

Congratulations to the 2015 Governor's EMS Award winners!

By the virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:

The Governor's EMS Award for Excellence in EMS

Dreama Chandler



Dreama Chandler has invested more than 30 years in the success of the local, state and regional EMS system by serving at all levels. Her work has allowed her to safeguard the local community while enhancing and strengthening the quality of patient care and leadership in EMS throughout the Commonwealth. Dreama is a life member of the Wythe County Rescue Squad. She joined the agency in 1984 and progressed to the level of paramedic. Rising through the ranks, she has held countless leadership positions, including her election as the first female captain in the agency's history. Dreama has been an avid and dedicated instructor, obtaining numerous instructor certificates and teaching various continuing education programs. She's held several leadership positions with District 7 of the Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads and served on the Southwest Virginia EMS Council Board of Directors. In addition, Dreama has demonstrated exemplary service to Virginia's EMS System through her involvement with the Virginia Office of EMS, where she was instrumental in the development of the "Keeping the Best!" retention workbooks. She also helped to revise the practical exam process and develop the Psychomotor Exam User Guide. As a member of the State EMS Advisory Board, she led the Workforce Development Committee

to create the Standards of Excellence and Officer Workforce Training Guidelines. Her lifelong participation in the EMS system has improved the public's perception of emergency medical services, produced multiple collaborations with countless EMS stakeholders, ensured a legislative voice in state government, garnered safety improvements for providers and effectively improved patient care across Virginia. Dream Chandler's contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Governor's EMS Award for Outstanding EMS Administrator

The Kent J. Weber Trophy

Kathy Eubank

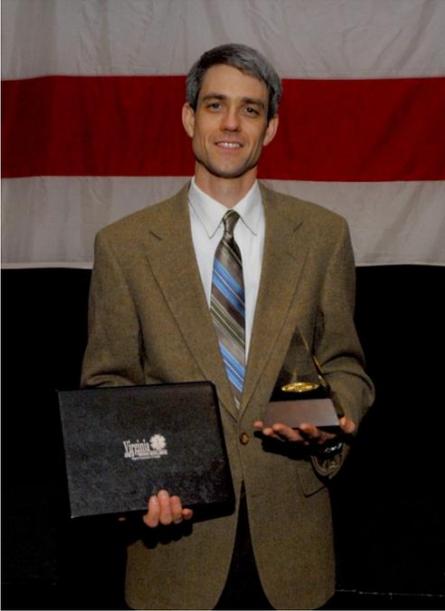


Kathy Eubank's EMS career spans nearly 40 years, as an active squad member, EMS instructor and affiliate of the Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads. In 1978, she joined the Manchester Volunteer Rescue Squad and has been involved in many leadership positions within the agency and currently serves as president. She is an active ALS provider with the agency and mentors new members in patient care as well as taking on a leadership role with the organization. She strives to keep volunteerism in EMS at the forefront, so it's recognized as a integral part of EMS in Chesterfield County. In 1987, Kathy obtained her EMT Instructor Certification and has since taught numerous students in certification programs; many of which have gone on to become EMT instructors and paramedics. In 2001, Kathy was asked by the Virginia Office of EMS to teach the first Rescue Camp for Youth for children ages 8-12 at the Annual EMS Symposium. She assisted with the development of the curriculum for the program and today it stands as a major component of this annual event. Kathy's significant contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Governor's EMS Award for Physician with Outstanding Contribution to EMS

The Frank M. Yeiser Trophy

John Morgan, M.D.



For more than 10 years, Dr. John Morgan has served as an active Operational Medical Director for Loudon County's 17 EMS agencies. He works closely with all of the agencies, assisting in training programs, peer review process, protocol development, system planning and spends many hours behind the scenes ensuring the quality of Loudoun's EMS System. Dr. Morgan joined the Emergency Department Physicians at the Loudon Hospital Center in 2003 and serves as an attending physician at the Landsowne and Cornwall Emergency Departments. He regularly makes himself available to teach BLS and ALS programs to career and volunteer providers. He also makes efforts to get other physicians involved with teaching EMS providers in order to help strengthen educational programs. While still active in the emergency department, Dr. Morgan makes it his mission to stay involved in the system. He is a part of the Regional Medical Direction Committee and is a member of the Loudoun County Combined Fire-Rescue Executive Committee. Dr. Morgan's significant contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Governor's EMS Award for Nurse with Outstanding Contribution to EMS

Melissa Hall, R.N.



Melissa Hall has devoted much of her career to fostering strong partnerships with EMS and trauma care. As a program manager for the Mary Washington Hospital Trauma Center, she has developed many partnerships with regional agencies to coordinate EMS and trauma outreach for area providers. With the support of her staff, she has implemented and overseen many educational events for the EMS community throughout the Rappahannock region, in addition to organizing educational opportunities at individual EMS agencies. She has recently strengthened Mary Washington's Trauma Center collaboration with the Rappahannock EMS Council and the Trauma System Committee. At the state level, Melissa has supported and coordinated several Virginia Office of EMS EMSAT educational videos to enhance EMS patient care across the Commonwealth. Her work with the implementation of the State Field Trauma Triage Guidelines has been tireless. Melissa Hall's significant contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

**The Governor's EMS Award for Outstanding Prehospital Educator
Anne Mach, R.N.**



Since the 1990's, Anne Mach has been an active part of EMS education in the Hampton Roads region. She serves as a primary instructor for the Tidewater Community College EMT-Paramedic, EMT-Intermediate to Paramedic Bridge and Critical Care curriculums. Her passion for providing EMS education to those seeking knowledge is evident in her work throughout the Peninsula where she has established an outlet for an area paramedic program, which was not available previously. Anne's teaching style requires her students to first learn and master the skills of becoming compassionate individuals, critical thinkers and lifelong learners and then competent clinical practitioners. Her desire to feed into the educational needs of those searching to advance their knowledge base brought about the development of the Tidewater Community College Care curriculum. This curriculum is now used exclusively by several licensed EMS agencies to provide inter-hospital critical care transport. Anne Mach's significant contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

**The Governor's EMS Award for Outstanding Prehospital Provider
Anna Harmon**



Anna Harmon's passion for EMS and desire to help others is what drives her to go above and beyond daily expectations. For the past 27 years, she has devoted countless hours to her beloved Ladysmith Rescue Squad in Caroline County. She is a third generation volunteer and currently works as First Lieutenant in charge of membership. In addition to her regular duty tours, she also serves as an EMS education coordinator. Anna helps prepare squad members for recertification of their EMT-Basic by teaching monthly classes. She also teaches CPR classes to both rescue squad personnel and community members. Anna strives to shape the minds of future EMTs, hoping that they will have the same determination and dedication that she demonstrates. In addition to being First Lieutenant, Anna has held the offices of captain and secretary. She is chair of the Membership and Progress Committee and serves on the Executive, Quality Assurance, Training and Nominating Committees. She has also worked as a 911 communications officer for many years. Anna Harmon's significant contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Governor's EMS Award for Outstanding Contribution to EMS Health and Safety Hampton Division of Fire and Rescue



The Hampton Division of Fire and Rescue is a combination fire and life safety organization that recognizes the need and importance of increasing the safety and well-being of all of its members. It is because of their health and safety initiatives, that the citizens and visitors of the Hampton and Peninsula regions can rely on a healthier and safer fire and rescue division to provide help during their greatest time of need. Some of their program's health initiatives include the creation of a dedicated health and safety officer position, an annual medical physical program for career and volunteer members, comprehensive programs for immunization and infection control, and a wellness initiative. In regards to safety, the division initiated an accident investigation program, a fire station inspection program and standard operating procedures that address on-duty and off-duty injuries. The Hampton Division of Fire and Rescue's significant contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Governor's EMS Award for Outstanding Contribution to EMS for Children Robin Foster, M.D.



Throughout her career, Dr. Robin Foster has been a true advocate for children and pediatric healthcare in Virginia. She has worked tirelessly to improve available prehospital education and care for the pediatric patient. She currently serves as the Virginia Commonwealth University Chair of the Division of Pediatric Emergency Medicine and as an Attending Physician in the Pediatric Emergency Department at VCU Medical Center. She has served on countless local, regional and state committees, including serving as Chairman of the Virginia Emergency Medical Services for Children Committee and the Virginia EMS Symposium Program Committee, where she strongly advocated for a pediatric track. In addition, Dr. Foster has worked to help shape the current child abuse and neglect laws for the Commonwealth and has aided in the establishment of the Child Protective Team of the Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU, where children of physical and sexual abuse can be acutely evaluated and managed. Dr. Robin Foster's significant contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly appreciated by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Governor's EMS Award for Outstanding EMS Agency Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority



The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority Fire and Rescue Department takes pride in being able to provide the highest level of emergency care and protection to employees and visitors within the nation's capital. The organization was created by Congress in 1987 to operate Washington Dulles International Airport and the Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. Keeping the airports safe is a top priority of the Authority. The department maintains a highly trained workforce through intense, comprehensive training programs in aviation, fire prevention and suppression, prehospital medical care and other specialized fields. All personnel are certified EMTs through the Commonwealth of Virginia. In 2014, the Fire and Rescue department was faced with a national and deadly threat known as the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD). As one of the five entry portals into the country that would involve passenger screening, the department quickly developed a response policy for dealing with every aspect of EVD patients. The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority's significant contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Governor's EMS Award for Outstanding Contribution to EMS Telecommunications Tammy Murcek



With over 25 years of experience in public safety operations and communications, Tammy Murcek has contributed tirelessly to the training needs of the Fairfax County Department of Public Safety Communications (DPSC). At DPSC Tammy is the lead communications operations manager and training supervisor, who oversees the Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) Program. She trains new employees, advocates changes within the EMD program and ensures that the daily quality assurance activities are properly applied within the agency. In addition, Tammy has helped to lead the Ebola planning, actively participated in the planning of the World Police and Fire Games, has led education staff to revamp the training academy and leads the Peer Support Team. Her direct involvement, oversight and management of these projects have greatly contributed to their success. Tammy Murcek's dedication and significant contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Governor's EMS Award for Outstanding Contribution to EMS by a High School Senior

The Dr. Carol Gilbert \$5,000 Scholarship

Caroline Meier



Caroline Meier takes great pride in being able to serve her community of Vienna as a volunteer EMS provider with the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department. Her fascination with science and the human body is what led her to become an EMT and pursue a career in medicine. While in high school, she took many advanced placement courses and was the captain of her soccer team, where she quickly learned the value of time management. For her, getting to do what she loved was rewarding and worth the sacrifices. She feels the most important aspect of EMS is the interaction between the EMT and the patient, and creating better relationships that involve both trust and gratitude. Caroline is currently attending Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania and she believes continuing her education is crucial to her development and will prepare her to tackle life head-on and succeed. Caroline Meier's contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Nathaniel Paxton



For Nathaniel Paxton, EMS quickly became a humbling experience; providing him with a new sense of appreciation for life and health. He was initially inspired to become involved in EMS when an emergency occurred while he was working part-time at the local grocery store. He was notified of a customer who had become unresponsive. While in contact with 911 from inside the store's restroom, Nathan was able to describe to the dispatcher that the customer was still breathing but unconscious and stayed with her until medics arrived. Following the incident, he enrolled in an EMT academy to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to help those in need and to be a part of something bigger than him. Nathan became a member of the Campbell County Rescue Squad and quickly gained the respect and confidence of his fellow squad members. In efforts to help improve the EMS system in Virginia, he wishes to encourage more people to become volunteers. Nathan believes continuing his education is essential, especially to maintain high standards in EMS. He feels it will help him to provide the community with the finest prehospital care available. Nathaniel Paxton's contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued by the Commonwealth of Virginia.