**Accident Scene Management – DBA: Road Guardians**

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**Accident Scene Management (ASM) – Bystander Assistance Care**

Accident Scene Management was created in 1996 to teach Bystander Care and has since trained over 45,000 students.

**Requesting that NHTSA give more focus to Post Crash Care,** specifically as it relates to training the public in proper techniques to empower action at the scene of a crash

**Issue Statement:**

In order to reach a goal of Zero fatalities we need a Holistic approach to a crash which includes Pre-Crash, Crash, and importantly, Post-Crash care, also called Pre-Hospital Care.

The responsibility for Post-Crash Care has been left to EMS which includes dispatch, Police, EMS. EMS continues to be improved as we have seen through the years with better equipment and more highly trained personnel. While those efforts can continue to be improved (particularly in rural areas), training bystanders how to properly response would be the least costly and most effective way to improve outcomes. Regardless of how much time and money are poured into EMS systems, there will still be a gap in time of 5-20 minutes before trained help and equipment arrive at the scene. In essence, the longer the response time, the less chance you have that highly trained personnel will arrive and take you to a level one trauma center.

**Concept:**

The first people to be at the scene of a crash is a bystander. More trained bystanders to address the first 5-20 minutes, the better chance we will have to hand over a person seriously injured to the EMS.

Trained Bystanders:

1. Empower the general public to intervene
2. Make situations safer
3. Address life threatening injuries to keep injured alive long enough for EMS to get to them and implement lifesaving care
4. Introduces the public to the EMS which has led to increase cooperation and recruitment of EMS workers.
5. Addresses much of the wrong information that is out there and creates a platform to encourage behavior that would help EMS such as carrying Emergency Contact Cards

**Recommendations:**

Address the Golden Hour. Bystanders are the FIRST to arrive at a scene. They could be our best way to improve our EMS system as it exists today. First on the scene is more like combat medic than it is general first aid.

Stop the Bleed was initiated a number of years ago and has made a difference. This is a short and focused program available in some communities but not all. The kind of training I am talking about would be more detailed and start with creating a safe scene and making a good 9-1-1 call in order to give good information and get proper help on its way. An example of our training is:

P – Prevent Further Injury

A – Assess the Situation

C – Contact the EMS

T – Treat the Injured using the ABCSS of Trauma

 A – Airway

 B - Breathing

 C – Circulation (Bleeding)

 S – Shock

 S – Spinal Stabilization

Our suggestion is that we use grant funding to step it up!

Work with trauma related bystander training programs to study bystander training. Involve the community. Current common advice is not to touch anyone and to call 9-1-1 then wait for them to arrive. With normal response times being 5-20 minutes, that is too long. Another common piece of advice is to start CPR on an unconscious trauma victim. That can result in making a trauma victim worse and can even kill them if they are bleeding internally or have cervical spine injuries. A traumatic event is rarely a heart attack.

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