

By: Don Hauge, Executive Director

Fall is in the air and farmers are busy in the fields. Yes our summer has gone by in a flash and we know what 4 letter word is in our future!!! We will enjoy the beautiful fall weather as long as we can however. It is the time of year that we must be more mindful on the roadways for wildlife and farm equipment!! Stay alert and be safe!!

Fall Pediatric Workshop...A good first time event!!!

The first Fall EMS Workshop was held on September 28th in Rochester at the Woodlake Meeting Center. A big THANK YOU to all of those that were able to attend the Saturday Workshop!! Although our numbers were not huge, the presentations and presenters were very good and those that attended the Workshop had very good things to say about the event. It was a great day of lecture and hands on experiences on topics involving our Pediatric patients.

Some of the comments on the evaluations were: "The guy who did the burn stations was awesome!" , "Good information for RN's too. Nice to know what EMT's and Paramedics do prior to arrival at the hospital" , "Excellent conference and great way to get additional CEU's".

Our Conference Planning Committee will look at offering another Fall Workshop in 2014. We already have some ideas but if you have ideas for the Workshop, please feel free to let us know!

2014 "Heroes Among Us" Conference.....

Mark your calendars for March 14 & 15, 2014!!! Those are the dates for the 30th Annual SE Minnesota EMS Conference now known as the "Heroes Among Us" Conference. Our Planning Committee is hard at work trying to get our presenters lined up and our Vendors signed up. We look forward to having some special activities at the 2014 Conference and hope that many of our SE Providers will be in attendance! Mr. Ken Bouvier, Deputy Chief of the New Orleans EMS will be our visiting National Speaker in 2014. He has been here before and was one of the most requested to have again and we are pleased that he will return!!

We are also working on a topic or two that will meet the needs of those who are DOT Instructors who now have to have 8 hours of continuing education every 2 years to continue to instruct EMS classes. We will continue to grow these types of presentations in the future so all of our instructors will have an opportunity to get their CEU's so they can continue to teach.

We are working on our new brochure as we speak and we will also be offering Online Registration for the upcoming conference if all goes right!!! More on that as we get closer!

Recertification Reminder for Consortium Services.....

Just a friendly little reminder that services in the Medical Direction Consortium are responsible to contact our office or another qualified educational facility to schedule their crew-members' recertification for CPR, EMR, and EMT. EMR's expire each October 31st and EMT each March 31st following a 2 year certification. If you have questions or need to schedule the training, please contact our office.

Immediate Run Reviews.....

Please remember to fax, mail or email in copies of the runs which fall under the criteria for immediate review. Those calls are: Cardiac Arrest, ALS Intercepts, Serious Illness or Injury to a child, and any use of the variance medications or procedures, such as CPAP, I.V., Epi-pen, Albuterol, Nitroglycerin, etc. Under the guidelines of the Medical Direction Consortium any call that meets these requirements needs to be reviewed by the Medical Director within 48 hours. We are working on a process that we hope will make this easier for the providers to comply – stay tuned for more information.

Next Regional Ambulance Directors Meeting.....

The NEXT ***Ambulance Managers meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 23, 2013 at 6:30 (meal provided at 6:00)*** at the Gold Cross Main Station Conference Rooms.

We will be discussing the Southern Minnesota Regional Trauma Advisory Committee (SMRTAC) Performance Improvement. We will discuss what this means for EMS and how can you use it.

The EMS branch of SMRTAC is looking for Providers who can attend the meetings and be part of the EMS Committee. This committee works on improving Trauma care throughout the South Central and Southeastern Regions of Minnesota. The group works on Best Practice guidelines that could be adopted by EMS services around the region. It is a good group and interesting to work on.



Directors Meeting
Agenda October 2013:

Items for the website????

LOTS of good information on Programs and Services offered by the SE Minnesota EMS Regional Program on the website, please go to www.seems.com and check them out!!!!

If you have an item for the website, please contact us by email or phone, we would be happy to assist you!

First Responder/EMT Training Subsidy Update.....

FIRST RESPONDER/EMT TRAINING SUBSIDY

The Deadline for receiving applications for the First Responder/EMT Training Subsidy was September 30, 2013. We had 30 services send in applications and Acceptance Letters have already been sent out. Services who received an Acceptance Letter can send in the receipts for their training classes now through mid-June to be reimbursed. We will be following the guidelines as listed below. If you have any questions, please call the Regional Office.

APPLICATION FOR TRAINING FUNDS

July 1, 2013 - June 20, 2014

Regional EMS funds are again available to official First Responder Squads in Southeastern Minnesota for the following courses: **First Responder Certification, First Responder Recertification, Emergency Medical Technician Certification, and Emergency Medical Technician Recertification**. A squad can apply for EMS funds to meet the training needs of both new and current members. Following is the allocation per person for each program:

First Responder Certification (\$175)
First Responder Recertification (\$100)
EMT Certification (\$300)
EMT Recertification (\$125)

First Responder/EMT Training Subsidy Application... (Continued)

BLS ambulance services who have a hardship variance and are using First Responders on their service CAN apply for the FR training funds! They are not, however, eligible for the EMT training funds because they are available through the EMSRB. Ambulance services only need to complete contact info and # to be trained.

NOTE: Acceptance of application does not guarantee payment for all requests for reimbursement. Eligible reimbursements are paid on a first come, first served basis until the funds allocated for the fiscal year have been depleted.

NOTE: Subsidy is limited to *FOUR members per year for EMT Certification OR Recertification*. Individuals must have a *minimum of TWO YEARS on an official First Responder Squad to be eligible*.



Minnesota Mission: Lifeline.....

The Minnesota Mission: Lifeline is in progress!!! The first monetary awards have been made in the Northwest and West Central Regions of Minnesota, so now equipment is being purchased and training will begin. The next area that will be receiving the grant applications are the Northeast and Central Regions. The SE Region is not slated to receive applications until March/April of 2014. Even though that seems like a long time away, it will come quickly so it gives you time as a service to figure out what equipment you currently have and will it work to acquire and transmit 12 Lead EKG's. Your monitor Sales Representatives may be able to assist you in answering those questions.

This grant focuses on improving care for those in the most rural areas so that is why they have started in the Northern part of the State. As has been stated before, not all services will get grant money but they are trying to make the money go as far as possible by asking services to look at their needs and doing upgrades to their current equipment if possible. Upgrade current machines to add 12 lead capabilities, possibly the ability to transmit 12 Lead information to the hospital, ect.

You should be in contact with the hospital you work with and the Monitor Sales people from Zoll, Physio Control and Phillips so you know what is available as well.

We plan on having the Minnesota Mission: Lifeline team do a presentation on the program at our annual conference in March. We also plan to have all 3 of the Monitor Sales Representatives as Vendors at the conference to assist you with any questions you may have.

Remember to turn those clocks back.....



Daylight Saving Time ends on November 3rd at 02:00 a.m. (I prefer to change mine before I go to bed on November 2nd!!!)

Remember that we TURN BACK our clocks an hour, so an extra hour of sleep for all who remember!!!!!!

EMS/ SMH ED Workgroup – Case Reviews a SUCCESS!!!

The recent offering of a Case Review for EMS and ED personnel held at St. Mary's Hospital on September 25 was deemed a SUCCESS and they WILL CONTINUE. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR for JANUARY 15, 2014.** That will be the date of the next Case Review and it will be held at St. Mary's Hospital from 7 – 9 p.m. As soon as the flyer is available, I will send it out to all our First Responder and EMS agencies. We had about 70 providers attend the last Case Review and the comments were very good! They even had TREATS available!!!!

The Case that was reviewed was an actual Ambulance call from our Region. Actions taken during that call were described by Dispatchers, First Responders, EMS, ED Nurses and Physicians who actually took part in the case. The audience was very interactive with asking questions of the panelists and there was good discussion as well. It was really a great night of education and CEU's were also given out.

These are going to be given on a quarterly basis at St. Mary's.

CPR "Save" Pins/Certificates Available.....



The SE EMS Office now has a C.P.R. Save pin available for services to purchase for crew members involved in a "CPR Save" situation. Along with the pin, you will receive a certificate from the Regional EMS Office recognizing this event. The cost of the Pin and Certificate is \$ 5.00 which includes tax. For more information, please call the SE EMS Office.



Monthly CPR Classes at SE EMS.....

The SE EMS office will now start holding CPR classes on the first and third Tuesdays of each month starting in August of 2013.

The first Tuesday of each month we will hold an *American Heart Association Healthcare Provider* class. Two classes will be scheduled each day; 1pm – 5pm and 6pm – 10pm. Cost: \$65.00 per person.

The third Tuesday of each month we will offer an *American Heart Association Heartsaver /AED* class. Two classes will be scheduled each day; 1pm – 5pm and again from 6pm – 10pm. Cost: \$65.00 per person.

These classes will be held in the conference room of the SE EMS office at 1130 ½ 7th St NW, Ste 201, Rochester, MN 55901. Pre-registration and payment is required prior to the start of class.

For more information or registration please call our office at 507-536-9333.

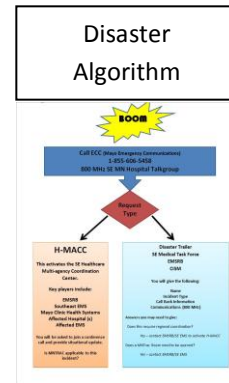
(Monthly CPR Continued) We have held several CPR classes in our office since this program has started. Some classes have had 10-12 students and some have had 1-2 students. Our commitment to this program is that we will NOT cancel a class due to low enrollment, so if you are signed up for a class, you will get that class. If our providers need an initial or refresher class in CPR and their schedule does not allow them to get into other classes, we will help them!

Triage Tag Tuesdays and Sundays.....

Reminder to Ambulance Services; continue to encourage your staff to practice with the Triage Tags on a regular basis. The SE Regional Office has LOTS of these tags available for your service to receive FREE OF CHARGE!! The Tags were purchased by the EMS Healthcare Coalition Committee and are to be giving to SE Regional services. At the Ambulance Directors meetings, we have been encouraging services to practice with the tags at least once a month or on calls that fall on Tuesdays and Sundays, which makes it easier for staff to remember to practice on those days. Staff should use the tags on whatever type of patients that they may care for. The practice allows staff members to not only become familiar with the tags looks but actually work with them and place patient information on them. Triage tags are not frequently used but we have had several incidents over the past few months with multiple patients and being familiar with the tags can make the process go MUCH smoother!! Call or stop by the Regional Office to get your tags.

Updated Disaster Trailer Cards in the Mail.....

Services in our Region will soon be receiving updated Disaster Trailer Cards similar to the ones below. They are being updated to add some contact information for Hospitals who request activation of the Healthcare Multi-agency Coordination Center (HC-MACC) and also to give you a **NEW PHONE NUMBER** for activation of the Disaster Trailers and the Medical Task Force. You will receive a letter from the SE Minnesota EMS Office describing the changes. There will also be a copy of a Disaster Algorithm which will help providers decide what services they need to request and what information they will need when calling for these resources. The Old Phone Number is still in place and active but has become overused due to its long history of being advertised. Please discard the old information card when the new one arrives. The NEW phone number will be treated much like a 911 call and will be less advertised. The cards should go out in the mail in the next few days, so please watch for them and share the new information with your staff.



Upcoming Events.....

October 23	Regional Ambulance Directors Meeting	(6:00 meal, 6:30 meeting)	Gold Cross - Rochester
October 30	Pre-hospital Advisory Committee (PAC)	6:30 p.m.	SE EMS
November 1	ER Nurse Managers Meeting	9:00 a.m.	SE EMS
November 2	NEW CISM Team Member Orientation	8:00 a.m.	SE EMS
November 9	NEW Consortium Instructor Orientation	9:00 a.m.	SE EMS
November 14	Joint Powers Board Meeting	8:30 a.m.	Workforce Building
November 20	EMS Sub-committee Meeting	8:00 a.m.	SE EMS
November 20	Medical Task Force Team Leaders	9:00 a.m.	SE EMS