Welcome to the spring edition of PULSE SD. I hope this finds you well and in good health.

As many of you know, healthcare continues to see many changes and challenges across our country. Gaining access to quality healthcare at a local level is one of the primary missions of the Office of Rural Health. That is one of many reasons the EMS Program fits so well within the Department of Health’s Office of Rural Health. This relationship allows the EMS Program to work closely with hospitals, providers, and other allied members of the healthcare system who provide comprehensive care locally.

During the final months of 2018, the EMS program held several “community leader” sessions across South Dakota to educate city and county officials, community leaders, and other key stakeholders. We deemed these sessions a useful utility in educating over a hundred leaders statewide. Following these sessions, we have witnessed greater conversations at a local level regarding EMS sustainability and the immediate needs pressing our industry. It is gratifying to see this investment starting to pay off.

In the upcoming months, the EMS Program will hold another series of leadership classes for EMS directors. Each of these one-day sessions will focus on educating and engaging key stakeholders such as city and county officials about EMS. Within this “storyline,” we will share resources available to share with local stakeholders; specifically, data from our 2016 and 2018 statewide surveys, sustainability strategies, and the visioning document for SD, which is currently being developed.

Below are just a few of the many projects the EMS Program is currently engaged in.

1) **Naloxone in High Schools** - the EMS Program was approached to help lead efforts to educate high school officials on Opioid overdoses and Naloxone use. This project will offer training, education, and Naloxone to all high schools.

Continued on page 2
Director’s Welcome (continued)
By Marty Link—EMS Director

2. **Leadership classes** - as noted above, the EMS Program will be hosting four leadership retreats in 2019 for EMS directors.

3. **License Management System (LMS)** - the EMS Program is in the final stages of securing a new LMS system through ImageTrend. This LMS will allow more online options for certification, recertification, and licensure of ambulances. We are expecting to have the LMS live within the next 6-9 months.

4. **Helmsley AED Project** - the Helmsley Charitable Trust has met with and asked the Department of Health to administer an AED initiative which will supply all law enforcement officials with a new AED. This project is in the early planning stages; however, we anticipate training and distribution to begin as soon as the fall of 2019. Please stay tuned for details.

5. **County EMS Assessment** - the EMS Program will be working with one SD County to conduct a comprehensive EMS assessment at a local level. This assessment will allow the EMS Program, with consultation from SafeTech Solutions LLC, to take a micro look at how EMS operates at a county level. We are excited to begin this work and look forward to the results of this assessment.

   I cannot say this enough, we truly appreciate the work each of you do and the dedication you provide to your family, friends, community members, and those traveling through your service area.

   You are so much appreciated more than you know.

Marty

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**Sturgis Rally—ImageTrend ePCR Supplemental Question**
By Lance Iversen—EMS Data Manager / Ed. & Prof. Standards Coordinator

   In just a couple months, the Sturgis Bike Rally will be here! It is amazing to see the hard work and collaboration the area ambulance services do in the Hills daily during the rally, and weeks in advance to plan, communicate, and share resources as needed for those who need emergency medical services.

   Last year we turned on a supplemental question in the State-Wide ImageTrend Elite ePCR system to track Rally related ambulance calls across the state. This gave us valuable information, so we will be doing the same this year.

   Sometime before the official start date of the Rally, this yes/no supplemental question will appear on your charts: “Is this a Rally related Patient/Call? (Patients who are participating in the Rally or Visiting the area due to the Rally that are treated for any medical or trauma condition).”
EMR Renewal
By Bob Hardwick—EMS Program

Beginning July 1, the South Dakota EMS Program will be accepting EMR recertification applications for those expiring in September of 2019. EMRs can renew online at https://EMS.sd.gov.

Please ensure all training meets the new NCCP standards.

Recertification Requirements:

- Applicant Information
- Mandatory Hours or National Registry card
- Record of Additional Continuing Education Hours or National Registry card
- CPR/AED Verification

**Please note:** Renewing your National Registry does not auto-renew your State EMR Certification. You must still recertify your State EMR. More information at https://EMS.sd.gov

Questions? Call Bob at 605-773-4031 or email at Bob.Hardwick@state.sd.us

New Classifieds Area Added To EMS Website
By Lance Iversen—EMS Data Manager / Ed. & Prof. Standards Coordinator

If you have been to the EMS Program’s website lately (https://EMS.sd.gov), you have noticed we changed the look and layout of the main page. This makes the navigation to other pages and items you are looking for easier to find.

We recently added a “Classifieds” section to the “Career Opportunities” page. If your service (EMS or Fire), has an EMS or Fire related item(s) you would like to list for sale or free, or maybe you are looking for something, please email your ad to Lance.Iversen@state.sd.us. If you have a job opening at your agency, we can post that as well.
Rural Healthcare Facility Recruitment Assistance Program
By Jill Dean, Recruitment Program Coordinator, Office of Rural Health

The Rural Healthcare Facility Recruitment Assistance Program provides a $10,000 payment to eligible health professionals who complete a three-year, full-time service commitment. Eligible facilities must be located in a community with a population of 10,000 or less. Applications must be submitted by employing facility with a limit of 3 participants per employing facility.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eligible occupations</th>
<th>Eligible facilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dietitian or Nutritionist</td>
<td>South Dakota licensed:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse (LPN or RN)</td>
<td>Hospitals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational therapist</td>
<td>Nursing homes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory therapist</td>
<td>Federally certified home health agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory technologist</td>
<td>Chemical dependency treatment facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacist</td>
<td>Intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical therapist</td>
<td>Community support providers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paramedic</td>
<td>Community mental health centers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical technologist</td>
<td>ESRD facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiologic technologist</td>
<td>Community health centers (FQHCs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech therapist</td>
<td>Ambulance services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare social worker</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The 2019 Rural Healthcare Facility Recruitment Assistance Program is accepting applications. After completing and printing the application, please sign and date the form. Applications can be mailed to the Office of Rural Health, 600 East Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501, or scan and email the application to Jill.Dean@state.sd.us. For additional information about this program, contact Jill Dean in the Office of Rural Health at 1-800-738-2301.

South Dakota EMS Patches
By Lance Iversen—EMS Data Manager / Ed. & Prof. Standards Coordinator

If you or your service are interested in purchasing SD EMS patches, you can send a check or money order, made out to ORH/EMS, and mail to 600 E, Capitol Ave, Pierre, SD 57501. The cost is $1.00 each.
Simulation In Motion - South Dakota (SIM-SD)
By Lance Iversen—EMS Data Manager / Ed. & Prof. Standards Coordinator

The South Dakota Department of Health, together with Avera Health, Regional Health, and Sanford Health continue to work together to bring you SIM-SD (Simulation in Motion, South Dakota). SIM-SD is a one-of-a-kind mobile education program designed to bring this unique learning opportunity to pre-hospital and hospital emergency care providers in South Dakota.

SIM-SD allows providers, who may only encounter a critically ill or injured patient once or twice a year, the chance to encounter a similar ‘patient’ multiple times with focused feedback in a managed stress environment.

These ‘patients’ are actually human-like, computerized mannequins. These teaching tools are some of the most technologically advanced training tools available to the medical community today. They can breathe. They can talk. They can sweat. They react to medication and they can die. Just like a human. But, unlike humans, they can come back to life again and again, all to help the provider or student to improve his/her skills.

The benefits of the SIM-SD Program include:
• Accessible, hands-on training for pre-hospital and hospital personnel provided in their own communities
• Enhanced team performance in critical care crisis management
• Standardized curriculum to assure uniform educational opportunities
• Access to state-of-the-art equipment including life like human patient simulator mannequins
• A non-threatening learning environment where the mannequins simulate complex medical and trauma patients
• An opportunity for medical personnel to test and practice their critical thinking reactions and skills, leading to a high degree of familiarity and confidence
• Focused feedback in a low-stress environment

SIM-SD provides outreach training to local EMS and hospital personnel.

For more information on SIM-SD contact:
• Marty Link at 605-367-5372 or Marty.Link@state.sd.us.
• Avera SIM-SD, Brandon Marienau at 605-322-2094 or brandon.marienau@avera.org
• Regional Health SIM-SD, Darrel Brimm at 605-755-7125 or dbrimm@regionalhealth.org
• Sanford SIM-SD, Travis Spier at 605-328-6389 or travis.spier@sanfordhealth.org
The South Dakota Office of Rural Health’s EMS Program is providing EMS Leadership Workshops in the summer of 2019. This workshop, **Leadership: Engaging your Community**, is for ambulance service leaders, managers, officers, and board members to help obtain more community attention and support.

These engaging interactive sessions will:

- Discuss EMS sustainability
- Discuss how to tell your EMS story locally and gain positive attention
- Explore the latest in EMS workforce challenges
- Arm leaders with eye-opening data and information
- Discuss a variety of strategies for engaging your community
- And strengthen your confidence in presenting, informing, and educating.

The workshops will be facilitated by John Becknell and will complement the concepts presented in the EMS Leadership Academies by SafeTech Solutions. Sessions will be held at meeting facilities in Rapid City, Pierre, Watertown, and Sioux Falls.

Please plan to attend one of these one-day sessions. The session will run from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm and are free of charge. Lunch will be provided each day. Each ambulance service is welcome to send two members. Participants or their agencies will be responsible for travel and lodging expenses.

**Dates to be announced for:**

- Rapid City, SD
- Sioux Falls, SD
- Pierre, SD
- Watertown, SD

Please watch your email and/or our website: [EMS.sd.gov](http://EMS.sd.gov) for dates. We will be rescheduling the workshops for this summer. Register early since space is limited.
As of April 1st, 2019, the SD EMS Program changed the recertification requirements for SD EMTs, adopting National Registry’s 20-hour National Component topic requirements.

For those who are State-Only EMT certified, this reduced the number of recertification hours required every two years from 24 to 20. Out of the 20 hours of topic and time specific requirements, 7 of the 20 hours can be done via online (distributive) education, while the remaining 13 hours will need to be done via “live” instructor led classroom and/or hands-on training. CPR/AED Certification is in addition to the 20 hours of required continuing education topics.

This change will streamline the recertification process for those who are State-Only certified and for those who are Nationally Registered, allowing programs and training centers/organizations to have monthly training, conferences, etc. teaching the same topics that will count for recertification regardless if the person is Nationally Registered or State-Only certified.

All hours that are listed under the topic headings are required. For example, under the Airway/Respiration/Ventilation section, you must have one hour of continuing education that falls under Ventilation and half hour for Oxygenation, and so on. If you attend or take a class on a subject that is not listed in the 20-hour National Component requirements, it will not count for State-Only EMT Recertification (only the topics and hour requirements under each section will count). If you are Nationally Registered, any EMS related course/class you attend will work under the Local and Individual component(s). If National Registry changes their requirements in the future, the EMS Program will consider adopting those changes.

Below are the current required topics and hours you will need to renew your SD EMT Certification (National Registry’s 20-hour National Component requirements):

- Ventilation – 1 Hour
- Post-Resuscitation Care – 0.5 Hour
- Stroke – 1 Hour
- Ped. Cardiac Arrest – 2 Hours
- CNS Injuries – 0.5 Hour
- Special Healthcare Needs – 1.5 Hour
- Infectious Diseases – 0.5 Hour
- Psychiatric/Behavioral Emergencies – 0.5 Hour
- Toxicological Emergencies – Opioids – 0.5 Hour
- Neurological Emergencies – Seizures – 0.5 Hour
- Endocrine Emergencies – Diabetes – 1 Hour
- EMS Culture of Safety – 0.5 Hour
- Crew Resource Management – 1 Hour
- EMS Provider Hygiene, Safety & Vaccinations – 0.5 Hour

- Oxygenation – 0.5 Hour
- Vent. Assist Device – 0.5 Hour
- Cardiac Arrest – 2 Hours
- Trauma Triage – 0.5 Hour
- Hemorrhage Control – 0.5 Hour
- OB Emergencies – 0.5 Hour
- Pain Management – 0.5 Hour
- Immunological Emergencies – 0.5 Hour
- At-Risk Populations – 0.5 Hour
- Ambulance Safety – 0.5 Hour
- Field Triage/Disasters/MCI – 0.5 Hour
- Pediatric Transport – 0.5 Hour
- EMS Research – 0.5 Hour
- Evidence Based Guidelines – 0.5 Hour

For more information, please visit the EMS Program’s website: [https://EMS.sd.gov](https://EMS.sd.gov), or National Registry’s website: [www.nremt.org](http://www.nremt.org). You can also contact me or your State EMS Area Specialist.
National EMS Week 2019 (May 19-25, 2019)
By Julie Smithson - Western EMS Specialist

EMS Week, EMS for Children Day proclaimed in Spearfish
(Read the full Black Hills Pioneer story at the link below)

South Dakota Office of Rural Health – Emergency Medical Services

Pennington County Fire Service
To all the men and women who work hard everyday to save lives and help others! We celebrate #Emsweek2019 #Emsstrong

Custer County South Dakota Emergency Management
Thank you to all our First Responders; who SaveLives and Keep us Safe! EMS Week May 19 - 25, 2019

Spink County Ambulance Service
Meet our EMT’s. We will feature 3 a day for the week.
Mike Bangs, Director of Spink County Ambulance. The bread and butter of our service.
Mike has been an EMT for 36 years and with Spink Co for 36 years.
He works at Community Memorial Hospital as the Maintenance Director. He is also contracted by the county to manage the ambulance, do the training, and keep the ambulance stocked and ready. He also does monthly training for Hand Co. Ambulance.
He is Married to Cim... See More

The smile on my face doesn’t mean my life is perfect
But what I have is

TUE MAY 21
Amberley Snyder Motivational Speaker
Sturgis Brown High School - Sturgis, SD

Yankton County EMS 2019
National EMS Week 2019 (May 19-25, 2019) cont...

By Julie Smithson - Western EMS Specialist

Yesterday a former Paramedic who worked in Sioux Falls delivered this thoughtful gift to PatientCare EMS in honor of EMS Week. Below is his explanation of the meaning of the flag:

So today, I presented PatientCare EMS of Sioux Falls South Dakota with a very special gift in honor of EMS week. It is a wood burnt flag with The Thin Blue Line, that I bought for them in my home. I was honored to have my picture taken with two of the best people I know in the world Jeff, and my former work Matt Larry.

The Thin White Line represents emergency medical services. The thin white line differs from other thin lines in that the background is blue instead of black, with a white line crossing horizontally through the middle. It is a symbol of skill, dedication, and compassion. The Thin White Line shows respect for EMS professionals and volunteers. It serves as a tribute to EMS heroes hurt in the line of duty, honor those who provide a steady presence in emergencies, and work to keep the community safe.

Congratulations to those who get to call this week, your week, and Thank You for what you do.

Good speed and be safe my brothers and sisters of the streets.

Sincerely,

Matt 30

Thank you very much for your thoughtful gift.
Spotlight EMS
By of Rosebud Ambulance

Rosebud Ambulance Service

Rosebud Ambulance Service (RAS) was founded in 1968 by Floyd Reynolds (1940-2017) and became the first United States Native American Emergency Medical Services (EMS) outfit. Mr. Reynolds was its first director. He moved home after working as an ambulance attendant in California and wanted to make a difference after a series of tragedies in Rosebud. He started out with a handful of dedicated drivers and attendants in several government-leased station wagons. Located in Rosebud, South Dakota, the Rosebud Ambulance Service continues to serve people 51 years later.

Rosebud Ambulance Service continues to serve the Rosebud Sioux Reservation by performing quality patient care. There is only one hospital in the area and it’s located in Rosebud as an Indian Health Services (IHS) hospital. The Rosebud Indian Reservation covers 1378.77 square miles. Communities as far as 40 miles away depend on the care offered by the ambulance service. With a large rural area to cover, RAS continues to run around 8,000 calls per year, transporting patients to the IHS hospital and other higher level of care facilities such as Rapid City, Sioux Falls, Pierre, Winner, and Valentine.

The Rosebud Ambulance Service has 35 EMS personnel that range from Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT), Intermediate EMTs, Advanced EMTs, and Paramedics. These EMS personnel work shifts and dedicate their time, education, and skills to help people. Some personnel that have been there since it started are continuing to serve today as well as others that have 10+ years at RAS. The employees are more like family when it comes to working long shifts together. New EMTs and students gain a lot of experience coming to RAS and learn from it. Some students after passing the National Registry are hired as employees. The Rosebud Ambulance Service also has van transportation that takes patients to dialysis 6 days a week. We have vans that go to Rapid City and Sioux Falls Monday thru Friday, to transport patients from IHS to their referral appointments.

Still strong today after 51 years of service, RAS has one director. Eric Emery graduated from Creighton University’s Paramedic Program and is a tribal member. The service has 35 EMS staff, 3 administration staff, and 7 van drivers. RAS continues to grow today owning several ambulances as well as leasing government service agency (GSA) ambulances, and vans to better serve the people of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. Patient care is forever changing and RAS continues to improve quality of care for people today.
Bad Day
By Tiffany Balvin - Springfield Ambulance

The Tyndall Middle School and High School students learned what a “Bad Day” looks like to Emergency responders and Law Enforcement personnel.

The Springfield, Tyndall and Tabor Ambulance service, Fire Department, Police Department, Game, Fish and Parks, the Sheriff’s office, and the Bon Homme County coroner put on a mock DUI accident for the Tyndall Middle/High School students on April 4, 2019.

The students were given a brief presentation before the “Bad Day” unfolded by BH Sheriff’s office Deputy McGuire.

This was a two-vehicle accident where one of the drivers was a minor, who had been drinking. This driver was uninjured, but there were 10 victims, 6 with major injuries, 2 with minor injuries, and 2 fatalities. The Jaws of Life was used to take the roof and door off of one of the cars to extract a passenger from the back seat.

After the accident was cleared, the students witnessed a sobriety test given to the drunk driver and his arrest. The students were also shown what a death notification involved.

Game, Fish and Parks spoke about how water and alcohol do not mix, and that a person can also get a DUI driving a boat. Drinking alcohol can affect all aspects of your life, and you need to aware of your surroundings. Accidents can happen at any time and anywhere.

This was a very sobering experience for everyone involved.

“photo credit - Alex Schlumbaum”
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