



Emergency Ready Families

Preparing Families for EMS & ED Visits

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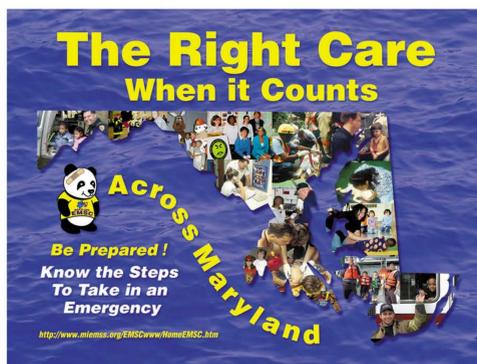
Background:

Children and families call Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to help them when something unexpected occurs in their lives. Most families do not "plan" to call EMS or to visit an Emergency Department (ED). This program was adapted from the work done in preparing families for a planned hospitalization and aims to prepare children and families for the unexpected events.

Goals:

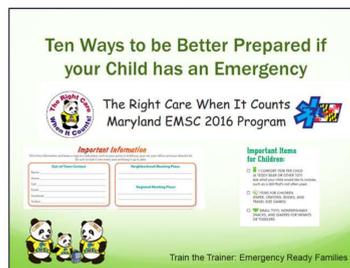
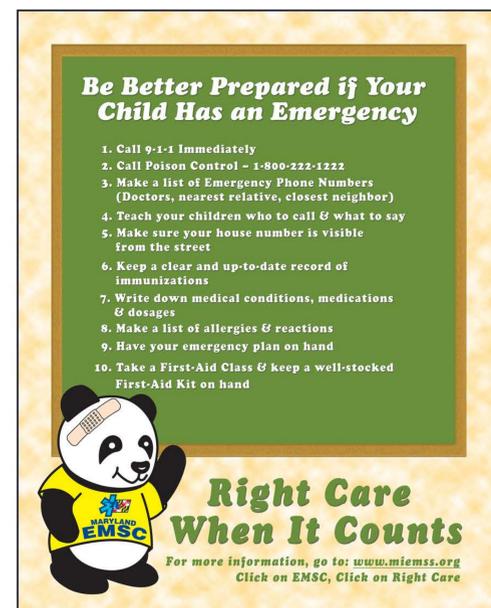
The Emergency Ready Families program has three goals:

1. Create training and online resources for families, youth, and children that will prepare them for unplanned emergencies and interactions with EMS and during ED visits.
2. Develop training kits that demonstrate "ready to go" essential documents and coping items for children.
3. Create an instructor pool of EMS professionals to disseminate the program statewide.



Methodology and Target Audience:

The Family Advisory Network (FAN) Council identified the need to provide families with information on how to prepare for an unplanned EMS and ED visit. Initially the presentation was to be taught by the FAN chair and members. Pilots at state conferences identified the desire of EMS leaders to teach this program at a local level. A train the trainer module was developed and integrated into the annual Pediatric EMS Champion Instructor Training day at the State EMS Conference.



Results:

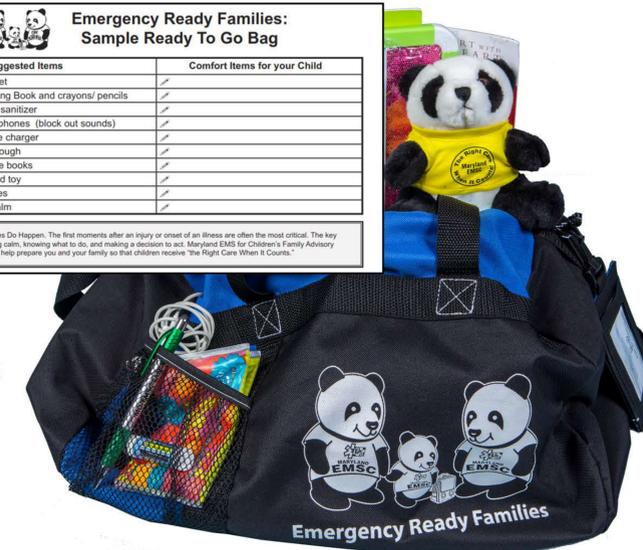
Over two years this educational outreach program has reached over 800 families, EMS and ENA professionals through displays and an additional 100 EMS and ENA professionals through workshops. In 2019 the program has been provided to the Pediatric EMS Champions through an Instructor Trainer in-person module reaching over 20 Champions. Through survey follow-up, we will track the locations and numbers of families and community organizations who receive this education.



Conclusion:

The Emergency Ready Families training program is being successfully transitioned to the Maryland Pediatric EMS Champions for statewide dissemination. The materials are co-located on Maryland's EMSC website for the public and Share File for the Pediatric EMS Champions. Each Champion assembled a "Go Bag" to use in presentations.

Emergency Ready Families: Sample Ready To Go Bag	
Suggested Items	Comfort Items for your Child
1. Blanket	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Coloring Book and crayons/ pencils	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Hand sanitizer	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Headphones (block out sounds)	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Phone charger	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Playdough	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Puzzle books	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Stuffed toy	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Tissues	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Lip balm	<input type="checkbox"/>



Acknowledgements

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