

A monthly update for members of the Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado.

June 2022

EMSAC group (agency) members, please forward to your staff. If you have news for the EMSAC monthly update, send it to communications@emsac.org.

EMSAC NEWS

EMSAC board of director's election

EMSAC members recently voted for members to fill the positions of president, vicepresident and representatives for each of the even-numbered regions.

Newly elected are:

- Tom Anderson as vice-president, from AMR-Colorado in Canon City,
- Paul Johnson as region 2 representative, from Mountain View Fire Rescue.

Retaining their positions are:

- Scott Sholes, president, Durango Fire Protection District
- Jeffery Force, region 4 representative, Memorial Hospital University of Colorado Health
- Brandon Chambers, region 6 representatives, Southern Colorado RETAC
- · Jon Montano, region 8 representative, SLV RETAC
- Daniel Barela, region 10 representative, Colorado Mesa University Health Sciences Dept.



You can have an impact on EMS in Colorado

You can now easily volunteer with an EMSAC Committee, <u>online</u>. EMSAC committees are the workhorse of all we do. Get involved and make your mark on EMS in Colorado.



COLORADO EMS NEWS

Colorado to improve EMS services statewide, address disparities in access

New task force result of 2022 legislation

EMSAC championed Senate Bill 22-225, "Ambulance Service Sustainability And State Licensing." We aggressively advocated the bill, which creates a means to make the most effective—and overdue—improvements to our state's EMS system in decades.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment will begin work to improve EMS services across Colorado and oversee a task force dedicated to evaluating how to reduce disparities in access to emergency services. Read more **here**.

Monkeypox Awareness



While it is very unlikely that EMS clinicians will encounter a person infected with Monkeypox during routine operations, awareness is important. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has this information for EMS personnel:

- Monkeypox Guidance for EMS
- <u>Department Monkeypox Information</u>

OTHER NEWS

OF SURGEONS

The 2021 National Guidelines for the Field Triage of AMERICAN COLLEGE **Injured Patients** or "Guidelines" are now available. A multidisciplinary expert panel led by the American College of

Surgeons (ACS) undertook this revision with support from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Maternal and Child Health Bureau, and EMS for Children Program.

It's time to change the conversation from post-traumatic stress to posttraumatic growth.

By Josh Goldberg - Executive Director, Boulder Crest Institute.

Our nation's first responders are struggling mightily. This was true before COVID-19. But in the aftermath of non-stop service, illness and hardship, these incredible people are battling a range of mental health issues. For far too many, the impact of service to their communities has become a burden. Read the full article **here**.

USFA publishes EMS Safety Practices manual



In April, the U.S. Fire Administration published its EMS Safety Practices manual EditSign, intended to provide information to enhance the health and safety of the emergency medical services (EMS)

practitioner and support the reduction of occupational illness and on-duty injuries and fatalities. Read more here. Download the manual here.

Arizona governor signs bill prohibiting Arizona's EMTs from persuading patients into not going to hospital



House Bill 2431 prohibits Arizona's EMTs from diagnosing patients out in the field and persuading them into not going to a hospital.

Original report - EMS1 attorney's review- KPTV-Pheonix news story

Emergency Operations Center Grant Program



FEMA's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Grant **FEMA** <u>**Program**</u> is intended to improve emergency management and preparedness capabilities by supporting flexible, sustainable, secure, strategically located, and fully interoperable EOCs with a

focus on addressing identified deficiencies and needs.

Rapid response: 5 ways to be prepared for an MCI in your community

Focusing on swift triage, being good at the basics and having a plan for exfiltrating the wounded are essential steps to immediate lifesaving measures. Read more **here**.

New Fentanyl-Heroin Resistant Glove



PH&S Products, LLC has been awarded by the FDA a 510(k) medical device Class I listing for a two-tone single-use only, examination grade glove for protection against fentanyl, heroin, and gastric acid per the ASTM D6978-05 standard.

COVID NEWS

nature

Why call it BA.2.12.1? A guide to the tangled Omicron family

Nature explores how subvariants are named, and why none of Omicron's family members has been upgraded to a 'variant of concern'. Read more.

COVID and smell loss: answers begin to emerge

Researchers are learning more about how the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus stifles smell and how they might revive it. Read it **here**.

REMINDERS

EMS Job Board



EMSAC's new <u>Job Board</u> is free for anyone to view job listings and to post and edit their resumes. Recruiters can browse the resumes in the system to see if there is a good match within the EMSAC membership database.

NEW Job Board feature! When posting a job to the EMSAC Job Board, you can now send an email notification about the post. This feature is only an additional \$50 and can help with visibility to your job posting.

<u>Post a job</u> (for Job Recruiters) **<u>Upload a resume</u>** (for Job Seekers)

The EMSAC **Career Center** is a national job board, linked to EMS jobs posted in other states. **Posting a job is free for EMSAC members.** For-non members there is a fee, but the cost is lower than many job boards.

CREATE-Colorado Resource for Emergency Education



CREATE offers a live Q&A session on the first Monday of every month from 2:00 to 2:50 PM. Here you can find answers that will help in applying for a CREATE education

grant (except November (2:30 pm to 3:20 pm) and January (first Thursday). Attend these interactive sessions to ask questions related to the CREATE grant application.

- To join from your computer, tablet or smartphone: https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/709267797
- To join by phone dial (872) 240-321, access code: 709-267-797.

MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES FOR EMERGENCY RESPONDERS

Path4EMS: Colorado's EMS Peer Assistance program

Any currently certified Colorado EMS provider now has a new avenue of access and support for issues related to stress management, mental health and wellness. These services are confidential, free of charge, and available statewide. Information about the program can be found **here. For immediate assistance, please call 1-800-873-7138**. Make the Call to Make Things Better.

Firefighters and EMS personnel face many unique challenges that can have a significant impact on their behavioral health. To ensure these individuals and their families have access to the help they need, the NVFC teamed up with American Addiction Centers (AAC) to create a free, confidential helpline available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Fire/EMS Helpline: 1-888-731-FIRE (3473)The Code Green Campaign <u>**Code Green**</u> is a first responder-oriented mental health advocacy and education organization. It is not a crisis helpline; its mission is to bring awareness to the high rates of mental health problems in first responders and reduce them, eliminate the stigma that prevents people from admitting problems are present and asking for help and educate first responders on self and peer care and to advocate systemic change in how mental health problems are addressed by first responder agencies.

Building Warriors

Building Warriors is a specialty group of private practice professional counselors and peer consultants supporting emergency responders and their families. Even the strongest among us can feel lost, unsure, ambivalent, or unhappy at times. We specialize in working with Emergency Responders and their families. We can help manage whatever life may bring, we will attack issues and focus on finding a healthy balance within your mind, body, and heart. For more information or to schedule a class for your agency, call (720) 504-6207.

Foundation 1023

Foundation 1023 is committed to supporting the emotional and mental wellness of first responders and their support network who are experiencing illness, loss or stressful life events by providing confidential funding for emotional and mental wellness services, as well as access to peer supported outdoor activities and events designed for personal wellness and connection. Foundation 1023 offers referral services and financial support to pre-approved Professional Counselors that are experienced in the first response industry.

Safe Call Now - (206) 459-3020

Safe Call Now is an emergency services-based emergency CONFIDENTIAL, comprehensive, 24-hour crisis referral service for all emergency services personnel and their family members nationwide. Speak confidentially with officers, public safety professionals and/or mental health care providers who are familiar with your line of work. MAKE A SAFE CALL NOW: (206) 459-3020. Download a brochure for your colleagues and staff.

Colorado Crisis and Support Line 1-844-493-TALK (8255)

Get connected 24/7/365 with experienced professionals, counselors and peer specialists. <u>Colorado Crisis Services</u> has **12 walk-in crisis service centers**: Fort Collins, Greeley, Grand Junction, Pueblo, and Colorado Springs; and in metro Denver: Westminster, Lakewood, Littleton, Aurora (2), Boulder and Denver. <u>Download</u> an information card. For your agency offices and quarters download a rack card.



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