

## **Maine Emergency Medical Services:**

### **DEA PPA-EMA:**

While there continues to be a lot of anxiety for EMS agencies, hospitals and leadership around the DEA PPA-EMA (Protecting Patients Access to Emergency Medications Act). We are seeing good progress in the most recent communications with the DEA. Maine EMS has been recognized as having the appropriate authority to authorize agencies to register. The DEA portal is now open and accepting registrations. We have scheduled a set of informational webinars for the DEA to present to stakeholders and already see enough interest in scheduling additional sessions later in June. We wanted to thank the Governor and her team for their support in signing LD 484, which ensures our statute echoes the verbiage in the DEA rule. We are working closely with our Hospital and Pharmacy partners to ensure agencies continue to be able to source these life-saving medications as they have before, until agencies can complete the registration process. We were notified on 5/27 that Westbrook Fire has been officially licensed by the DEA under the new program.

### **Cancellation of EMS Awards:**

With so many of our neighbors and co-workers still in the hospital, we made the difficult decision to cancel the EMS Awards for now. I want to thank all the members of the Board and our EMS community that have reached out in support. Please keep the injured and each other in your thoughts during this difficult time. We are hoping to rebook the venue and have the ceremony later this summer or early fall. More to follow.

### **Pilot projects Project:**

At the direction of our EMS Board our staff is working closely with a small group of EMS Board members to navigate the challenges related to EMS Pilot Projects, and some of the difficulties our community has run into around measurement, consistency, off-ramps and proof of concept reporting. We are working on a foundation for projects that will allow successful projects to streamline approval, while ensuring quality and safety. Moving important and proven new initiatives out into standard protocols is an essential part of how we stay future ready

### **Meeting with EMS.gov:**

Our team was able to meet with the director of the Federal agency that we work with along with NHTSA- EMS.gov – They were sharing information about nearly \$1B in federal funding for projects around whole blood and blood products. This is an area where we are starting to see data trends that significantly support the initiation of blood in the prehospital (EMS)

setting. Building a way for agencies to test and fund projects to establish systems and proof of concept could be beneficial in many areas. We are working to connect agencies with information and data if they wish to apply. State agencies are not eligible for these funds directly.

### **Hometown Hero Recognition:**

Our very own Region 1 Manager, Rob Glaspy, was recognized with a Hometown Hero Award, at the recent 5/23 Portland Seadogs game. Rob has done a tremendous amount of work to support region 1 and EMS in Maine, and he did this all while working to complete his Masters. We are very proud of the work Rob is doing.

### **Legislative update:**

All four of the initiatives we entered as department bills have moved through the process. Helping us continue to fulfill the recommendations of the Blue-Ribbon Commissions, and our 2035 vision for Maine EMS.

We also received a set of “homework” assignments in the form of reports due back to CJPS and HCFIS in Late Dec and early January. One will fall to the TAC, one for the staff and office to coordinate with the Boards input (PR Campaign) and a set to be produced in tandem with the new permanent Maine EMS Commission. I have not been notified that the Commission seats are filled yet, but I did hear they are asking for candidates. More to follow.