSS headquarters with an afternoon Family Advisory Network (FAN) Council meeting as the afternoon forum. The FAN has two tasks for that meeting: 1) Plan the June Steps to Safety activities for the MSFA Convention with a new focus on teens and tweens, 2) writing a strategic plan for the Maryland EMSC FAN activities for the next four years of EMSC federal funding. Safe Kids Maryland meeting featured presentations on Poison Prevention Week

in March, Bike Safety project, and Water Safety educational tools from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

As of March 1, 2023, 90 % of Maryland’s EMS Operational Programs had completed the 2023 federal EMSC EMS Assessment that benchmarks “Pediatric Readiness in EMS” and includes questions on pediatric skills and scenario training for EMS clinicians. Maryland EMSC is planning pediatric simulations and hospital visits as part of the EMSC Rural Pediatric Readiness Grant, which focuses on Pediatric Readiness in rural hospitals.

The EMSC Department coordinates four different grant programs:

**The EMSC State Partnership Grant** (federally funded by HRSA/MCHB) focuses on Pediatric Readiness for both EMS agencies and Emergency Departments, including identifying a pediatric champion (or a plurality) to provide both advocacy and facilitate communication to all members of the agency/hospital. Educational programs are being designed to include both skills and scenarios, many written by these champions.

- Pediatric EMS Champion in-person training and networking will again be held the Thursday and Friday before EMS Care in Ocean City in April 2023. A pediatric simulation workshop was piloted at Winterfest EMS Conference in February with positive feedback. PEPP hybrid course is being offered as a preconference to Miltenberger on March 10, 2023.
- Pediatric Readiness for Emergency Departments includes two national pediatric nursing courses: PCAR, February 15-16, 2023, in Annapolis, and CPEN, March 8-9, 2023, at Rocky Gap. The Maryland ENA is working with EMSC to host the first pediatric preconference in May as part of ENA by the Bay 2023.
- Twenty (20) Safe Sleep Displays have been distributed to Safe Kids, EMS Champions, hospital, and ENA partners. These displays will also be available to Pediatric EMS Champions at the April in person training.
- 2023 Conference with EMS and ENA will include pediatric tracks.

**The Child Passenger Safety and Occupant Protection (CPS & OP) Healthcare Project** (state-funded through the MHSO) received a 23<sup>rd</sup> year of funding starting October 1, 2022, which continues to provide outreach to health care providers to as well as education and parent educational tools on child passenger safety. Carroll County DES and Annapolis City Fire Department are the newest EMS Operational Program to participate in the pilot Car Seat Project for EMS Supervisor vehicles. Two webinars are planned for 2023 and prior webinars are archived on the MIEMSS YouTube channel. Social media materials will continue to inform families and caretakers. Contact the project at [cps@miemss.org](mailto:cps@miemss.org).

**The Bike Helmet Safety Project** (state-funded through the MHSO) is in a sixth year of providing bike helmets and bike safety education through Safe Kids Coalitions and community partners, Trauma Centers, and Pediatric EMS Champions. Spring helmets requests are being gathered for distribution along with educational materials. A grant application was submitted to MHSO for FY24 with a focus on encouraging local communities (counties/ city based organizations) to apply for bike safety grants in FY25. The project is seeking stories of children and adults “Saved by the Helmet” throughout the year. Contact [bikesafety@miemss.org](mailto:bikesafety@miemss.org) for more information or to request educational materials.

**The Safe Kids Maryland** state coalition continues to provide prevention information through social media and articles in *Maryland EMS News*. 2023 Safe Kids Maryland state coalition meetings are

scheduled for March 1, 2023, and September 6, 2023, in-person at MIEMSS. The 2023 international Safe Kids PREV CON will be held July 23-26, 2023, at Gaylord Conference Center in Prince George’s County, Maryland. Contact [safekidsmd@miemss.org](mailto:safekidsmd@miemss.org) to join the email event announcements.

- **Miltenberger 2023: March 9-11, 2023, at Rocky Gap Conference Center.** EMSC is hosting a CPEN Review Course on March 8 and March 9 for nurses, and a PEPP-4 hybrid course on Friday, March 10. Online registration is available at [www.miltenbergerseminar.com](http://www.miltenbergerseminar.com).
- **Public Fire & Life Safety Educators Seminar: March 25, 2023, at MFRI headquarters in College Park.** A save-the-date flyer has been posted and a full conference schedule will be available soon.
- **EMS Care 2023: April 26-30, 2023, in Ocean City, Maryland.** Brochure is being finalized and will be published online.
- **Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference: September 19, 2023.** The committee has met and a call for speakers was released in early March.



## PREVENTION

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has prepared materials for use by law enforcement and public safety personnel for the following upcoming public safety and prevention campaigns:

- **Saint Patrick’s Day (March 17, 2023).** This celebratory day is one of the biggest drinking occasions of the year and, unfortunately, means more drunk drivers on the roads. Falling on a Friday this year, we can expect a fairly dangerous weekend for drivers and passengers alike. If you plan to drink, make sure you refrain from driving and make a plan to get home safely. Download campaign materials here: <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/drunken-driving/buzzed-driving-drunken-driving/saint-patricks-day>
- **U Drive. U Text. U Pay. (April 3 – 10, 2023).** The “U Drive. U Text. U Pay.” high-visibility enforcement (HVE) media campaign centers on aiding law enforcement officers in their efforts to keep texting and distracted drivers off the road. Distracted driving is a first offense in many States and continues to gain recognition across the nation as a deadly traffic safety epidemic. Download campaign materials here: <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/distracted-driving/u-drive-u-text-u-pay>
- **420 Drug-Impaired Driving Prevention Campaign (April 20, 2023).** Although its origins are uncertain, April 20 (more commonly known as “420”) has become synonymous with marijuana use and, in some circles, this date is considered a “marijuana holiday”. Consequently, there will likely be an increase in marijuana use on and around this date. Download campaign materials here: <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/drug-impaired-driving/if-you-feel-different-you-drive-different/420-impaired-driving>

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## EMS CLINICIAN SERVICES

**eLicensure Steering Committee:** April 4, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. Email [mmeyers@miemss.org](mailto:mmeyers@miemss.org) if you wish to represent your EMSOP or Education Program.

**Licensure-support@miemss.org** is the communication method that we prefer clinicians use to contact our office with questions and concerns. All communications go into a KACE system, which is time-stamped. This helps the team categorize the ticket to the right department and helps us respond to you in a more efficient manner.

**CAPCE Courses:** Clinicians are now able to self-enter CAPCE courses into their ConEd Report with the CAPCE number.

**BLS Psychomotor Evaluator Recruiting:** MIEMSS is looking for evaluators to join the team. Qualifications: MICRB, Lead of at least one EMT Course, MD EMT, LOR from education program/academy. <https://forms.gle/C6L5q5rVrXeMTy269> .

**Forgot Password?** Licensure now has a password reset on the sign-in page. If you enter the password incorrectly too many times, you will have a 15-minute wait period before you can attempt to change the password.

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## 2023 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

### Save the Date:

- **Miltenberger EMS Seminar.** March 9-11, 2023, Rocky Gap Casino Resort, Flintstone, MD.
  - **EMS Care 2023.** April 26-30, 2023, Ocean City Fontainebleau Resort, Ocean City, MD.
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## EVENTS CALENDAR

### March 2023

- **9-11: Miltenberger Emergency Services Seminar.** Rocky Gap Casino Resort, Flintstone, MD. (<https://miltenbergerseminar.com/>)

- **25: Public Fire and Life Safety Educator Seminar.** Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, College Park, MD. (<https://www.mfri.org/schedule/seminars/>)
- **28-30: Adult Mental Health First Aid Instructor Training Program.** Virtual. (<https://tinyurl.com/MHFAlnstructorTraining>)
- **30: American College of Emergency Physicians - Maryland Chapter Education Conference & Annual Meeting.** University of Maryland SMC Campus Center, Baltimore, MD. (<https://www.mdacep.org/>)
- **31: Deadline for submitting nominations for the 2023 Maryland Stars of Life and Right Care When It Counts Awards.** Nomination forms are available online at <https://miemss.org/home/documents>.

#### April 2023

- **12: Maryland Highway Safety Summit.** Maritime Conference Center, Linthicum Heights, MD. (<https://tinyurl.com/MDHwySafetySummit2023>)
- **26-30: EMS Care 2023.** Ocean City Fontainebleu Resort, Ocean City, MD. Further details coming soon.

#### May 2023

- **4-5: ACS Point/Counterpoint XL.** Baltimore Marriott Inner Harbor at Camden Yards, Baltimore, MD. (<https://mdcot.com/point-counterpoint-xl-2023/>)
- **4-5: ENA by the Bay.** US Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium, Annapolis, MD. (<https://tinyurl.com/ENABByTheBay2023>)
- **6-12: National Nurses Week.**
- **21-27: 48<sup>th</sup> Annual National EMS Week.** (<https://www.naemt.org/initiatives/ems-week>)

#### June 2023

- **17-22: Maryland State Firemen's Association Annual Convention & Conference.** Ocean City Ocean City Convention Center, Ocean City, MD. (<https://tinyurl.com/MSFAConvention2023>)

#### September 2023

- **19: 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference.** Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, Laurel, MD. (<https://www.midatlanticlifesafetyconference.com/>)