

STATE BUREAU OF EMS HIGHLIGHTS

JULY 2009

GENERAL INFORMATION

EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

Future Meeting Dates:

2009

- September 30 – October 2 – Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club

2010

- January 20 – 22 – Daytona Beach (In Conjunction with FFCA)
- July - TBD
- October – TBD

EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Please join the Bureau of EMS in welcoming our new council members. Effective July 1, 2009, State Surgeon General, Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H., appointed the following individuals to four-year terms on the council:

<u>Paramedic (non-fire)</u> Karen Chamberlain, Paramedic, R.N., BSN Air Ambulance Professionals, Inc.	<u>Paramedic (fire)</u> Charles E. Moreland, Ed.D., Paramedic Jacksonville Fire and Rescue
<u>EMS Educator</u> Danny Griffin, Paramedic Florida Association of EMS Educators	<u>Physician</u> Bradley Elias, M.D. Baptist Medical Center

Also, Mr. John Scott with Tampa General Healthcare was appointed as the EMS Advisory Council Chairperson for a one year term.

The Bureau would also like to thank C.T. “Chuck” Kearns for his hard work and dedication to the EMS Advisory Council.

Special thanks to the following outgoing members for their contributions and dedication to the EMS community.

Paramedic (non-fire)
C.T. “Chuck” Kearns

Paramedic (fire)
Jeffrey Lindsey, Ph.D.

EMS Educator
Linda W. Swisher

We look forward to continued partnership efforts with all of you and your organizations.

Any questions or comments regarding the EMS Advisory Council may be directed to Desi Lassiter at the State EMS office at (850) 245-4055.

2008-2010 FLORIDA EMS STRATEGIC PLAN SUCCESSES

The current strategic plan is at the halfway mark to completion. The bureau would like to take this time to recognize some of the accomplishments during this first year.

- Florida being recognized as one of the top four states submitting to the National EMS Information System (NEMSIS). To date, 95 of EMS agencies, of the targeted 50%, are submitting to the EMS Tracking and Reporting System (EMSTARS).
 - If we consider the additional agencies that are committed today, we project to reach 110% of the goal by the end of 2010.
- Working with EMS agencies to start or expand injury prevention programs in their areas by providing educational and best practice forums, such as the Falls Prevention Seminar that will take place on Monday, June 29 during these meetings.
- Expanding on existing partnerships with the Florida Department of Transportation by providing EMS representation on the Motorcycle Safety Coalition. Assisting the coalition with the development of the Motorcycle Safety Strategic Plan and linking their injury prevention efforts with EMS.

- Partnering with the Read for Health program to raise awareness for Emergency Medical Services for Children in which 34 counties participated and 784 "A Day with Paramedics" books were distributed to volunteer readers to read to grades kindergarten, first, and second.
- Developing minimum standards for critical care paramedic education which is now under review by the State EMS Medical Director.
- Developing and promulgating EMS instructor criteria to enhance the quality of education being provided to EMT and paramedic students.
- Providing continuing education units to 100 providers through the 2008 Prehospital Pediatric Education Symposium.
- Supporting the economic sustainability of the EMS system through the EMS grants program which recently awarded approximately 2.8 million dollars in matching & rural grants.
- Assisting our rural EMS partners by awarding 15 paramedic scholarships and five EMT scholarships, awarding three scholarships for rural EMS leaders to attend a leadership conference, and producing a recruitment video targeting rural youth.
- Development of the first Florida air medical strategic plan, which we believe to be the first such plan in the country. This will be submitted to the EMS Advisory Council for vote as goal seven of the current plan.
- EMS Mass Casualty Incident Rodeo – a gathering of all the assets from around the state where equipment standardization, best load practices, and deployment strategies being among the topics covered.
- Continued updates to the Ambulance Deployment Plan.
- Continued training of Ambulance Deployment Plan strike team leaders.
- And finally, the beginnings of an EMS Pan Flu Plan.

We know there is still a lot of work to be done, but you should be proud of all that you have been able to accomplish this past year. Celebrate your successes and keep up the great work! The department will continue to support you in any way we can to fulfill the goals and objectives in this plan and future plans.

SAVE THE DATE – UPCOMING STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

Save the date, the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and the EMS Advisory Council's Strategic Visions Committee will be partnering again to host a strategic planning session to start developing the *July 2010 – June 2012 Florida Emergency Medical Services Strategic Plan*. Each constituency group is asked to send one to two representatives to the session with your group's recommendations for the plan.

Date: August 17, 2009 – August 18, 2009

Times: Monday beginning at 1:00 p.m. and finishing by 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday

Location: The National Training Center at Southlake Hospital in Clermont

For more information, please attend the 8:30a.m. Strategic Visions Committee Meeting on June 29, 2009 in Salon 12 immediately following the Bureau of EMS Welcome Meeting.

AIR MEDICAL SAFETY SUMMIT – GOAL 7 PROPOSAL FOR EMSAC

On May 1, 2009, the Florida AeroMedical Association in partnership with the Florida Department of Health's Bureau of Emergency Medical Services held the Florida Air Medical Safety Summit at the National Training Center in Clermont.

The summit included key note speakers from a national level presenting on topics such as, crash data, national focus information, principles of risk management, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) helicopter safety initiatives for helicopter emergency medical services (HEMS), the vital role played by the communications specialists in the communication centers, the risks associated with helicopter shopping, information sharing, and technology.

As a result of the summit, the participants developed a new goal with objectives for the *2008-2010 Florida EMS Strategic Plan*. On June 1, 2009, the Strategic Visions Committee of the EMS Advisory Council submitted the latest version for review and vote by the council on July 1, 2009. This is expected to be the first state air medical safety plan in the country.

Proposed Goal 7:

Maintain an accident-free environment and promote a culture of safe and appropriate utilization of Florida air assets.

Objectives:

- 7.1 Develop statewide criteria for appropriate air asset utilization (prehospital and interfacility transfers).
- 7.2 Improve air medical communications and dispatch procedures for communication centers, flight crew, hospitals, and EMS providers.
- 7.3 Improve air medical crew resource management and education.
- 7.4 Improve use of air asset technology to enhance safety.

Air medical transport is an integral part of emergency medical services, including disaster preparedness and response, which affects all EMS stakeholders, most importantly the patient, and the ultimate goal should be what can each of us do to maintain an accident-free environment with zero fatalities. As a stakeholder we each need to emphasize continued collaboration. This plan will foster this ongoing collaboration and continued strive for safety.

For more information on the *2008 – 2010 Florida EMS Strategic Plan* and draft air medical safety goal visit: <http://www.fl-ems.com/Stratplan/stratplan.htm>.

NEW LEGISLATION – SENATE BILL 948/HOUSE BILL 861

Amends s. 401.2701, F.S., “Emergency Medical Services Training Requirements,” by revising requirements for the field internship experience in paramedic programs; authorizes the Department of Health to adopt rules; amends s. 401.281, F.S., “Drivers,” by revising the documented requirements for a driver of an emergency vehicle; providing an effective date.

- EMS Training Requirements
 - Allows a portion of the field internship program to be satisfied aboard an advanced life support (ALS) permitted vehicle other than an ambulance as determined by rule of the department.
- Drivers
 - Changes to 401.281(1)(d), F.S., adds “Upon initial designation as a driver” and strikes “reckless driving.”
- Effective Date of New Legislation
 - Governor Crist signed into law on June 16, 2009. Goes into effect July 1, 2009.
 - Department has 180 days from the effective date to notice proposed rule language (notice of rule making/public hearing).
- Status of New Legislation
 - June 3, 2009, signed by Officers and presented to Governor for approval
 - Above amendments and requirements for the department to develop rules subject to Governor’s approval. If vetoed, the above changes will not go into effect.
 - You may visit Online Sunshine at <http://www.leg.state.fl.us> for the most up-to-date status on pending legislation.

RULES UNDER PROMULGATION/DEVELOPMENT

64J-1, F.A.C., Emergency Medical Services

- Instructor Criteria
 - Instructor Criteria under departmental review.
 - Once approved a notice to submit a written request for hearing will be published in the Florida Administrative Weekly (FAW).
- Training and Education Rules
 - Medical director participation, training program records, EMT/Paramedic course length and content, and equipment list workshop held in St. Petersburg on March 31.
 - Staff working with legal to finalize language before proceeding with the initial department review to move forward to the hearing phase.
- Neonate Rule
 - Proposed language under departmental review.
 - Once approved a notice to submit a written request for hearing will be published in the FAW.
 - Following the public hearing (if one is requested in writing) and approval from the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee (JAPC), the package will be routed for the final departmental review and final adoption procedures with the Department of State.
- MOA Rule
 - Waiting for approval response from the JAPC.
 - Once JAPC approval received the package will be routed for final department review and final adoption procedures with the Department of State.

64J-2, F.A.C., Trauma

Proposed Trauma Definitions Rule 64J-2.001: The rule conversion from 64E-2 to 64J-1 for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and 64J-2 for Trauma Services became effective on October 1, 2008. However, the definitions from 64E-2.001 relating to both emergency medical services and trauma services were transferred by the Department of State to the new EMS rule 64J-1.001. The Department of State would not approve the transfer of the Trauma Services Rule definitions to the new rule – 64J-2. The Office of Trauma has drafted revisions to 64J-2 to create a new definitions section, 64J-2.001, for the Trauma Services Rules and to reference the trauma-related and EMS-related definitions respectfully in EMS 64J-1.001 and 64J-2.001 with cross references. The only revision to the current definitions proposed is the definition of “department.”

The “department” in 64J-1.001 will reference the Bureau of EMS’ contact information and in 64J-2.001 will reference the Office of Trauma contact information.

The Office of Trauma published the Notices of Rule Development for 64J-1.001 and 64J-2.001 definitions sections in the June 5, 2009 *Florida Administrative Weekly*, Volume 35/22. If a workshop is not requested, the Office of Trauma and the Bureau of EMS will move forward with a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and adoption of the proposed revisions to these rules. If there are any questions regarding this Notice of Rule Development, please contact Janet Collins at janet_collins@doh.state.fl.us or Lisa Walker at Lisa_Walker2@doh.state.fl.us.

Visit the Office of Trauma’s website at: <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/demo/Trauma/notices.htm> for notices on trauma rules.

64J-3, F.A.C., 911 Emergency Dispatchers

- Renewals
 - Department of Education (DOE) curriculum has been approved and goes into effect on July 1, 2009.
 - Proposed language under departmental review.
 - Once approved a notice to submit a written request for hearing will be published in the FAW.
 - Following the public hearing (if one is requested in writing) and approval from the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee (JAPC), the package will be routed for the final departmental review and final adoption procedures with the Department of State.
- Training center equivalency
 - Proposed language under departmental review.
 - A hearing has been requested and will be noticed in the FAW.
 - Following the public hearing (if one is requested in writing) and approval from the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee (JAPC), the package will be routed for the final departmental review and final adoption procedures with the Department of State.

Please monitor FLEMSCOMM and the Legislation & Rules page of <http://www.fl-ems.com> for upcoming rule workshop(s), draft language, and public hearing notices.

Please visit the Department of State's website at <http://www.flrules.org> for the most current versions of all rules, Florida Administrative Weekly notices, and subscribe to the Department of State's alert system. This system allows you to receive emails when notices are published which match your interests.

UPCOMING RULE PACKAGES

The Bureau of EMS will be hosting public workshops at the end of July and/or in August for the following items (subject to change):

- Paramedic Students Ride Time on ALS Non-Transport Vehicles
- Finalize integration of EMSTARS into EMS rule
- Disciplinary guidelines
- Reinstatement after revocation
- Glucometer use by emergency medical technicians
- Review of Florida Hospital Association's declaratory statement for new COPCN rule

Please monitor FLEMSCOMM and the Legislation & Rules page of <http://www.fl-ems.com> for upcoming rule workshop(s), draft language, and public hearing notices.

2009 EXCELLENCE IN EMS AWARDS

Please join us on Tuesday, June 30, 2009 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., at the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando, FL in Grand Ballroom A. The Bureau of EMS in partnership with the Emergency Medicine Learning and Resource Center (EMLRC) will be paying tribute to the 2009 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 2009 Award winners

EMS Provider of the Year:

Miami-Dade Fire Rescue

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) of the Year: Gabriel Trujillo, EMT, Nature Coast EMS

Paramedic of the Year: Henrique "Rick" Chipelo, Jr., St. Petersburg Fire Rescue

EMS Nurse of the Year: Heather Collins, Tampa General Hospital

EMS Disaster Preparedness & Response: Assistant Chief Julie Downey, Town of Davie Fire Rescue

Larry S. Jordan EMS Hall of Fame: Beth P. Brunner, Emergency Medicine Resource & Learning Center

Marilyn Crook EMS Pioneer: Frances Councill, Wakulla County EMS

EMS Educator of the Year: Chad Brocato, Deerfield Beach Fire Rescue

EMS Injury Prevention: Battalion Chief Cory S. Richter, Indian River County Fire Rescue

Raymond H. Alexander, MD, EMS Medical Director of the Year: Robert Tober, MD, Collier County EMS

EMS Dispatcher of the Year: Paul Button, Indian River County Sheriff's Office

Florida State Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Heroes Award: All Children's Hospital Neonatal & Pediatric Transport Team

Video of the Year Depicting the 2009 theme, "EMS: A Proud Partner in Your Community": Miami-Dade Fire Rescue

Photo of the Year Depicting the 2009 theme, "EMS: A Proud Partner in Your Community": Seminole Tribe Fire Rescue

EMS Memorial
Dedicated to those in Florida EMS who lost their lives in the line of duty
2009 Inductees



Neal Tarkington, EMT
Jacksonville Fire and Rescue
March 23, 1965 – October 11, 2008

Captain Richard L. Rhea, EMT
Crawfordville Volunteer Fire Department
October 12, 1948 – January 24, 2009

Fred Pierno, Jr., EMT
Martin County Fire Rescue
June 1, 1953 – February 25, 2009

Lieutenant Robert Strang, Paramedic
Melbourne Fire Department
March 9, 1949 – March 26, 2009

James Reeder, Paramedic
Martin County Fire Rescue
May 21, 1966 – March 8, 2009

DATA SECTION

EMSTARS

EMSTARS participation continues to increase with over 140 of the states' EMS agencies committed to submitting data to EMSTARS. Out of those 140 agencies, 96 agencies are currently submitting data to EMSTARS providing a database with over 870,000 records. As the data submissions increase, the Data Committee continues to play a vital role in making data submission, validation and quality recommendations.

The EMSTARS Project Team continues to work in concert with the EMS Community to enhance the system by improving the data dictionary content (codes, definitions and event guidelines), transitioning additional EMS provider agencies, implementing improvements to the system, designing an EMSTARS Data Mart and defining the linkage requirements between Trauma Registry data and Hospital patient data for outcomes.

If your agency is interested in 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.

FLORIDA EMSTARS WEBISTE

The Florida EMSTARS website has been undergoing improvements. The website will take on a new and more professional look and will be more user-friendly. The *Home Page* includes an *Agency Spotlight* section along with a *Headlines* section featuring EMSTARS highlights. The Home Page will also include a *Quick Links* section customized to feature links for anticipated and targeted audiences. Web pages will be short with limited scrolling required and will contain a limited amount of text but will provide links for additional information on subject areas featured.

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 723,000 incident records in the national database and has just completed the first quarter 2009 submission. Florida ranks in the top three of states submitting data 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 NEMSIS Reporting tab (click on “National Reports” and then “Dynamic 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.

It should be noted that there are limitations to the data that are available. First, these data are not “population-based” and do not represent conditions of the nation or any individual state submitting data to NEMSIS (i.e., most states currently submit a portion of all state EMS runs). Second, the data are not formally “cleaned” and, therefore, represent the information as submitted by each state. Although basic cleaning is completed by the NEMSIS TAC, some data inconsistencies are retained to aid states with quality assessments. As the data base grows, so will the usefulness and validity of the National EMS Data Base.

Florida’s data is incorporated in the national reports effective with third quarter 2007. You will notice when viewing a national report, in the section for ‘States Submitting Data’, Florida is listed in the first and second quarter 2007 reports but there are 0% records for Florida. However, when viewing third and fourth quarter 2007 reports, and the first three quarters of 2008, you will notice Florida has records in the national database that are being used in reporting.

VENDOR COMPLIANCE

Vendors continue to work toward EMSTARS verification. As of June 2009, 11 vendors are EMSTARS compliant and five others are in the process of testing. 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. The project team wants to thank the EMSAC Data Committee for their dedication and support to the EMSTARS project. Their leadership and commitment has been a driving force in the EMSTARS project.

The accomplishments of this committee have become a model for other states and at the national level. EMSTARS took off in 2008 with the dedication of many agencies to continue to pilot test the system and the process; EMSTARS went live with the official startup in July 2008; Florida became the tenth state to report to NEMSIS; the committee completed their work for the 2006-2008 EMS Strategic Plan and started work on the 2008-2010 EMS Strategic Plan; the committee worked to improve the data dictionary with the 1.4 and 2.0 changes; the committee participated in eleven EMSTARS regional workshops; along with many more outstanding accomplishments.

The EMSTARS Project Team also applauds the leadership that the EMSTARS Pilot Agencies, the Charter Agencies, and all other participating agencies have demonstrated in paving the way for other agencies.

The team has enjoyed working with all of you over the past several years. We look forward to the numerous opportunities Florida has to lead the nation in improving patient care and patient outcomes, just to mention a few.

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 held several conference calls and face-to-face meetings since its inception. This committee has continued to provide a mechanism for statewide EMS data analysis and review for the purpose of statewide and national quality improvement initiatives. The EMRC also established a report review process that will 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. As the EMSTARS database grows, the EMRC will identify benchmarks, best practices, trend identification 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.

911 EMERGENCY DISPATCHER PROGRAM

The Bureau held its fourth rule workshop on March 30th to continue discussion of the "Denise Amber Lee Act". This was a very successful workshop that included many 911 Emergency Dispatchers from various parts of the state. The primary focus of the Department was to determine renewal requirements and to complete a draft of a renewal application. The previous workshops resulted in a final application that will be used in the certification of a 911 Emergency Dispatcher and a draft equivalency application for the training of dispatchers. Currently, the Bureau of EMS has certified over five hundred 911 Emergency Dispatchers. If you have questions regarding the 911 Emergency Dispatcher Program, please e-mail Steve McCoy at Steve.McCoy@doh.state.fl.us.

COMPLIANCE SECTION

TRAINING

There are 168 training programs in the state at this time. This includes EMT and Paramedic. This year to date there are 15 new training programs. Continuing education programs is well over 350.

INSPECTIONS

The inspectors have completed 70 inspections year to date with only 60 more to complete. Of these inspections, 43% were unannounced with 57% announced. Be on the lookout for the inspectors - we are still running on schedule and if your last one was in 2007 your due for a visit. Thanks to Shelly, she has completed most of this herself.

LICENSURE

There are 267 services in the state at this time, with over 3700 vehicles that have been permitted. **The Bureau is consistently receiving applications that are missing documents and/or are incomplete. Please review your application thoroughly for all required information. Incomplete applications will cause delays in processing the license. For questions regarding the application, please contact Barbara Hyde at (850) 245-4440, ext. 2723.**

STATEWIDE PLANNING SECTION

COUNTY GOVERNMENT GRANT STATUS

These are non-competitive grants for county governments through a “grants” process under 401.113(2) (a), *Florida Statutes*. We funded all applications submitted. We received 57 county government grant applications and awarded collectively \$5.1 million.

However, ten county governments did not send in applications and left \$398,980 unclaimed. We will add the unclaimed funds to these ten counties’ new grants which will be available to them this 2009-2010 state fiscal year and we shall improve communication with these ten counties to encourage their participation and provide their funds.

MATCHING GRANTS STATUS

These are very competitive grants under 401.113(2) (b), *Florida Statutes*. Under subparagraph one of the above citation all EMS organizations, government and private, urban and rural, are eligible for grants for which the state pays 75% of approved budgets. We received 116 applications of which 47 were awarded nearly \$2.6 million. Nine of the 47 grants went to rural organizations for a total of nearly \$.5 million (\$496,806.16).

In addition, under subparagraph two of the above citation, solely rural organizations are eligible for grant funds and we awarded an additional \$239,110.80 for seven rural grants.

TIMELINE NEXT QUARTER YEAR

We may begin receiving new applications for grants in September. Periodically check the state EMS grant website for new information regarding training that may be scheduled, the date and deadline to submit grant applications, and other information at the following address. <http://www.fl-ems.com/Grants/Grants.html>. Also, regarding these state EMS grants, when you have any questions, suggestions, comments, or requests you may send them to the Bureau or to the following. Melia_Jenkins@doh.state.fl.us or alan_vanlewen@doh.state.fl.us

OTHER FLORIDA GRANT SOURCES

Other grants sources include:

http://redi.myflorida.com/rediproduct/redi_www.main_page.search

<http://www.flcities.com/membership/grant/>

EMS FOR CHILDREN (EMSC)

EMSC Advisory Council Committee:

If you are interested in serving on the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Advisory Committee, the upcoming term will begin on October 7, 2009, and will end on October 6, 2011.

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 as requested.

Appointments to the EMSC Advisory Committee are made by Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H., State Surgeon General, Florida Department of Health. The Bureau of EMS will submit recommendations for appointments to Dr. Viamonte Ros. If you would like to be considered or make a recommendation for appointment to the EMSC Advisory Committee, please send a letter of interest or recommendation along with a current CV/resume to Patricia Kenyon via email at Patricia_Kenyon@doh.state.fl.us or fax at (850) 488-2512 by **August 3, 2009**.

2009 PREHOSPITAL PEDIATRIC EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM

The EMSC Program is a principal sponsor for the 2009 Prehospital Pediatric Education Symposium. The symposium will be held in November in Orlando. The EMSC Program will award numerous scholarships via live registration and web access fees statewide to support prehospital and hospital excellence in pediatric care. For further details, please contact Patricia Kenyon at patricia_kenyon@doh.state.fl.us.

2009 EMSC DAY

National EMS Week was celebrated on May 17-23, 2009. This year's theme is "A Proud Partner in Your Community." In celebration of EMS for Children Day, the Department of Health's Bureau of Emergency Medical Services for Children Program and Read for Health Program partnered together to provide a book highlighting EMS professions in classrooms for school-aged children.

Volunteer readers were asked to visit kindergarten, first and second grade classrooms around the state and read "*A Day with a Paramedic*". EMS professionals in 34 counties statewide participated in this initiative and read to 484 classrooms for a total of 8,712 children learning more about EMS, specifically paramedics. Below are some of the pictures taken in the classroom.



EMSC SURVEY RESULTS

The EMSC Program has conducted surveys regarding:

- Pediatric Medical Direction Protocols
- Pediatric Interfacility Transfer Agreements

These surveys 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. Survey results are listed below.

- 190 agencies completed the pediatric medical direction survey reflecting a 81% response rate

On-line Pediatric Medical Direction:

BLS: 50%

ALS: 64%

Offline Pediatric Medical Direction:

BLS: 100%

ALS: 95%

- 10 children's hospitals completed the pediatric interfacility transfer agreements survey reflecting a 71% response rate.

Percentage of children's hospitals with written interfacility transfer guidelines that include all required components: 40%

Percentage of children's hospitals with written transfer agreements: 30

Addendum

Office of Injury Prevention (OIP)

Contact Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan, Director, Office of Injury Prevention; Division of Emergency Medical Operations at (850) 245-4440, extension 2776 for further information.

SENIOR FALLS PREVENTION SEMINAR ON JUNE 29, ORLANDO

- The Public Information, Education and Relations (PIER) Committee of the EMS Advisory Council in conjunction with the Department of Health, Office of Injury Prevention plans to conduct a senior falls prevention seminar from 1:00 - 5:00 pm on Monday, June 29, 2009 at the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando.
- The purpose of this seminar is to highlight innovative falls prevention efforts by EMS agencies and to provide an opportunity to exchange information and network with other EMS providers. While the seminar is aimed at public safety agencies (fire, EMS and law enforcement), anyone is welcome to attend.
 - For more information regarding the falls prevention seminar, please contact Freida Travis at (850) 245-4444, ext. 2736, or Freida_Travis@doh.state.fl.us or Cory Richter at (772) 226-3863 or crichter@ircgov.com.

SUICIDE PREVENTION DISTANCE LEARNING BROADCAST

- The Office of Injury Prevention, Children's Medical Services, the Department of Children and Families and the Florida Office of Drug Control/Statewide Office of Suicide Prevention are jointly sponsoring a distance learning training on June 30th from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. The title of the training is: "Self-Injury: Testimony, Insight and Critical Issues". The presenters are: Dr. Scott Poland, Associate Professor Center for Psychological Studies, Nova Southeastern University Ft. Lauderdale and two college-aged women who deal with self-injury.
- For more information regarding this and future distance learning broadcasts, please contact Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan at (850) 245-4444, ext. 2776, or Lisa_VanderWerf-Hourigan@doh.state.fl.us.

INJURY PREVENTION AWARD DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 1, 2009

- The Office of Injury Prevention (OIP), in conjunction with the Florida Injury Prevention Advisory Council (FIPAC), annually recognizes an influential individual who has demonstrated commitment to injury prevention. The 2009 Injury Prevention Award Nomination Application is now available at the OIP website and the deadline for nominations is September 1, 2009. We encourage you to consult with the person being nominated in order to present a more in-depth picture of the nominee's injury prevention achievements.
- To nominate someone for the award or to learn about past recipients click on: <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/injury/#Award>.
- For more information, please contact Freida Travis at (850) 245-4144, ext. 2736 or freida_travis@doh.state.fl.us.

SENIOR FALLS PREVENTION COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF ELDER AFFAIRS

- 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 Bureau are collaborating on a distance learning broadcast to correspond with National Senior Fall Prevention Day on September 22, 2009.
- Florida is part of the State Senior Falls Prevention Coalition Workgroup facilitated by the National Council on Aging.
- For more information regarding OIP's collaboration with Elder Affairs on falls, please contact Jane Parker at (850) 245-4444, ext. 2774 or Jane_Parker@doh.state.fl.us or Lani Gruener at (850) 245-4444, ext. 2466 or Leilani_Gruener@doh.state.fl.us.

2009 INJURY-RELATED LEGISLATIVE UPDATE- Primary Seat Belt Bill Passed!

- The following bills were **passed** during the 2009 Florida Legislative Session **and have been signed into law by the Governor**:
 - SB 0344 Relating to **Dori Slosberg and Katie Marchetti Safety Belt Law** Creates the Dori Slosberg and Katie Marchetti Safety Belt Law. Deletes a provision exempting passengers in a pickup truck from the requirement to use a safety belt. Provides an exemption for certain vehicles from provisions of state law relating to the use of safety belts. Deletes a requirement for enforcement of the Florida Safety Belt Law as a secondary action. Effective Date: 06/30/2009 Approved by the Governor - 5/6/2009.

- Florida has joined 27 other states that have adopted primary seat belt laws to save lives on their highways. The new law also makes Florida eligible to receive \$35.5 million in federal incentive funds. The new primary seat belt law is expected to save the lives of more than one hundred Floridians each year.(NHTSA 2009)
- **SB 0168 Relating to Florida Statewide Task Force on Human Trafficking** - Creates within the Department of Children and Family Services the Florida Statewide Task Force on Human Trafficking. Requires that the task force prepare a final report by a specified date. Provides duties of the Florida State University Center for the Advancement of Human Rights. Effective Date: Upon becoming law. Approved by the Governor 6/1/2009.
- **HB 0169 Relating to Equine Activities** Equine Activities: Cites act as "Nicole's Law"; requires a child younger than specified age to wear a helmet when riding equine in certain locations; provides requirements for helmets; requires person renting or leasing equine for riding by child younger than specified age to provide helmet if child does not have helmet; prohibits parent or guardian of child younger than specified age from authorizing or permitting child to engage in certain conduct; provides exceptions. Effective Date: October 1, 2009. Approved by the Governor 6/1/2009.
- The following bills were **passed** during the 2009 Florida Legislative Session **and are awaiting Governor's veto or signature:**
 - **SB 0440 Relating to Pub. Rec./DOH Prescription Drug Monitoring Program**Pub. Rec./DOH Prescription Drug Monitoring Program [SPSC]; Exempts from public records requirements information and records reported to the DOH under the electronic prescription drug monitoring program for monitoring the prescribing and dispensing of controlled substances listed in Schedules II-IV. Authorizes certain persons and entities access to patient-identifying, practitioner-identifying, or pharmacist-identifying information. Provides guidelines for the use of such information, etc. Effective Date: Contingent. Signed by Officers and presented to Governor (Governor must act by 06/23/09)
 - **SB 0462 Relating to Prescription Drugs/Electronic Monitoring/DOH** Prescription Drugs/Electronic Monitoring/DOH [SPSC]; Requires the DOH to establish a comprehensive electronic database system to monitor the prescribing and dispensing of certain controlled substances. Requires specified prescribing and dispensing information to be reported to the electronic database system.

Requires the department to establish policies and procedures for the system. Prohibits certain physicians from practicing in a pain-management clinic that has not registered with the DOH, etc. Effective Date: 07/01/2009.

- The following Resolutions were adopted by the Senate:
 - SB 0996 **Relating to Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week** Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week; Recognizes November 16-22, 2009, as "Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week" in Florida
- SB 1334 **Relating to Swimming Pool Safety Month** Swimming Pool Safety Month; Recognizes April 2009 as "Swimming Pool Safety Month.
- The Child Booster Seat Bill in the Senate (SB 1404) passed and was sent to the House, but **died in messages** (House never put the bill on the calendar to vote). SB 1404-Child-restraint Requirements; Provides child-restraint requirements for children ages 4 through 7. Provides exceptions. Redefines the term "motor vehicle" to exclude certain vehicles from such requirements. Provides a grace period and exceptions.
 - Florida is one of five states-Alaska, Arizona, **Florida**, South Dakota and Texas-who have yet to enact booster seat use requirements.
- For more information, please contact Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan at (850) 245-4444, ext. 2776, or Lisa_VanderWerf-Hourigan@doh.state.fl.us

2009-2013 FLORIDA INJURY PREVENTION STRATEGIC PLAN

- Florida is the only state that implemented an existing injury prevention strategic plan (2004-2008) while drafting a successor plan (2009-2013).
- The Florida Injury Prevention Advisory Council (FIPAC), Strategic Plan Goal Team Leaders and Goal Teams provided the Office of Injury Prevention input on the draft 2009-2013 Florida Injury Prevention Strategic Plan at the May 27 and 28, 2009 FIPAC meeting in Tampa. Upon department approval, the final plan document will be located at the Office of Injury Prevention website: <http://doh.state.fl.us/injury/>. The plan will also be distributed in hard copy and electronically.
- For more information, please contact Jane Parker at (850) 245-4144, ext. 2774 or Jane_Parker@doh.state.fl.us or Lani Gruener at (850) 245-4144, ext. 2466 or Leilani_Gruener@doh.state.fl.us.

FLORIDA INJURY PREVENTION ADVISORY COUNCIL

1. The Florida Injury Prevention Advisory Council (FIPAC) and Florida 2009-2013 Injury Prevention Strategic Plan Goal Teams met May 27 and 28, 2009 in Tampa, Florida. This was the initial meeting for the 2009-2013 FIPAC, goal team leaders and members.

The 2009-2013 Council and goal team leaders have been appointed to serve by the Florida Department of Health Surgeon General, Dr. Ana Viamonte Ros.

2009-2013 Florida Injury Prevention Advisory Council

Name	Representing
Larry Baxter	Key State Agency – Department of Elder Affairs
Patricia Byers, M.D.	Hospital/Trauma Centers and Physicians
Nancy Carvallo	Key State Agency – Agency for Health Care Administration
Jan Davis	Department of Health – Central Office Sexual Violence Program
Lt. Colonel Ernesto Duarte	Key State Agency – Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
Lale Gerger	Injury Prevention Advocacy and Non-Profit
Dawn Johnson	Lay Person
Karen Liller, Ph.D.	University
Melissa Lugo	Department of Health – County Health Department-Orange County
Joe Nelson, D.O.	Physicians - State Emergency Medical Services Medical Director
David Oxley	Injury Prevention Advocacy, Non-Profit, and Lay Person
Mark Ryan	Key State Agency – Department of Children and Families
Carl Schulman, M.D.	Hospital/Trauma Centers and Physicians
Diana Silvey	Injury Prevention Advocacy, Non-Profit, and Lay Person
Mimi Sutherland	Injury Prevention Advocacy, Nurses, Non-Profit, and Injury Prevention Specialist
Mark Tesoro	Injury Prevention Advocacy, Non-

Marianne Trussell	Profit, and Injury Prevention Specialist Key State Agency – Department of Transportation
Nichole Wilder	Key State Agency – Department of Education

2009-2013 Florida Injury Prevention Strategic Plan Goal Team Leaders

Name	Representing
Goal 1: Establish a sustainable infrastructure that provides leadership, funding, data, advocacy and evaluation for injury prevention. – Data Workgroup	
Michelle Akins	Department of Health – Children’s Medical Services
Michael Lo	Department of Health – Office of Trauma
Goal 2: Facilitate opportunities to collaborate prevention efforts in: Traffic Safety, Poisoning, Interpersonal Violence, Suicide, Child Maltreatment and other injuries.	
Wendy Loomas	Department of Health – County Health Department
Cindy Magnole	Hospital/Trauma Centers, Nurses and Non-Profit
Goal 3: Establish a collaborative effort to provide statewide direction and focus for fall-related injury prevention efforts for seniors.	
Mark Brimer, Ph.D.	Injury Prevention Advocacy, Non- Profit and Lay Person
Michele Mule	Key State Agency – Department of Elder Affairs
Goal 4: Establish a collaborative effort to provide direction and statewide focus for early childhood drowning prevention efforts.	
Karen Macauley	Hospital/Trauma Centers and Nurses
Pamela Santucci	Department of Health – County Health Department
Elizabeth White	Department of Health – Children’s Medical Services

Goal 5: Enhance the skills, knowledge and resources of Florida’s injury prevention workforce.

Stacey Bright

Virginia Noland-Dodd, Ph.D.

Injury Prevention Advocacy and Non-Profit
University

2. Goal teams worked on the grant goals, objectives, and strategies to provide input into the 2009 Florida Injury Prevention Action Plan. When finalized, this plan will be located on our website at: <http://doh.state.fl.us/injury/>
3. The next FIPAC meeting is scheduled for October 6 and 7, 2009 in Tampa, Florida at the Doubletree Hotel. 4500 West Cypress Street, Tampa, Florida, 33607. Telephone: 1-813-879-4800.
4. For more information, please contact Jane Parker at (850) 245-4440, ext. 2774 or Jane_Parker@doh.state.fl.us or Lani Gruener at (850) 245-4440, ext. 2466 or Leilani_Gruener@doh.state.fl.us.

2009 WATER SAFETY AND DROWNING PREVENTION MARKETING SYMPOSIUM

5. The 2009 Water Safety and Drowning Prevention Marketing Symposium was held May 29, 2009 in Tampa, Florida. The fourth annual symposium focused on the prevention of childhood drownings as Florida leads the nation in 1-4 year old drowning deaths.
 - The main topics at the conference included, legislative and regulatory impacts to swimming pools, marketing drowning prevention awareness, drowning medical interventions, and presentations by county health departments participating in the 2009 Drowning Prevention Awareness Campaign, “Keep Your Eyes on the Kids”. Speakers included: Dr. Peter Antevy, a pediatric emergency room physician, Troy Church, founder of the Katy Foundation and representatives from the Florida Swimming Pool Association, county health departments and the Florida Department of Health.
6. For more information, please contact Jane Parker at (850) 245-4440, ext. 2774 or Jane_Parker@doh.state.fl.us or Lani Gruener at (850) 245-4440, ext. 2466 or Leilani_Gruener@doh.state.fl.us.

CDC GRANT - PUBLIC HEALTH INJURY SURVEILLANCE AND PREVENTION-2005-2010

- The final year of this five-year grant begins August 1, 2009. The long-term goal of the grant is to implement the 2009-2013 Florida Injury Prevention Strategic Plan.
- The 2009-2013 Florida Injury Prevention Advisory Council, Strategic Plan Goal Team Leaders and Members met in Tampa during the last week in May. Please refer to the Florida Injury Prevention Advisory Council updates within this document for more information.
- For more information, please contact Jane Parker at (850) 245-4444, ext. 2774 or Jane_Parker@doh.state.fl.us or Lani Gruener at (850) 245-4444, ext. 2466 or Leilani_Gruener@doh.state.fl.us.

2009 DROWNING PREVENTION AWARENESS CAMPAIGN-“KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE KIDS”

- Residential swimming pools are the location of more than 75% of the drowning deaths in Florida for the 0-4 age group. Florida leads the nation in the 1-4 year old drownings and is third in the nation in overall drownings.
- The 2009 Drowning Prevention Awareness Campaign-“Keep Your Eyes on the Kids” began April 2009 and will conclude in June 2009.
- For 2009, the 10 counties for the campaign were Brevard, Broward, Dade, Escambia, Hillsborough, Lee, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach and Pinellas.
- The campaign’s target population is the 0-4 age group, with the focus on adults maintaining constant eye contact with children when they are in or around water.
- The County Health Departments will partner with Safe Kids chapters and coalitions, DOH-Children Medical Services Offices and other community partners in their county on drowning prevention related activities.
- A two hour meeting was held the evening of May 28, 2009 in Tampa, Florida to provide networking opportunities for the county health departments and children’s medical services participating in the 2009 campaign. Discussions included lessons learned, traditional and non-traditional partners and marketing materials used in the campaign.
 - For more information, please contact Jane Parker at (850) 245-4440, ext. 2774 or Jane_Parker@doh.state.fl.us or Lani Gruener at (850) 245-4440, ext. 2466 or Leilani_Gruener@doh.state.fl.us.

SAFE KIDS FLORIDA

- Safe Kids Florida announces new Safe Kids Chapter in Florida’s panhandle. The new chapter is “Safe Kids Emerald Coast,” located in Panama City Beach, Florida. The lead agency for the chapter is the Panama City Beach Fire Rescue. The Safe Kids Coordinator is Lt. Terry Parris of PCB Fire Rescue and Co-Coordinator is Barbara Gudgel of Cox Pools.
- In 2007, the childhood unintentional injury fatality rate in Safe Kids counties was **30% lower** than the rate in non-Safe Kids counties which corresponds to **98 fewer deaths** than expected had the fatality rate been the same as non-Safe Kids counties.
- Safe Kids USA recently reorganized their workforce and through the process, Safe Kids Florida lost Regional Liaison, Amy Miller. The new Safe Kids Florida Regional Liaison is Ms. Alexis Kagiliery-Lee.
- Florida coalitions and chapters will be participating in the Marine Corp. Marathon in Washington, DC, in October 2009. The marathon is a fundraising opportunity for the coalitions and chapters.

Safe Kids Broward, Palm Beach and Northeast will be participating in the event. There are several runners committed to running for the state.

- The proceeds from the marathon will be divided as follow: 60% for the coalitions and chapters and 40% to Safe Kids USA. The planning team is currently working on a "Team Raiser" website for individuals around the state to donate to the coalition or chapter of their choice.
- The Brain Injury Association of Florida, Inc. donated and shipped 1,000 free copies of their Brain Injury Activity Books for elementary age children to Safe Kids Florida chapters and coalitions.
- The Safe Kids Buckle-Up Grants have been reduced by 70%. Safe Kids USA will continue to provide insurance coverage for coalitions and chapters for registered seat check events.
- Safe Kids 2009-2010 Walk This Way-Core Grant Awards will be announced by June 24, 2009. There are 50 waiting slots for non-grantees to sign-up for free "materials only."
- For more information about Safe Kids Florida, please contact Towana Bonnett, Safe Kids Coordinator at (850) 245-4444, ext 2452 or Towana_Bonnett@doh.state.fl.us or Jane Parker, Safe Kids Manager at (850) 245-4444, ext 2774 or Jane_Parker@doh.state.fl.us.

FLORIDA SPECIAL NEEDS OCCUPANT SAFETY PROGRAM

From January through March 2009, 117 children with special health care needs were evaluated for their motor vehicle transportation options and 107 seats or restraints were loaned to their family or caregivers. The Office of Injury Prevention operates this Florida Department of Transportation grant program in seven of Florida's children's hospitals.

Eight Child Passenger Safety (CPS) technicians received the additional two-day "Transporting Children with Special Health Care Needs" training. These CPS technicians all work within the seven children's hospitals.

An Invitation to Bid was conducted for the purchase of the special needs child safety seats, restraints, and replacement parts used in the program. An order for \$53,000 was placed and will be delivered to the seven children's hospitals. While conventional child safety seats can cost \$50-100, special health care child safety seats can cost in excess of \$600.00.

Ms. Parker, Grant Manager, met with three hospital coordinators and began the process to develop a new Special Health Needs Child Safety Seat Technician curriculum to be used within this program. It is a barrier for the participating hospitals to pull staff off the floors to attend an additional 2-day training, when they were already out three to four days for CPS training. Florida is developing a streamlined curriculum that will provide training only for the seats used within the program.

For more information regarding this program, please contact Jane Parker at (850) 245-4444, ext. 2774 or Jane_Parker@doh.state.fl.us.

BICYCLE HELMETS AVAILABLE IN ALL 67 COUNTIES

- The 2008-2009 Bicycle Helmet Promotion grant award of \$122,428 to the Office of Injury Prevention from the Florida Department of Transportation has made it possible for free bicycle helmets to be made available to low income children in all 67 counties. This was almost a \$10,000 increase in grant funding to OIP.
- In April 2009, ninety-six (96) community partners were drop-shipped 17,857 helmets for distribution within their communities. Fifty-six (56) of our community partners are county health departments.
- The goal of this grant is to increase bicycle helmet use and reduce injuries among children in low income and underserved communities.
- Through the efforts of our 20 regional trainers, 169 individuals throughout the state have received training this year. We continue to reach out to school resource officers to take the bicycle helmet training. School resource officers are in a position to educate students about the importance of wearing a helmet as well as issue citations for lack of compliance with the helmet law.
- This grant has distributed nearly 85,000 helmets since 2003. From 2003-2007, the hospitalization rate for non-fatal traumatic brain injuries sustained in bicycle crashes among Florida residents ages 5-14 has **decreased 34%**.
- For more information, please contact Freida Travis at (850) 245-4444, ext. 2736 or Freida_Travis@doh.state.fl.us.

INJURY DATA REPORTS

- **NEW!** The Florida Injury Data Report: 2007 Surveillance Data is now available in a series of individual, detailed fact sheets. There is one, multi-page fact sheet for each of 12 major injury indicators (Drowning, Firearms, All Injuries, Hip Fractures, Homicide/Assault, Motor Vehicle, Poisoning, Suicide/Self-Harm, Traumatic Brain Injuries, Unintentional Injuries, Falls, and Fires).

- The fact sheets are available on the Office of Injury Prevention website. The 2005 and 2006 data reports are also available.
- 2006-2007 injury death and hospitalization data and 2005-2007 emergency department data for each of Florida's 67 counties is available on the Office of Injury Prevention website at: <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/injury>.
- 1970s-2007 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>.
- NEW! 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>
- 1999-2007 injury death, 1999-2007 injury hospitalization and 2005-2007 emergency department data, customized for specific projects, is available upon request.
- For more information, please contact our Injury Epidemiologist, Kyla Shelton, at (850) 245-4440, ext. 2729, 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 inaugural meeting was held in Tallahassee on July 29th, 2008 to review the roles and responsibilities of the coalition and begin evaluation of the new Florida Motorcycle Strategic Safety Plan.
- Two additional meetings were held in September and November to review the plan's strategies and begin the creation of a business or action plan.
- The business plan was finalized on January 21st and 22nd in Orlando, Florida and progress reports were given on April 16th and 17th in Tallahassee, Florida.
- The next meeting is scheduled for August 2009.
- The Office of Injury Prevention and several other coalition members represented the coalition in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Regional Motorcycle Safety Forum on June 3rd and 4th in Orlando, Florida.
- For more information, please contact our Injury Epidemiologist, Kyla Shelton, at (850) 245-4440, ext. 2729, Kyla_Shelton@doh.state.fl.us

ELDER DRIVER SAFETY INITIATIVE

- In June 2008, the Office of Injury Prevention, Florida Highway Patrol and the Departments of Transportation, Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, and Elder Affairs jointly submitted an application to the National Center on Senior Transportation/National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for funding to develop and implement a statewide plan on older driver safety.
- The effort is being led by the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged of the Florida Department of Transportation.
- In August 2008, Florida's proposal was selected to serve as a demonstration project in establishing and implementing a statewide older driver safety plan. Team members traveled to Dallas, Texas in September 2008 for plan development training.
- The goal of the grant-funded projects is to enhance the resources, knowledge, and skills of existing mobility counselors in each county to more effectively link seniors with alternative transportation options.
- Pilot project meetings were held in Putnam and St. Johns Counties on May 19th and 20th to gain partners and elicit information for the development of Florida's Mobility Manager Training, which will be conducted in the two counties before June 30th.
- For more information, please contact our Injury Epidemiologist, Kyla Shelton, at (850) 245-4440, ext. 2729, Kyla_Shelton@doh.state.fl.us

PRESCRIPTION DRUG OVERDOSE PREVENTION

- The Office of Injury Prevention was selected to participate in CDC's two-day meeting entitled "State Strategies for Preventing Prescription Drug Overdoses".
- The meeting was held in Atlanta, January 13-14. Information and resources shared during the meeting was compiled into the "State Strategies for Prevention Prescription Drug Overdoses" report and is available on the web at <http://www.stipda.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=202>
- For more information, please contact our Injury Epidemiologist, Kyla Shelton, at (850) 245-4440, ext. 2729, Kyla_Shelton@doh.state.fl.us

STATE AND TERRITORIAL INJURY PREVENTION DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION'S DISASTER EPIDEMIOLOGY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

- The Office of Injury Prevention is a member of STIPDA's new Disaster Epidemiology SIG.
- The group's first conference call was held on June 2 during which plans for the remaining fiscal year through September 2009 were discussed.

- One main activity will be to share and distribute key lessons learned from post-disaster injury response and surveillance among the other member states including: Texas, Oklahoma, North Carolina, Oregon, and Alaska.
- For more information, please contact our Injury Epidemiologist, Kyla Shelton, at (850) 245-4440, ext. 2729, Kyla_Shelton@doh.state.fl.us

INJURY PREVENTION 101 COURSE HELD MAY 12, 2009

1. The Office of Injury Prevention conducted its 4th Annual Injury Prevention 101 Course on May 12, 2009 at Broward General Medical Center Trauma Services in Ft. Lauderdale.
- 2.
3. This one-day course provides injury prevention awareness, skills and knowledge, strengthen local partnerships, and bring together the various organizational entities needed to create successful injury prevention programs. The course included a panel of local coalition members involved in successful injury prevention efforts. Joanne Puia, Broward General Medical Center Trauma Services discussed trauma outreach efforts, Kyril Monts and Jennifer Belyeu, Jo DiMaggio Children's Hospital, discussed Safe Kids initiatives.
- 4.
5. At least 85 individuals attended the course including 25 registered nurses.
6. For more information, please contact Freida Travis at (850) 245-4444, ext. 2736 or Freida_Travis@doh.state.fl.us

SUICIDE PREVENTION COORDINATING COUNCIL-

7. April 22, 2009 was Suicide Prevention Day at the Capitol: A Day Promoting Education and Awareness-This day is a statewide event in which the Statewide Office of Suicide Prevention and the Florida Suicide Prevention Coalition are joined by advocates, survivors, grassroots organizations, youth and other state agencies to bring suicide to the forefront as a public issue.
- 8.
9. On April 21, 2009 at Lake Ella in Tallahassee, an Evening of Remembrance Candlelight Vigil was held.
10. The Statewide Office of Suicide Prevention official website is <http://www.HelpPromoteHope.com>. Launched last year, this website is designed to be used by the Council, school personnel, state agencies, community members, faith-based organizations, employers and others as a resource for suicide prevention.

11. The primary goals of the website are to: build collaboration and facilitate cooperation between the State and communities; assist in the implementation of the *Florida Suicide Prevention Strategy*; ensure accessibility to suicide prevention resources statewide; and provide updates to the public on current initiatives and activities overseen by our office and the council.
- 12.
13. The new Jeffrey Johnston Stand Up For All Students Act for bullying that passed last year has created an opportunity that requires schools to provide instruction to all teachers, parents, and employees on bullying, besides each school to have an anti-bullying policy.
14. Garret Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention and Early Intervention Grant. In October 2008, SAMSHA awarded Florida the Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention and Early Intervention Grant, provides \$1.5 million dollars to over a period of 3 years for youth suicide prevention. The grant activities will be in Duval County.
15. The Statewide Suicide Prevention Coordinating Council met January 9, 2009. Agenda items included Mental Health parity, Veterans Initiative, Garret Lee Smith grant, proposed legislation, including the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program. Next meeting will be June 23 in Tallahassee.
For more information, please contact Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan at (850) 245-4444, ext. 2776, or Lisa_VanderWerf-Hourigan@doh.state.fl.us