



Artwork by Dan Sundahl, internationally renowned artist and speaker and Canadian Firefighter/Paramedic (used with permission)



Please join us for the

BEYOND THE SCENE:

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DISCUSSIONS FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

Conference

Monday and Tuesday, June 13-14, 2022

Island Resort & Casino, Harris, MI

LET'S START THE CONVERSTATION. The emotional, physical, and psychological stress on the first responder is real and can be brutal. Many of those in the field don't take the opportunity to process their experiences, which can lead to a cumulative impact for the responder and their families. Pride, lack of resources, or concerns about work repercussions can get in the way of talking about traumatic events experienced on the job.

MEET THE EXPERTS. We're bringing together industry experts and individuals who have "been there" to discuss the effects of job-related stress and trauma, how to recognize when you or a colleague might need support, and develop best practices to mitigate the effects of stress and improve your quality of life on and

off the job. You'll learn about resources and strategies to ensure not only your personal well-being, but also the ones who call on you for help.

[View Full Agenda](#)

REGISTER EARLY - SPACE IS LIMITED!

Conference content has been approved for 14.5 EMS continuing education credits 14.5 training hours recognized by MCOLES; pending SMOKE approval for fire service.

OUR NATIONAL PRESENTERS



Keynote: Sometimes What Hurts the Most Can't Be Seen, David Woods Bartley

We are often surprised to learn of the deep suffering of those we know but would have never suspected. Even before COVID, this was the case. But now, with the added uncertainty and stress, more people are being severely impacted. This is especially true for the heroic women and men we call First Responders. David was one of those sufferers, kept silent by shame and a commitment to keep the pain to himself. But, thanks to the help of ordinary yet incredible people, he is here, alive and well. David chronicles the story of his journey from a suicide attempt and a decade-long fight with mental “hellness” to the experience of genuine mental health. Leveraging the power of story, he will share how mental unwellness feels, what caused his condition, lessons learned, how he cares for himself today, and the simple actions one can take to create connection and, in doing so, activate the life-saving power of **Hope** for self and others.



Daniel Sundahl (DanSun) is a published artist and writer and has three art books produced of his works. Articles of his work are featured in Canadian Paramedicine, Journal of Emergency Medicine (JEMS), Fire Rescue Magazine, EMS One, EMS World Magazine and The Canadian Journal of Emergency Nursing. His art is recognized worldwide, and he travels internationally sharing his art and his own experiences with occupational stress injuries and post-traumatic growth. Daniel is the president and founder of the Peer Recovery

and Resiliency Society, a group that supports emergency workers from around the world and aids in their post traumatic growth. He is an advanced care paramedic, firefighter, pre-hospital educator, photographer and photo editor. Dan will be discussing his artwork, and attendees will have an opportunity to purchase artwork onsite.



Jennifer Cramer is an educator with Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance, established to educate first responders and their families about behavioral health issues such as depression, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), anxiety, addictions, and provider suicide. Jennifer has Tier III Star Behavioral Health military training and is an EMDR certified clinician. Jennifer is the Director of CISM & Education Services and a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor for the Safety Forces Support Center. She heads the ASSIST 77 peer support team in Summit County, is involved in the First Responder Subcommittee addressing mental health issues in Ohio, and testified before the Senate in support of House Bill 308 in 2020. Jennifer's husband is a Battalion Chief at Ohio's North Canton Fire Department.



In February 1988 **Randal Goodwin**, a firefighter/EMT from Texas, responded to a brush fire and was struck with a downed wire. Randal suffered burns over 87% of his body, which resulted in the loss of both legs below the knee, and most of his eyesight. Randal understands that the most important asset that a first responder organization has is the people. First responders have higher rates of suicide, divorce, substance abuse, burnout and suffer more chronic illness than the general public. Randal will discuss how peer to peer support and resiliency training can lead to a longer and happier career. Randal will share how he was able to move forward when the unthinkable happened. Dying is easy. Surviving and thriving requires resiliency and support!

2 DAYS, ONE LOW PRICE!

Enjoy two days of engaging content, from nationally recognized and local presenters, for one low price!

Continental breakfast, snack and lunch provided each day.

only \$50!

[Register Now](#)

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Island Resort & Casino

W 399 US-2, Harris, MI 49845

800.682.6040

islandresortandcasino.com

[Location](#)

[**Conference Room Rates**](#)

Special rates are available for conference attendees.

Group Name: MI Rural EMS

Group Booking ID: 8090

Hotel Amenities

- Standard rooms, suites, RV park
- Adults-only saltwater pool
- Splash Island - Pool with waterpark features
- Spa
- 4 restaurants, bar, coffee shop/bakery, free entertainment in Club 41
- Casino with slots, poker, game tables, live bingo, sportsbook
- 36 holes of championship golf! Sage Run Golf Course was named 2022 Course of the Year by NGCOA; Sweetgrass Golf Course is the 2022 Jemsek National Course of the year, and 2021 Michigan course of the year.

[Reserve Your Room](#)



*The mission of **Michigan Rural EMS Network (MiREMS)** is to provide support to rural first responders and the agencies for which they work.*

***Beyond the Save** is an initiative led by Michigan Rural EMS Network with a mission to bridge gaps between prehospital care and the behavioral health system by engaging first responders in the identification, treatment and referral of individuals with substance use disorders.*