

*The stakes  
are too  
high*



EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT

*to gamble!*



SDEMA CONFERENCE  
SEPT 11-14, 2023  
DEADWOOD, SD  
THE LODGE AT DEADWOOD



# Keynote Speakers

## The Drug Lady: A Medical Marijuana Discussion

**Lynn Reimer**

*President, ACT on Drugs, Inc*



An overview of what has changed over the years when marijuana first became legal to the place where we are now. Lynn will touch on what has had to change with response and safety of our First Responders and the general public with this old drug now being so easily accessible.

*Lynn Reimer has a BS in Chemistry and Biology, and is an internationally recognized speaker, trainer and advocate on issues relating to substance abuse. Lynn is president of ACT on Drugs, Inc., a non-profit organization with a mission to educate parents, teens, and professionals about addictive and psychoactive substances, both legal and illegal, which are available in their community. With her in depth chemistry knowledge of drugs, having served with DEA and on the North Metro Drug Task Force, and her engaging style she brings a real, personal, and vivid face to the issues presented by illicit drug use. Over the past 20 years, Lynn has spoken regularly with students, school staff, parents, communities, companies, and governmental agencies about drug awareness, recognition, and prevention.*

## Surviving the Four Winds of Disaster During the Marshall Wildfire & Lessons Learned

**Mike Chard**, *Director, Office of Disaster Management for the City of Boulder & Boulder County*



This presentation covers different segments of the disaster using the metaphor of the “Four Winds” to tell the story and within each segment shares the successes and lessons learned. The presentation content focuses on the response and incident management environment, EOC operations, alert and warning, mass care, multi-agency coordination, policy group management,

recovery and the after action process and why it is so important.

*Mike Chard has a Bachelors in Fire Service Administration, Bachelors Organizational Development, Masters Management Sciences & Organizational Leadership. Certified State Emergency Manager, FEMA certified Master Exercise Program Planner and FEMA certified Instructor specializing in Incident Command and Emergency Operation Centers*

*He has 14 years as the Director of Disaster Management for the City of Boulder and Boulder County, 27 years in the fire service retiring at the level of Fire Chief and Colorado Emergency Management Association Vice President 2011-13, CEMA President from 2014 to 2018.*

*Disaster experience includes managing response and recovery to floods, tornados, wildfires, cyber-attacks, and the most notable are 2010 Fourmile wildland fire, 2013 Colorado flooding, 2015 Tornado, 2016 Cold Springs Wildfire, COVID 19 Pandemic, 2020 Calwood Wildfire, 2021 Boulder mass shooting, 2021 Marshall fire and 2022 NCAR fire.*

## Seven Minutes and 17 Seconds – The Fire and EMS Response to the Marjory Stoneman Douglas School Terrorist Incident

**John Whalen**, *Deputy Fire Chief, Coral Spring Fire Dept*  
**Ryan Gallagher**, *Deputy Chief at Coral Springs Police Dept*



The communities of Coral Springs and Parkland were impacted by the ninth deadliest mass shooting event in U.S. history and the third deadliest school shooting to date when a shooter entered Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and opened fire with a long rifle. Within approximately 7 minutes, 34 people were killed or injured. Lesson Learned from the response and top takeaways. In addition to the Parkland

shooting, eight Coral Springs-Parkland firefighters helped to find survivors in Surfside building collapse amid the broken concrete and debris in the 12-story partially collapsed residential building. Recognizing the ongoing stress a MCI has on the first responders and addressing mental health immediately.

*Chief Whalen has been in the fire service since 1993 and has held nearly every position including EMS Director and Special Operations Division Head. Chief Whalen holds multiple degrees related to the Fire and Emergency Medical Services programs. He has been an instructor at the Coral Springs Regional Institute of Public Safety since 2000 and helped develop their Emergency Medical Technician Program and was selected by former Fire Chief Frank Babinec to be Interim Fire Chief in December 2019 when Chief Babinec began his role as City Manager. After outstanding service to the department in this planned temporary role, he was promoted to Deputy Fire Chief in February 2020.*

*He holds certifications in multiple disciplines including Hazardous Materials Technician, Dive Rescue Specialist and was formerly assigned as a SWAT Medic for the Coral Springs Police Department. Chief Whalen has worked in the area of Health and Safety Officer and is the co-chair of the sub-committee for Safety and Health for the Fire Chiefs Association of Broward County, as well as the Interim Chair of the State Section on Safety and Health following Chief Babinec's departure from that role.*

*Deputy Chief Ryan Gallagher currently oversees the Operations Division of the Coral Springs Police Department, including the supervision of the Patrol Unit, Traffic Unit, the Special Operations Component, and the Criminal Investigations Component of the Coral Springs Police Department. In 2002, Gallagher was sworn in as a law enforcement officer with the Coral Springs Police Department and has since held several leadership positions.*

*In August of 2017, he was promoted to the rank of Captain. As a Captain he supervised the Special Operations Component. This responsibility included the supervision of the SET Unit, K-9 Unit, BEAR Unit, Bikes and Intelligence Unit, and Humane Unit. He also has served as a Field Training Officer, Citizen's Police Academy Instructor, and a Response to Resistance Board member. In June of 2018, he was transferred to supervise the Criminal Investigations Component of the Coral Springs Police Department. This assignment included the supervision of the General Investigations Unit, Economic Crimes Unit, Special Investigations Unit, Crimes Against Persons Unit, Crime Scene Unit, and the dive team.*

*Deputy Chief Ryan Gallagher graduated from Kean University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice and a master's degree in Criminology from Florida State University.*



# Additional Sessions

## DAR (Dare) Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Disaster Assistance Response TEAM

*Jim Pearson, Roberts Co EM/SWO Tribal EM  
Winona Burley, Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate DARE*

Learn about how preparation in advance was beneficial for the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Tribe that set them up for a more coordinated response to COVID in their community.

## P25 Upgrade, Lessons Learned

*Trent Ninecehelsner & Pat Harrington*

As with any upgrade to a device or computer, it can be messy and confusing to find your way around a new system. The upgrade to P-25 radio has been no different for those users who've already taken the plunge. A panel of system users and system administrators will share some common pitfalls and how to easily avoid them as tower sites and agencies migrate to P25 across the State.

## SD Last: Local Assistance State Team

*Casey Warren, CAST Team Coordinator  
Ron Hines, CAST Vice  
Brent Long, Team Liaison*

The mission of the South Dakota Local Assistance State Team is to provide support, planning, and assistance to the families and the department members following the loss of life or line-of-duty death of a public safety officer.

## Sibley Train Derailment

*Arden Kopischke, Lyon County EM, Dan Bechler,  
Osceola County EM, Aimee Barritt, Beuna Vista County EM,  
& Nate Huizenga, Sioux Co, EMA*

When a bridge collapsed in the Northwest Iowa town of Sibley, it caused a 47-car train to derail resulting in a diesel fuel fire. Voluntary evacuations were ordered for the roughly 3,000 residents for safety. This panel shares how it paid off to have close Emergency Management friends nearby to help coordinate the response and recovery.



# Breakout Sessions

## Wednesday Afternoon

### South Dakota Winter Weather Discussion

*Panel Discussion*

Winter weather is an issue that affects all EM's in South Dakota. During this session, a panel will share past from past events and lessons learned regarding winter weather road closures, accident disruptions, and communication with the public for these events.

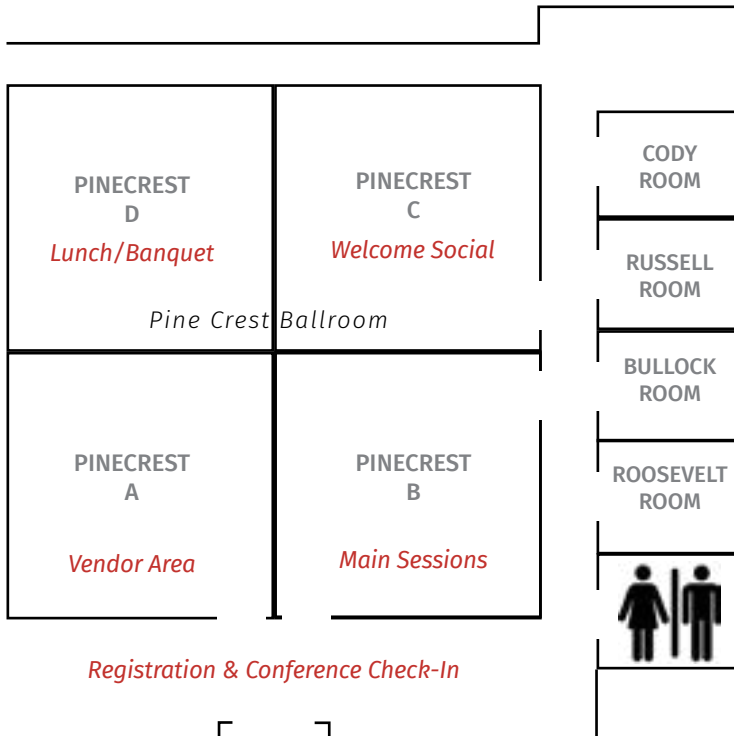
### New Trends in Substance Abuse. What You Need To Know

*Lynn Reimer, President, ACT on Drugs, Inc*

This session includes additional information from the Keynote presentation regarding medical marijuana and expands on other popular drugs for young people that are harming our communities and causing destructive behaviors including vaping, fentanyl, xylazine and the analogs of fentanyl.



## Special Thanks to our 2023 Conference Sponsors



# PRE-CONFERENCE TRAINING

## Monday - Sept 11

|                   |   |               |
|-------------------|---|---------------|
| 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM | ALL DAY COFFEE  |               |
| 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM | <b>Day 1 of 2 - Snacks &amp; Refreshments</b> Sponsored by <b>PENNINGTON COUNTY EM</b><br><b>Emergency Management Access and Functional Needs Disability Awareness Training</b> - David Whalen, Niagara University First Responders   | Bullock Room  |
| 2:30PM- 4:30 PM   | <b>Sanford Lab Tour - Surface Tour</b><br>From 1876 to 2001, Homestake Gold Mine mined more than 40 million ounces of gold, making it the deepest and most productive gold mine in the Western Hemisphere before closing in 2002. You have a chance to tour this facility. A minimum of 10 people are needed to schedule a tour with a maximum of 50 people, (two tours back to back of 25 each tour). Meet in the lobby at the Lodge At Deadwood at 2:30 PM and carpool. | Meet in Lobby |

## Tuesday - Sept 12


|                |  |              |
|----------------|--|--------------|
| 9:00 - 5:00 PM | <b>Day 2 of 2 - Snacks &amp; Refreshments</b> Sponsored by <b>PENNINGTON COUNTY EM</b><br><b>Emergency Management Access and Functional Needs Disability Awareness Training</b> (see above description)  | Bullock Room |
| 8:00 - 5:00 PM | <b>PREPaRE Workshop - Snacks &amp; Refreshments</b> Sponsored by <b>MIDWEST CARD</b><br><b>Comprehensive School Safety Planning: Prevention Through Recovery</b><br><i>National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) with instruction provided by University of South Dakota and South Dakota School Safety Center</i> | Russell Room |
| 9:00 - 4:00 PM | <b>Emergency Management 101 - Snacks &amp; Refreshments</b><br>Sponsored by <b>SDML WORKERS COMPENSATION FUND</b><br><i>Instruction provided by SD Office of Emergency Management</i>  | Cody Room    |
| 5:15-6:15 PM   | <b>SERC Meeting</b> - All Emergency Managers are invited to attend   | Cody Room    |
| 5:00-7:00 PM   | <b>Welcome Social</b> - 2023 Conference Kick-Off - at the Lodge in Pinecrest Ballroom, A & D   |              |

### Sanford Lab Tour

From 1876 to 2001, Homestake Gold Mine mined more than 40 million ounces of gold, making it the deepest and most productive gold mine in the Western Hemisphere before closing in 2002. This private, guided surface tour pairs our group with a knowledgeable Visitor Center docent for a customizable experience. Their site is mobility accessible. Tour begins at 2:30 PM on Monday, September 11. To reserve your spot, select this option when you register.



# Wednesday - September 13

|                                       |                          |  |  |                  |                 |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|------------------|-----------------|
|                                       | 8:00 AM                  | COFFEE   |  | Pinecrest<br>A&D |                 |
|                                       | 8:00-8:30 AM             | Registration Opens - Hallway outside PineCrest A & B   |  |                  |                 |
|                                       | 8:00 AM                  | Vendor Area Opens  |  |                  |                 |
| Vendor Area Open 8am-5pm- Pinecrest A | 8:30 - 9:00 AM           | <b>Conference Opening Ceremonies</b><br><i>Welcome Address: David R. Roth, Jr, Mayor of Deadwood</i><br><i>Presentation of Colors, Spearfish Veteran's Honor Guard</i>   |  | Pinecrest B      |                 |
|                                       | 9:00 - 10:30 AM          | <b>The Drug Lady: A Medical Marijuana Discussion</b><br><i>Lynn Reimer, President, ACT on Drugs, Inc</i>    |  |                  |                 |
|                                       | 10:30 - 11:00 AM         | BREAK - Sponsored by <b>SHIUX FALLS TWO WAY &amp; RFCC RADIO COMMUNICATIONS</b>  |  |                  |                 |
|                                       | 11:00 - 12:00 PM         | <b>DAR Assessment, Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Disaster Assistance Response TEAM</b><br><i>Jim Pearson, Roberts Co EM/SWO Tribal EM</i><br><i>&amp; Thomas LaBlanc, DARE Director, Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate</i>   |  | Pinecrest B      |                 |
|                                       | 12:00 - 1:00 PM          | LUNCH - Sponsored by <b>BNSF RAILWAY</b> PineCrest A & D   |  |                  |                 |
|                                       | 1:00 - 1:40 PM           | <b>P25 Upgrade, Lessons Learned</b><br><i>Trent Ninecehelsler &amp; Pat Harrington</i>   |  | Pinecrest B      |                 |
|                                       | 1:40-2:40 PM             | <b>SD-LAST, Local Assistance Team After the Fire</b><br><i>Casey Warren, TEAM Coordinator (CAST), Ron Hines, Vice-CAST, &amp; Brent Long, Team Liaison</i>   |  |                  |                 |
|                                       | 2:40 - 3:00 PM           | BREAK - Sponsored by <b>BLUE VALLEY PUBLIC SAFETY &amp; SDML WORKER'S COMP FUND</b>  |  |                  |                 |
|                                       | <i>Breakout Sessions</i> | <i>TRACK 1</i>   |  | <i>TRACK 2</i>   |                 |
|                                       | 3:00-4:00 PM             | <b>Option 1a:</b><br><b>South Dakota Winter Weather Panel Discussion</b><br><i>Panel Discussion with local EM's and LE partners</i>  | <b>OPTION 2a:</b><br><b>New Trends in Substance Abuse. What You Need To Know</b><br><i>Lynn Reimer, President, ACT on Drugs, Inc</i> |                  |                 |
|                                       | 4:15 - 5:00 PM           | Regional Breakout Meetings - Pinecrest A & D   |  |                  |                 |
|                                       | 6:00 - 6:30 PM           | Banquet Social - Sponsored by <b>VERIZON</b> - Pinecrest A & D   |  |                  | Pinecrest A & D |
|                                       | 6:30 - 8:30 PM           | <b>SDEMA Awards Banquet -</b><br>Sponsored by <b>TC ENERGY &amp; SD PIPELINE ASSOCIATION</b><br><b>Banquet Entertainment - Gayle Becwar, Comedy and Magic</b><br>Sponsored by <b>ROBERT &amp; MARGARET LARSON MEMORIAL</b><br>Enjoy this clean, interactive, fast-paced magic and comedy act. Audiences from New York to LA, and Hong Kong, China to Cancun, Mexico, will attest that his act is truly unique and entertaining. Becwar has performed at thousands of conventions and banquets all over the United States. His quick wit, sharp memory, and likable ad-libbing style is full of audience participation and makes his performances exciting and special. |  |                  |                 |

# Thursday - September 14

|                          |                                    |   |   |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|
|                          | 7:30 AM                            | COFFEE  |   |
| Vendor Area Open 8am-4pm | 8:00 AM                            | Announcements/Weather Update  | Pinecrest B   |
|                          | 8:10 - 8:50 AM                     | SDEMA Annual Meeting<br><i>South Dakota Emergency Management Association Members Only</i>   |   |
|                          | 9:00-10:10 AM                      | <b>Surviving the Four Winds of Disasters during the Marshall Wildfire &amp; the Lessons Learned</b><br><i>Mike Chard, Director, Office of Disaster Management for the City of Boulder &amp; Boulder County</i>  |   |
|                          | 10:10 - 10:30 AM                   | BREAK- Sponsored by <b>RUSHMORE COMMUNICATIONS &amp; FRONTIER PRECISION</b>   |   |
|                          | 10:30 - 12:00 PM                   | <b>Sibley, Iowa Train Derailment - Panel</b><br><i>When a train leaves the tracks, your going to need your friends for help!</i><br><i>Arden Kopischke, Lyon County EM, Dan Bechler, Osceola County EM, Aimee Barritt, Beuna Visa County EM, &amp; Nate Huizenga, Sioux Co, EMA</i> | Pinecrest B   |
|                          | 12:00 - 1:00 PM                    | LUNCH - Sponsored by <b>NUSTAR</b>  |   |
|                          | 1:00 - 3:45 PM                     | <b>Lessons Learned, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School</b><br>John Whalen, Deputy Fire Chief Coral Spring Fire Department and Ryan Gallagher, Deputy Chief at Coral Springs Police Department   |  |
| 3:45 - 4:00 PM           | Closing Comments - SDEMA President |   |   |
|                          | 4:00 - 5:00 PM                     | <b>SDEMA Board Meeting</b> - Executive Board Members, Regional Vice Presidents (Current or Newly elected) and Appointed positions, should plan to attend  | Roosevelt Rm  |