

# Maryland EMS News

For All Emergency Medical Clinicians

Vol. 47, No.2

February 2021

## GoVAX Vaccination Campaign Underway



**GoVAX**  
Let's end COVID, Maryland.

**TEXT "MdReady" TO 898-211 FOR:**

- COVID-19 Vaccination Updates
- Safety Tips and Alerts Before, During, and After Emergencies



THE STATE OF MARYLAND has launched its grassroots public outreach and equity campaign to promote COVID-19 vaccine confidence. GoVAX encourages all Marylanders to get vaccinated when they become eligible. The GoVAX campaign includes a mix of traditional and digital media with an outreach plan to increase COVID-19 vaccine confidence, especially among Marylanders in underserved populations that have been disproportionately affected by the disease. The GoVAX campaign features testimonials and virtual events with emergency responders, religious leaders, sports figures, research scientists, health officers, elected officials, and healthcare providers sharing their personal stories about being vaccinated to encourage others to do the same. [At right: Dr. Ted Delbridge, MIEMSS Executive Director, speaks during Governor Hogan's February 11, 2021 press conference. Dr. Delbridge provided an EMS and hospital update on Maryland's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Photo courtesy of Patrick Siebert, Executive Office of the Governor.] ■



~ SAVE THE DATE ~

Maryland Life Safety Partners

present

## Public Fire and Life Safety Educator Virtual Seminar - 2021

Saturday, March 20, 2021

8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

~ Virtual Broadcast ~

*An interactive educational program focused on Important Life Safety Practices for Fire and Injury Prevention Coordinators and Life Safety Advocates.*

Registration posted at  
[www.mfri.org](http://www.mfri.org)  
under Seminars.

### IN THIS ISSUE

- Looking for Pediatric Continuing Education? Check Out the Winter of Winterfest EMS 2021 Conference! ..... 2
- Free Virtual Mental Health First Aid Course for First Responders..... 3
- CPS Materials Now Available in Multiple Translations ..... 3
- *Seeking Nominations: Maryland Stars of Life Awards*..... 4
- *Seeking Nominations: The Right Care When It Counts Awards* ..... 5
- Burn Prevention: 2021 Electrical Safety Focus..... 6
- Keep Maryland Roads Safe This St. Patrick's Day with MHSO..... 7
- Jarboe ..... 8

## Looking for Pediatric Continuing Education? Check Out the Winter of Winterfest EMS 2021 Conference!

THE MARYLAND EMS FOR CHILDREN DEPARTMENT wants to remind EMS clinicians of the multiple course offerings hosted in the MIEMSS Online Training Center located at <https://www.emsonlinetraining.org> as part of the Winterfest EMS 2021 Conference. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Winterfest EMS conference committee elected to move the conference to a virtual platform making the conference content available to all at no cost! EMS clinicians will find a variety of content, including the pediatric-specific courses below:

■ **Your Next Patient Has Autism... Are You Prepared?** You have been called to assist a person who is conscious but verbally unresponsive and combative—could he have autism? Through experiential activities and shared personal stories, the speaker will define autism spectrum disorder, offer insight into the commonly affected areas, and provide strategies to improve your interactions. *The course offers 1 hour of NCCP Individual credit for ALS clinicians and 1 hour of Medical credit for BLS clinicians.*

■ **Best Practices in Spinal Protection and Safe Transport for Children.** Are you prepared to appropriately package an injured pediatric patient? Can you do so in a way to minimize risks during transport? During this lecture, EMS clinicians will learn best practices for safely transporting pediatric trauma patients. This lecture will include a discussion on pediatric cervical spine anatomy and review the pros and cons of various devices available for use by EMS clinicians. *The course offers 1 hour of NCCP Individual credit for ALS clinicians and 1 hour of Trauma credit for BLS clinicians.*

■ **Understanding the WHY of Seatbelts and Child Restraints.** Join Janet Bahouth, Ph.D., as she discusses the “whys” of seatbelts and reviews various safety and technological features present in automobiles. Dr. Bahouth will also share her experience doing local outreach with children about “what is a crash” and “what does a crash feel like”. The presentation includes information on crash dynamics and occupant kinematics as well as case reviews comparing outcomes with seatbelt use. *The course offers 1 hour of NCCP Individual credit for ALS clinicians and 1 hour of Trauma credit for BLS clinicians.*

■ **Pediatric Burns.** When a burn occurs, seconds count and initial pre-hospital care and transport decisions are critical. This course will focus on the mechanisms of burn injury most often seen, accurate burn assessment tools and techniques, and the priorities of treatment. Airway management, initial fluid resuscitation, pain management and temperature control are all key in EMS assessment and transport. *The course offers 0.5 hours of NCCP Individual credit for ALS clinicians and 1 hour of Trauma credit for BLS clinicians.*

For more information, please email [pepp@miemss.org](mailto:pepp@miemss.org). ■



## Free Virtual Mental Health First Aid Course for First Responders

**MIEMSS AND THE MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND**, with funding provided by the Opioid Operational Command Center, are offering free, one-day virtual Mental Health First Aid Courses for First Responders on April 7, April 28, May 12, and June 9, from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. These courses will be taught by members of the Maryland First Responder community. This is a statewide offering, so you can attend on any one of these dates.

This class will teach individuals how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders. This training provides skills needed to reach out and

provide initial support to colleagues, friends, or loved ones who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem and to help connect them to the appropriate care. It focuses on the unique experiences and needs of public safety personnel, firefighters, and EMS personnel.

The class discusses:

- First Responder culture, including stigma and its relevance to the topic of mental health;
- Outreach tactics to respond to individuals experiencing a mental health crisis;
- The unique risk factors faced by many First Responders and their families;

- A review of common mental health resources for First Responders, their families, and those who support them; and
- The critical role of self-care in mental wellness.

Who should take it:

- Public Safety Personnel
- Firefighters
- EMS personnel
- Dispatchers
- Other emergency services personnel

The message of mental wellness has never been more important than right now. To register sign up for your selected date via: <https://tinyurl.com/1stAidfor1stResponders>. ■

## Child Passenger Safety Materials Now Available in Multiple Translations

**AS PART OF A STATEWIDE EFFORT** to reduce deaths and injuries from motor vehicle crashes, numerous child passenger safety (CPS) educational materials are available free of charge to Maryland healthcare providers. Research from the National Highway Safety Administration as well as ML Macy et al. (“Disparities in Age-Appropriate Child Passenger Restraint Use Among Children Aged 1 to 12 Years”, *Pediatrics*. 2014 Feb; 133(2): 262–271) shows that minority populations’ use of car seats and seat belts is lower than that of other groups, so Maryland is particularly trying to reach these populations with safety messages and equipment.

A number of handouts are available for free in languages other than English. For instance, the Safe Ride News factsheets are available in English and Spanish, covering spe-

cific topics such as car seat use for preemies/new babies/toddlers, installation using LATCH or seat belts, and pick-up trucks and cars seats. Education for teens on seat belt use



is also available. Another handout is the one-page “Safest Travel for the Youngest Passengers”, which is available in English, Spanish, Korean, Russian, and Chinese. MIEMSS’ CPS Healthcare grant recently added a Burmese version to that list at the

request of a nurse from St. Agnes. Joan Geckle, MSN, RN-BC, SNIH, CPST, and Coordinator of Patient Education at Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital (MWPB), also requested some translated materials. She stated that several families with children at MWPB spoke only Amharic (spoken primarily in Ethiopia) and were unfamiliar with car seats and how to use them. Susanne Ogaitis-Jones, Project Coordinator, is now working on a new all-ages handout with Maryland referral information that will then be translated into Amharic.

Go to MD Kids in Safety Seats ([www.mdkiss.org](http://www.mdkiss.org)) for the electronic version of the Safe Ride News handouts, or contact [cps@miemss.org](mailto:cps@miemss.org) for the “Safest Travel for the Youngest Passengers” versions, quantities of the Safe Ride handouts, or other information related to child passenger safety. ■



# 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 clinicians. For further information, call 410-706-3994 or email [awards@miemss.org](mailto:awards@miemss.org).

The categories of Maryland Star of Life, Maryland EMS Citizen, EMS Clinician of the Year, and EMD Clinician of the Year relate to specific incidents occurring from January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020. 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 under extreme circumstances by EMS personnel.

## **MARYLAND EMS CITIZEN AWARD**

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

## **EMS CLINICIAN OF THE YEAR**

For a clinician 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 CLINICIAN OF THE YEAR**

This award is given for extraordinary efforts in assisting the public through dispatch 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.

***NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT MIEMSS BY FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2021.  
SUBMIT ONLINE LINK: <http://www.miemss.org/home/documents>***



## The Right Care When It Counts Maryland EMSC 2021 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, 2020, through December 31, 2020, 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 2021.

Questions? Email [awards@miemss.org](mailto:awards@miemss.org)

**Children and youth who have met one or more of the following criteria are eligible for Right Care When It Counts 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 clinicians
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 for 2021 are DUE by April 2, 2021 (Friday).**

**Submit online link: <http://www.miemss.org/home/documents>**

---

## Burn Prevention: 2021 Electrical Safety Focus

**THE FIRST WEEK IN FEBRUARY** is National Burn Awareness Week across the country. Led by the American Burn Association and echoed by the Center for Disease Control, National Fire Prevention Association, Safe Kids Worldwide and U.S Fire Administration, this week focused on education and prevention of one specific cause of burns each year. For 2021, the theme is Electrical Safety. Everyone recognizes that burn prevention is needed 365 days a year!



### Electrical Fire Facts

Annually there are over 45,000 home electrical fires in the USA, resulting in 500 deaths and 1,500 injuries. While there are many causes of home electrical fires, over half involve out-of-date or faulty electrical outlets, wiring, and lights.

- Overloaded extension cords and power strips are frequent culprits
- Incorrect lightbulb wattage leads to additional fires
- Overloaded electrical system may also lead to fires
- Most of these fires occur between 1200 and 0800 hours
- Many occur between November and March



### Electrical Safety Home Safety

Checklists for both inside and outside your home are available from the National Fire Protection Association ([www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)).

- Inspect home outlets and cords for fraying, loose covers, and be sure they are grounded

- Kitchen outlets have special requirements called “Ground-fault circuit interrupters” (GFCIs) – check with an electrician or contractor
  - Cover electrical outlets with covers which are large enough to prevent choking
    - Electrical cords should never be placed under a rug
    - One major appliance per outlet is the safest practice
    - If more than one small appliance is plugged in – be sure to use a power strip with a surge protector
- Keep appliance cords out of children’s reach
- Use correct wattage light bulbs and inspect lights to be sure wiring is intact
- Teach children to never touch electrical outlets or play with electrical cords

Starting with AMPS [Plug major appliances directly into wall outlets] and ending with ZAPS [make sure electrical equipment is properly grounded so you don’t get zapped], electrical safety is a priority throughout the year. Also, check out the EMSC Education Corner on Page 2 of this issue to learn about the Burn Assessment and Treatment lecture available through the Winterfest EMS 2021 Online Training Center series. ■

### Burn Awareness Resources

- 2020 Focus was on contact burns – see materials in the *Maryland EMS News* February 2020 and October 2020 issues on the risks from gas fire places.
- Sneak Peak - 2022 Theme is Cooking Safety
  - More detailed information, printable fact sheets, and social media posts are available at these websites:
- [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org) – public education section has home checklists, social media posts and videos to educate your community
- [www.safekids.org](http://www.safekids.org) – fact sheets and prevention tips on burns that include a focus on children with special needs
- [www.ameriburn.org](http://www.ameriburn.org) – produced 26 different electrical safety social media and educational messages tagged as Electrical Safety from Amps to Zap (A to Z)
- [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) – prevention tips for burns and fires along with national and state data at their WISQARS site
- [https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/burn\\_prevention.html](https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/burn_prevention.html) – has half- and full-page educational handouts, ready-to-post social media content, stock photos and b-roll, and pictographs. ■

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

## Maryland Highway Safety Office

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

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

### MHSO Announcements

#### Maryland's First Distracted Driving Virtual Summit

Motor vehicle crashes continue to be a leading cause of death in Maryland, with driver distraction being a factor in a significant number of crashes, injuries, and fatalities. On average a total of 55,000 distracted driving crashes have occurred each year from 2015 to 2019 throughout the State.

MHSO, in partnership with DRIVE SMART Virginia, is hosting the first ever Maryland Distracted Driving Summit virtually in April. This virtual Summit is comprised of a series of 18 webinars with speakers from across the country. The webinars will focus on four different education tracks: law enforcement, research/data, corporate/community strategies, and focused populations.

Please visit [www.marylandddsummit.org](http://www.marylandddsummit.org) to register and view the full list of sessions and speakers.

#### Grant Applications Due Soon

Grants application for FFY 2022 (October 1, 2021-September 30, 2022) will be accepted through March 12, 2021. Organizations eligible for grant awards include state and local governments, law enforcement agencies, non-profit organizations, and institutions of higher education. The purpose of the highway safety grant program is to fund activities aimed at reducing the number of motor vehicle-related crashes, deaths, and injuries on Maryland roadways. Visit [ZeroDeathsMD.gov](http://ZeroDeathsMD.gov) to learn more.

#### Emphasis Area Team Meetings

Looking to become more involved in your local road safety? Consider joining one of our upcoming meetings:

- Impaired Driving: March 22, 10:00 a.m. – Noon
- Pedestrian/Bicyclist Safety: March 25, 1:00 –3:00 p.m.

Contact [trichards@mdot.maryland.gov](mailto:trichards@mdot.maryland.gov) to register

**ZERO DEATHS  
MARYLAND**

### Upcoming HVE Waves

*High Visibility Enforcement (HVE) combines highly visible and proactive law enforcement targeting a specific traffic safety issue.*

**March 8 – 16:** Spring Pedestrian Safety Enforcement

**March 10 – 21:** St. Patrick's Day Impaired Driving Enforcement

**March 22 – 31:** Speed Enforcement

**April:** Distracted Driving Enforcement

### In the News



In December, MDOT MVA presented Maryland State Police (MSP) and Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) Police with new Graco 3-in-1 child safety seats, which will be available to officers at each of the 23 MSP barracks and seven MDTA Police detachments. Read more here: [MVA.Maryland.gov](http://MVA.Maryland.gov)

### Social Media Toolkits

Looking to share safe driving messages on your social media? Download our St. Patrick's Day Toolkit at <https://zerodeathsmd.gov/resources/impaired-driving-resources/>.



*From social distancing and  
hand-washing to wearing  
a mask and getting the  
COVID-19 vaccine, stopping a  
pandemic requires using  
ALL the tools available.*

*Learn more at*

*<https://covidlink.maryland.gov>*

► *Artwork courtesy of Jim Jarboe, a retired Montgomery County career firefighter and member for close to 65 years of the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department, where he continues to volunteer.*



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



**Governor Larry Hogan**  
**Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford**

Copyright © 2021 by the Maryland Institute for  
Emergency Medical Services Systems  
653 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD 21201-1536  
[www.miemss.org](http://www.miemss.org)

*Chairman, EMS Board:* Clay B. Stamp, NRP  
*Executive Director, MIEMSS:*  
Theodore R. Delbridge, MD, MPH

*Managing Editor:* Patrick Tandy (410-706-3994)  
*Design & Layout:* Patrick Tandy  
*Photography:* Jim Brown & Brian Slack  
(unless noted otherwise for specific photos)