

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

#### November 2022

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









#### **EMSAC NEWS**

#### New region 7 representative appointed to board of directors



Mr. Mike Lenning. an AMR Operations Manager, was appointed to the board of directors at its regular November meeting, held in person at the 2002 Colorado State EMS Conference. Mike fills a vacancy representing EMSAC region 7, comprising the counties of the Southern Colorado RETAC.



7, comprising the counties of the Southern Colorado RETAC. Read about Mike **here**. Contact information for the entire board may be found **here**.

## **Colorado EMS Educators Association**



**2023 Colorado EMS Educators Symposium** 

## **Call for Presenters**



The Colorado EMS Educators Association is a chartered subsidiary special interest group of EMSAC.

#### Huzzah, kudos and thanks to conference staff

Now that EMSAC's 2022 Colorado State EMS Conference is over, we'd like to send some shout-outs to the crew that put it together. These volunteers have worked for 10 months to prepare what national faculty members have called "one of the best state EMS conferences in the nation." We are extremely proud of the astonishing enormous job they have done for our profession, year



proud of the astonishing enormous job they have done for our profession, year after year. READ MORE **HERE**.



## **2022 Colorado State EMS Awards**

#### Air Force Academy Collegiate Basketball and Ice Hockey





Join us on base at the Clune Arena for Air Force Athletics! Tickets purchased through the link below include group rate pricing as well as a \$3 donation to the Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado.

Multiple Game dates are included in this offer, spot EMSAC in the stands for:

- AF vs. Montana Basketball, November 27, 2022
- AF vs. Holy Cross Ice Hockey, December 3, 2022
- AF vs. Niagara Ice Hockey, January 21, 2023
- AF vs. CSU Basketball, February 2, 2023







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.

## **COMMUNITY FIRST FOUNDATION**

# COLORADO STBAK Community Partner

ColoradoGivesDay.org Dec. 6

Contribute to EMSAC and partner with us in advancing the highest quality patient care, a 21st-century EMS system and the professionalism of our state's EMS responders, be they paid or volunteer, rural, frontier or urban.



Click the graphic above.

The SAVVIK Co-op supports EMSAC with revenue sharing.

#### COLORADO EMS NEWS

#### 2023 National EMS Memorial Bike Ride - Colorado



Save the Date- September 10-15, 2023 from Aspen to Morrison (Red Rocks). More information is **here**.

#### OTHER NEWS



#### "Women in Emergency Services" is launched

You're Invited to the First Ever Women in Emergency Services Virtual Town Hall Event! December 14th, 2022. 8:00 AM PST / 9:00AM MST / 10:00 AM CST / 11:00 AM EST



#### EMS Political Academy - Learn How to Win an Election

In this highly interactive webinar, you will receive in-depth insight on how to successfully run for elected office in your local ature from experienced political operatives and politicians, who ls. These experts will detail the strategies to political success

jurisdiction or state legislature from experienced political operatives and politicians, who are also EMS professionals. These experts will detail the strategies to political success through a facilitated Q&A session and then you will be able to ask questions on how best to prepare for your journey.

#### **EMT Reid Needs Your Help!**



EMSX Gives Life...



Reid is in need of a kidney.

You can be a living donor, and save his life.

For years, Reid Cappel has selflessly served his New Jersey community as an emergency medical technician. Now, it is his turn to ask for a lifeline from his fellow public health and public safety professionals. Help Reid find a living kidney donor, so that he can get back to doing what he does best: caring for others.

Anyone who is healthy and eligible to be a kidney donor can give Reid the gift of life. A donor does not have to be a direct match, can live anywhere in the US, and will have access to donor protections and resources. EMS Gives Life, a nonprofit organization for first responders, by first responders, will provide guidance to our EMS, fire, and police brethren who are considering living donation

All inquiries will be held in complete confidence. There is no commitment required to learn more. Meet Reid and learn more about living kidney donation at www.emsgiveslife.org/Reid.

## Comparative Survey on Past, Present and Future EMS Economic and Operation Models



The pandemic and workforce shortage have forced EMS managers to adjust their current economic and operation models without sacrificing patient care.

NAEMT is gathering national data on how EMS agencies are adapting to the changing environment to operate and fund their services. Your agency's responses to these questions will assist us to inform elected officials and regulators. NOTE: No identifiable information will be distributed or reported.

We kindly request one (1) person from your EMS Agency to complete the survey by December 16. The <u>survey</u> should take at most ten minutes if you have your latest completed fiscal year data available.

#### Public Safety Officers' Benefit - PSOB



As you will read in the link to the EMS Memorials page above, Colorado has lost several EMS professionals in the last 12 months. Every emergency service agency should be familiar with the Public Safety Officers' Benefit from the U.S. Department of Justice. The PSOB offers survivor benefits and educational benefits to families of emergency service professionals killed in the line of duty. The PSOB also offers disability benefits to those disabled in their E.S. work. Read more <a href="here">here</a>.

## Austin's 911 Mental Health Diversion Program is getting the right resources to mental health crises and lowering arrest rates

In Austin, Texas, when someone calls 911, they hear, "Austin 911, do you need police, fire, EMS or mental health services?" Since February 2021, Austin's 911 Mental Health Diversion Program now transfers over 600 911 calls per month to mental health clinicians, connecting those in need to the mental health treatment system as opposed to the criminal justice system and freeing up critical emergency resources – implementing this important fourth option to the 911 call triage process. Read more <a href="here">here</a>.

#### Ebola Guidance for EMS

#### Signs and Symptoms of Flu

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The signs and symptoms of flu usually develop within 2 days after exposure.

Symptoms come on quickly and all at once.

#### Signs and Symptoms of Ebola



The signs and symptoms of Ebola can appear 2 to 21 days after exposure. The average time is 8 to 10 days. Symptoms of Ebola develop over several days and become progressively more severe.

People with Ebola cannot spread the virus until symptoms appear.

The likelihood of contracting EVD in the United States is low due to the low number of travelers to the United States and measures put in place to identify and quarantine travelers with high-risk exposures. If a person were to develop EVD in the United States, the most likely scenario would be that of a monitored traveler reporting early symptoms to public health. However, a patient with EVD could present at any location of care. To help determine whether or not a patient might have EVD, first responders can utilize the 'Identify, Isolate, Inform' strategy.

For information regarding the assessment and transport of patients under investigation for Ebola Virus Disease click **here**.

#### **COVID NEWS**

#### 40% of Americans not honest about COVID-19, use of precautions

Nearly half of U.S. adults reported misrepresentation and/or nonadherence regarding public health measures against COVID-19. Read more **here**.

#### The Pandemic's Legacy Is Already Clear

"In 2018, <u>I wrote an article in *The Atlantic*</u> (Ed Young) warning that the U.S. was not prepared for a pandemic. That diagnosis remains unchanged; if anything, I was too optimistic. America was ranked as the world's most prepared country in 2019—<u>and, bafflingly, again in 2021</u>—but accounts for 16 percent of global COVID deaths despite having just 4 percent of the global population."

COVID still kills roughly as many Americans every week as died on 9/11. It is on track to kill at least 100,000 a year—triple the typical toll of the flu. Despite gross undercounting, more than 50,000 infections are being recorded every day. Read more here.

#### **REMINDERS**

#### EMS Job Board



EMSAC's new <u>Job Board</u> is free for anyone to view job listings and 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 the visibility of your job posting.

Post a job (for Job Recruiters) Upload a resume (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

Code Green 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. Colorado Crisis Services 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. Download an information card. For your agency offices and guarters download a rack card.







Banner and button advertising are available here to reach key EMS professionals. Contact communications at emsac dot org



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