



PRESS RELEASE

February 2017

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IAFCCP Welcomes Community Paramedics, Appoints Representative

Snellville, GA, February 2017 – The IAFCCP Board of Directors is pleased to announce the inclusion of Community Paramedics within its membership as well as the addition of a Community Paramedicine Representative to its Board.

Community Paramedicine is an emerging healthcare delivery model that increases access to basic services through the use of specially trained emergency medical service (EMS) providers in an expanded role. Community Paramedics care for patients at home or in other non-urgent settings outside of a hospital under the supervision of a physician or advanced practice provider. Community Paramedics can expand the reach of primary care and public health services by using EMS personnel to perform patient assessments. Because Community Paramedicine is an advanced level of practice the IAFCCP proposed including these health care providers within their membership. At the IAFCCP's annual meeting in December 2016, a bylaws change was proposed to, and approved by, the general membership officially including

Community Paramedics within the IAFCCP membership. Community Paramedics active within their field may now apply for membership within, and representation by, the IAFCCP.

Also at this annual meeting, a bylaws change adding a Community Paramedicine Representative position to the Board of Directors was proposed to, and approved by, the IAFCCP general membership. This month, the Board appointed Community Paramedic, Robert Smith of Carolina's Healthcare System in Charlotte, North Carolina, to serve as the Community Paramedic Representative. In this 2-year position, the representative will hold voting status and is expected to participate in all Board activities. Smith said, "Our initial hope this year is to align with other grass root initiatives in developing Community Paramedic education to prepare community paramedics for their certification exam." He continued, "Community Paramedics are becoming an integral healthcare resource providing services unique to the community for the common goal of improving patient healthcare and wellbeing." Persons interested in knowing more about this may contact Robby Smith at rsmi0513@gmail.com.

The IAFCCP is dedicated to providing advocacy, leadership development and educational opportunities for advanced practice paramedics. We strive to strengthen and unite these caregivers to enhance safe, efficient and quality patient care worldwide.

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