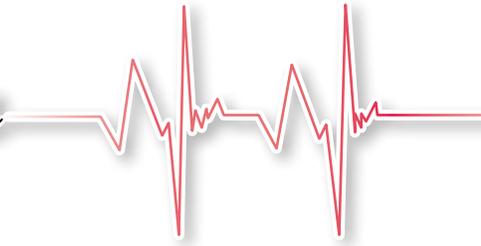


RESPONSE

Time



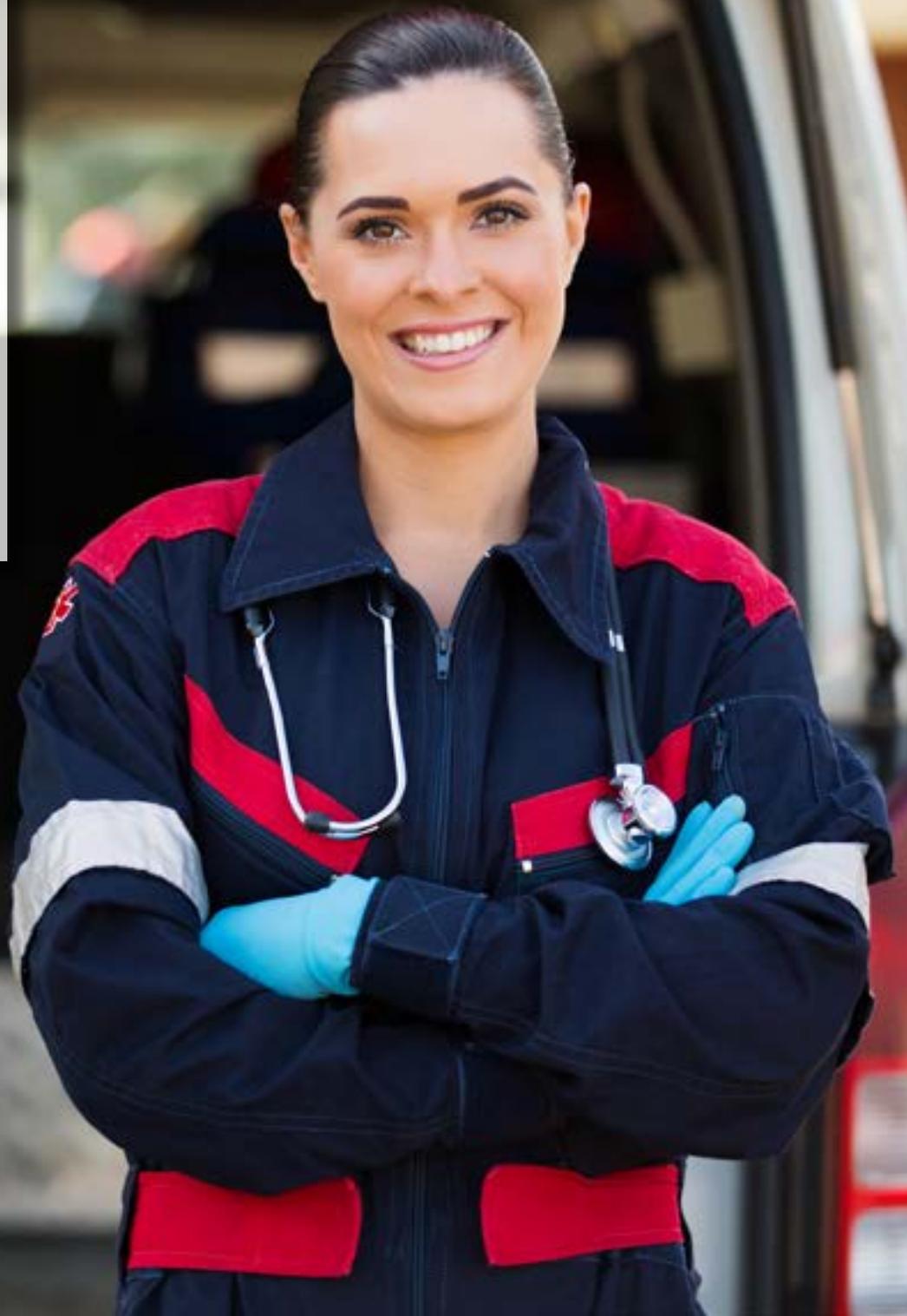
"Your Voice for EMS in North Dakota"

Volume 41 □ Issue 4 □ Fall 2019

INSIDE:

LISTENING
SUMMITS
WRAP UP

BENEFITS
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RESPONSE TIME Submission Policy

The ND EMS Association is pleased to accept submissions for Response Time. Submissions should be reasonable in length due to space considerations. In order to ensure the quality of our publication, editing of grammar, spelling, punctuation, and content may occur. Articles, photos, and advertising should be submitted in electronic form.

To submit, please email NDEMSEA at:
 ndemsa.office@ndemsa.org

The deadline for the winter issue is
January 8th, 2020

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FROM THE SOUTHWEST PRESIDENT

Welcome Winter!

With winter here, I am happy that the SW Conference is in the books and will not have to contend with the upcoming winter which they are predicting will be the coldest in history. We will just have to wait and see.

Friday evening started with the first Corn Hole Tournament. There were rave reviews and we are scheduling it again for 2020. A very special THANK YOU to Billings Co. Ambulance for organizing and providing snacks during the festivities.

Thank you to the 100 paid attendees that participated in the SW Conference. We also had 16 unpaid attendees from speakers, Safety Council, vendors and etc. Two and a half days of education went very quickly for the board members and I would like to thank them for their hard work at organizing and helping to keep the days progressing without a hitch.

Thank you also to the three speakers whom stepped up and filled in for the scheduled presenters whom had conflicts

arise. A special thank you to the ND Safety Council for working with the SW board in preparing the brochure, AmericInn for room reservations, Sanford Health, Mulligan's Catering, Schwan's, Medora Foundation, Dickinson Ambulance, EMS Foundation for the soda, SIM trucks, Kokklers Jewelers and all the other door prize sponsors.

Thank you DeeAnn for organizing the door prizes and Tyler for lining up the speakers. A very special thank you for all the help loading, moving and reloading the vehicles to the Billings Co. Ambulance personnel.

2020 will bring new added events to the agenda. Keep your eyes peeled for the 2020 brochure. Have a great end to fall and enjoy the snow!

Suzan J. Hanson

SW President



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It is the mission of the North Dakota Emergency Medical Services Association to provide our individual members equal and effective representation, educational services, advocacy and access to valuable resources.

NDEMOSA Membership Benefits Include:

Representation: NDEMOSA has committed to being *the* advocate for North Dakota EMS and has been the guiding force in strengthening, improving and innovating EMS through the legislative process. As your advocate you can be assured that we are committed to the betterment of our industry and each member has the opportunity to provide feedback and help shape the advocacy goals and agendas of NDEMOSA.

Our representation efforts are not exclusively focused on the legislature. NDEMOSA is at the table every time North Dakota EMS and its providers are stakeholders by serving on advisory committees, special task forces and local, regional and national boards.

Monthly Updates: This includes the full-color, publication to keep you up-to-date on current NDEMOSA events and training, EMS news from around North Dakota and updates from the Division of EMS and electronic communication allows members to receive updates and provide feedback on more time sensitive issues. Since the E-Update is exclusively for members, it makes you the first to know about education events, application deadlines, and advocacy matters.

Award Programs: Every year NDEMOSA presents awards in ten categories to a minimum of twenty-two providers. We take great pride in our members and their accomplishments and commitment to the communities they serve. Thus, we find it necessary to showcase the individuals who show a strong commitment and enthusiasm for EMS in North Dakota and genuinely embody the spirit of our industry.

Life Insurance: Each NDEMOSA member receives a \$3,500 Accidental Death & Dismemberment Policy through American Income Life (**this is a member benefit you DO NOT need to meet with anyone for American Income Life or return the beneficiary card**).

AFLAC: As a member of the NDEMOSA you have access to AFLAC products with a 40% to 60% savings in premiums.

Conference Discounts: Save over \$30 at each NDEMOSA conference you attend!

Members Only Access on the Website: One benefit many members do not know about is the Members Only Area on the NDEMOSA website. Once you are logged in, you have access to all the areas on the site. NDEMOSA Members are able to view: Legislative Activities, Position Papers, Past Publications, Strategic Planning, and NDEMOSA's Quarterly Meeting Minutes

If you have an idea of other benefits NDEMOSA could provide or have questions on the ones we offer, please contact the office at ndemsa.office@ndemsa.org.



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IMPORTANT NEWS FOR EMS AGENCIES!

By Sam Harrison, Program Coordinator, ND EMSC

NORTH DAKOTA



Emergency Medical Services for Children

From your EMS for Children Program

The Emergency Medical Services for Children program is switching to annual data collection for our performance measures. The National EMSC Data Analysis Resource Center (NEDARC) will be sending out survey invites on our behalf beginning in January of 2020 to all EMS agencies.

What are they collecting?

The EMSC Program has 9 performance measures that are worked toward throughout each four-year grant cycle. In order to know whether progress has been made, surveying is needed by NEDARC. Some of you may remember receiving or filling out a similar survey the last time data was collected.

The focus of this round of surveys is on:

- Performance Measure 02 – Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator (PECC)
- The percentage of EMS agencies in the state or territory that have a designated individual who coordinates pediatric emergency care.
- This does not just have to be your medical director or training coordinator: it can be any member of your service! Some examples of various responsibilities of a pediatric emergency care coordinator are:
 - Conducting regular chart reviews of pediatric patients
 - Bringing pediatric research into your agency protocols
 - Advocating for prevention efforts related to pediatric injuries and illnesses in your community
 - Being in charge of pediatric skills training or continuing education for your squad
- Performance Measure 03 – Use of Pediatric-Specific Equipment
- The percentage of EMS agencies in the state or territory that have a process that requires EMS providers to

physically demonstrate the correct use of pediatric-specific equipment.

- This can be accomplished in the form of skills stations, training scenarios, or on actual calls with pediatric patients.

As a state, only about **50%** of our EMS agencies filled out the survey during the last collection cycle. **This time—let's aim for a 100% response!**

Sam Harrison

ND EMSC Program Coordinator
sharrison@nd.gov
701-328-2953



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NEW PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR FOR SIM-ND



Jessi is the new program administrator for SIM-ND and the UND School of Medicine & Health Sciences Simulation Center. In this position, Jessi oversees all of the simulation operations within the School and the mobile simulation units. This includes marketing, scheduling, financial, human resources, and instructional delivery methods. She received her A.S. in Radiologic Technology from Northland Community & Technical College, her B.S. in Applied Health from the University of Minnesota Crookston, and her Master's in Business Administration from the University of Mary. Prior to joining the Simulation Center, Jessi was a manager for X-Ray and Interventional Radiology at Altru Health System.

NOTICE OF NON-DEDUCTIBILITY

Dear Members,

For income tax purposes, membership dues paid to the North Dakota EMS Association (NDEMSA) are deductible as a business or trade expense. However, pursuant to Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 162 (e) and Section 6033 (e) certain lobbying and political expenses are **NOT** deductible and information concerning their non-deductibility must be communicated by tax-exempt organizations to their members. In compliance with these requirements, you are hereby notified that NDEMSA estimates it has or will spend 50% of your dues on these activities and that amount is therefore **not tax deductible**.

We advise all members to consult their tax advisor if they have any questions.

NDEMSA IS NOW ACCEPTING AWARD APPLICATIONS

The deadline for all awards, both regional and statewide, is **February 20, 2020**. All nominations must be submitted online at www.ndemsa.org/Awards.

The awards committee reviews the submissions, and notifies the nominator if their submission was chosen. This will allow those who did win an award to make plans to attend the 2020 EMS Rendezvous Awards Banquet and Table of Honor Ceremony on Saturday evening, April 4, 2020 in Bismarck. Some nominators choose to keep the award a "secret" while others are told ahead of time. The awards committee will only notify the nominator, not the nominee.

The 2020 regional awards include Siren Award, Rising Star Award, Telecommunications Award, and the Service of the Year Award. One regional service of the year nominee is chosen for the state EMS Service of the Year.

The statewide awards for 2020 include Media Award, Medical Director of the Year, Grace Knapp Award, Distinguished Service Award, and EMS Provider of the Year Award.

The Table of Honor Ceremony pays tribute to those volunteers and career EMS/Fire personnel who are no longer with us. You can help us honor such a person by nominating them for the Table of Honor Ceremony. The first ten Table of Honor nominations will be considered.

The simple online form listing the criteria and nomination information for both the regional and statewide awards and the Table of Honor Ceremony can be found on our website at www.ndemsa.org under the "Awards Programs" tab.

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For the 2020 NDEMSA Officer and Regional Director Positions

Positions up for election in 2020 include; **How to Become a Candidate**

- **PRESIDENT**
- **SECRETARY/ TREASURER**
- **TWO (2) DIRECTORS IN EACH REGION**

All officers and director terms are for two (2) years.

To be eligible for the President and Secretary/ Treasurer, candidates must be a current NDEMSA member and have previously served a full term on the NDEMSA board. Both terms will begin at the ND EMS Annual Conference after the annual meeting.

To be an eligible candidate for the regional director positions, he or she must be a current NDEMSA member and will run in his or her respective region. The officer terms commence after the voting results have been counted and verified (on or around March 4th).

If you would like to be, or know someone who should be included on the 2020 ballot for the President, Secretary/ Treasurer, or officer position, please complete the nomination form, which can be found at www.ndemsa.org/Nominations-&Elections.

The nomination process has nominations beginning July 1, 2019. Interested candidates will be required to submit a nomination statement and photo to be published in the winter **Response Time** on Facebook (ND EMS Association) and Twitter (@NorthDakotaEMS). Nominations are due on or before December 31, 2019. This deadline allows for adequate time for a candidate biography to be shared on NDEMSA news outlets prior to voting. Please review the Nomination and Election Rules. In following election policies, nominations are NOT accepted from the floor during the annual meeting.

To submit a nomination statement and picture, please Email it to ndemsa.office@ndemsa.org.

The Voting Process

The ND EMS Association regional directors' nominations and elections will no longer be held at the regional meetings. The election will be held between February 14th and February 28th or immediately after the last Regional Conference. This year the election will be held February 17 through March 4th. Voting will occur through a combination of online and mail voting methods, as determined by the board of directors. A four-person committee will count the votes. The committee will consist of an election chair and three additional appointed people.

If you have any questions about the voting process, please contact the office at 701-221-0567 or visit our nominations and elections page on our website.

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THE NORTHWEST REGION

The Northwest Region Directors are finishing up the plans for the January 25-26, 2020 Conference. All conference events will be held at the Grand Hotel in Minot. The Law Enforcement First Responder Course will be offered on Friday, January 24th as a Pre-Conference event. This 8 hour course teaches public safety responders (police, law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other first responders) the basic medical care interventions that will help save an injured responder's life until EMS practitioners can safely enter a tactical scene. The number of participants at the pre-conference event will be limited and POST hours will be applied for.

NCCR and LCCR hours can be obtained at the conference. NCCR hours include: Post-Resuscitation Care; VADs; Stroke; Hemorrhage Control; Special Healthcare Needs; OB Emergencies; Toxicological Emergencies; Neurological Emergencies – Seizures; At-Risk Populations; Pediatric Transport; and EMS Research.

We're looking forward to seeing you in Minot, January 24, 25, and 26th!

Diane, Tami, Corey, and Holly



FOUNDATION VICE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

By Jeri Warrenburg , Vice-President, North Dakota EMS Foundation



Happy Fall! My name is Jeri Warrenburg and I am the Vice President of the ND EMS Foundation.

I serve on the board along with Pat Tracy-President, Tammy Roehrich-Secretary/Treasurer, Dustin Bertsch-Director and Mark Haugen-Director.

The NDEMS Foundation has held two fundraisers this year.

The Dale Severson Golf Scramble was held in Cooperstown on June 1st. We had a great turn out for the scramble, the weather was beautiful, the golfers had a fun time on the course, and we got to honor Dale Severson and his family at the awards dinner. Thank you to Mark Haugen (Chair) for all the time he put into this event and to all who participated in the scramble.

The 2nd Annual Tom Nehring Memorial NDEMSF Fishing Tournament was held at Van Hook ND on August 16 and 17th, the weather was cold and rainy but that didn't stop the anglers from a good day on the lake. Thank you to Dustin Bertsch (and his family) for Chairing the event, to all the anglers who took part in the tournament and to all who helped make the event a success.

We are in the early stages of planning the events for next year, the Golf Scramble will be held in Fessenden on June 6th and the Fishing Tournament will be in Van Hook on August 14th and 15th.

Stay warm, stay safe and thanks for all you do for EMS!

Jeri Warrenburg



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REGIONAL CONFERENCE DATES AND HOTEL INFORMATION

Dates of the Northwest, Southeast, and Northeast conferences are approaching quickly. The regional conference directors are putting the finishing touches on the schedules and will be mailed out as soon as they are complete. All conference information including the brochure, hotel information, topics, and registration will be available at www.ndemsa.org.

Hotel blocks fill quickly, make sure you make reservations soon!

Northwest:

The NW region conference will be held January 25-26, 2020 at the Grand Motel.

The Grand Motel
 1505 North Broadway
 Minot ND 58703
 (800) 735-4493
<http://www.grandhotelminot.com/>

Rooms are \$69.00/night plus tax

A block of rooms has been reserved until January 1st. (\$69.00) Make sure to indicate that you are with the ND EMS Association.

Southeast:

The SE region conference will be held on February 7-8, 2020. NDEMSEA has made lodging arrangements with the Holiday Inn in Fargo.

Holiday Inn
 3803 13th Avenue South
 Fargo, ND 58103
 701-282-2700
www.fargohi.com/

Rooms are \$100.00/night plus tax

Ask for the ND EMS Association

A block of rooms has been reserved until January 8th. (\$100.00) Make sure to indicate that you are with the ND EMS Association.

Northeast:

The NE region conference will be held on February 14-16, 2020 at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences Building and lodging arrangements at the Ramada Hotel in Grand Forks.

Ramada
 1205 N. 43rd St
 Grand Forks, ND 58203
ramadaingrandforks.com
 Phone: 701-775-3951
 Fax: 701-775-9774

A block of 40 rooms have been reserved at the Ramada (\$94.00+ tax) until January 18, 2020.

Make sure to indicate that you are with the EMS group when making your reservations.



FROM THE EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVE

Ran Lawler, Education Representative, NDEMS



Hi All,

I hope you are enjoying the winter that has now descended on us. And that you are all looking to get out of the house and attend some great training!

Check out the NDEMSA website for times and schedules of all the training including the regional conferences that we are putting on for the membership.

In my last article, I mentioned that the NREMT was going to change their recertification page. On October 1, they did just that. If you had already entered classes, don't worry, they are still there. If they didn't automatically get classified correctly, you just have to go in and put them where they should go on the list. Some people have asked if the individual topics (like VAD) have gone away and as long as you just have any class in the category (cardiology), would that be sufficient? The answer is no, you still have to have all of the topic areas. However, you don't have to worry about how many hours each topic lasts. As long as the objectives are covered, you are good. You still have to have the category total hours, for instance EMTs need 6 hours in cardiology, but you can spend 2 hours of that on stroke now. Several educators in the state have published topic trackers that you can use to make sure you have all the topics. For more information, you can download the latest recertification guide at <https://content.nremt.org/static/documents/Recertification%20Guide.pdf>.

One other concerning trend I am getting questions on is that certain national online education sites are telling EMS providers (and some fire services) that all their classes meet the requirements of "live" education. As you know, we can only count a certain number of hours of distributive education in each section (NCCR, LCCR, ICCR). If you have too many when you get audited, your certification can be suspended or removed. The document I mentioned above very clearly states that the only "live" instruction is where the students and the instructor can interact in real time. For CAPCE classes (which most national providers use), that means that F3 classes are not live. The other categories, including F5 (Video Instructor Led Training) are counted as live. So if you can log in to a class by yourself at any hour, can

complete the training with no instructor present, and there are no other students present, it is a distributive class. If you have to log on at a specific time, there are other students present, and you can interrupt the instructor to ask questions, whether orally or by a chat box, that is likely to be counted as live. One service says that you can email questions and they will get right back to you. That is not live and you have no idea who is actually answering the question. Not that all of the providers are doing this. Several have already started providing VILT classes. Just be cautious that what they are selling is what will work for NREMT.

As always, if you have any thoughts or ideas to improve our education efforts or just general education questions, feel free to let me know.

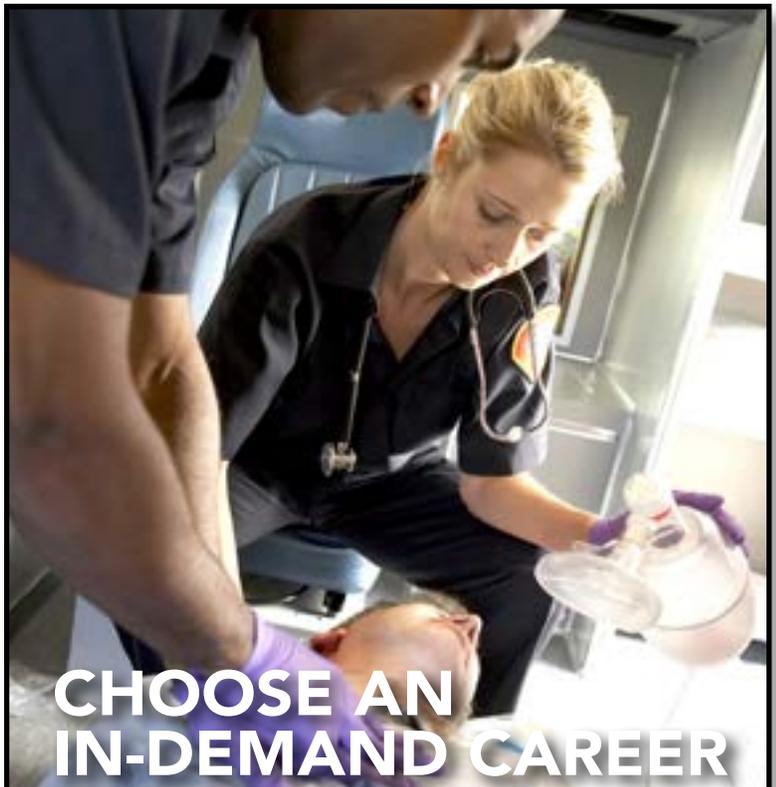
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Permit #19-00154

NDEMSEA REGIONAL ADVISOR LISTENING SUMMITS WRAP UP



Even though the summer weather seemed short-lived and the fall almost non-existent, it was a busy and eventful time for the Regional Advisors. We were fortunate to again be able to work with the University of North Dakota Flex Program in the 2018-2019 grant cycle. During that time frame we were able to hold six Critical Access Hospital Meetings around the state. As part of the ND EMS Association's Sustainability Project, we also interviewed several ambulance services from each region and were able to hold five Listening Summits around the state during the summer of 2019. The Listening Summits were held in Dickinson, Stanley, Grand Forks, Jamestown and Bismarck and were facilitated by the Regional Advisors. A total of 61 people representing 39 ambulance services attended the Listening Summits. In addition to EMS providers, several county commissioners, two 911 coordinators, two emergency managers and a mayor also attended and were very active in the discussions.

A statewide EMS survey held in the spring of 2019 revealed that the three main areas of concern were staffing, funding and education. The Listening Summits centered on these three areas but discussion was not limited to these three issues. A time limit of two hours was set for the first meeting, but that proved to be insufficient time for participants to feel as though all of their concerns had been heard and discussed. The time limit for all of the following meetings was lengthened to three hours. At all five meetings, the Sustainability Project and Vision 2025 were explained along with a review of the Vision 2020 meetings held in 2011 and what goals had been achieved.

At the first and third meetings, the participants were divided into small groups for initial discussion and then brought back together to talk about common ideas, suggestions and areas of concern. All of the participants remained together for the discussion at the other three meetings. This format seemed to provide a better opportunity for the participants to hear more comments and suggestions from all of the participants and did not seem to inhibit participation.

At all five of the meetings, there was much concern about the decreasing population in rural areas which is leading to decreasing numbers of people who can or will volunteer to be a part of the local ambulance service.

Some of the other common issues and questions at all five of the meetings were:

- EMS needs to better communicate with and educate the public and elected officials on all aspects of EMS, especially costs and reimbursements
- EMS needs more positive ways to recruit and retain EMS providers
- Would recruitment efforts benefit from a state wide recruitment drive?
- Is the word "volunteer" hurting recruitment?
- EMS needs to be more active in high schools around the state to get more young people interested in EMS
- What are the pros and cons of having a statewide mandate for EMS?
- Ambulance services need to have access to alternative, local funding sources such as taxing districts, county wide mill levies, sales tax or other taxes or fees
- EMS needs to build partnerships with and have allies within county and city governments
- EMS needs to show it provides value to the community
- There is a desire for more on-line educational opportunities and would that be a recruiting tool for more young people?
- Could a bridge course from EMR to EMT be developed and would it be helpful in increasing the number of rural EMTs?
- EMS needs to do a better job of mentoring students and new EMRs and EMTs
- The cost of education does not seem to be a barrier for most ambulance services

- Quality, availability and frequency of educational opportunities is more of an issue in the western part of the state than in the eastern part
- There is an urgent need for mental health training that includes patients and providers. EMS responder resiliency training efforts need to continue!
- Ambulance services need to deal with and fix the issue of inactive members
- What is the most effective way to change the public's image of EMS responders from "ambulance drivers" to the professionals that we are? How can we change and improve our image of ourselves?

This is not a complete list, but it does give a good sense of some of the most important issues ambulance services

and EMS providers are dealing with. We will have more information on the Sustainability Project and the Vision 2025 Project in the next issue.

The Listening Summits were well received by those who attended and many attendees expressed gratitude for the opportunity to be heard. Many also expressed the hope that the time they spent at the summits would be helpful for the future of EMS and that they would see some of their ideas put into practice. The Regional Advisors would like to thank the facilities that hosted the summits, all the people who attended and the ND EMS Association for the chance to hear so many EMS providers from around the state. It is our belief that many of the challenges facing EMS are opportunities to develop and deploy constructive changes that will benefit the people of North Dakota and build a sustainable EMS system



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- Critical Care/Emergency Trauma Trained Staff
- RN & Paramedic Team
- Trained in RSI, IABP, 12 Lead EKG, Pressure Monitoring
- Participates with the major insurance carriers

Bismarck Air Medical is an experienced air medical transport provider that serves a multi-state region throughout the Midwest. Patients, families, care-givers and healthcare providers depend on Bismarck Air Medical to deliver purposeful and safe emergency transport in "life critical" situations. Our highly trained medical teams and experienced flight crews have earned recognition and respect for their uncompromising attention to safety and quality of care.

Bismarck Air Medical
CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS
2940 North 19th St., Bismarck, ND 58503
(701) 223-1310

*Bismarck Air Medical is a Participating Provider with BCBS,
Sandford Health Insurance, Medicare/Medicaid Expansion
& North Dakota Work Force Safety and Insurance*

We are here to service your air medical needs. When the urgent circumstances settle down, and you or your loved ones are recovering, you can do so knowing that you received great medical care at a reasonable price with no surprise billing. In your time of need, call us for excellent service at an economical rate!





ND EMSA
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Bismarck, ND 58503

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UPCOMING NDEMSA EVENTS

December 11, 2019 NDEMSA Board Meeting

December 19, 2019 EMR Course Registration Due

December 31, 2019 Board Nominations Due

January 7, 2019 EMR Course Begins

January 25-26, 2020 NW Conference, Minot

February 7-8, 2020 SE Conference, Fargo

February 14-16, 2020 NE Conference, Grand Forks

February 17-March 4, 2020 NDEMSA Board of Director Elections

February 20, 2020 Award Nominations Due

April 2-4, 2020 ND EMS 45th Annual Conference and Tradeshow, Bismarck

