



State EMS Awards Book of Recognition



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Emergency Medical Services & Trauma Systems
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<http://egov.oregon.gov/DHS/ph/ems>



The Community Service Medal recognizes an EMT who has made outstanding commitment to the non-patient care aspects of a community's EMS system. Special emphasis is on EMS public information,

**Alice Lasher, EMT-Basic
Sandy Fire District**

Nominated by American Medical Response, NW

Alice Lasher has served as the Public Education and Public Information Officer for the Sandy Fire District since 1999. She brings dedication, creativity, leadership and a passion to her role as public education officer. Ms. Lasher's talents and successful grant writing have benefited the fire district as well as the community. As a fire prevention officer, Alice serves on state fire prevention boards and has a leadership role in the Oregon Life Safety Team at the State Fire Marshall's Office. As the public information officer, Ms. Lasher responds to media requests with diligence and integrity—with an eye to 'teachable moments' to provide educational messages.

Alice brings vast resources to her fire district and her community. Her fire district became one of the founding organizations of Clackamas County Safe Kids Coalition. She coordinates safety fairs and events in her fire district including fire prevention programs, bike safety programs, DUII Prevention Programs, and CPR training. She is seen as a valuable resource by the school district and community.

For example, low cost helmets are available for purchase at the fire station and personnel are available to provide proper fit. Alice has also developed a child safety seat program in East Clackamas County. The fire district now conducts car seat check up events and inspections at the fire station. Alice unified CERT members from Sandy, Boring, Hoodland, Estacada, Corbett, and Estacada into East County CERT who share training and resources. Over 400 CERT members have received disaster preparedness training.

"Alice is like a garden ... she plants the seeds [of prevention] wherever she goes. She is an inspiring leader who can get the project going."

Thank you, Alice for your insight, compassion, and dedication to the communities you serve and the future of EMS in Oregon.



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**Mark Taylor, EMT-Paramedic
Bend Fire Department**

Nominated by: the members of the East Cascade Emergency Medical Services Council (ECEMS),

In the past 13 years, Mark Taylor has shown an outstanding ability to not only see a need in the community, but to take action and to draw other individuals into his cause for change.

Mark Taylor's community service has not only spanned his local community of Bend, but his influence has benefited the citizens of Central and Eastern Oregon, New York City, Oaxaco, Mexico, and Condega, Nicaragua.

Mark traveled as a part of the Northwest Medical Team twice to Mexico to install water systems for rural mountain villages to help reduce disease. He led an effort to establish a fire department in Condega, Nicaragua; Condega is a city of 27,000 people who did not have any fire protection. His efforts raised funds for the purchase of a fire engine, turnouts, hose, and firefighting equipment as well as air transportation of the fire engine to Nicaragua.

He started the Central Oregon Stress Debriefing Team, which provides free services to all agencies east of the Cascades. He led the effort to raise \$97,000 in two weeks for the families of New York City firefighters who lost loved ones on 9/11. He worked at Ground Zero and provided one-on-one defusing and debriefings for the firefighters when they were going off shift as they left the rubble.

Because Mark puts his dreams into action, Mark Taylor is proudly awarded the EMS Community Service Medal.

Thank you, Mark for your ongoing dedication and compassion toward your fellow citizens around the world and EMS in Oregon.