

# EMS & TRAUMA SYSTEMS

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## Media Release

*For Immediate Release*

September 29, 2017

### **Oregon Health Authority 2017 EMS State Awards**

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On September 22, 2017 The Oregon Health Authority's EMS & Trauma System Section held their annual EMS Awards Banquet at the Riverhouse Conference Center in Bend, Oregon. Guests gathered for the evening to celebrate and acknowledge providers, agencies, groups, mentors and many more who have made a difference in many lives.

2017 EMS Award Recipients are:

Community Service Award:

- High Threat Tactics Techniques and Treatments Exercise Team -  
Chris Heppel, Katy Johnson, Ryan Burks, Brad Kastner, Bob Wilkinson, Patrick Dowling, Tom Kozlowski  
The program was launched two years ago and expanded to include training, not just to local agencies, but others such as school administrators, public works and Department of Homeland Security agents. As of today, the program has delivered 55 classes and trained 1600 responders representing over 100 agencies across Oregon.
- Washington County Sheriff's Department Stop Kids Intoxicating Driving (SKID)  
Since its creation in 1998, an average of six to nine SKID events have been staged each year on Washington County high school campuses. This has allowed approximately 100,000 students to participate. Over this 19 year period, a review of available data has found that teen involved traffic accidents and fatalities have been greatly reduced and that SKID has been effective in reinforcing the message that underage drinking puts young people in dangerous situations and can bring on disastrous and fatal consequences.

#### Commitment to Quality:

- Mercy Flights Mobile Integrated Health Program  
The program started by working with the local Emergency Departments and EMS high utilizers to identify the root cause of their needs and help the patient identify barriers to accessing other healthcare resources.

#### Lifesaving Award:

- Joseph Tanner – Legacy Health Services  
His clear thinking, leadership, recent trauma certification, and calmness contributed to saving his own life. Better yet, in a critical moment, he trained others on how to save a live.

#### EMS Impact Award:

- Jacqueline DeSilva – Asante Rogue Regional Medical Center  
Jackie has been a champion of high quality trauma care and a very supportive friend of EMS.

#### Gail Marsh Madsen Award – EMS Educator of the Year:

- Amber Hossick - Bend Fire & Rescue  
As an educator, Amber has been dedicated to providing High Performance CPR instruction to schools, medical facilities and individuals. Amber epitomizes what a true educator should be providing skills that will definitely last a person's lifetime and may indeed one day save their lives.

#### EMS Administrator of the Year:

- Steve O'Malley – Bend Fire & Rescue  
Under Chief O'Malley's tenure the department saw an Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest survival rate from witnessed arrest go from under 20% in 2012 to 71% in 2016. He pioneered a new safety driven culture for patients and providers. Chief O'Malley is retiring after 30 plus years in EMS where he started in Salem as a Fire Fighter-Paramedic and is ending as Deputy Chief at Bend Fire and Rescue.

#### EMS Medical Director of the Year:

- Dr. Bill Reed – St. Charles Medical Center / Bend Fire & Rescue  
Dr. Reed pioneered the Resuscitation Academy-style operations in the City of Bend and the State of Oregon. Since implementing Dr. Reed's curriculum, the Bend Fire Department has seen a significant increase of survivors from witnessed cardiac arrest.

#### EMS Provider of the Year – EMR:

- Johannah Wren – Banks Fire Department  
Johannah joined the Banks Fire District in 2015 as a volunteer Firefighter and obtained her EMR certification in 2016 and Firefighter II in 2017. Despite attending school and working, JoJo is a top responder. She has impressed everyone with her caring, engaging personality, and work ethic. While responding on several significant calls, her performance has far exceeded her time in service.

EMS Provider of the Year – EMT:

- Melissa Zimmer – Metro West Ambulance  
Whether it is staffing an ambulance, doing volunteer work, supervising employees at a natural disaster or maintaining all of her job duties at Metro West Ambulance, Melissa truly embodies the definition of a dedicated EMS provider, not only to her employer but to the community she lives in and communities she supports.

EMS Provider of the Year – Advanced EMT:

- Zachary Havelind – Banks Fire Department  
Patient care is a priority with Zach and this is demonstrated in his pursuit of increased knowledge. Zach was recently promoted to shift lead which was selected by the Fire Chief due to his dedication and reliability. Zach constantly strives to improve and excel.

EMS Provider of the Year – EMT Intermediate:

- George Lydick – Western Lane Ambulance  
George has set the example of dedication, team work, camaraderie, teaching new staff what it takes to do the job, and most importantly, ensuring patients are always the priority. Through his 32 years of service, many changes have taken place, and George was always on the forefront.

EMS Provider of the Year – Paramedic:

- Michelle Preston – Metro West Ambulance  
For over two decades, Michelle has shared her EMS skills, leadership, and knowledge while caring for those who so needed her.

Medal of Valor:

- Dan Johnson – American Medical Response  
Mr. Johnson's keen sense, training and certainty he was able to locate the child in a situation that could have turned into a dreadful call. He saved a young child after only seconds of seeing a small hand peek out of rapids in Troutdale, Oregon.

Meritorious Citation:

- Lindsay Telek – American Medical Response  
Responded, while off duty, to a scene where a gas line had exploded and helped on scene until the incident was finished.

Unit Citation:

- Grants Pass "G" Street house fire - American Medical Response, Rural/Metro, Grants Pass Department of Public Safety 911, Grants Pass Department of Public Safety Police Department and Grants Pass Fire and Rescue  
The dedication, professionalism and teamwork saved two lives that were trapped in a house fire in Grants Pass, OR. The actions and teamwork speak highly of the excellent interagency coordination in Josephine County.

- Sherman County Highway 97 Winter Crash - Sherman County Ambulance Service, Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue, Moro Rural Fire District, South Sherman Rural Fire Protection District  
The smooth and coordinated rapid triage, incident management, quality patient care and communication between these rural volunteer agencies in extremely adverse weather conditions were noteworthy components of this response. The teamwork and cooperation between agencies, expeditious notification, and outstanding patient care resulted in favorable outcomes for all of the patients. We are grateful to all of our rural agencies that respond to incidents like these and are honored to recognize the crew members and agencies for this response.

EMS Cross:

- Randy Lauer – American Medical Response  
The Pacific Northwest and beyond are filled with leaders, managers, Fire Chiefs, Regional Directors and National Leaders mentored by Mr. Lauer. AMR alone nationwide has over 20 high-level leaders who got their start under Mr. Lauer's mentorship. He has been a major driving force making others succeed in the world of EMS.
- Sandy Logan – American Medical Response  
Sandy has been a provider in Oregon for the past 38 years. He was a part time supervisor for 14 years, and was the Lead Supervisor in the Special Services Division for 5 years. He has dedicated countless hours to the AMR Honor Guard for the past 13 years. In his career with Buck/AMR he responded and provided care for many large incidents including the famous plane crash and ice storm of 1978, the St. Helen's eruption, was on scene for the Clackamas Town Center Shooting and responded to the avalanche on Mt. Hood to name just a few. His legacy of life saving did not stop on the Ambulance. He has been teaching CPR since 1975 and has trained over 13,500 people.

EMS Director's Medal:

- Dr. Terri Schmidt – Oregon Health & Science University / Clackamas County Medical Director  
Dr. Schmidt has practiced Emergency Medicine in the Portland, Oregon area for over 32 years. Dr. Schmidt graduated from Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine in 1985 and has been in practice in many roles through the years. She completed a residency at Oregon Health & Science University. Dr. Schmidt also specializes in Hospice & Palliative Medicine. She recently retired from the practices at Terri Schmidt MD and is affiliated with Oregon Health & Science University Hospital and Providence St. Vincent Medical Center as well as Clackamas County EMS medical director.