

STATE BUREAU OF EMS HIGHLIGHTS

OCTOBER 2010

GENERAL INFORMATION

EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

January 19~21, 2011
In conjunction with Fire East / Daytona Beach
Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort
100 North Atlantic Avenue
Daytona Beach, FL 32118
(866) 536-8477 / (386) 254-8200

Please make hotel reservations at the Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort by calling (386) 254-8200 / (866) 536-8477 by December 25, 2010. The group conference rate is reserved under "Florida Department of Health/Bureau of Emergency Medical Services." Check in time is 4:00 p.m. Cancellation within 24 hours of arrival will result in a penalty of one nights stay. Reserve your room early!! The Advisory Council and Constituency Group meetings will be held at the Ocean Center Convention & Event Center in conjunction with Fire-Rescue East. For more information regarding *Fire Rescue East 2011*, please visit the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association's website at: <http://www.ffca.org>

Future Meeting Dates - 2011

- o June – TBD / In conjunction with CLINCON
- o October – TBD

CONSTITUENCY ADDRESS UPDATES

Many of the EMS constituency organizations elected new officers in July. Please e-mail Desi Lassiter at desi_lassiter@doh.state.fl.us when your organization elects a new president. Include the name of your organization, the president's name, mailing address, phone numbers(s) and fax number so we may update our mailing list. Failing to do so will mean meeting notices and other types of information will continue to be mailed to the past president.

DATA SECTION

EMSTARS

The Prehospital Data Section continues to make great strides with 120 agencies reporting to EMSTARS, bringing the state repository to over 2.5 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.

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. The Data Committee has completed its review of the NEMSIS 3.0 proposed data elements and is currently drafting the revised Data Set for Florida for EMSAC review and approval in early 2011. It is important to continue to 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 1st iteration of the EMS Data Mart was completed in July 2010. The 2nd iteration requirements are being defined with a goal of moving the Data Mart into a production status early in 2011.

This solution 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 September 2010, twenty-two 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. If your agency needs assistance to transition to EMSTARS reporting, or if your agency has questions / concerns about EMSTARS reporting, please contact us.

NEMSIS UPLOARD / NEMSIS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

Florida continues to be a “stand out” state with its participation in the national program, NEMSIS. Florida has over 2.2 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) under the Data Center tab (click on “Data Reporting, then “National Reports” and then “Dynamic 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 September 2010, fourteen vendors are EMSTARS compliant. For additional details on the status of the vendor compliance, visit www.FloridaEMSTARS.com or email Juan Esparza at 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 Unit and Project Team!

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

EMERGENCY MEDICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

The EMRC has continued its dedication to hold conference calls and face-to-face meetings. This committee has continued to provide a mechanism for statewide EMS data analysis and review for the purpose of providing unprecedented quality improvement for this state and nation. The EMRC continues to assist the Bureau of EMS and EMS provider agencies in mapping all report queries to assure data elements and data subset elements are appropriate for the report and/or research being examined. During the past three months, the EMRC has reviewed over 200 data elements for the preparation for NEMSIS 3.0. This review concentrated on the validity of the new data elements proposed by the EMSAC Data Committee.

The EMRC remains committed to a quality improvement approach to identify benchmarks, best practices, trends, and research opportunities for the Florida EMS Community. If you have questions regarding the EMRC, please e-mail Steve McCoy at Steve_McCoy@doh.state.fl.us.

TRAINING & EDUCATION SECTION

TRAINING

There are 71 schools offering 174 EMT and paramedic training programs. There are currently 570 approved continuing education courses in the state. The following is a breakdown on first time test takers:

3201 EMTs tested between January 1, 2010 and September 17, 2010; 72% passed.

1325 Paramedics tested between January 1, 2010 and September 17, 2010; 87% passed.

INSPECTIONS

A total of 100 EMS providers have been inspected this year. 64 of these inspections were announced while 36 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 269 EMS providers currently licensed in the state with over 4000 permitted vehicles. **The Bureau is consistently receiving applications that are missing documents and/or are incomplete. Please review your application thoroughly for all required information before submitting.**

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

Florida Statute 120.52(10) states:

(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) states:

(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) states:

(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 TELECOMMUNICATOR

During the last quarter, there have been six 911 public safety telecommunicator workshops throughout the state. A rule development workshop was held at St. Petersburg College on August 11, with more than 100 persons in attendance. To date there are 1635 certified 911 public safety telecommunicators with 1410 working on recertification. There are 19 services that have been approved to be a 911 public safety telecommunication training program with an additional four applications in progress.

STATEWIDE PLANNING SECTION

MATCHING GRANTS

We awarded 35 grants for \$1.6 million last June. For a list of the types of projects and amounts awarded for each type of project please contact Alan VanLewen at (850) 245-4440, extension *2734.

We expect to begin accepting applications for matching grants sometime this fall. When we do, we will place on the state EMS grant website the announcement for this, and also direct mail the announcement to EMS organizations. We anticipate final decisions will be made and the funds will be sent by late May or early June.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT GRANTS

When we begin the 2010-2011 county grant cycle this fall, we will place on the state EMS grant website the announcement and the amounts set aside for each county government, plus send the information by direct mail to all 67 county governments and their lead EMS person.

EMS GRANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Let us know if you have any questions or suggestions about the content of this report or any aspect of the state EMS grant process.

E-mail. demo_ems@doh.state.fl.us

Web Page. <http://www.fl-ems.com/Grants/Grants.html>

Telephone: (850) 245-4444, extensions *2782, *2773, or *2734.

EMSC GRANT PERFORMANCE MEASURE

The EMSC Program conducted a survey regarding Inter-facility Transfer Guidelines/Agreements (Performance Measures 76-77). The survey began on June 4, 2010 and closed on September 27, 2010. This survey will provide 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 data collected from hospitals around the state is currently being analyzed.

A survey regarding on-line and offline medical direction, as well as essential pediatric equipment (Performance Measures 71-73) is in development and is targeted to launch by October 25, 2010.

PEDIATRIC EDUCATION & TRAINING RESOURCES

EMSC provided pediatric training and education resources to the EMSC National Resource Center. Resources donated will be distributed to other EMSC programs in the nation.

PEDIATRIC EDUCATION PROGRAM

Florida EMSC has offered four FREE Pediatric/Neonatal education courses within the state this grant year, with five additional courses scheduled. Funding to support these courses is provided by the Health Resources and Services Administration, EMSC Federal Partnership Grant.

Completed courses:

Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP) Course- Seminole Tribe EMS, 22 students

S.T.A.B.L.E. Program Course- Wakulla County EMS, 16 students

Pediatric ITLS Instructor Course - Niceville, 9 students

Pediatric ITLS Provider Course - Niceville, 17 students

NRP Course - Dixie County EMS, 5 students

Scheduled courses:

October 12, 2010: Sacred Heart, Pensacola - Pediatric ITLS Provider
October 18-19, 2010: Hendry County EMS - Pediatric/Neonatal Review
November 11, 2010: Flagler County EMS - Pediatric/Neonatal Review
November 12, 2010: Flagler County EMS - Pediatric/Neonatal Review
November 18, 2010: Flagler County EMS - Pediatric/Neonatal Review

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.

PEDIATRIC DISASTER PREPAREDNESS RESOURCES

In an effort to improve the education and training of initial emergency responders across the EMSC continuum of care, complementary 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:

- o Broselow Pediatric Antidotes for Chemical Warfare Tape
- o JumpSTART/START Cards

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.

INVESTIGATIONS

The Investigations Section within the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services investigates legally sufficient complaints against EMS providers, training programs, 911 PSTs, and (in conjunction with MQA) EMTs and paramedics. Upon completion of the investigative process, all case files are sent to the BEMS Prosecution Services Section for discipline/final orders.

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 **EMS providers, training centers and 911 PSTs** should be sent to:

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

June thru August 2010

Complaints processed in MQA

EMT: 37

Paramedic: 32

Investigations Section processed the following:

19 Felony investigations

13 Complaint investigations

Prosecution Services Section processed the following:

18 Administrative Complaints

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.

NEW EMPLOYEES

Sarah Hinkel-Young joined the Office of Injury Prevention on August 23, 2010. Mrs. Hinkel-Young's background includes grant writing and project coordination for non-profits. She has a Masters in Business Administration/Non-Profit Management, a Graduate Certificate in Non-Profit Management, a Bachelors of Science (BS) in Business Management and a BS in Biomedical Sciences/Biochemistry. Mrs. Hinkel-Young will be serving as CDC Grant Specialist, the position formerly held by Leilani Gruener. Her contact information is (850) 245-4440, ext. *2736 or Sarah.Hinkel-Young@doh.state.fl.us.

SENIOR FALLS PREVENTION AWARENESS DAY SATELLITE

BROADCAST

- Falls are the leading cause of injury-related deaths, hospitalizations, and emergency room visits for Florida's senior population.
- The Office of Injury Prevention and the Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA), Communities for a Lifetime Initiative are collaborating on a distance learning broadcast and webinar on September 22, 2010 to commemorate National Senior Fall Prevention Day. The broadcast will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 10:30 a.m.
- Florida is part of the State Senior Falls Prevention Coalition Workgroup facilitated by the National Council on Aging.
- For more information regarding falls prevention, please contact Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan (850) 245-4440, ext. *2776 or 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.

WaterproofFL - "POOL SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY"

- WaterproofFL - "pool safety is everyone's responsibility" is the campaign's brand and tagline. The campaign promotes the use of **Layers of Protection 1.) Supervision, 2.) Barriers and 3.) Emergency Preparedness.**

- To reduce the number of drownings among Florida's 1-4 year olds, this statewide campaign will provide a unified statewide message that can be used by a variety of stakeholders.
- Campaign materials will be available in print and electronic format. A website, WaterproofFL.com will be utilized, as well as a toll free number.
- For more information about the Water Safety & Drowning Prevention Campaign and toolkit, please contact Towana Bonnett at (850) 245-4440, ext *2452 or Towana_Bonnett@doh.state.fl.us or Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan at (850) 245-4440, ext. *2776 or Lisa_VanderWerf-Hourigan@doh.state.fl.us.

FLORIDA INJURY PREVENTION ADVISORY COUNCIL (FIPAC)

- The next FIPAC meeting has been tentatively scheduled for October 2010, in Tampa, Florida.
- The FIPAC and Strategic Plan Goal Teams will continue to work on the five plan goals, objectives, and strategies to implement the 2010 Florida Injury Prevention Action Plan and to provide input for the 2011 Florida Injury Prevention Action Plan.
- For more information, please contact Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan (850) 245-4440, ext. *2776 or 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.

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.
- For more information, please contact Sarah Hinkel-Young at (850) 245-4440, ext. *2736 or Sarah_Hinkel-Young@doh.state.fl.us.

2010 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. Nine nominations were received this year and a winner will be selected by the end of October.

- The 2010 Injury Prevention Award will be presented at the Fall Florida Injury Prevention Advisory Council meeting.
- For more information about the injury prevention award, please contact Kyla Shelton at (850) 245-4440, ext. *2729 or Kyla_Shelton@doh.state.fl.us.

SENIOR FALLS PREVENTION PILOT TAI CHI TRAINING INSTRUCTOR PROGRAM

- A pilot Tai Chi evidence-based program instructor training will be held in December. This training is collaboration between the Office of Injury Prevention and the Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA), Communities for a Lifetime Initiative.
- Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance is an 8-form version of Tai Chi that is included in the “Preventing Falls: What Works - A CDC Compendium of Effective Community-based Interventions from Around the World”.
- For more information regarding falls prevention, please contact Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan (850) 245-4440, ext. *2776 or 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.

BICYCLE HELMET PROMOTION PROGRAM GRANT

- The Office of Injury Prevention (OIP) has been notified that the Florida Bicycle Helmet Promotion Program continuation grant will be funded \$138,169.00 for the 2010-2011 grant cycle, which is almost a \$5,000.00 increase from the current grant cycle.
- During the 2009-2010 grant cycle, the OIP received a grant award of \$133,309.00 for the Bicycle Helmet Promotion Program from the Florida Department of Transportation. This was almost an \$11,000 increase over the previous grant cycle.
- 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 2003-2008, the hospitalization rate for non-fatal traumatic brain injuries sustained in bicycle crashes among residents ages 5-14 **decreased 57%**.
- For more information regarding bike safety and helmet fitting training, please contact Leilani Gruener at (850) 245-4440, ext. *2466 or Leilani_Gruener@doh.state.fl.us.

CDC GRANT CORE I & II – EXTENSIONS

- The Office of Injury Prevention received notice on October 27, 2009 that CDC has granted a no cost one-year extension to the Public Health Injury Surveillance and Prevention 2005-2010 (Core I Grant) and the Teen Dating Violence Grant (Core II Grant). The grants were to end on July 31, 2010 and September 30, 2010 respectively. Both will now end July 31, 2011.
- 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.
- For more information, please contact Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan at (850) 245-4440, ext. *2776 or 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.

FLORIDA MINORITY OCCUPANT PROTECTION TASK FORCE

- The Office of Injury Prevention is as a member of Florida A & M University's (FAMU) Florida Minority Occupant Protection Task Force.
- FAMU received a Department of Transportation Occupant Protection Grant to promote seat belt usage and occupant protection safety among Blacks and Hispanics in Florida.
- The Florida Minority Occupant Protection Task Force consists of professionals with backgrounds in traffic safety and injury prevention from the Florida Department of Highway Safety, Florida Highway Patrol, Florida Department of Health, Safe Kids Florida, Florida A & M University, and social marketing and legal firms.
- The Task Force piloted intervention and educational efforts in selected Black and Hispanic communities in Tampa, FL, from June through September 1, 2010. The results of the pre and post surveys taken during this project will be used to develop a statewide campaign encouraging Black and Hispanic drivers and occupants to buckle-up and properly restrain small children in booster seats or appropriate restraints.
- The Task Force participated at the annual Tom Joyner Family Reunion Event in Orlando, FL, September 2-5, 2010. During this event, occupant protection, injury prevention and Child Passenger Safety (CPS) educational information was provided to over 45,000 minorities from all age groups.

- For more information on the Florida Minority Occupant Protection Task Force, please contact Towana Bonnett at (850) 245-4440, ext *2452 or Towana_Bonnett@doh.state.fl.us.

FLORIDA SPECIAL NEEDS OCCUPANT PROTECTION PROGRAM

The Office of Injury Prevention (OIP) has been notified that the Florida Special Needs Occupant Protection Program continuation grant will be funded \$105,791.00 for the 2010-2011 grant cycle.

- The OIP received, on December 18, 2009, the 2009-2010 grant award of \$106,308.00 for the Florida Special Needs Occupant Protection Program from the Florida Department of Transportation.
- This grant provides specialized car seats to eight children's hospitals. These seats are loaned to families for the safe transportation of children with special health care needs who are unable to use a regular child safety seat.
- Program sites are located in following cities: Ft. Myers, Gainesville, Hollywood, Miami, Orlando, Pensacola, St. Petersburg, and Tampa.
- Sacred Heart Hospital in Pensacola, officially began its program in June 2010 and has already loaned at least nine special needs seats.
- During the 2009-2010 grant cycle, over 441 special needs seats and restraints were distributed to the eight program sites. These sites have loaned 453 seats and restraints so far this grant cycle.
- Seven of the eight program sites discarded approximately 70% of their special needs seats and restraints which had expired, including ones that would expire within 60 days.
- Each Special Needs Program site will be evaluated during their annual site visit to determine if they have a need to participate in a long-term loaner program. A long-term loaner program will allow seats and restraints to be loaned for twelve months or more.
- For more information, please contact Towana Bonnett at (850) 245-4440, ext *2452 or Towana_Bonnett@doh.state.fl.us or Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan at (850) 245-4440, ext. *2776 or Lisa_VanderWerf-Hourigan@doh.state.fl.us.

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 impact 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 September 8-9, 2010 at the Florida Public Safety Institute.
- For more information, please contact our Injury Epidemiologist, Kyla Shelton, at (850) 245-4440, ext. *2729 or Kyla_Shelton@doh.state.fl.us.

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 November 3, 2010 via teleconference.
- 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.
- For more information, please contact our Injury Epidemiologist, Kyla Shelton, at (850) 245-4440, ext. *2729 or Kyla_Shelton@doh.state.fl.us.

SAFE KIDS FLORIDA

- Safe Kids N.E. Florida Chapter recently added Nassau and Clay counties to their coverage area. These additions expanded the Safe Kids Chapter efforts, which are currently being covered in Bay, Lake, Sumter, Duval, St. Johns, Osceola, Brevard, Leon, and Marion counties.

- There are 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.
- Safe Kid Florida has representation in 34 counties which represents over 85% of Florida's 0-14 year old population.
- The Safe Kids Coordinator position in the Office of Injury Prevention is currently vacant. The position was advertised and should be filled by mid-fall 2010.
- For more information about Safe Kids Florida, please contact Towana Bonnett at (850) 245-4440, ext *2452 or [Towana Bonnett@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Towana.Bonnett@doh.state.fl.us) or 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).

SAFE MOBILITY FOR LIFE COALITION

The Office of Injury Prevention is a member of the Department of Transportation's Safe Mobility for Life Coalition. The next meeting will be held September 28, 2010 in Tallahassee, Florida.

- 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.
- For more information, please contact our Injury Epidemiologist, Kyla Shelton, at (850) 245-4440, ext. *2729 or [Kyla Shelton@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Kyla.Shelton@doh.state.fl.us).

SUICIDE PREVENTION COORDINATING COUNCIL

- In 2008, 2,723 Floridians lost their lives to suicide, a rate of seven people per day.
- The 36th Annual National Suicide Prevention Week was acknowledged September 5 - 11, 2010 and World Suicide Prevention Day, on September 10th.
- The National Council for Suicide Prevention is organizing the mental health and suicide prevention communities to spread the word about **the Take 5 to Save Lives** campaign. The campaign asks supporters to take 5 steps (www.take5tosavelives.org).

- 1) Learn the signs
- 2) Join the movement
- 3) Spread the word
- 4) Support a friend
- 5) Reach out if you need help

- Suicide Prevention Day will be late March 2011 at the Capital. It is a statewide annual event in which the 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.
- New on-line 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 can be found at <http://www.bakeracttraining.org/>.
- Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan, Director, Office of Injury Prevention, represents the Department of Health on this council, whose next meeting will be early October 2010. More information may be found at <http://www.helppromotehope.com>
- For more information, please contact Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan at (850) 245-4440, ext. *2776 or Lisa_VanderWerf-Hourigan@doh.state.fl.us.

INJURY DATA REPORTS

- 2005-2008 injury death data and 2005-2009 injury 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-2008 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>
- 1999-2008 injury death, 1999-2009 injury hospitalization, and 2005-2009 emergency department data, customized for specific projects, are available upon request.
- For more information, please contact our Injury Epidemiologist, Kyla Shelton, at (850) 245-4440, ext. *2729 or Kyla_Shelton@doh.state.fl.us.

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.
- The group's first conference call was held on June 2, 2008.
- For more information, please contact our Injury Epidemiologist, Kyla Shelton, at (850) 245-4440, ext. *2729 or Kyla_Shelton@doh.state.fl.us.

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's first conference call was held July 29th. The workgroup will meet monthly across the next year or two to develop consensus recommendations for poisoning surveillance definitions and techniques. The next call will be October 4, 2010.
- For more information, please contact our Injury Epidemiologist, Kyla Shelton, at (850) 245-4440, ext. *2729 or Kyla_Shelton@doh.state.fl.us.