

# STATE BUREAU OF EMS HIGHLIGHTS

## JULY 2011

### GENERAL INFORMATION

#### EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL

The next EMS Advisory Council meeting will be held via web ex. The date and time is to be determined.

#### 2011 EXCELLENCE IN EMS AWARDS

Please join us on Wednesday, July 6th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., at the Hilton Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, FL in South Ballroom. The Bureau of EMS in partnership with the Emergency Medicine Learning and Resource Center (EMLRC) will be paying tribute to the 2011 Excellence in EMS Awards recipients. The awards will honor outstanding Florida EMS organizations and individuals who have made a positive impact on emergency medical services throughout the state.

## *The 2011 Award winners*

EMS Provider of the Year:

*Hialeah Fire Department*

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) of the Year:

*Brandon Walters, EMT, SunStar Paramedics*

Paramedic of the Year:

*Ron Bray, Paramedic, Nature Coast EMS*

EMS Nurse of the Year:

*Kathy Koch, R.N., Tampa General Hospital, Aeromed Flight Program*

Florida EMS Disaster Preparedness and Response Award

*Quin Romay, Putnam County Department of Emergency Services*

Larry S. Jordan EMS Hall of Fame:

*Malcolm T. Kemp, Paramedic, Leon County EMS*

Marilyn Crook EMS Pioneer:

*Seminole Tribe of Florida*

EMS Injury Prevention:

*Paul Fleteau, Paramedic, Putnam County Fire/EMS*

Raymond H. Alexander, MD, EMS Medical Director of the Year:

*Kim Landry, M.D., Leon County EMS*

EMS Dispatcher of the Year:

*Cheryl A. Meyers, Paramedic, SunStar Paramedics*

EMS Educator of the Year:

*EMS Program, College of Central Florida*

Florida State Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Heroes Award:

*Michael Rushing, Sacred Heart Healthcare Systems*

Friend to EMS Award:

*Jay Anderson, Executive Director, Stay Alive, Just Drive*

Video of the Year

*SunStar Paramedics*



# EMS Memorial

*Dedicated to those in Florida EMS who  
lost their lives in the line of duty*

Robert H. "Buddy" Gasche, Paramedic  
May 17 1956 – November 22, 2010  
Gainesville Fire Rescue

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## **DATA SECTION**

### **EMSTARS**

The Prehospital Data Section continues to make great strides with 131 agencies reporting to EMSTARS, bringing the state repository to over 3.8 million incidents reported. The number of agencies moving to EMSTARS reporting continues to rise each month.

The EMSAC Data Committee continues to play the major advocacy role contributing to the increase in agency data submissions. The Data Committee is committed to the advocacy, education and awareness of the benefits that EMSTARS brings to the quality of EMS service delivery in Florida. Currently the EMSAC Data Committee is developing an EMSTARS Awareness Video as an outreach event for EMS Agencies.

The EMSTARS Project Team continues to work in concert with our federal partners, NEMSIS (National EMS Information System), EMS Advisory Council Data Committee, and the EMS Community to review and analyze the upcoming changes anticipated with NEMSIS 3.0. This national release will be finalized during the months of July – October with a beta release. At that time, the Data Committee will assess the impact this may have on Florida EMS providers to ensure that an appropriate state level implementation strategy is developed for this upcoming Federal mandate.

The Project Team is also working to develop improvements in the data analysis, linkage and reporting capabilities of EMS data through the implementation of the EMSTARS Data Mart. The 2nd iteration of the EMS Data Mart is nearing completion and includes the initial linking of Agency for Healthcare Administration data (Emergency Department, Hospital Inpatient Discharge, and Rehabilitation data) data. This solution will be deployed in July and will provide a fully functional data mart that can be used to support the analysis and decision-making requirements of the business.

The Project Team continues the one-on-one visits with providers to facilitate training and/or implementation assistance as needed. As of June 2011, over 40 agencies have been provided this assistance.

If your agency is interested in receiving assistance with your EMSTARS submissions or transitioning from aggregate data reporting to EMSTARS reporting at this time or in the near future, please contact [Brenda Clotfelter@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Brenda.Clotfelter@doh.state.fl.us) or Stephanie Daugherty at [StephanieC.Daugherty@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:StephanieC.Daugherty@doh.state.fl.us). If your agency needs assistance to transition to EMSTARS reporting, or if your agency has questions / concerns about EMSTARS reporting, please contact us.

## **NEMSIS UPLOAD / NEMSIS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER**

Florida continues to be a “stand out” state with its participation in the national program, NEMSIS. Florida has over three million incident records in the national database. Florida ranks number two in number of records submitted to NEMSIS.

The NEMSIS National Reporting System based upon the National EMS Data Base is now available! The web-based system can be found on the NEMSIS web site ([www.nemsis.org](http://www.nemsis.org)) under the Reporting Tools tab (click on “Reports”, then “National Reports” and then “Access Reports”). You will notice Florida’s data is now incorporated in the national reports.

Visit and use the reports and, most importantly, provide the NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center (NEMSIS TAC) feedback regarding the usefulness of the reports. They are striving to provide the best possible product and need feedback to enhance the impact of the national reports on the EMS system as a whole.

## **VENDOR COMPLIANCE**

Vendors continue to work toward EMSTARS verification. As of June 2011, 15 vendors are EMSTARS compliant. For additional details on the status of the vendor compliance, visit [www.FloridaEMSTARS.com](http://www.FloridaEMSTARS.com) or email Juan Esparza at [Juan.Esparza@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Juan.Esparza@doh.state.fl.us).

## **PARTNERSHIPS**

The EMSTARS Project Team continues to work in partnership with the EMSAC Data Committee, as well as the other EMSAC committees and constituency groups. The 2010-2012 Strategic Plan was developed in concert with all of these committees. This initiative exemplifies the commitment to identifying and acting upon the numerous opportunities Florida has to lead the nation in improving patient care and patient outcomes.

The team has enjoyed working with all of you over the past several years. Thanks from the Data Section and Project Team!

Brenda Clotfelter is the EMSTARS Project Manager and can be contacted by e-mail at [Brenda.Clotfelter@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Brenda.Clotfelter@doh.state.fl.us). Please contact her if you have questions or need assistance with EMSTARS. Visit [www.FloridaEMSTARS.com](http://www.FloridaEMSTARS.com) for additional information.

## **EMERGENCY MEDICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**

The EMRC continues to analyze various sections of the EMSTARS database. Over the past quarter, the EMRC has focused on being a major support mechanism for the Bureau's Data Unit. This support has mainly been to assist the Bureau with the clinical requirements of the data cube. The EMRC has worked hard to identify facts that may be presented in the cube to aid in the future of clinical quality improvement.

Additionally, the EMRC has performed an in-depth analysis of prehospital airway procedures. This analysis was primarily performed by the Bureau's new epidemiologist, Karen Card. Karen comes to the Bureau as an experienced epidemiologist from the state of Kentucky and will be a major resource for the EMRC. The work that she and the rest of the EMRC have performed on prehospital airway will hopefully be used for public consumption by the end of the summer.

The EMRC remains committed to analyzing measures provided in our state strategic plan and national EMS performance measures. However, a dual focus has been placed on other items of importance as well. While having a focus on our given performance measures, a future research goal of the EMRC is to analyze a return on investment for many of the common EMS practices performed by EMS services and the Bureau of EMS.

## **TRAINING & EDUCATION SECTION**

### **TRAINING**

There are 70 schools offering 174 EMT and paramedic training programs. There are currently 600 approved continuing education courses in the state. The following is a breakdown on first time test takers:

4379 EMTs tested between January 1, 2010 and January 1, 2011; 76% passed.

2003 Paramedics tested between January 1, 2010 and January 1, 2011; 91% passed.

### **INSPECTIONS**

A total of 63 EMS providers have been inspected in 2011. 35 of these inspections were announced while 28 were unannounced. Inspectors are continuing to see deficiencies in pediatric supplies and equipment as well as expired personnel files such as ACLS cards, CPR cards and EVOC certificates.

### **LICENSURE**

There are 272 EMS providers currently licensed in the state with over 4160 permitted vehicles.

The following information refers to timely service renewal applications submitted to this department.

#### Florida Statute 120.52(10)

(10) License means a franchise, permit, certification, registration, charter, or similar form of authorization required by law, but it does not include a license required primarily for revenue purposes when issuance of the license is merely a ministerial act.

#### Florida Statute 401.26(5)(a)

(5) In order to renew a vehicle or aircraft permit issued pursuant to this part, the applicant must:

(a) Submit a renewal application. Such application must be received by the department not more than 90 days or less than 30 days prior to the expiration of the permit.

Florida Statute 401.251(5)(a)

(5) In order to renew a license for air ambulance service, the applicant must:

(a) Submit a renewal application to the department not more than 90 days nor less than 60 days before the license expires.

*Therefore a ground license application must be received in the Bureau of EMS no less than 30 days prior to expiration. An Air Ambulance license application must be received no less than 60 days prior to expiration. If these dates are not adhered to your service will be subject to administrative action.*

### **911 PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS (911 PSTs)**

There are 51 approved training centers throughout the state which consist of EMS Agencies, Fire/Rescue Agencies, Police Departments, Sheriff's Offices, and schools. There are over 3600 certified Public Safety Telecommunicators statewide. The curriculum has been finalized based on the Florida Department of Education's Curriculum Framework thanks to our subject matter experts. We are currently working to finalize the standardized examination that is required by statute to be administered by October 1, 2012.

## **STATEWIDE PLANNING SECTION**

### **2010-2011 COUNTY GOVERNMENT GRANTS**

Solely county governments are eligible for these funds. These grants return to each county government 45 percent of its own deposits from traffic fine surcharges as required by Section 401.113 (1) and (2) (a), *Florida Statutes*. This year we are returning the funds to the counties in two payments. Forty four of 67 county governments applied for their first payment which collectively totaled \$1.5 million paid. The \$241,360 balance not requested by the other 23 counties will be added to their 2nd payment next year.

We sent a survey to the 67 county governments and asked their preference of one payment or two payments as is now in process, and also other items regarding how we can improve our grant services to them.

## **2010-2011 MATCHING GRANTS**

EMS organizations submitted 121 matching grant applications and 70 were selected for awards which total \$2.7 million in state funds. Nearly \$1.2 million was awarded for grants for medical equipment, \$763,393 for vehicles, \$441,255 for education and injury prevention, and \$303,467 for computers.

## **GRANT EVENTS**

We expect to begin accepting new grant applications before the end of this calendar year.

## **EMSC ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The Bureau of Emergency Medical Services is soliciting letters of interest or letters of recommendation for individuals interested in serving a two-year term on the EMS for Children (EMSC) Advisory Committee. The upcoming term will begin on October 7, 2011 and will end on October 6, 2013. Candidates should be involved in the overall care and treatment of children, be a child advocate and possess a genuine commitment to promote prevention and improve emergency care outcomes for children. Candidates should be mindful that the EMSC Advisory Committee members participate in meetings, conferences, workgroups and communicate through phone calls and emails as requested. If you would like to be considered or make a recommendation for appointment to the EMSC Advisory Committee, please submit a letter of interest or recommendation along with a current CV/resume by no later than **August 1, 2011** to:

Melissa Keahey, EMSC Program Manager  
Florida Department of Health  
Bureau of Emergency Medical Services  
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C18  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
melissa\_keahey@doh.state.fl.us

## **PEDIATRIC EDUCATION PROGRAM**

In an effort to improve pediatric education and training of prehospital professionals statewide, the Florida EMSC Program is conducting **FREE** pediatric/neonatal training courses.

The Florida EMSC education programs are designed to enhance pediatric/neonatal skill sets in the EMS community. Funding for these programs is provided by our federal partnership grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration's Maternal and Child Health Bureau.

If you are interested in having a **FREE** pediatric/neonatal education course offered at your agency, please contact Melissa Keahey, EMSC Program Manager at melissa\_keahey@doh.state.fl.us or 850.245.4440 ext. \*2686.

Education programs offered and scheduled to date during this grant year are as follows:

- Pediatric/Neonatal Review, Levy County; 37 Students
- S.T.A.B.L.E. Program, Hendry County; 28 students
- Pediatric ITLS, Gulf Coast Medical Center; 28 students
- Pediatric/Neonatal Review, Daytona Beach; scheduled for June 20-22, 2011

### **EMSC GRANT PERFORMANCE MEASURE**

The EMSC Program conducted a survey regarding on-line and offline medical direction, as well as essential pediatric equipment (Performance Measures 71-73). The survey launched on November 1, 2010 and closed on February 1, 2011. This survey provided baseline data required for performance indicators that document activities and achievements of the EMSC program in improving the delivery of emergency services to children. The target audience for this survey was a random sample of licensed EMS provider agencies in Florida as selected by the National EMSC Data Analysis Resource Center (NEDARC). Data collected during this survey period has been analyzed and survey results are as follows:

- 126 BLS and ALS EMS provider agencies completed the survey.
- Percentage of ALS agencies with on-line medical direction: 94%
- Percentage of BLS agencies with off-line medical direction: 0%
- Percentage of ALS agencies with off-line medical direction: 97%
- Percentage of BLS agencies with required pediatric equipment on patient care units: 27%
- Percentage of ALS agencies with required pediatric equipment on patient care units: 72%

## **EMSC FEDERAL PARTNERSHIP GRANT**

The Florida EMSC program received a Notice of Grant Award Authorization from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) on February 16, 2011. The grant began in March 2011 and ends on February 29, 2012.

The primary goals of the grant are: to improve and expand the degree to which Florida EMS has ensured the operational capacity to provide pediatric emergency care; to adopt requirements in Florida for pediatric emergency education for the licensure/certification renewal of EMTs and paramedics; and to improve and expand the degree to which Florida has established permanence of EMSC in the Florida EMS system.

## **“PREHOSPITAL PEDIATRIC PITFALLS” TRAINING DVD**

The *Prehospital Pediatric Pitfalls* DVD is a high quality 3-hour neonatal/pediatric training DVD which meets the 2-hour pediatric emergency recertification requirements as approved by your medical director. It was customized for the EMSC program by Peds-R-Us Medical Education, LLC and is geared towards all healthcare professionals who may care for sick or injured children.

To request a **FREE** copy of the *Prehospital Pediatric Pitfalls* DVD, contact Melissa Keahey, EMSC Program Manager via email [melissa\\_keahey@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:melissa_keahey@doh.state.fl.us) or telephone 850.245.4440 ext. \*2686.

## **EMERGENCY GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOLS**

The Emergency Guidelines for Schools, 2011 Florida Edition, has been developed and is available for download at the Florida Department of Health, Bureau of EMS website at [www.fl-ems.com](http://www.fl-ems.com) – select *EMS for Children*.

EMSC obtained permissions from the Ohio Department of Health and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services to reproduce the Emergency Guidelines for Schools, 3rd Edition, with modifications specific to Florida law and regulations. The emergency guidelines are meant to serve as basic what-to-do-in-an-emergency information for school staff without nursing or medical training when the school nurse is not available.

## **PEDIATRIC DISASTER PREPAREDNESS RESOURCES**

In an effort to improve the education and training of initial emergency responders across the EMSC continuum of care, complimentary copies of resource materials have been made available to EMS provider agencies, EMS initial training centers and hospital emergency rooms. EMSC has distributed 2000 Kids In Disaster Kits (K.I.D. Kits) and 25,000 START/JumpSTART Triage Cards.

Items still available include:

- Broselow Pediatric Antidotes for Chemical Warfare Tape

If your organization is interested in receiving the above mentioned items, please contact Melissa Keahey, EMSC Program Manager at melissa\_keahey@doh.state.fl.us or 850.245.4440 ext. \*2686.

Funding for these resources was provided by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Bioterrorism Preparedness Grant.

## **CLINCON 2011 CONFERENCE**

The Florida EMSC program will be supporting continuing education programs at the upcoming ClinCon 2011 Conference, July 7-10 at The Hilton Walt Disney Resort in Orlando, FL. Programs provided by EMSC include:

- Pediatric Playtime: Emergency Skills Lab; Instructed by Scott Deboer RN, MSN, CPEN, CEN, CCRN, CFRN, EMT-P of Peds-R-Us Medical Education, LLC.
- Initial Management of Pediatric Cardiac Arrest- The Panic Zone; Instructed by Shaun Fix, PMD, NREMT-P.
- Pediatric Case Studies- "Wow I didn't know that"; Instructed by Sabina Braithwaite, MD, MPH, FACEP, NREMT-P

## **INVESTIGATION**

The Investigations Section within the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services continues to operate in conjunction with Medical Quality Assurance (MQA) in regards to the investigation of complaints against EMTs and paramedics. The Bureau of EMS continues to investigate legally sufficient complaints against EMS providers, training schools and 911 PSTs. Upon completion of the investigative process, all case files are sent to the Prosecution Services Section within the bureau.

The bureau is in the process of hiring a new prosecuting attorney and should have that completed by August 2011.

The Investigations Section is now responsible for developing and processing disciplinary Final Orders for EMT's, paramedics, Florida EMS providers and training schools and processing Level II exemptions related to background screening of EMTs and paramedics.

**Where to Mail Complaints**

All complaints against individual **EMTs and/or paramedics** should be sent to:

Florida Department of Health  
Medical Quality Assurance  
Consumer Services Unit  
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C-75  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

All complaints against **Florida EMS providers, training schools and 911 PSTs** should be sent to:

Florida Department of Health  
Bureau of EMS  
Investigations Section  
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C-18,  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

**COMPLAINTS RECEIVED FOR APRIL – JUNE 2011**

24	Emergency Medical Technicians
9	Paramedic
16	EMS Provider ALS
1	EMS Provider Air

**PROBABLE CAUSE PANEL MEETINGS HELD FOR APRIL – JUNE 2011**

April 19, 2011	Reviewed 7 cases
May 27, 2011	Reviewed 20 cases
June 23, 2011	Reviewed 20 Cases

## DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS TAKEN FOR APRIL – JUNE 2011

3 Revocations
1 Paramedic
2 Emergency Medical Technician

2 Obligations Imposed
1 Emergency Medical Technicians
1 Paramedic

2 Fines
1 EMS Provider
1 Training School

## Addendum

### Office of Injury Prevention (OIP)

Contact Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan, Director, Office of Injury Prevention; Division of Emergency Medical Operations at 850.245-4440, ext. \*2776 for further information.

## PERSONNEL

### Staff Changes

Towana Bonnett, Planning Manger, accepted a position with the Division of Disease Control, HIV/AIDS. She returns to the office she left three years ago to join the Office of Injury Prevention. Her last day in the Office of Injury Prevention was May 26, 2011. We will miss her and wish her well in her new position.

## UPCOMING EVENTS/DEADLINES

### 2011 Sumer WaterproofFL - "Pool Safety is Everyone's Responsibility" pool safety and drowning prevention campaign

For the first time a statewide pool safety and drowning prevention campaign is being implemented for Summer 2011. Since 2006, a yearly campaign has included only the top counties in 1-4 year old drowning deaths. This year all 67 County Health Departments (CHDs) will receive educational materials, brochures, posters, partner recruitment kits and water watcher tags.

In addition to the educational materials, the CHDs in the top 8 counties, Broward, Miami Dade, Lee, Brevard, Hillsborough, Orange, Sarasota and Hernando (based on the 2008-2009 drowning death data for the 1-4 years old) will receive door alarms to distribute. We are seeing trends and reports that more children are drowning in play clothes, not swimwear.

The new WaterproofFL "Pool Safety Is Everyone's Responsibility" Campaign emphasizes a multi-faceted approach; Layers of Protection-Supervision, Barriers, and Emergency Preparedness. Supervision is the first layer, with Barriers being the second layer, targeting the situations when an unsupervised child leaves the home area through a door to the pool area or outside of the home.

With barriers in place, this will allow time for the adult to find the child before a tragedy takes place.

This statewide campaign will provide a unified statewide message that can be used by a variety of stakeholders. A website with a tool kit was developed to allow stakeholders and interested community members to download materials and information. See [www.WaterproofFL.com](http://www.WaterproofFL.com)

A toll free number, 1-877-362-5033, can be utilized by parents, caregivers, pool owners, and others in learning the steps to protect Florida's children from drowning.

From 2007 to 2009, the number of drowning deaths among Florida's children ages 1-4 decreased by 13% and the drowning rate for the same population decreased by 16%.

## **FLORIDA INJURY PREVENTION ADVISORY COUNCIL (FIPAC) MEETING**

The next FIPAC meeting will be held July 13, 2011 via WebEx.

For more information, please contact Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan at 850.245-4440, ext. \*2776 or [Lisa.VanderWerf-Hourigan@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Lisa.VanderWerf-Hourigan@doh.state.fl.us), or Sarah Hinkel-Young at 850.245-4440, ext. \*2736 or [Sarah.Hinkel-Young@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Sarah.Hinkel-Young@doh.state.fl.us).

## **2011 INJURY PREVENTION AWARD NOMINATIONS**

- The Office of Injury Prevention (OIP), in partnership with the Florida Injury Prevention Advisory Council (FIPAC), annually recognizes an influential individual who has demonstrated commitment to injury prevention.
- A call for nominations will go out by July 1, 2011, with nominations due by September 1, 2011.
- For more information about the injury prevention award visit <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Injury/IPAdvisoryCouncilPage.html#injury>

## **SENIOR FALLS PREVENTION COALITION MEETING**

- The next Florida Senior Falls Prevention Coalition meeting will be held August 18, 2011 via WebEx.
- For more information regarding falls prevention, please contact Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan 850.245-4440, ext. \*2776 or [Lisa.VanderWerf-Hourigan@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Lisa.VanderWerf-Hourigan@doh.state.fl.us), or Sarah Hinkel-Young at 850.245-4440, ext. \*2736 or [Sarah.Hinkel-Young@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Sarah.Hinkel-Young@doh.state.fl.us).

## **PROGRAMS & INJURY PREVENTION AREAS**

### **2009-2013 Florida Injury Prevention Strategic Plan**

- The 2009-2013 Florida Injury Prevention Strategic Plan is available on the OIP website at <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/injury/reports.html>. Hard copies are also available upon request.
- The 2009-2013 Florida Injury Prevention Strategic Plan serves as a successor to the 2004-2008 Plan, which is considered nationally as a model state plan.
- The goals for the 2009-2013 plan are: Infrastructure (including data and evaluation), Collaboration, Senior Falls, Early Childhood Drowning and Training. Below is an update for each:
  - Data Workgroup - The Data Workgroup met in April 2011 to provide updates on 2010 activities and to finalize the 2011 Action Plan.
  - Goal Team 2 (GT2): Collaboration - On January 6, 2011, the Human Trafficking Awareness satellite broadcast and webcast was held to provide an overview of Human Trafficking for medical professionals. A recording of the broadcast is available through the Office of Injury Prevention. GT2 will be preparing educational segments for the upcoming FIPAC meeting as well as planning the Rural Community and State Resources Pilot Meeting.
  - Goal Team 3 (GT3): Senior Falls Prevention – GT3 has been busy completing the goals and action plans associated with the Senior Falls Coalition Plan. In addition, an individual webpage, [www.FallsFreeFL.com](http://www.FallsFreeFL.com) is under development. The coalition is determining an individual branding strategy to include logos and letterhead in order to distinguish themselves as a separate entity from GT3.
  - Goal Team 4 (GT4): Early Childhood Drowning Prevention - GT4 was instrumental in the development of the "WaterproofFL" Pool Safety and Drowning Prevention Campaign that is now available at <http://www.WaterproofFL.com>. GT4 will be working with OIP on plans for a campaign kick-off event.

- Goal Team 5 (GT5): Training and Education - GT5 met in April 2011 to provide updates on 2010 activities and to finalize the 2011 Action Plan.
- For more information, please contact Sarah Hinkel-Young at 850.245-4440, ext. \*2736 or [Sarah\\_Hinkel-Young@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Sarah_Hinkel-Young@doh.state.fl.us).

### **BICYCLE HELMET PROMOTION PROGRAM GRANT**

- The Office of Injury Prevention (OIP) submitted a concept paper in March 2011 to increase the amount of the Florida Bicycle Helmet Promotion Program Grant for the 2011-12 grant cycle to cover a half time position and to increase the number of helmets purchased. The current 2010-2011 grant amount is \$138,169.00.
- The Bicycle Helmet Promotion Program's goal is to increase bicycle helmet use among children in low-income and underserved communities. Since 2000, over 136,500 helmets have been distributed throughout all 67 counties.
- From 2003-2009, the hospitalization rate for non-fatal traumatic brain injuries sustained in a bicycle crash was reduced by 32% among residents ages 5-14 years old.
- "On average, a \$12 bicycle helmet for ages 3-14 years, generates \$580 in benefits to society" (Children's Safety Network, 2010, p. 4). Total savings since program inception is \$79,170,000.00.
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### **CDC GRANT CORE I & II- EXTENSIONS**

- The long-term goal of the Core I grant is to implement the 2009-2013 Florida Injury Prevention Strategic Plan. Please refer to the Florida Injury Prevention Advisory Council updates within this document for more information.
- The Teen Dating Violence Grant is being implemented by our sister office in the department, the Sexual Violence Prevention Program. This grant provided funding for 2009-2011 to identify capacity and efforts pertaining to teen dating violence prevention in Miami-Dade County.
- The OIP was one of twenty states awarded the 2011-2015 Core Violence and Injury Prevention Program grant in April. This grant opportunity will provide \$250,000.00 per year of funding beginning August 1, 2011. The OIP was approved, but not funded for additional component opportunities including Surveillance Quality Improvement and Senior Falls Prevention.

## **FLORIDA INJURY PREVENTION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

- The October 2010 and January 2011 FIPAC meetings were postponed due to travel restrictions. FIPAC met via WebEx on April 6, 2011 to plan and discuss the implementation of the 2011 Florida Injury Prevention Action Plan. FIPAC has scheduled a second WebEx meeting for July 13, 2011.
- The FIPAC and the Strategic Plan Goal Teams successfully implemented the 2010 Action Plan, the yearly implementation plan for the Strategic Plan's five goals, objectives, and strategies.

## **FLORIDA SPECIAL NEEDS OCCUPANT PROTECTION PROGRAM**

- The Office of Injury Prevention (OIP) submitted a concept paper in March 2011 to increase the amount of the Florida Special Needs Occupant Protection Program for the 2011-12 grant cycle to cover a half time position and to increase the number of seats purchased. The 2010-2011 grant amount is \$105,791.00.
- This grant provides specialized car seats to eight children's hospitals and one acute care hospital. These seats are loaned to families for the safe transportation of children with acute special health care needs who are unable to use a regular child safety seat.
- Current program sites are located in following cities: Ft. Myers, Gainesville, Hollywood, Miami, Orlando, Pensacola, St. Petersburg, Tallahassee, and Tampa.
- Tallahassee Memorial Hospital is the newest Special Needs Program site and the second program site in the Florida Panhandle area.
- Three of the current program sites are participating as a long-term loaner program. A long-term loaner program will allow seats and restraints to be loaned for twelve months or more.

## **FLORIDA TEEN SAFE DRIVING COALITION**

- The Office of Injury Prevention is a member of the Florida Teen Safe Driving Coalition.
- The Teen Safe Driving Coalition aids in the implementation of the Florida Teen Safe Driving Plan, which is designed to provide a comprehensive strategy to assess teen driving issues identifying goals, strategies, action steps and performance measures through a three-pronged effort that includes curriculum development, awareness improvement, and stronger graduated driver's licensing policy.
- The Teen Safe Driving Coalition is holding a statewide leadership summit in Orlando, FL in September 2011. The summit will have 300 teens from 30 different schools throughout the state.

## **IMPAIRED DRIVING COALITION**

- The Office of Injury Prevention is a member of the Department of Transportation's Impaired Driving Coalition.
- The Coalition is comprised of agencies and organizations responsible for components of Florida's impaired driving system and/or that work to influence the effects of impaired driving. The Coalition was formed to draft a Strategic Impaired Driving Plan for Florida and to oversee implementation of the Strategic Plan.
- The last meeting was held on May 9-10, 2011 at the Florida Public Safety Institute.

## **MOTORCYCLE SAFETY COALITION**

- The Office of Injury Prevention is a member of the Department of Transportation's Motorcycle Safety Coalition.
- The Motorcycle Safety Coalition aids in the implementation of Florida's Motorcycle Strategic Safety Plan, which is designed to provide a comprehensive strategy to address motorcycle safety issues by identifying goals, strategies, action steps, and performance measures for key program areas.
- The next meeting will be held in August.
- The Florida Motorcycle Safety Coalition is the recipient of this year's Governors Highway Safety Association's Peter K. O'Rourke Special Achievement Award, which recognizes notable achievements in the field of highway safety by individuals, coalitions, organizations, nonprofit groups, businesses, government agencies, universities or programs.  
(<http://www.ghsa.org/html/meetings/awards/10.florida.html>).
- Visit <http://www.ridesmartflorida.com/> to review some of the coalition's efforts.

## **SAFE KIDS FLORIDA**

- Safe Kids Florida consists of ten local coalitions covering Alachua, Bradford, Broward, Columbia, Collier, Dade, Dixie, Flagler, Gilchrist, Hillsborough, Lee, Levy, Manatee, Orange, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Sarasota, Seminole, Suwannee, Union, and Volusia counties and seven chapters covering Bay, Brevard, Clay, Duval, Lake/Sumter, Leon, Marion, Nassau, St. Johns, Osceola counties.
- The Safe Kids Coordinators met on March 17, 2011 via WebEx. Roundtable discussions were held on the topics of materials and funding.
- The OIP is working with Safe Kids USA to update the Safe Kids Florida Lead Agency Coalition Agreement.

- Safe Kids Florida has representation in 34 counties, which represents over 85% of Florida's 0-14 year old population.
- In 2009, the childhood unintentional injury fatality rate in Safe Kids counties was 30% lower than the rate in non-Safe Kids counties which corresponds to 116 fewer deaths than expected had the fatality rates been the same.

### **SAFE MOBILITY FOR LIFE COALITON**

- The Office of Injury Prevention is a member of the Department of Transportation's Safe Mobility for Life Coalition.
- The Safe Mobility for Life Coalition's mission is to improve the safety, access and mobility of Florida's aging road users by developing a comprehensive strategic plan to reduce injuries and crashes among this vulnerable population.
- A meeting was held May 24-25 to finalize the Safe Mobility for Life Strategic Plan. The next meetings will focus on the development of action plans.

### **SENIOR FALLS PREVENTION**

- Falls are the leading cause of injury-related deaths, hospitalizations, and emergency room visits for Florida's senior population.
- The Office of Injury Prevention is currently planning an expansion of the 2011 National Falls Prevention Awareness Day through coordinated efforts among external stakeholders.
- The OIP hosted a Senior Falls Prevention Exercise-Based Instructor Candidate Training program May 19-20. This class certified 20 instructors throughout the state to provide fall prevention exercises to the senior population.
- The Office of Injury Prevention is working with FIPAC partners to apply for new grant opportunities from the National Institute of Health to enhance Senior Falls Prevention awareness and events throughout the state.

### **SUICIDE PREVENTION COORDINATING COUNCIL**

- The Statewide Suicide Prevention Office is now located with the Department of Children and Families, with the Office of Drug Control being eliminated in January.
- Suicide Prevention Coordinating Council met on March 29 and Suicide Prevention Day was held March 30, 2011 at the Capitol. It is a statewide annual event in which the and Florida Suicide Prevention Coalition are joined in Tallahassee by advocates, survivors, grassroots organizations, other state agencies, and youth to bring suicide to the forefront as a public health issue.
- Next meeting of the Coordinating Council will be via conference call on June 23, 2011.

- Dates to remember-
  - 2011 Florida Annual Statewide Prevention Conference – October 7-9, 2011  
Rosen Centre Hotel, 9840 International Drive Orlando, Florida 32819
  - Suicide Awareness Day at the Capitol – February 22, 2012
- New online free training options are available at the Office of Suicide Prevention site: <http://www.helppromotehope.com/events/school.php> New Suicide Prevention course (free) assists learners in identifying risk and protective factors. It also presents effective preventive measures. The course is based upon suicide research and practice recommendations that are widely accepted among mental health professionals.
- Training is also available on Florida's Baker Act, the law that governs involuntary examination and treatment of individuals who present a threat to themselves or others because of mental illness. All of the courses are at <http://www.bakeracttraining.org/>.
- Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan, Director, Office of Injury Prevention, represents the Department of Health on the Suicide Prevention Coordinating Council, whose next meeting will be mid-January 2011. More information is at <http://www.helppromotehope.com>

## **DATA**

### **Injury Data Reports**

- 2005-2009 injury death, hospitalization, and emergency department data for each of Florida's 67 counties are available on the Office of Injury Prevention website at: <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/injury/injurydata.html>.
- 1970s-2009 injury death data is available on the Florida CHARTS website at <http://www.floridacharts.com/charts/Domain2.aspx?Domain='04'>.
- County-level School-Aged Child and Adolescent Profiles, which include injury indicators, are available on the Florida CHARTS website at <http://www.floridacharts.com/charts/SpecReport.aspx?RepID=1031552>.
- County-level Pregnancy and Young Child Profiles, which include injury indicators, are available on the Florida CHARTS website at <http://www.floridacharts.com/charts/SpecReport.aspx?RepID=1013450>.
- 1999-2009 injury death and hospitalization, and 2005-2009 emergency department data, customized for specific projects, are available upon request.

## **SAFE STATES DISASTER EPIDEMIOLOGY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG)**

- The Office of Injury Prevention is a member of the Safe States' (formerly the State and Territorial Injury Prevention Director's Association [STIPDA]) new Disaster Epidemiology SIG.
- Safe States has recommended that each state and territory establish and maintain expertise in disaster epidemiology and disaster injury prevention and mitigation. In keeping with this recommendation, the Disaster Epidemiology Special Interest Group (SIG) has been developed within Safe States to focus on injury epidemiology issues related to disasters. The scope of interest is the use of injury epidemiology tools and approaches in disaster settings to gain improved epidemiologic insights for public health action.

## **SAFE STATES POISONING INJURY SURVEILLANCE WORKGROUP**

- The Office of Injury Prevention is a member of the Safe States' new Poisoning Injury Surveillance Workgroup (ISW7).
- The workgroup will meet monthly across the next year to develop consensus recommendations for poisoning surveillance definitions and techniques. The next call will be in July.