



EMSC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 8, 2022
1:00—2:00 p.m. (CST)
North Dakota Department of Health

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Welcome

Introductions/Roll Call

Present: Joan Connell, Donene Feist, Carma Hanson, Debra Hanson, Erin Hurst, Ron Lawler, Elizabeth Oestrich, Carol Thurn

State Representation: Chris Price, Mary Waldo

Our apologies for the technical difficulties with Teams as well as the virtual meeting room.

Committee Member Updates

Carma Hanson

- National Poison Prevention Week 2022
 - March 20 – 26, 2022
- Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician Trainings in 2022
 - Bismarck - April 19 - 22, 2022; Grand Forks - May 2 - 5, 2022; Fargo - TBD (see registration link); Williston - August 2 - 5, 2022
 - Complete informational flyer and registration form [HERE](#).
 - Contact information: 701-328-4533 or drmayer@nd.gov.
 - Please encourage anybody that you feel should attend.
 - Bismarck class is full and has a waiting list. Is trying to find a way to offer another class.
 - Grand Forks class is full but may add another instructor to accommodate more people or try adding another class.
 - Beneficial to EMS agencies to have trained staff
 - There was discussion surrounding the benefit of CPS technicians remaining involved in car seat checkups and obtaining their required CEUs to recertify.
- Home Safety Training
 - Safe Kids Grand Forks holds this training at least annually and is intended to train home visitors or agency staff working with clients in their home about ways to keep kids safe in their home environment.
 - Free of charge via Zoom
 - March 23, 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM
 - Registration is required.
- Safe Kids also continues to host their monthly training for parents and foster parents offering CEU credits for foster parents.
 - Classes are free but registration is required.
 - 6:30 – 7:30 3rd Tuesday of each month via Zoom.

- See flier attached.

Other member updates

Donene Feist

- An informational brochure has been developed for [Family Voices of North Dakota](#) (click link or see attached).
 - Continue to seek much needed community awareness
 - Fire Preparedness tips, pet safety, utilities in an emergency, infection prevention (COVID), shelter in place, etc. are touched on in this brochure.

Elizabeth Oestrich

- Discussion of the ND Baby Safe Haven project
 - There have been updates to the locations available for relinquishing of infants, including EMS agencies.
 - There is a training course available on the [DoH website](#) that outlines paperwork and answers questions.
 - Only unharmed infants can be accepted.
 - Message needs to be communicated to agencies as well as the general public.
 - Explanation for acceptance by unmanned agencies such as rural ambulance services.

EMSC Update

Mary Waldo

- Mary introduced herself as the state trauma coordinator and is currently overseeing the EMSC program as the interim coordinator.
- The Pedi-Mate+'s that were previously ordered by Sam are in the process of being distributed.
- The EMS survey window opened in January and closes March 31.
 - Currently we are running at a 24.9% response rate compared to last year's 33%.
 - Mary is presently calling all non-respondents.

Chris Price

- Funding issues
 - The EMSC grant runs on a 5-year funding cycle with a normal funding limit of \$130,000 per year.
 - This year this funding has been cut by \$80,000, making the replacement of a program coordinator questionable even though the Department has granted approval to do so.
 - Since its inception, the EMSC program has encouraged states to absorb this coordinator position into their general fund budget. This has not yet happened in North Dakota.
 - This funding cut has affected all states, not just North Dakota.
 - Historically budgeting questions have been resolved prior to the beginning of a new contract year (April 1 – March 31).
 - ND DoH will continue with an interim coordinator if this funding issue is not fixed prior to the April 1 contract date.
 - Possible fixes:
 - Chris briefly discussed a federal \$3 billion public health worker grant of which North Dakota will be pursuing their portion. Some of which may be able to be used to fund this position.
 - There was discussion surrounding contacting of legislators in an effort to enforce the need of having this position funded and what the repercussions are if it is not funded.
 - Look for friends / champions within the legislature for support.

- Educate the appropriations committee on this budgeting cut and the ramifications of it.
 - Locate a constituent who has been favorably affected by these services and get them together with their legislator.
 - Look to committee members for assistance in the interim if need be.
- Future Meeting Dates (1-2 p.m. CST)
 - June 14th, 2022
 - September 13th, 2022
 - December 13th, 2022
 - Meeting adjourned.