

FAN MAIL



EMSC FAMILY ADVOCACY NETWORK (FAN)

Distributed by the Emergency Medical Services for Children

National Resource Center (EMSC NRC), 8737 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD 20910

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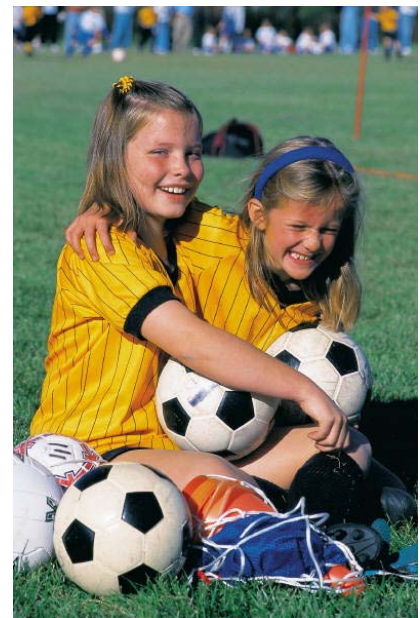


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EMSC Family Advocacy Network (FAN)

FAN is an alliance of family representatives from several states, territories, and the District of Columbia who actively support state EMSC program initiatives. The alliance was primarily formed to ensure that family-centered care (FCC) is incorporated in pre-hospital and hospital healthcare systems across the nation. Members are provided with FCC-related resources to excel in their leadership roles and how they can help to implement FCC in their area.





What's NEW

EMSC Annual Grantee Meeting Washington, D.C. – June 28-30, 2004

Overall, the EMSC Parent Representatives received excellent evaluations from attendees at the EMSC Annual Grantee meeting. The FAN sessions provided information, education, and insight. The five sessions were: Effective Collaboration between EMSC Family Representatives and Coordinators; Working w/EMSC Coordinators and Improving Communication; Sharing a Family's Story to Help Others; Model Programs for Family-Centered Care; and Working with Volunteer Organizations.

Special Thanks & Recognition

The EMSC Program management and staff would especially like to thank and recognize the FAN Representatives, EMSC Coordinators, and other healthcare professionals who conducted presentations. They are: *Jean Moody-Williams, RN, MPP, John Susa, PhD, Kelly Roderick, Jay Bradshaw, Jane Garbisch, Kelly Buddenhagen, Cynthiana Lightfoot, Tasmeen Singh, Connie Susa, Tom Lawrence, Donna Habrock, Debbie Kuhn, Melody Mesmer, Donna Meyers, Shauna Hatton-Ward, Dennis Moore, James DeTienne, Terry Aguon, Marlene Carbullido, Pam Taylor, Stephen Brock, Beth MacDonald, and Marie Renzi.*

Upcoming Regional Symposiums

Southeast EMS Regional for Children (SERC)

*Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virgin Islands
September 4, 2004, Atlanta, Georgia*

Heartland EMS for Children Coalition (HECC)

*American Samoa, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota
September 16-18, 2004, Two Harbors, Minnesota*

Center of America Regional EMS for Children (CARE) Member States:

*Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin
October 18-20, 2004, Madison, Wisconsin*

Intermountain Regional EMS for Children Coordinating Council (IRECC)

*Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Northern Marianas Islands, Utah, and Wyoming
October 28-29, 2004, Las Vegas, Nevada*

IRECC FAN Regional Representatives



Melody Mesmer
Colorado

Firefighter Paramedic/EMS
Coordinator
medic4a6@yahoo.com

Melody Mesmer has been the Family Advocate for the state of Colorado for two years. She has four children – twin daughters Alex and Ashton who are 11, Megan 10, and Justin is 15 years old.

Melody has an extensive EMS background. She has worked in both rural farm and inner-city communities and is knowledgeable of mountain wilderness medicines.

Melody donates many hours of her time to volunteer organizations and projects. They include: the Mothers of Twins Club (MOTC) in Fort Morgan (President for two years), Mile Hi Jeep Club (MHJC), and the MHJC All-4-Fun project (raises money for the Children's Hospital in Colorado). She also conducts group and one-to-one presentations to teach local educators about the behaviors associated with and remedies used to treat children with Sensory Integration (SI) Disorders.

Melody is currently serving the Elk Creek Fire Department in Conifer Colorado as a Firefighter Paramedic and EMS Coordinator. She collaborates with the Colorado State Family Representative, the State Pediatric Emergency Care Committee, and IRECC.

"Each school year I set-aside time to acclimate teachers and staff about SI disorders. I distribute information about 'sensory diets' and explain the expected behaviors and treatments. Through education and understanding, I hope to minimize the challenges that my child and other children endure from day to day in and out of school."



Shauna Hatton-Ward
Utah

Parent Support
Coordinator/Consultant
dcemsa1@aol.com

Shauna Hatton-Ward is the Family Advocate for the state of Utah. She has two children – Amberlee 22 and Louie is 15 years old.

Since Amberlee's birth, Shauna has dedicated much of her life advocating for improved pediatric healthcare. Amberlee suffers from severe birth asphyxia and is medically fragile. Her initial life expectancy was minimal, however, she has continued to thrive and survive for twenty-two years. Amberlee recently graduated from the public school system and has moved on to the Utah system for medically fragile children. In 1991, Shauna proudly adopted Louie who was 15 months old at the time. She describes Louie as a "great kid and very big teenager." He was diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD). The learning disabilities associated with ADD created additional challenges for Shauna but inspired her to become increasingly involved in improving healthcare systems.

For many years Shauna has worked in the healthcare field. She served as the Director of Family-Centered Care at Primary Children's Medical Center (PCMC) in Salt Lake City, Utah. She also worked for seven years in the Newborn Intensive Care Unit as a Parent Support Coordinator. Shauna currently works for PCMC in Pediatric Therapy Services. She has her own consulting business as an advocate and educator in both Utah and California and is an affiliate of the Institute for a Value Centered Life in San Diego.

"I have learned more about parent advocacy, ADD, and children that suffer from forms of mental illness. Working with children with learning issues has been a challenging and rewarding experience."

Advocacy Resources



Publications and websites that may help in your advocacy efforts:

KidsHealth – from the medical experts of the ***Nemours Foundation***, Wilmington, DE
KidsHealth provides families with accurate, up-to-date, and jargon-free health information they can use. <http://www.kidshealth.org/>

Families as evaluators: Annotated bibliography of resources in print. Portland, OR: Portland State University, Research and Training Center on Family Support and Children's Mental Health.
<http://www.rtc.pdx.edu/pgProjEvaluators.php>

Better Baby Care Campaign
The Better Baby Care Campaign, a nationwide effort to improve the quality of infant and toddler child care, provides up-to-date information on research and resources around infant and toddler care. The website also provides information on federal, state, and local policy initiatives.
<http://www.betterbabycare.org>

Question & Answer Section

If you a question or have information you would like to share through the FAN Newsletter related to FAN, please send via email to tmquinata@emscnrc.com.

Technical Assistance Team



For resources, guidance, and support, please feel free to contact the Technical

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PECARN, ICER, Research on Cultural Competency, & Health Disparities

