



Bureau of EMS: Vitals

Pediatric Disaster Kits for Florida Shelters

by Patricia Kenyon, Bureau of EMS

The EMS for Children Program (EMSC), in collaboration with the Office of Public Health Nursing, provided color-coded dosing resource toolkits for special needs shelters and general shelters throughout Florida. This toolkit will be used to improve shelter capabilities as it relates to children. The kits can be utilized by the shelter staff and/or provided to the parents or guardians.

The kits contain the following items:

- Broselow-Luten™ Color-Coded Oral Syringes and Color-Coded Tapes for administration of acetaminophen and ibuprofen liquids
- Color-Coded Armbands that correlate with oral syringes/tapes
- First Aid for Children Slideguides
- Packs of 4 Non-toxic Crayons
- Coloring/Activity Books titled "It's Cool to be Healthy"



In August 2008, 30 volunteers worked four eight-hour days to assemble an estimated 18,000 kits at the State Logistics Response Center (SLRC) in Orlando. An-

other group of 100 volunteers worked a total of 224 hours this past March to assemble 34,000 kits. Volunteers consisted



Michigan State University Students

of Orlando area high school students; Florida, Michigan, and Arkansas college students on spring break; and personnel from AmeriCorps, Volunteer of America, Health Central, Lake-Sumter EMS, Reedy Creek Fire Department, Polk County Health Department, and the Florida Department of



Arkansas Students from Harding University

Health, Division of Emergency Medical

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Florida Department of Health

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Operations.

The kits were funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response Hospital Preparedness grant. 12,000 kits remain at the SLRC to replenish shelters upon request.

The Bureau of EMS would like to express its deepest gratitude to those volunteers who supported the project by providing their hands-on assistance and can-do attitudes, especially during spring break vacations! Their devotion and commitment to improving Florida's shelters helped make the Pediatric Disaster Preparedness Kits Project a success!

For more information on the Florida EMSC program, please visit the Bureau of EMS website at: <http://www.fl-ems.com>



Operation Prom Night a PIER Spotlight Article by Battalion Chief Cory Richter

"Operation Prom Night" has been a landmark event in Indian River County Fire Rescue since 1995. They utilize the assistance of Fire/EMS, Indian River County Sheriff, Vero Beach police, Florida Highway Patrol, Indian River's District Attorney, Indian River Medical Center emergency room doctors, Mike's Towing, a local area high school drama club, First Flight Helicopter, Martin County LifeStar, Victim Assistance, Indian River County Recreation Department, County Parks Department, and Lowther Funeral Home. The event is held for two local public schools the week before their respective prom nights.



The setting is a Driving Under the Influence (DUI) crash involving the prom queen in a car with friends and another car with family members of varying ages.



Bleachers are set up for the entire senior class to watch the event unfold. Tarps cover the scene until audio of the crash plays. The student driver, who had been drinking, has minor injuries while the prom queen dies on scene. Extrication is involved to get all the victims out of the cars and a helicopter lands to transport one of the victims. All radio traffic is broadcast over a PA system. Patients from the scene are moulaged and treated in front of the students in the bleachers. The student driver that caused the accident is taken by police, subjected to and fails a sobriety test, and finally is placed in handcuffs and put into the back of a police cruiser. The funeral home talks about how they have to make arrange-

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<http://www.ghsa.org>

For more information about this event, please contact Battalion Chief Cory Richter at 772-226-3863 or by email at: crichter@ircgov.com

PIER (Public Information Education and Relations) Committee serves in an advisory capacity to the EMS Advisory Council on issues related to injury prevention. If you have established a program that you wish to be considered for a PIER Spotlight article please e-mail Cory Richter. All photographs in this article are used with the expressed consent of Indian River Fire Rescue.

ments and the reality the parents must face to not see their daughter alive again.

After all the patients are treated and transported off the scene, one of the emergency room doctors talks about the injuries of the patients including how, despite his best efforts, he has to inform the parents of the prom queen dying from her injuries. Then the district attorney explains the implications of the DUI, including the possibility of jail time and the financial costs. At the end of the event, local victims of actual DUI accidents speak to the senior class on the effects the accident had on the lives of their families and themselves.

The entire event takes about two to two and one half hours and is mandatory for all of the senior class students.

Indian River County Fire Rescue continuously receives comments from students about how this event has made them think about drinking and driving and why it is not worth the potential long-term effects to not only their lives but their families' and other victims' lives as well. The PIER and Access to Care Committees, of the EMS Advisory Council, continue to encourage EMS agencies to develop partnerships to promote local injury prevention and public health events to reduce injuries and increase access to care in your community.

Resources:

- National Teen Driver Safety Week
<http://www.ridelikeyfriend.com>
- Mothers Against Drunk Driving
<http://www.madd.org>
- Driving Skills for Life
<http://www.drivingskillsforlife.com>
- Governor's Highway Safety Association

DID YOU KNOW?

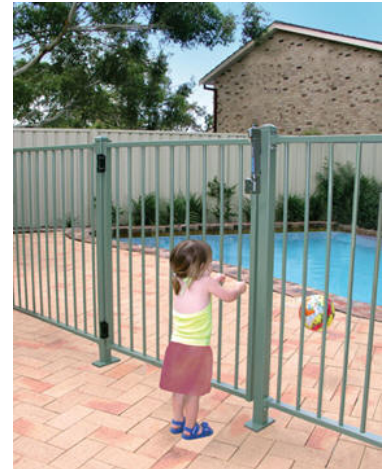
In 1998, there were a total of 50 teenage motor vehicle crash-related deaths reported statewide on prom night. From 2006-2008 there have been no reports of such deaths in areas that promote programs like "Operation Prom Night."

Early Childhood Drowning Prevention by Jane Parker, OIP

80% of Florida's children who drowned ages 1-4, drowned in a backyard swimming pool. To help prevent early childhood drowning:

- Always actively supervise children in and around water.
- Don't leave children unattended, even for a moment.
- Fence your pool or spa with fencing that includes doors that automatically close and latch.
- Install barriers of protection around your home pool or spa in addition to the fencing, such as pool alarms, pool covers, door alarms, or locks.
- Keep a telephone out by the pool or spa in case of an emergency.
- Learn CPR.

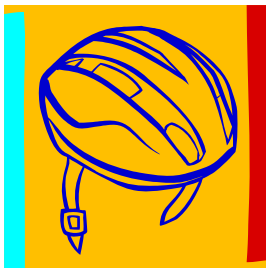
Please remember, children drown without a sound.



The Office of Injury Prevention (OIP) is dedicated to assisting our partners. For more information or injury prevention resources visit the OIP web site at: <http://doh.state.fl.us/injury/>

Bicycle Safety by Frieda Travis, OIP

Head injury is the leading cause of death in bicycle crashes and is the most important determinant of bicycle-related permanent disability and death. The single most effective safety device available to reduce head injury and death from bicycle



crashes is a helmet. Helmets should meet or exceed current safety standards developed by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

The bicycle plays an important role in the lives of millions of Floridians by providing a means of travel to work, school and parks, and is a popular form of recreation. Increased bicycle usage will promote health and wellness in the state and is an important part of encouraging all citizens to become fit, prevent obesity, and reduce the risk of many chronic diseases and conditions.

For more information about bicycle safety or the Bicycle Helmet Promotion Program, please contact Frieda Travis, Florida Department of Health, Office of Injury Prevention at 850-245-4440 extension *2734 or by email at:

Frieda_Travis@doh.state.fl.us

Senior Falls Prevention by Jane Parker, OIP

Did you know that each year, thousands of older Floridians fall at home? To help prevent falls:

- Keep the floor clear. Reduce clutter and safely tuck phone and electrical cords out of walkways.
- Use non-skid throw rugs.
- Install handrails in stairways and grab bars in bathrooms near the toilet and in the tub/shower.
- Make sure living areas are well lit.
- Use a sturdy step stool with rails for climbing and reaching high places.
- Follow medication dosages closely. Using medication incorrectly can lead to dizziness, weakness or other side effects that can lead to a dangerous fall.

National EMS Week by Lisa Walker and Alexander Macy, Bureau of EMS

Governor Charlie Crist has proclaimed May 17, 2009-May 23, 2009, as Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week. The Governor's proclamation aligns with National EMS Week. This year's National EMS Week theme is: "EMS: A Proud Partner In Your Community". As stated by Governor Crist in his proclamation, this slogan exemplifies the many accomplishments and contributions of EMS to improve public welfare through healthcare, medical transportation, injury prevention, education, disaster response, homeland security, and other initiatives that reduce healthcare costs and save lives.

Across Florida, injury prevention and outreach activities are planned to raise public awareness of the benefits of quality and timely EMS and to stress the importance of personal responsibility for health and safety.

These events will also provide educational resources for support of the continued availability and accessibility of EMS throughout our state.

We encourage you to join the Governor and the Department of Health in observing these dates in recognition of Florida's EMS personnel for their accomplishments and contributions to improve public welfare by providing quality, timely, lifesaving services for the residents and visitors of your community and our state.

A copy of the Governor's proclamation may be downloaded from the Bureau of EMS website on the "Upcoming Events" page at:

<http://www.fl-ems.com>

For more information on National EMS Week, including a planner and ideas on activities your community can conduct for the event, please visit

the American College of Emergency Physicians' website at:

<http://www.acep.org>



Florida EMS for Children Recognized as a Leader in the Nation

Since its inception in 1997, the Florida EMS for Children (EMSC) program has emerged as a leader in the nation. With extremely motivated staff and advisory committee members working together for the same purpose to integrate EMSC into the EMS system, the program's objectives are consistently achieved efficiently and effectively.

In recent years, the Florida EMSC has been noted for setting benchmarks for other states to achieve. The program has expanded its scope

supporting its national and international partners. Several examples of this work include:

- Providing pediatric triage resources to U.S. soldiers in Iraq
- Pediatric Disaster Preparedness Kits being modeled by other states
- Sponsoring an annual prehospital pediatric education conference
- Being recognized by U.S. Senator Bill Nelson for a 2009-2012 EMSC Grant Award

For further information regarding the

Florida EMSC program, please visit the Bureau of EMS website at:

<http://www.fl-ems.com>





Senate Bills (SB) and House Bills (HB) That May Affect the EMS /Trauma Community



The Bureau of EMS and the Office of Trauma are monitoring the following bills due to their potential impact on the Department of Health (DOH). The status and content of proposed bills change rapidly during the course of the legislative session. Please refer to Online Sunshine at

<http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Welcome/index.cfm>

for the latest information regarding the status of these bills, as well as any other proposed legislation that could possibly affect the EMS and trauma community.

911 Emergency Dispatcher Certification

HB 769: Requires any person serving as a 911 emergency dispatcher to be certified by the DOH on or after a specified date; provides conditions under which public safety agency may employ 911 emergency dispatcher trainee for limited period; provides clarifying language with respect to certification or recertification as 911 emergency dispatcher; revises requirements for certification as 911 emergency dispatcher.

SB 2040: Requires any person serving as a 911 emergency dispatcher to be certified by the DOH. Revises application requirements for certification. Provides an expiration date for initial certification of certain 911 emergency dispatchers. Requires the department to charge fees for the review and approval of training programs. Provides general application procedures for online licensure applications, etc.

Emergency Cardiology Services

HB 1033: Provides legislative findings & intent; requires the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) to post & update list of percutaneous coronary intervention centers on its Internet website; requires DOH to send list of such centers to emergency medical services providers & emergency medical services directors in state; directs the DOH to develop & distribute sample cardiac triage assessment criteria & post it on its Internet website; provides for licensed emergency medical services providers to use similar assessment criteria; requires each emergency medical services provider medical director to develop & use certain protocols; provides additional duties of department relating to support, training, & equipment; requires department to conduct biennial survey & issue report; provides for stakeholder meet-

ings; requires agency to direct certain hospitals to participate in local STEMI systems of care; requires documentation of patient care process to be submitted to medical director; requires compliance by certain date.

SB 1938: Requires AHCA to post a list of percutaneous coronary intervention centers on its website. Requires DOH to send a list of names and addresses of percutaneous coronary intervention centers to medical directors and providers for emergency medical services. Requires the agency to direct hospitals to participate in coordinating a local STEMI system of care, etc.

EMS Training

HB 861: Revises provisions relating to fulfillment of required field internship experience in paramedic programs; provides for rule adoption by the DOH with respect to fulfillment of field internship experience; revises documented requirements for driver of an emergency vehicle.

SB 948: Revises requirements for the field internship experience in paramedic programs. Authorizes DOH to adopt rules. Revises the documented requirements for a driver of an emergency vehicle.

Uniform Traffic Control/Mark Wandall Traffic Safety Act

HB 439: Creates Mark Wandall Traffic Safety Program to be administered by the Florida Department of Transportation (DOT); provides for counties & municipalities to enforce traffic control signals using traffic infraction detectors; requires annual report from counties & municipalities to department on use of traffic infraction detectors; provides for allocation of portion of fine proceeds to trauma centers, certain hospitals, & certain nursing homes; requires summary report from department to Governor & Legislature; provides for existing detectors & prior actions.

SB 2004: Preempts to the state the use of cameras to enforce traffic laws. Creates the Mark Wandall Traffic Safety Program to be administered by the DOT. Requires a county or municipality to enact an ordinance in order to use a traffic infraction detector to identify a motor vehicle that fails to stop at a traffic control signal steady red light. Provides for placement and installation of detectors on certain roads, etc.

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Highway Safety

HB 481: Provides an additional penalty for violations of provisions that require traffic to stop for a school bus, prohibits racing on highways, & prohibits reckless driving; provides for distribution of funds to trauma centers; requires the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) to identify person who has committed second violation of specified provisions within specified time period & require such person to complete a driver improvement course; provides appropriation.

SB 1114: Provides an additional penalty for violations of provisions that require traffic to stop for a school bus, prohibits racing on highways, and prohibits reckless driving. Provides for distribution of moneys collected. Requires the DHSMV to identify a person who has committed a second violation of specified provisions within a specified time period and requires such person to complete a driver improvement course, etc.

Driver Responsibility

HB: There are no comparable bills in the house.

SB 1992: Cites the act as "Florida's Driver Responsibility Law." Directs the DHSMV to assess a specified annual surcharge against a person who accumulates points under specified provisions against his or her driver's license within a certain timeframe. Directs the DHSMV to assess specified annual surcharges against a person who has a final conviction within a certain timeframe for a DUI offense, etc.

EMT and Paramedic Violations & Disciplinary Actions: December 2008-February 2009

Violation	EMT	Paramedic
Continuing Education Violation	20	16
Unlicensed Activity	1	0
Vandalism to Ambulances	1	0
DUI with Drug Possession and Paraphernalia	0	1
Aggravated Stalking	1	0
Theft of Morphine	0	1
Drug Possession	0	1
Positive Drug Test	0	1
Sex with a Minor	0	1
Obtained Controlled Substances by Forgery	0	1
Totals	23	22

This chart outlines the types of violations by profession.

Disciplinary Action	EMT	Paramedic
Revocation	18	16
Fine	1	0
Voluntary Surrender	4	4
Suspension Lifted	0	1
Probation	0	1
Totals	23	22

This chart outlines the disciplinary actions for the violations listed in the previous chart.

Florida Department of Health

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Fax: 850-488-9408

Website: <http://www.fl-ems.com>

*Department of Health Mission:
Promote, protect and improve the
health of all people in Florida.*

Free Training Opportunity

The Florida Department of Health, Office of Injury Prevention is sponsoring the 4th Annual Injury Prevention 101 Course. This is a free 8-hour course designed to increase injury prevention awareness, skills and knowledge. Continuing Education Units will be offered. The course will take place on May 12, 2009 from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at the Broward General Medical Center in Ft. Lauderdale. Health department personnel, nurses, law enforcement officers, EMS personnel, fire-fighters, and others involved in injury prevention and safety are encouraged to attend. Please register for the course by visiting:

<http://survey.doh.state.fl.us/survey/entry.jsp?id=1170679024558>

For more information please contact Freida Travis, Office of Injury Prevention at 850-245-4440, extension *2736 or by email at: Freida_Travis@doh.state.fl.us

Dates to Remember

May 1, 2009	Air Medical Safety Summit South Lake Hospital, National Training Center Clermont, FL - Registration Required
May 1, 2009	Nomination Deadline for Vacant EMS Advisory Council Positions <i>Contact Desi Lassiter, Bureau of EMS</i> 850-245-4055
May 12, 2009	4th Annual Injury Prevention 101 Course (<i>see article above</i>)
May 17-23, 2009	National EMS Week
May 20, 2009	Florida EMS for Children Day
May 20, 2009	Florida Trauma Awareness Day
June 29, 2009-July 1, 2009	EMS Advisory Council & Constituency Meetings The Rosen Centre Hotel Orlando, FL
June 30, 2009 5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	19th Annual Excellence in EMS Awards Ceremony The Rosen Centre Hotel Orlando, FL