

STATE BUREAU OF EMS HIGHLIGHTS

OCTOBER 2009

GENERAL INFORMATION

EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

January 20 – 22, 2010

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 by calling (866) 536-8477 / (386) 254-8200 by December 27, 2009. The group conference rate of \$132.00 is reserved under "Florida Department of Health / Bureau of Emergency Medical Services". Check in time is 4:00 p.m. Cancellation within seven days will result in a penalty of one night 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 2010*, please visit the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association's website at: <http://www.ffca.org>

Future Meeting Dates:

2010

- June 28 – 30, 2010 - The Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando
- October – TBD

STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

The Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and the EMS Advisory Council's (EMSAC) Strategic Visions Committee partnered to host the strategic planning session as the first phase of the development of the *July 2010 – June 2012 Florida Emergency Medical Services Strategic Plan*.

Almost all of the EMS constituency groups were represented. As a result of the session ten, goals have been proposed. The themes of each goal and goal owners are as follows:

- Goal One:** Leadership (EMS Advisory Council and the EMS system)
Goal Owner: EMSAC – John Scott, Chair
- Goal Two:** Data Collection
Goal Owner: EMSAC’s Data Committee – Chief Charles Moreland, Ed.D.
- Goal Three:** Customer Satisfaction
Goal Owner: EMSAC Public Information Relations Committee (PIER) – Battalion Chief Cory Richter
- Goal Four:** EMS Workforce Education, Performance, and Satisfaction
Goal Owner: EMSAC Education Committee – Danny Griffin
- Goal Five:** Economic Sustainability of the EMS System
Goal Owner: EMSAC Legislative Committee – Captain Greg Rubin
- Goal Six:** EMS Processes and Benchmarking
Goal Owner: EMSAC Medical Care Committee – Dr. David Meurer
- Goal Seven:** Disaster Preparedness and Response
Goal Owner: EMSAC Disaster Committee – Dr. Brad Elias
- Goal Eight:** Air Medical Safety
Goal Owner: EMSAC Access to Care Committee – Karen Chamberlain
- Goal Nine:** Patient Safety, Responder Safety, and Safety of the General Public
Goal Owner: EMSAC Access to Care Committee – Chief Michael Patterson
- Goal Ten:** Radio Communications
Goal Owner: EMSAC Access to Care Committee – Chief Michael Patterson and Todd Mechler

For more information, please attend the 8:30 a.m. Strategic Visions Committee Meeting on June 29, 2009 in River of Grass F & I immediately following the Bureau of EMS Welcome Meeting. Or you may visit the Strategic Visions page on the bureau’s website, <http://www.fl-ems.com>, for the latest draft. Contact Lisa Walker, Strategic Planning & Rules Coordinator, at the bureau for any other questions: lisa_walker2@doh.state.fl.us or (850) 245-4440, ext. *2733.

RULES UNDER PROMULGATION/DEVELOPMENT

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

Instructor Criteria

- In response to concerns raised by the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee (JAPC) minor technical changes have been made to the proposed language.
- A Notice of Change will be published in the Florida Administrative Weekly (FAW).
- A 21-day comment period is required once the Notice of Change is published.
- Following the comment period the bureau will move forward with the final phases to adopt the rule:
- Obtain State Surgeon General certification of rule
- Seven day notice to JAPC of the bureau's intent to file for adoption (JAPC certification of rule)
- Submit to the Department of State for adoption
- Rule goes into effect 20 days after filing with the Department of State
- Anticipated date for rule to go into effect is the end of October.
- If you have any questions or concerns about the rule language please contact Rickey Stone, Senior Training Coordinator, at Rickey_Stone@doh.state.fl.us or ext. (850) 245-4440, *2753.

Training and Education, EMT Skills, Paramedic Ride Times, and Pediatric Hours

- Training and Education language workshopped in March in St. Petersburg.
- EMT skills, paramedic students' ride time on ALS non-transport vehicles, and pediatric hours for recertification were covered at the August rule workshop.
- On hold until other rules that have been proposed are adopted due to overlap of this language in those sections.
- If you have any questions or concerns about the rule language please contact Rickey Stone, Senior Training Coordinator, at Rickey_Stone@doh.state.fl.us or ext. (850) 245-4440 *2753.

Neonate Rule

- The Bureau of EMS is working with legal to address concerns raised by JAPC on the proposed rule and comments received from the public hearing.

- Upon satisfying JAPC's concerns and incorporating changes to the proposed rule based on comments from the hearing and JAPC, a Notice of Change will be published in the FAW.
- A 21-day comment period is required once the Notice of Change is published.
- Following the comment period the bureau will move forward with the final phases to adopt the rule:
 - Obtain State Surgeon General certification of rule
 - Seven day notice to JAPC of the bureau's intent to file for adoption (JAPC certification of rule)
 - Submit to the Department of State for adoption
 - Rule goes into effect 20 days after filing with the Department of State
 - Anticipated date for rule to go into effect is late November.

EMT/Paramedic Certifications and Renewals (MOA Rule)

- Minor changes have been made to the proposed rule based on comments from JAPC requiring a Notice of Change to be published in the FAW.
- A 21-day comment period is required once the Notice of Change is published.
- Following the comment period the bureau will move forward with the final phases to adopt the rule:
 - Obtain State Surgeon General certification of rule
 - Seven day notice to JAPC of the bureau's intent to file for adoption (JAPC certification of rule)
 - Submit to the Department of State for adoption
 - Rule goes into effect 20 days after filing with the Department of State
 - Anticipated date for rule to go into effect is late October.
 - If you have any questions or concerns about the rule language please contact Vicki Grant, Division of Medical Quality Assurance, at (850) 245-4548 or Vicki_Grant@doh.state.fl.us.

EMS Tracking and Reporting System (EMSTARS)

- Bureau of EMS conducted a rule workshop in August.
- The proposal is to give EMS providers the option to submit EMSTARS data rather than aggregate data.
- Bureau of EMS is working with JAPC to conduct a preliminary review before submitting a Notice of Proposed Rule (public comment period and/or hearing if requested in writing) to the FAW.

- If you have any questions or concerns about the rule language please contact Stephanie Daugherty, Data Manager, at (850) 245-4440, ext. *2747 or StephanieC.Daugherty@doh.state.fl.us

Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

- Update to definition, based on declaratory statement that was issued, was discussed at August rule workshop.
- On hold until other rules that have been proposed are adopted due to overlap of this language in those sections.

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

Visit the Office of Trauma's website at:

<http://www.doh.state.fl.us/demo/Trauma/notices.htm> for notices on trauma rules that may impact EMS.

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

Training Center Equivalency and Certification Renewals

- In response to concerns raised by the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee (JAPC) minor technical changes have been made to the proposed language.
- A Notice of Change has been published in the Florida Administrative Weekly (FAW).
- A 21-day comment period is required once the Notice of Change is published.
- Following the comment period the bureau will move forward with the final phases to adopt the rule:
- Obtain State Surgeon General certification of rule
- Seven day notice to JAPC of the bureau's intent to file for adoption (JAPC certification of rule)
- Submit to the Department of State for adoption
- Rule goes into effect 20 days after filing with the Department of State
- Anticipated date for rule to go into effect is the end of October.
- If you have any questions or concerns about the rule language please contact Steve McCoy, EMS Systems Analyst, at Steve_McCoy@doh.state.fl.us or ext. (850) 245-4440, *2727.

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

Contact Lisa Walker, Strategic Planning & Rules Coordinator, at Lisa_Walker2@doh.state.fl.us or (850) 245-4440, ext. *2733 if you have any questions about the rule process.

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.

DATA SECTION

EMSTARS

The Prehospital Data Collection program, EMSTARS, passed a major milestone this reporting period with 101 agencies participating, bringing the state repository to over 1,210,482 incidents reported. Another 50 agencies are committed and are working to begin their submissions to EMSTARS. The EMSAC Data Committee continues to play the major advocacy role contributing to the increase in agency data submission. 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, EMSAC Data Committee, and the EMS Community to review upcoming recommendations for improved data collection, transitioning additional EMS provider agencies, implementing improvements to the data analysis and reporting, piloting the 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 WEBSITE

The Florida EMSTARS website will be showing its new face in September which is intended to take on a more user-friendly approach to view information targeted specific to its visitors. Quick links and references have been added to expedite your search for EMSTARS information. Please visit the website at www.floridaEMSTARS.com.

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 700,000 incident records in the national database. Florida ranks in the top three of states 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.

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.

VENDOR COMPLIANCE

Vendors continue to work toward EMSTARS verification. As of September 2009, twelve 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, as well as the other EMSAC committees and constituency groups. The 2010-2012 Strategic Plan is currently being 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 to hold several 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 statewide and national quality improvement initiatives. In July, the EMRC met in Orlando in conjunction with the EMS Advisory Council and constituency group meetings. Future goals of the committee included the expansion of the EMRC committee membership. There was a motion made to recommend the addition of four new members to the EMRC. General descriptions of these four affiliations include one person with a research background or an affiliation with an educational institution, one person affiliated with a private ambulance agency, one person affiliated with the specialty of trauma, and one at large position. 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. The EMRC has reviewed and recommended approval of 18 additional EMSTARS reports since July. As the EMSTARS database grows, the EMRC will continue to 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 a rule hearing on August 28th to finalize rule language and forms discussed in previous workshops. This was a very successful hearing that included participation from many 911 Emergency Dispatchers from various parts of the state. The primary focus of the Department was to identify training and education equivalency criteria for 911 emergency dispatchers and to identify the requirements for the renewal of the 911 emergency dispatcher certification and to complete a draft of a renewal application. Currently, the Bureau of EMS has certified over eight 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 437.

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 269 services in the state at this time, with over 4000 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 set-aside grants that are solely for county governments and are awarded through a “grants” process under 401.113(2) (a), *Florida Statutes*. Through the last quarter year, all applications that were submitted were funded. We received a total of 57 county government grant applications and awarded collectively \$5.1 million.

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

New: At the grant website (<http://www.fl-ems.com/Grants/Grants.html>) under “County Grant Information” there is a link that lists the county grant amounts awarded to each county for each of the past three years. Any missing fiscal year(s) for a county indicates the county did not apply for and therefore did not receive its county grant funds for those years.

MATCHING GRANTS STATUS

These are competitive grants under 401.113(2) (b), *Florida Statutes*, and under subparagraph one of the previous statutory citation all EMS organizations, government and private, urban and rural, are eligible for grants for which the state pays 75% of approved grant budgets. For fiscal year 2008-2009, the department awarded 47 grants for \$2,550,488 in state funds.

Nine of the 47 grants went to rural organizations for a total of \$496,806.16. Hence, rural organizations received 19.5 percent of the “75%” grant funds.

In addition, under subparagraph 2 of the above statutory citation, solely rural organizations are eligible for grant funds and we awarded an additional \$239,110.80 for seven rural grants.

New: At the grant website (<http://www.fl-ems.com/Grants/Grants.html>) under “Matching Grants” there is a link for a list of all matching grants awarded for the past three years. The list is organized by type of project funded.

TRAINING ON-SITE

We provided no training sessions last quarter year and have none scheduled at this time.

NEXT QUARTER YEAR

Questions, suggestions, comments, or requests regarding state EMS grants, review team selection, award decision making, and other aspects should be sent to demo_ems@doh.state.fl.us.

EMS FOR CHILDREN (EMSC)

- The 2009 Prehospital Pediatric Education Symposium will be held on November 17th from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the National Training Center in Clermont. Target audience for the conference is prehospital providers and emergency room staff. The Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Program will award numerous scholarships for live registration and web access statewide to support prehospital and hospital excellence in pediatric care. If interested in attending the live conference or receiving a FREE access code, please contact Patricia Kenyon at patricia_kenyon@doh.state.fl.us. Website Link: <http://www.emlrc.org/prepeds2009.htm>.
- In an effort to improve pediatric education and training of prehospital professionals statewide, the Florida EMSC Program and the Florida Neonatal & Pediatric Transport Network Association have partnered together to conduct FREE pediatric/neonatal training. The Florida EMSC education programs are designed to enhance pediatric/neonatal skill sets in the EMS community. Funding for these programs is provided by our federal partnership grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration's Maternal and Child Health Bureau.
- If interested in having a **FREE** pediatric/neonatal education program conducted at your agency/organization, please use the link below to complete the request form. <http://survey.doh.state.fl.us/survey/entry.jsp?id=1232137612645>

- The term of the current Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Advisory Committee members will expire on October 6, 2009. Appointments have been made by the State Surgeon General for the 2009-2011 term. New committee members represent various health care specialties as well as geographic areas. For more information about the EMSC Advisory Committee, please contact Patricia Kenyon at (850) 245-4440, ext. 2686.

INVESTIGATIONS

The Investigations Section within the Bureau of EMS continues to work cooperatively with Medical Quality Assurance in regards to the investigation of cases involving EMTs and paramedics.

All complaints against individual EMTs and/or paramedics should be filed with MQA through their website:

http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/enforcement/enforce_howto.htm.

All complaints against EMS licensed providers and training centers should be filed with the Bureau of EMS. Complaints may be submitted, in writing, to:

Bureau of EMS
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C-18
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1738.
<http://www.fl-ems.com>

REMINDERS:

Richard McNelis is the prosecuting attorney for the Bureau of EMS and can be reached at (850) 245-4440.

Please visit the following website www.flhealthsource.com to determine if an EMT, paramedic or EMS provider holds a clear/active license.

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 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 Initiative are collaborating on a distance learning broadcast and webinar on September 22, 2009 to commemorate National Senior Fall Prevention Day. Panelists include: Department of Elder Affairs Secretary E. Douglas Beach, PhD., State Surgeon General Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H., Soheyla Mahdavian, PharmD, Florida A & M University, Bonita Beattie, P.T., M.P.T., M.H.A., Jef Morris, TCA Master Trainer, Reiki Master, Don Hughes, and Mark Brimer, PhD. Participant materials will be available *after* the broadcast on the Department of Health, Office of Injury Prevention at http://www.doh.state.fl.us/demo/Injury_Prevention/ and the Department of Elder Affairs website <http://elderaffairs.state.fl.us/index.php>.
- 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) 245-4440, 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.

BIKE SAFETY AND HELMET FITTING TRAINING ON SEPTEMBER 29, 2009 - NAPLES

- The Department of Health, Office of Injury Prevention in partnership with the Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Public Information, Education and Relations (PIER) Committee of the EMS Advisory Council plans to conduct a bicycle safety and helmet fitting training from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. EST on Tuesday, September 29, 2009 at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club.
- During this training, individuals will learn how to properly fit a helmet on an individual's head and gain bicycle safety knowledge. This training is aimed at fire, EMS and law enforcement agencies, the DOT Bicycle Helmet Promotion grant's community partners and anyone interested in keeping children safe from head injuries. The OIP has distributed nearly 85,000 helmets through the Bicycle Helmet Promotion grant 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%**.
- To register for the training please click on <http://survey.doh.state.fl.us/survey/entry.jsp?id=1251978743531>
- For more information regarding the bike safety and helmet fitting training, please contact Freida Travis at (850) 245-4440, ext. 2736, or Freida_Travis@doh.state.fl.us or Sarita Taylor at (863) 519-2216 or Sarita.Taylor@dot.state.fl.us

INJURY PREVENTION AWARD NOMINATIONS RECEIVED

- 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. Nomination applications have been received for the 2009 Injury Prevention Award. These nomination applications are currently being reviewed by the Injury Prevention Award Committee to select the recipient for the 2009 award. The recipient will be presented the award at the Florida Injury Prevention Advisory Council meeting in Tampa on October 6, 2009. To learn about past recipients click on: <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/injury/#Award>.
- For more information about the injury prevention award, please contact Freida Travis at (850) 245-4440, ext. 2736 or freida_travis@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 Lani Gruener at (850) 245-4440, ext. 2466 or Leilani_Gruener@doh.state.fl.us or Jane Parker at (850) 245-4440, ext. 2774 or Jane_Parker@doh.state.fl.us.

FLORIDA INJURY PREVENTION ADVISORY COUNCIL

- The next Florida Injury Prevention Advisory Council (FIPAC) meeting is scheduled for October 6 and 7, 2009 in Tampa, Florida at the Doubletree Hotel Tampa Airport Westshore. Please register to attend the meeting at <http://survey.doh.state.fl.us/survey/entry.jsp?id=1248115368850>.

The Doubletree Hotel, Tampa Airport Westshore

4500 West Cypress Street, Tampa, Florida, 33607.

Telephone: 1-813-879-4800.

Room reservations can be made electronically at:

<http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/TPATLDT-FPA-20091002/index.jhtml>

- The Florida Injury Prevention Advisory Council (FIPAC) and Strategic Plan Goal Teams will continue to work on the grant goals, objectives, and strategies to implement the 2009 Florida Injury Prevention Action Plan and to provide input for the 2010 Florida Injury Prevention Action Plan. When finalized, this plan will be located on the Office of Injury Prevention website at: <http://doh.state.fl.us/injury/>
- The initial meeting of the Senior Falls Prevention Steering Committee will be held on October 7, 2009, at 1:30 pm, after the conclusion of the FIPAC meeting. Goal Team three (goal focused on senior falls prevention) will meet with the invitees to discuss establishing a statewide senior falls prevention coalition.
- 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) 245-4440, 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 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 concluded in June 2009. The annual 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.
- For 2009, the 10 counties for the campaign were Brevard, Broward, Dade, Escambia, Hillsborough, Lee, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach and Pinellas. The County Health Departments partnered with Safe Kids chapters and coalitions, DOH-Children Medical Services Offices and other community partners in their county on drowning prevention related activities.
- 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's N. E. Florida Chapter, Broward and Palm Beach Coalitions are participating in the Marine Corp. Marathon in Washington, DC, in October 2009. The marathon is a fundraising opportunity for the coalitions and chapters. Each chapter and coalition has designed an individual website which has information about the chapter or coalition, the runner, and access for individuals to make donations for the marathon. 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.
- A Safe Kids Coordinator's meeting was held on August 27, 2009, in Tampa Florida. This meeting was funded by the Office of Injury Prevention's Department of Transportation grant for the Florida Special Needs Occupant Protection Program and focused on Child Passenger Safety.
- The Safe Kids Buckle-Up Grants Child Passenger Safety seat check forms were revised to be more user friendly and to capture more detailed information during seat check events.
- Child Passenger Safety Week kicks-off Saturday, September 12, 2009 with Seat Check Saturday. Child Passenger Week is September 12-18, 2009. Towana Bonnett, Safe Kids Florida Coordinator, will partner with the Florida Department of Transportation, Florida Department of Highway Safety, Florida Highway Patrol and Florida State University Police Department for a seat check educational event at Florida States stadium on September 12, 2009. This event will be prior to the Florida State University's home football game.
- Florida Department of Highway Safety will host a Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Training September 15-17, 2009 in Tallahassee, Florida.
- For more information about Safe Kids Florida, please contact Towana Bonnett, Safe Kids Coordinator at (850) 245-4440, ext 2452 or Towana_Bonnett@doh.state.fl.us or Jane Parker, Safe Kids Manager at (850) 245-4440, ext 2774 or Jane_Parker@doh.state.fl.us.

FLORIDA SPECIAL NEEDS OCCUPANT SAFETY PROGRAM

- From April through June 2009, 111 children with special health care needs were evaluated for their motor vehicle transportation options and 92 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.
- Ten 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.
- Seats/beds, vests, replacement harnesses, straps, and tethers valued at more than of \$53,000 were 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.
- A Special Needs Coordinator meeting will be held September 17, 2009, at the Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children. The coordinators will meet to receive hands-on training of new special needs seats, discuss program opportunities and barriers, new curriculum that will be introduced in the 2010-2011 grant year, and other child passenger safety issues.
- Site visits are conducted at each of the seven children's hospitals that participate in the program.
- For more information regarding this program, please contact Jane Parker at (850) 245-4440, ext. 2774 or Jane_Parker@doh.state.fl.us.

SUICIDE PREVENTION COORDINATING COUNCIL

- 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.
- 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.
- The Statewide Suicide Prevention Coordinating Council will meet September 30 in Tallahassee.
- 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

- **NEW!** 2005-2007 injury death plus 2005-2008 hospitalization and 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/injurydata.html>.
- 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.
- 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>.
- 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, 1999-2008 injury hospitalization and 2005-2008 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 which is available at http://www.ridesmartflorida.com/images/Florida%20Motorcycle%20Strategic%20Safety%20Plan_final.pdf
- A business plan has since been developed and implementation progress continues; the next meeting is scheduled for November 2009.
- 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.
- In August 2008, Florida's proposal was selected to serve as a demonstration project in establishing and implementing a statewide older driver safety plan.
- 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 illicit information for the development of Florida's Mobility Manger Training.
- Florida's Mobility Manager Training was held mid-July and the pilot program is now underway and will continue through the end of this year. Read a news article about the program at <http://www.examiner.com/x-10977-Jacksonville-Transportation-Examiner~y2009m8d12-Pilot-project-starts>
- 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 (SIG)

- 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; the next call will be in early October.
- 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

**STATE AND TERRITORIAL INJURY PREVENTION DIRECTORS
ASSOCIATION'S POISONING INJURY SURVEILLANCE
WORKGROUP**

- The Office of Injury Prevention is a member of STIPDA's 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 to develop consensus recommendations for poisoning surveillance definitions and techniques.
- For more information, please contact our Injury Epidemiologist, Kyla Shelton, at (850) 245-4440, ext. 2729, Kyla_Shelton@doh.state.fl.us