

Chad Blosser

From: Chad Blosser
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2020 9:13 AM
To: Chad Blosser
Subject: EMS Provider Mental Health
Attachments: MHS Results Presentation 7.0.pptx

This is a blanket e-mail message to all certified Education Coordinators and ALS Coordinators.

Dear Educator,

The Office of EMS has been focused on EMS provider health and safety with a dedicated standing committee on the EMS Advisory Board for the past 5 years. This committee is staffed by Karen Owens, Manager of the Division of Emergency Operations.

Over the past two years, this Division has been laser focused on EMS provider mental health. This started with the **Make The Call** campaign which was launched in November 2018. Information on the **Make The Call** can be found at: www.vdh.virginia.gov/makethecall. The **Make the Call** campaign video can be found on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/G0gmNUosWkA>.

Between July and August 2019, the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services conducted a statewide survey led by OEMS Epidemiologist Vincent P. Valeriano, MPH, CHES of the mental health status of Virginia's EMS providers, as well as the perceived mental health culture and services within the providers' agencies. Every EMS provider within the Commonwealth of Virginia with a working email received the survey, which resulted in 3,003 valid responses.

The results of the Mental Health Survey of Virginia EMS providers are now available on a dashboard on the OEMS website (<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/2019emsprovidermentalhealthsurveyresults/>) and a Vince has developed a PowerPoint presentation with notes which the ACE Division would like to strongly encourage you as educators to add to your initial certification and continuing education programs. The PowerPoint will open and indicate it is locked—please open a READ ONLY copy. Please open a Should you have specific questions about the Mental Health Survey, the presentation or data elements involved, please reach out to Vince at vincent.valeriano@vdh.virginia.gov.

Provider mental health and first responder suicide are important issues and the only way we can eliminate suicide among first responders is to address this issue head on. The Office is doing what we can to draw attention to this matter and we are relying on you as educators to help us drive this point home to ensure all EMS providers in Virginia are aware that help is only a phone call away.

Thank you again for all you do as educators in the Commonwealth.

Regards,

Chad

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