

**Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan (CHSP)
Impaired Driving Emphasis Area Meeting
July 15, 2020
10:00 A.M. – Noon
Skype Meeting**



VISION ZERO
zero deaths - zero serious injuries
**MONTANA DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION**

Attendees:

Capt. Art Collins, Montana Highway Patrol (MHP)
Sheila Cozzie, SOAR/ Teens/ Motorcyclist, State Highway Traffic Safety Section (SHTSS)-MDT
Thom Danenhower, Risk Management Specialist, Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority (MMIA)
Michelle Duffus, Toxicology-Crime Lab, Department of Justice (DOJ)
Kevin Dusko, Impaired Driving Program, SHTSS-MDT
Tara Ferriter-Smith, Traffic Education Program & MT DRIVE Director, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
Kent Haab, Alcohol Beverage Control, Department of Revenue (DOR)
Sgt Matthew Kazinsky, Missoula Police Department
Mark Keeffe, Operations Data Analyst, SHTSS-MDT
Janet Kenny, SHTSS Supervisor-MDT
Judge Mary Jane Knisley, Judicial Outreach Liaison, 13th Judicial Court
Felisha Koch, Driver Services Deputy Bureau Chief, Motor Vehicle Division (MVD)-DOJ
Pam Langve-Davis, CHSP Program Manager-MDT
Leah Mobley, Gallatin Co DUI Task Force
Chad Newman, Law Enforcement Liaison, SHTSS-MDT
Barb Reiter, Jefferson Co DUI Task Force
Sgt Doug Samuelson, Montana DRE Coordinator- MHP
Steve Schmidt, Missoula CO DUI Task Force
Michele Snowberger, General Counsel, MVD- DOJ
Rebecca Connor, Driver Services Bureau Chief, MVD-DOJ
Maureen Ward, Injury Prevention Program Manager- Department of Public Health & Human Services (DPHHS)

Purpose: Confirm Emphasis Area Strategies

2020 CHSP Update

The update process kicked off in February with an Advisory Committee (AC) meeting. The AC is comprised of multiagency state safety partners that have the technical expertise within the 4Es transportation safety disciplines and the management authority to implement safety programs. The AC reviewed crash data to determine the areas in greatest need and where focused attention would have the greatest opportunity of reducing fatalities and suspected serious injuries on Montana's public roadways. Impaired Driving continues to be an area where of concern. Kevin Dusko was recommended to continue as the chair of the Impaired Driving Emphasis Area (EA). The AC discussed strategy recommendations for the EA Team discussion.

Strategy Confirmation

The strategies were discussed and confirmed. Attending team members also concluded that the strategies as written align with specific safety programs and activities. The confirmed strategies are as follows:

Strategy 1 - Deterrence and Enforcement

Purpose: Safe road users focus on individual safe driving behaviors to not drive impaired; and enforcement to change risky and unlawful behavior of driving impaired. General deterrence influences motor vehicle operator's behavior changes regarding the consequences of driving while impaired. Specific deterrence includes efforts to influence impaired drivers so they will not continue to drive impaired and works by changing driver's behavior in understanding the law enforcement, prosecution and adjudication penalties and the impact on victims and survivors' families and friends.

Strategy 2- Prevention and Education

Purpose: Support policies, education, training, programs, and activities that promote positive driving behavior and reduce impaired driving through public health approaches, altering social norms, and changing risky or dangerous driving behaviors. Prevention programs promote communication strategies that educate the public on the effects of alcohol and other drugs, limit the availability of alcohol and other drugs, and discourage those impaired by alcohol and other drugs from driving.

Strategy 3- Criminal Justice System

Purpose: Montana uses various components of its criminal justice system to administer impaired driving laws, such as: training, enforcement, prosecution, adjudication, criminal and administrative sanctions, and communications to achieve both specific and general deterrence. Improving impaired driving laws and administration of those laws is critical in the criminal justice system.

Strategy 4 - Communication Program

Purpose: To inform the public of dangers of driving while impaired and to promote a positive social norm of not driving while impaired. Montana will continue implementing a comprehensive communication program that is cultural and socially relevant and focuses on reaching high risk groups based on traffic-related data and market research to identify specific audience to maximize resources and effectiveness.

Strategy 5 - Alcohol and Other Drug Misuse: Screening, assessment, Treatment and Rehabilitation

Purpose: Impaired driving frequently is a symptom of a larger alcohol or other drug problem. Many first-time impaired driving offenders and most repeat offenders have alcohol or other drug abuse or dependency problems. Without appropriate assessment and treatment, these offenders are more likely to repeat their crimes. Alcohol and/or drug use leads to other injuries and health care problems. Frequent visits to emergency departments present an opportunity for intervention, which might prevent future arrests or motor vehicle crashes, and result in decreased alcohol consumption and improved health.

Strategy 6- Program Evaluation and Data

Purpose: It is important to have access to and analyze reliable data sources related to impaired driving for problem identification and program planning. Various evaluation criteria will effectively measure progress and determine program effectiveness for planning and implementation of new programs and ensure that resources are allocated appropriately.

Next Steps

- Identify Team Members & Co-Chair
- Develop Work Plan