



# Quarterly Newsletter

## EMSC Recognizes Family Representatives

Nineteen Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) state family representatives were recognized on June 26, during the 2008 National Heroes Award ceremony for their commitment to EMSC and for their long-standing service as representatives to the EMSC Family Advisory Network (FAN).

Seven individuals were recognized for serving for at least 10 years in their current capacity as family representatives including Oklahoma's own, Donna Meyers.

Donna has volunteered as the Oklahoma EMSC family representative for 12 years. She is the EMS Program Coordinator for the Eastern Oklahoma County Technology Center and an instructor of EMS programs. Donna is also a PALS, PEPP, and Advanced Cardiac Life Support instructor. She is a child passenger restraint instructor and was the leading force behind the child safety seat legislation that requires children up to 12 years to be properly restrained.



The EMSC Program would like to thank all FAN members for their dedication and commitment to enhancing EMSC in their states, and we thank Donna for her efforts to make the children of Oklahoma safer.

Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC)

Fall 2008

### Special points of interest:

- ✦ PEARS Course
- ✦ EMSC Symposium
- ✦ Child Passenger Safety
- ✦ SAFEKIDS Coalition Contact Information

## Did you know?

EMSC State Partnership grantees are required to have a family representative on their EMSC Advisory Committee. As of December 2007, 73% of the EMSC State Partnership grantees

had a family representative. Five EMSC grantees had more than one representative. These individuals support EMSC grantees by: serving on a variety of committees and advisory coun-

cils; providing a consumer's perspective in the development of EMS policies, procedures, rules, and regulation; and participating in public education campaigns.

## PEARS Course

Pediatric Emergency Assessment, Recognition and Stabilization (PEARS) Provider Course is designed to help the healthcare provider develop the knowledge and skills for emergency assessment and treat of seriously ill infants and children.

- Recognition of respiratory distress, failure, shock, and cardiac arrest
- Provide lifesaving actions until child is transferred to a higher level of care

EMSC will offer the course to BLS Services and Emergency Departments across Oklahoma.

Contact EMSC at (405) 271-3307 if you are interested in having a PEARS course at your service or hospital.

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# EMSC Pediatric Symposium... Save the Date!

For those of you in attendance at "Medic Update 2008," we were happy to see you. There were lots of guests at the EMSC table and we appreciate your stopping by. We decided to get some input from you as to what your needs are regarding pediatric education. We have compiled the needs assessment data and you have said that your top five pediatric training educational needs are:

- Respiratory Emergencies
- Children with Special Health Care Needs
- Pediatric Assessment Triangle
- Trauma
- Airway Management

We are in the process of developing educational opportunities to assist you with these needs to ensure quality care for pediatric patients.

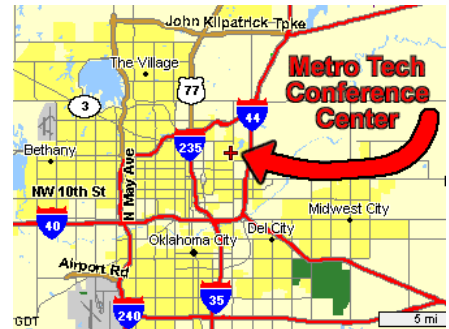


Mark your calendars and make plans to attend the **First Annual EMSC Pediatric Symposium "And How Are The Children?"**. Save the date for your one and half day educational experience that is centered on pediatric emergency care.

The symposium will be Friday and Saturday, March 6-7, 2009 at the Metro Technology Centers Springlake Campus. We are proud to offer you guest lecturers that are experienced and knowledgeable in pediatric emergency care.

Registration forms will be available in the upcoming newsletter. We look forward to the opportunity to serve your educational needs and hope to see you there!!

Metro Tech Springlake Campus  
1900 Springlake Drive  
Oklahoma City, OK 73111



The Metro Technology Centers Springlake Campus is located at the intersection of Martin Luther King Ave. and Springlake Dr. between N.E. 36th and N.E. 50th just south of the Oklahoma City Zoo and Kirkpatrick Center.

## And How Are The Children?

The Oklahoma EMSC Pediatric Symposium has decided to continue with the theme "**And How Are The Children?**" that was presented at the national meeting this past June. The title of this year's Annual EMSC Grantee Meeting was taken from the Maasai tribe in Africa.

According to the Reverend Patrick O'Neill of Framingham, MA, the Maasai tribe were considered one of the most accomplished, intelligent, and fearsome warriors. Yet, the traditional greeting of the tribe when they met one another was "Kasserian Ingera," which means "and how are the children?"

It is still the traditional greeting of the tribe, which reminds each of its members of the high value they place in their young. Even those

without children of their own answer this greeting with "all the children are well" to indicate that peace and safety prevail and that even the daily struggles of life do not preclude taking care of their most important members—the children.



Taken by Inisheer, Fribourg, Switzerland. All rights reserved.

## Coordinator's Corner

Since beginning my position here at the EMSC office in January, I have been active in conducting performance measure surveys from EMS agencies as well as hospitals. We compile the data gathered from the surveys to measure the readiness of EMS/hospitals to care for children.

The EMSC newsletter is designed to inform all EMS and hospital personnel about upcoming events and activities as well as provide educational information to better meet the needs of pediatric patients in our communities. The newsletter is designed for you and we welcome any submissions that pertain to pediatric patients and pediatric emergency care. I hope you find the newsletter informative, easy to read, and an excellent resource for your agency and department. Please feel free to contact me if you have any suggestions or comments.

# Child Passenger Safety

Recently the Guymon Fire Department contacted the EMSC office seeking assistance with a community educational initiative after they tragically suffered a great loss when an unrestrained child was fatally injured in a motor vehicle collision. We were able to connect them to the Safe Kids Coalition in Enid, OK.

According to *Pediatric Annuals*, September 2008 issue, motor vehicle crashes remain the leading cause of death and acquired disability to U.S. children despite safer vehicles, safer roads, and more children than ever before traveling in child occupant restraint systems. As many pre-hospital providers have witnessed first hand, traveling unrestrained in a motor vehicle during a crash is the key element for morbidity and mortality. The unrestrained occupants place themselves and their passengers in jeopardy of ejection in the event of a crash. For the unrestrained child, the risk of ejection is three times higher than for

adults (*Pediatric Annuals*, 08/08). Placing children in a passenger safety seat can and will reduce ejections by distributing the crash load on bony structures rather than soft tissue, limit crash force on the child's body by prolonging the time of deceleration and may limit contact with intruding vehicle parts (*Pediatric Annual*, 08/08).

Safe Kids USA is a non-profit organization dedicated solely to the prevention of unintentional childhood injury. The Campaign's co-founder and president, [Dr. Martin Eichelberger](#), believes there is no such thing as an "accident" and that unintentional injuries can be prevented.

Safe Kids Buckle Up program strives to offer every driver who transports children these opportunities:

- Learn how to properly restrain children in age- and weight-appropriate car seats or booster seats

- Learn why all passengers over age 8 should serve as good role models by using safety belts on every ride
- Learn why children under age 13 should be seated in the back seat
- Find their local Safe Kids coalition to learn more about other accidental child injury risks

The message we aim to deliver is that car safety seats are a proactive measure that will be an anticipatory guidance to families with pediatric passengers.



For more information on installation of a car safety seat, to find a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician, or to have a course in your area contact the coalition in your region.

For a Child Safety Seat Locator visit [www.seatcheck.org](http://www.seatcheck.org).

For more information on the Safe Kids Program visit their website at [www.oksafekids.org](http://www.oksafekids.org).

## SAFEKIDS Coalition

### Oklahoma County/Oklahoma (State)

Safe Kids Oklahoma  
Phone: (405) 271-5695  
E-Mail: [safekids@ouhsc.edu](mailto:safekids@ouhsc.edu)

### Carter/Love County (Ardmore)

Anna Duran  
Phone: (580) 223-9705  
E-Mail: [annad@health.ok.gov](mailto:annad@health.ok.gov)

### Garfield County (Enid)

Anita Andrew, Integris Bass Baptist HC  
Phone: (580) 548-1110  
E-Mail: [anita.Andrew@integris-health.com](mailto:anita.Andrew@integris-health.com)

### Rogers County (Claremore)

Mark Owens, Claremore Fire Dept.  
Phone: (918) 341-1477  
Email: [lifesty@yahoo.com](mailto:lifesty@yahoo.com)

### Tulsa Area

Mary Beth Ogle, St. Francis Hospital  
Phone: (918) 494-1190  
E-Mail: [mbogle@saintfrancis.com](mailto:mbogle@saintfrancis.com)

## Medicus Activities

MEDICUS will be participating in 'Story Time' on October 15, 2008.

'Story Time' is an activity sponsored weekly at the Seminole Public Library. It is for children age pre-school and younger.

We will be reading a story or two to the children followed by an information-sharing period for the adults covering what to do when there is an emergency involving a child. Also, we will have an activity of coloring and looking in an ambulance.

Our goal is to educate the adults and alleviate fear in the children.

A few months ago, the local Wal-Mart Supercenter donated several stuffed animals that we keep on the ambulance to present to the pediatric patient. This stuffed animal is theirs to keep. This works well to calm the pediatric patient. A calm child helps calm the parent.

Another area we participated in was a mock vehicle crash involving a drunk teen driver. This was located in front of the local high school for all the students to observe. This was in cooperation with the Seminole Police Dept., Seminole Fire Dept., Medi-Flight and Swearingen's Funereal Home.

*Duke C. Haley, RN, NREMT-P*  
Director of Ambulance Operations

Medicus EMS serves the community of Seminole, OK and Seminole county.

### *MEDICUS*

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Oklahoma Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Resource Center is located within the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Department of Pediatrics, Section of Pediatric Emergency Medicine. EMSC is a national initiative designed to reduce child and youth disability and death due to severe illness and injury. Oklahoma EMSC was established in 1992 through a federal grant from the Health Resource Services Administration's (HRSA) Maternal Child Health Bureau. HRSA continues to administer the program at the national level in partnership with the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Federal grants fund each state and U.S. Territory to improve existing emergency medical services (EMS) systems and to develop and evaluate improved procedures and protocols for treating children. This is the only federal program that focuses specifically on improving the quality of children's emergency care. Currently only State governments and accredited schools of medicine are eligible to receive EMSC grants.

# October 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
PALS Course, EMSC—OKC						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Story Time, Seminole						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## Schedule of Events

- 🌟 PALS Course at OK EMSC Resource Center, Oct 9-10
- 🌟 Story Time at Seminole Public Library, Oct 15

