

**Memorandum of Understanding
Between
THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF STATE OFFICES OF RURAL HEALTH
(NOSORH)
and
THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE EMS OFFICIALS (NASEMSO)**

The National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH) and the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) agree that the membership of each of these organizations will benefit from collaboration.

NOSORH AND NASEMSO share mutual goals whose outcomes will benefit this partnership.

To that end, each organization's mission and strategic goals are shared below for purposes of furthering this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

NASEMSO: The mission of NASEMSO is to support its members in developing EMS policy and oversight, as well as in providing vision, leadership and resources in the development and improvement of state, regional and local EMS and emergency care systems. NASEMSO achieves this mission by the participation of all the states and territories, by being a strong national voice for EMS, an acknowledged key resource for EMS information and policy, and a leader in developing and disseminating evidence-based decisions and policy.

NOSORH: The mission of NOSORH is to promote the capacity of state offices of rural health to improve health care in rural America through leadership development, advocacy, education, & partnerships. NOSORH seeks to strengthen the leadership and capacity of State Offices of Rural Health, provide a forum for the exchange and distribution of rural health information, promote the development and maintenance of State Rural Health Associations, and provide leadership for state and community-based rural health activities.

Therefore,

Whereas, NASEMSO and NOSORH, herein called "the organizations," desire to improve the quality of emergency care in rural and frontier communities; and

Whereas, the organizations maintain committees of special interest in each other's area of professional focus; and

Whereas the organizations agree that these committees of special interest would be more effective if they worked jointly;

Let it be resolved that the organizations agree to the terms of this MOU (including those specified in the attached Description of Organizational Activities) for the time period January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2011.

NOSORH President

Date

NASEMSO President

Date

DRAFT

Description of Organizational Activities
January 1, 2009 – December 31, 2011

Let it be resolved that the organizations agree:

- 1) To establish a joint organizational committee on rural emergency care ("the Joint Organization Committee" or JOC). The JOC will adhere to all policies and procedures of both organizations.
- 2) To appoint from their memberships a primary contact to the other organization. These will serve as co-chairs of the Committee that share administrative duties as delineated in # 4. Each organization will appoint an additional five members to the Committee. All Committee members, including the primary contact, will be named annually by their respective organization.
- 3) To include individuals not serving as appointed members of the Committee (whether members of the organizations or not) in the JOC activities and mailing list.
- 4) To alternate the duty of primary JOC chair every twelve months between the two organizations. If the primary chair becomes unavailable to undertake the duties of the office, the co-chair from the other organization will assume the duties of primary chair.
- 5) That business which requires voting by the Committee can be performed during any meeting (face-to-face, teleconference or through other means) or by email. Voting is limited to only the appointed members of the Committee.
- 6) To establish a joint work plan, prior to January 1 annually, for submission to the leadership of NOSORH and NASEMSO for approval. The work plan will identify annual goals, strategies and responsibilities.
- 7) To develop a JOC budget, prior to January 1 annually, that supports the work plan for submission to the leadership of NOSORH and NASEMSO for approval. It is recognized that project financial support may vary between organizations, and is dependent on organizational funding availability and priorities.
- 8) The JOC chair will provide a report to the leadership of NOSORH and NASEMSO annually of the activities, projects and accomplishments of the committee.
- 9) To waive registration fees for the other organization's co-chair and provide complimentary space for a display by the other organization at the organizations' respective annual meetings.
- 10) To hold conference calls and other meetings as needed to accomplish the work specified in the workplan. The primary chair will be responsible for planning and conducting conference calls and other meetings during his/her twelve month period as primary chair, and disseminating notices to JOC members regarding meeting logistics and access information. Meeting costs will be identified in the approved budget.
- 11) This MOU can be cancelled by either organization with 60 days written notice to the other organization. The organizations agree that at the time such notice is tendered, they will continue joint projects, develop a means to bring such projects to their planned completion and/or cooperate in the transition of project materials.