

JUNE 2024

# STAFF UPDATE

## MAINE EMS



### OVERVIEW

This publication is intended to provide members of the Board and interested parties insight into the work of the Maine Bureau of Emergency Medical Services office in the previous month. This publication is not anticipated to be exhaustive, but instead a high-level overview of the work that has taken place.

It should serve as a jumping point for conversations and questions from the Board regarding the ongoing work that is being performed throughout the state.

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# A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings Maine EMS,

As we closed out the 50th Anniversary of EMS week, I wanted to take a minute to express my sincere thanks to everyone who worked on, participated in, and attended the EMS Remembrance Ceremony and the Maine EMS Awards. It was a beautiful day, we had a large crowd, and it was a great chance for us to publicly recognize the excellent work of all the groups and individuals that won awards.

There were several suggestions for next year that we will look at putting in place, including more chairs and presenters, and streaming the event so it can be enjoyed by family members and others who couldn't attend in person.

Just before the EMS Awards, several members of our Maine EMS team, including our State Medical Director, had the chance to attend the NASEMSO Conference to get updates on national trends in EMS and build contacts with our state-level partners. They did an excellent job representing Maine EMS, and our own EMS Explorer Program Coordinator, Anna Masefski, was recognized with an Honorable Mention Award for her presentation on the Maine EMS Workforce. We have lots of things in motion as we make the pivot into this summer... More updates coming soon!

Wil



*Members of the EMS Honor Guard at the Remembrance Ceremony on May 23, 2024*

# EMS AWARDS

## GOLDEN EAGLE AWARD

This award recognizes individuals who have consistently demonstrated excellence in their service, unwavering support to their peers and the community, collaborative efforts that have strengthened the EMS network, and the highest level of integrity in all their professional endeavors. Recipients of this award are esteemed for their long-standing commitment and significant contributions to the advancement of emergency medical services.

*Joanne Lebrun*



## GOVERNOR'S AWARD

For exceptional contribution to the EMS system at the state, national, or system-wide level; with contributions in multiple areas of EMS activity.



*Christopher Paré*

## EMS EXCELLENCE AWARD

For contribution to the EMS system at the regional and/or state level and demonstrated involvement and significant contributions in one or more areas of EMS.

*Everett Flannery III  
Michael Senecal*



# EMS AWARDS

## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

For involvement with EMS in Maine for at least 10 years, consistently performing above and beyond expectations in system development, patient care, service involvement, and/or community involvement.



***Cecil (Eddie) Moreside***  
***Fred Porter***  
***Frederick Parsons***  
***James MacDonnell***  
***James Wilber***  
***Jesse Thompson***  
***John Gilboy III***  
***Michael Joyce***  
***Richard Petrie***  
***Shawn Mitchell***  
***Wilda Eaton***  
***William Nichols***

## EMS MERIT AWARD

For contribution to the EMS system at the local or regional level in one or more areas of EMS.

***Carolyn Stinson***  
***Phillip MacCallum***  
***Andrew (AJ) Gagnon Jr***



## EMS SERVICE OF THE YEAR AWARD

For an EMS service that has shown exemplary performance, innovation, and quality improvement in the delivery of prehospital care in Maine.



***Westbrook Fire Rescue***

# EMS AWARDS

## EMS COMMUNITY PARTNER AWARD

A non-EMS organization or individual who has demonstrated excellence, support, collaboration, and integrity with the EMS system in Maine.

**Northern Light Inland Hospital**  
**York County Community College**  
**Maryann Harakall**  
**Kevin Howell (Posthumous)**



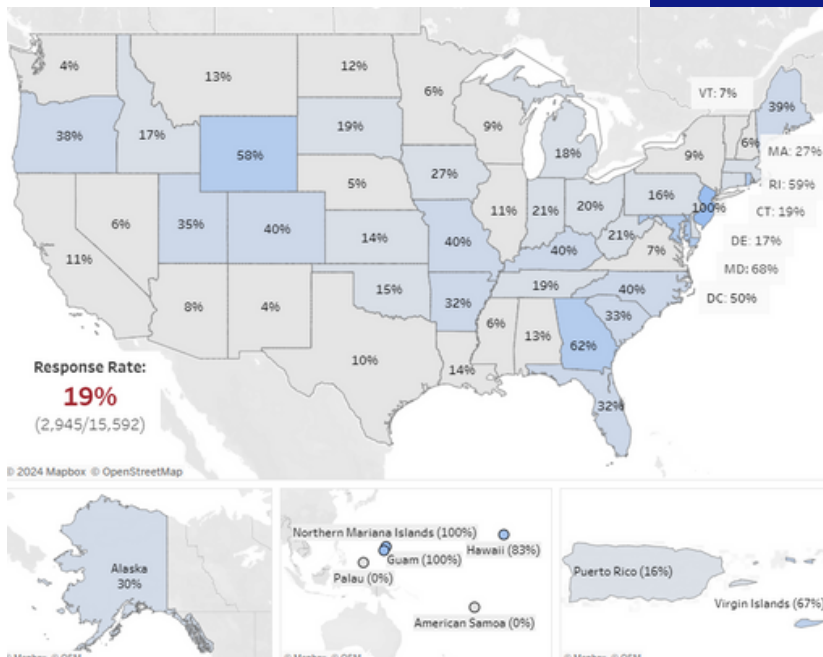
## MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

For an EMS medical director who has provided outstanding leadership, education, and guidance to Maine's EMS clinicians and services.

**Dr. Beth Collamore**

## NATIONAL PREHOSPITAL PEDIATRIC READINESS PROJECT

The National Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project continues. We are surveying all EMS agencies in Maine (and the nationally) on their efforts around pediatric care, preparedness, and education. The survey is available at [empedsready.org](http://empedsready.org) and helps shape future efforts and goals for Maine pediatric care. As of May 30, of the 58 states and territories participated in the survey, Maine is 15th in the country for response percentages and 10th in the country for total number of agencies responding. The survey is open until July 31 and we encourage all agencies (both transporting and non-transporting) to share their communities voice through this important survey.





# EMS STABILIZATION GRANT PROGRAM

The Maine EMS Stabilization Program was officially closed for accepting applications on May 21st. The Grant Team is still reviewing applications and tremendous progress has been made over the past few weeks. Grant funding contracts are being sent out to agencies for review and funds are being dispersed. Another Grant Specialist was hired and will be starting the 3rd week in June. This will bring the team up to 3, and it will vastly improve the Stabilization Grant Program's productivity.

## EDUCATION

The committee met in May and completed the selection and approval processes for filling the two committee vacancies. AJ Ganon is the new Non-Municipal Training Officer representative and Thomas Williamson is the new At-Large member.

Other meeting discussion topics included recent Training Center Director/Program Director resignations from two training centers, the state of EMS education in Maine, and committee goals and objectives for the next year.

**REMINDER** that NREMT psychomotor skills exams for the AEMT and Paramedic level will cease and sunset on July 1, 2024. After that time, all candidates for NREMT certification at the AEMT and Paramedic levels must complete student minimum competency (SMC) portfolios and will take both the revised cognitive exams and the new clinical judgement exam. Both exams are computer-based and may be taken at Pearson Vue testing centers.

## EXPLORER PROGRAMMING

The Maine EMS Explorer Program has begun recruiting for the next phase of rollout. We learned a lot alongside the pilot phase services, and with their help will be offering a complete implementation guide this time around. Our goal is to make it as easy as possible for services to start up their own Explorer Program. Please reach out to Anna at [anna.massefski@maine.gov](mailto:anna.massefski@maine.gov) if you are interested in bringing the Explorer Program to your agency!

The Explorer Program Coordinator attended NASEMSO's Annual Meeting with the Maine delegation, and had the opportunity to present the program during the State EMS Showcase. As described in the event program, "This session features highlights of innovative projects of a select group of state EMS offices. Learn what your colleagues are doing to address EMS concerns in their respective states." We were honored to have the opportunity to share on the national stage the work that Maine agencies are doing!

## ADULT VR TRAINING PROGRAM UPDATE

There is a major update to the Maine EMS Adult Virtual Reality Training Program that required all headsets to be returned temporarily to Maine EMS. We anticipate the headsets returning to circulation soon!

Please reach out to Anna Massefski at [MEMS.VR@maine.gov](mailto:MEMS.VR@maine.gov) with any questions or concerns.

# LICENSING

One non-transporting service, Norridgewock Fire Department, is terminating services and licensure with the Board effective June 3, 2024.

## COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE

The Community Paramedicine Committee met on May 9, 2024. At the meeting, the committee discussed the Primary Care Plus MaineCare program and the rules committee changes to the concept rules. They will next meet on July 11, 2024 for the next regular cycle meeting. They will take June off due to the upcoming Empowering Community Wellness conference hosted by Maine EMS. The conference will be on June 11-12th at the Augusta Civic Center with a focus on Community Paramedicine, Systems of Care, and Substance Use Disorder. The CP coordinator attended the Maine Nurse Practitioners Association conference this month and provided a presentation on Community paramedicine throughout our state and ways that NPs can get involved with the program.

## RULES

Two rules proposed by the Board are out to public comment; Chapter 26: Community Grant Program, and Chapter 21: Immunization Requirements. The public comment period for these rules closes on June 14, 2024, at 11:59 P.M. Public Comments can be made via our website; by sending an email to [rulemaking.maineems@maine.gov](mailto:rulemaking.maineems@maine.gov), or in writing to Maine EMS, ATTN: Rulemaking, 152 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0152. The Secretary of State's Office has a new Director of Rulemaking and Administrative Procedure Compliance, Chris Parr, who is responsible for assisting us with publishing rulemaking notices and technical drafting of rule documents to maintain compliance with the Administrative Procedures Act. Adopted Amendments to Chapter Three; Ground Ambulance Service Transporting and Non-Transporting Service licenses, and Chapter Two: Definitions, are currently with the Attorney General's Office for Form and Legality Review. The next meeting of the Maine EMS Rules Subcommittee is scheduled for June 17th.

## MEFIRS

### Outcome Data

6.14% of the records for patients transported to a hospital emergency department or a free-standing emergency department over the last thirty (30) days have outcome data, compared to 1.8% nationally.

Elements provided with outcome data:

1. Patient Demographics from the hospital.
2. Patient Insurance information
3. Emergency Department Diagnosis
4. Emergency Department Disposition
5. Emergency Department Procedures
6. Hospital Disposition (if admitted)
7. Hospital Diagnosis (if admitted)

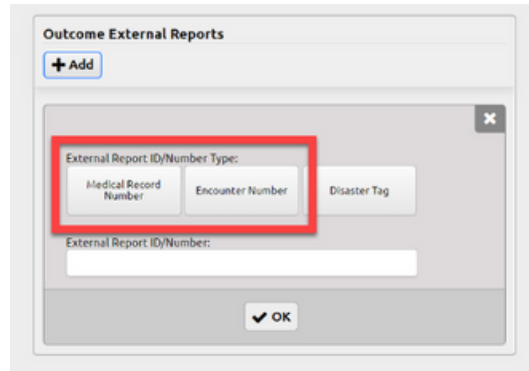
Maine EMS is developing MEMSEd training for EMS clinicians on outcome data. We hope to release it in June. We have built a new Dashboard in MEFIRS for Outcome Data performance.

# MEFIRS CONTINUED

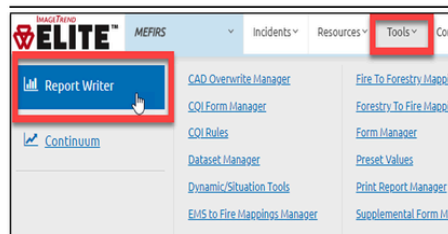
For EMS clinicians to receive outcome data, they must document the MRN and Encounter Number. The MRN and Encounter Number are part of the Outcome External Report grid on the Destination Information panel in the run form. You can also scan the barcodes at the receiving facility to import this information into the patient care report.

Central Maine Health Care and Northern Light Health have an EMS barcode as part of the patient demographic sheet that allows EMS clinicians to scan one barcode and import both numbers instantly into their PCR. Maine Health and Covenant Health are developing an EMS barcode as of this date.

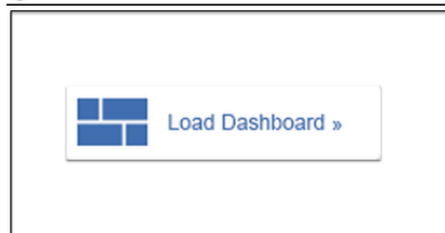
Maine EMS has created an Encounter Number Verbiage resource that is available by scanning the barcode below.



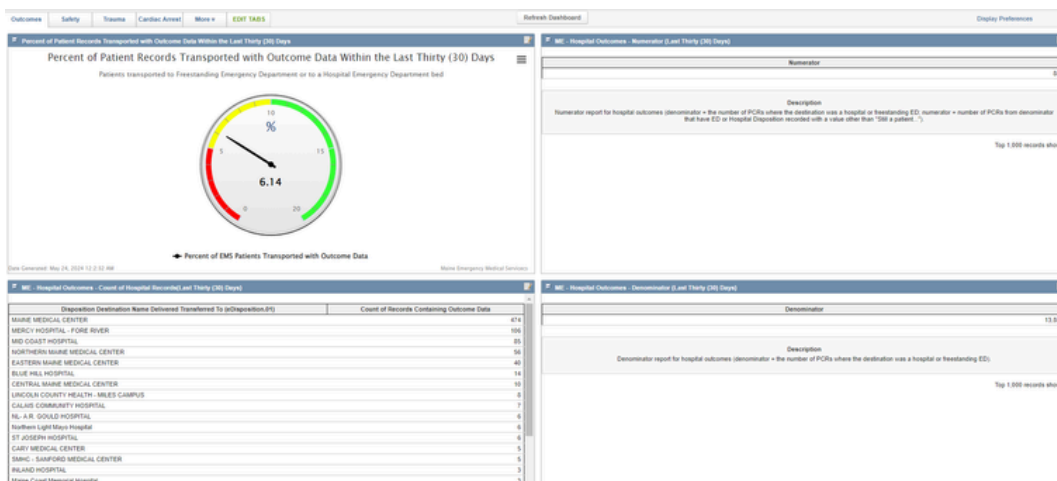
## Outcome Performance Dashboard



1 Within MEFIRS, navigate to Tools>Report Writer



2 Select the "Load Dashboard" Button.





# EMS FOR CHILDREN

Pen Bay Hospital was recognized as an Always Ready for Children hospital at the Pediatric Innovator level and had a great turnout for the recognition event. They are the second hospital and first community hospital to achieve this recognition. We also have 5 other hospitals currently working on this recognition program!



The Maine EMS for Children program has nearly finished dispersing the Ferno KangooFix newborn transport devices - we are still awaiting 2 devices for 2 agencies (production delay at factory). Since delivery, we have had eight 911 uses for a newborn transport. We are working on a survey tool to determine the experience of EMS clinicians and their use of the devices. Federal HRSA and the Maine CDC is also interested in learning more about our statewide implementation and is meeting with Maine EMS for a demonstration and presentation.

The Maine EMS for Children Program Manager attended the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) conference in May and worked with other states and national partners on pediatric care, including sharing of programs and best practices, ideas for education and policies/programs. Additionally, we participated in various committee meetings and made sure Maine's voice for children was heard. Marc Minkler completed his 2-year term as the Chair of the National Pediatric Emergency Care Council and will remain an officer on the Council as the Immediate Past Chair.

Dr. Sean Barnett, pediatric trauma surgeon from Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center graciously shared his time and expertise in the EMS Week EMSC day education presentation on "Pearls for Pediatric Trauma". The program was attended by clinicians from Maine, New York, Washington DC, and Virginia. Additionally, we collaborated with Washington DC EMSC and shared the free statewide class on a morning program on current prehospital pediatric research with Dr. Caleb Ward from Children's National Medical Center. Finally on the same day we offered an evening class on Pediatric Airway Management from Dr. Marianne Gausche-Hill and Dr. Kathleen Adalgais (and others) from our national EMSC center. All classes were free and offered CEH credits.

We were pleased to see Maryann Harakall, Program Director of the Maine Maternal Child Health Bureau at the CDC receive a Community Partner for her incredible work in supporting the purchase of KangooFix devices for EMS agencies and the MEMSEd course on Pediatric Behavioral Emergencies

We are continuing our efforts to establish an Always Ready for Children recognition program for EMS agencies and are working with counterparts in all New England States, New York and New Jersey to develop consistent standards for a regional recognition program.

Our grant year ended on March 31, and we are now in our 6th year of the program and continue to achieve improvements in pediatric goals. We are in process of completing an annual report and financial submission for HRSA, due at the end of July 2024.