



Michigan Society for Respiratory Care

Chartered Affiliate of the American Association for Respiratory Care

MESSENGER

Presidential Update

Christopher Culter – 2021 MSRC President



This past year has been a challenge for all of us both personally and professionally. A study from the George Washington School of Public Health in April 2020 showed that Michigan was at risk of not having enough respiratory therapists for even a low COVID demand. Respiratory therapists in Michigan have felt this reality since the pandemic onset. Sadly, Michigan lost Carrie Hennig, a respiratory therapist, to COVID. The MSRC donated a grove of 100 trees in Carrie’s memory to be planted in the Superior National Forest. We hope that these trees can provide oxygen to people the way Carrie did every day working as a respiratory therapist.

Due to COVID, the MSRC chose to cancel both in-person conferences. The MSRC still wants to offer its members a way to earn CRCEs and be able to network, so we arranged a few events. The annual golf outing was held and was one of the most successful golf outings in MSRC history. The virtual fall conference was well attended and several other states looked to Michigan for help with hosting their virtual conference. Michigan was one of the only state respiratory societies to hold a virtual conference. This year the MSRC will host its annual spring conference virtually. The spring conference is spread out over four days and each day has a different focus. Save the dates for the live virtual sessions on April 13th, 15th, 20th, and 22nd! See the MSRC website for more details.



Breathing life into your career

Vol. 1, Issue 1 March 2021

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Why You Should be an MSRC/AARC Member

Chris Culter— MSRC President

There are many benefits that respiratory therapists receive as an AARC/MSRC member. A full list of benefits is on the AARC Webpage. Becoming a member of the AARC also helps support the MSRC. With its member's support, the MSRC can provide educational conferences, webinars, and advocate for therapists here in Michigan. This gives Michigan respiratory therapists a voice in the national arena.

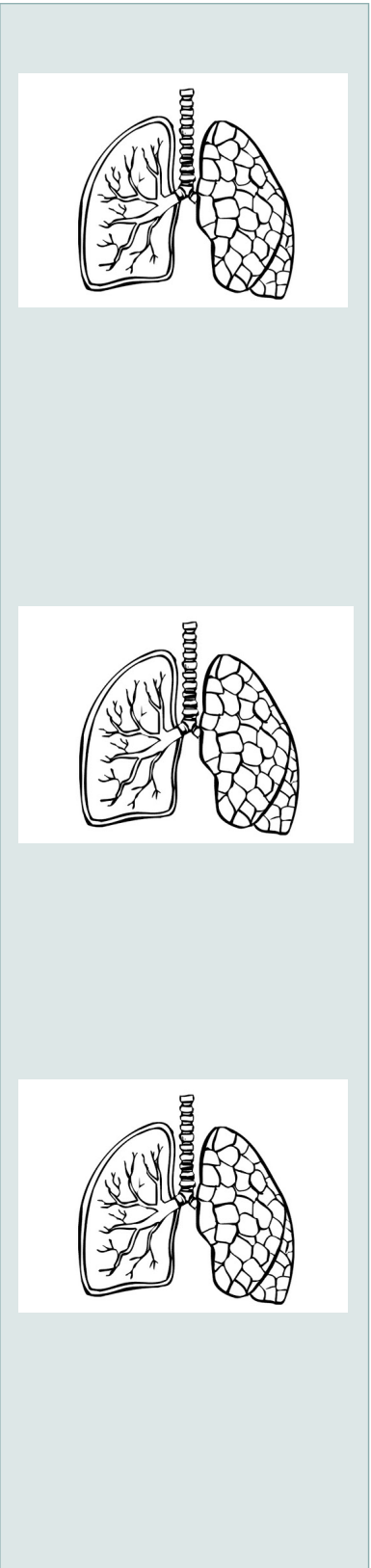
We encourage all respiratory therapists to get involved in professional societies during their time in respiratory school. AARC Early Professionals (students) receive a \$40 discount on their CSE (Clinical Simulation Exam) through the NBRC. Early Professionals also have a reduced membership rate for four years. Veteran members that are looking to take an NBRC specialty exam (ACCS, NPS, SDS) receive a \$40 discount. Members receive digital publications such as the AARC Times, the Respiratory Care Journal, and news headlines about our profession.

Thinking of going to a live or virtual AARC conference? Be sure to register using the code for MSRC to save on registration and the AARC will donate money back to the MSRC. The MSRC is also able to offer a discount on digital AARC memberships. When memberships are purchased or renewed through the MSRC, you can save \$7. New members also save the new membership fee of \$12.50. Spread the word to co-workers and friends to join today and support our profession!



Pulmonary Rehabilitation Week March 14th – 20th, 2021

Pulmonary Rehabilitation Week is designed to educate communities about the role of pulmonary rehabilitation in enhancing the quality of life of individuals with lung disease. The celebration is also a chance for practicing professionals to thank their team members for contributions and share with them valuable educational resources to further their professional development. Check out the conversation from 2020 celebrations via [**#PRWeek20**](#)



2021 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES –EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT – CHRIS CULTER



PRESIDENT ELECT- JONATHAN VONO



PAST PRESIDENT- NICK PRUSH



SECRETARY- JESSICA CUSAC



TREASURER- KELLY FIORINO



AARC DELEGATES- ERICA BASILE AND TEENA CULHANE



The executive committee works tirelessly to support and to keep Michigan's Respiratory Therapists informed.

A few of the topics the board is working on are:

- Continuing education for licensed RT's
- Limited licenses/ licensing for RT students
- RRT as the entry level credential of licensure
- Standards for professional competency in the practice of respiratory care
- Respiratory Care services as skilled therapy services
- Delegation of RT procedures in the community residential setting

Visit the MSRC online store to purchase Respiratory Therapist yard signs.

Must order a minimum of 10 signs. The signs are \$15 each and will be shipped to you.

Visit Michiganrc.org, click on STORE, then place your order.

3 different sign designs are available:



Mott Community College with their yard signs!

RT YARD SIGN SUCCESS

David Panzlau

During the December MSRC House Meeting an idea was presented to create yard signs in order to celebrate respiratory therapists during the COVID-19 pandemic. The idea quickly took off and grew to success! This is an example of many therapists working together to promote our profession during the most difficult and threatening times to our health care delivery systems. This campaign acknowledges the heroic efforts of RTs during the COVID-19 pandemic and promotes our profession to the local communities.

This project was immediately supported by Bill Hart from Advent Home Health and Renee Sorovetz from Monaghan Medical. Their financial commitment and sponsorship are greatly appreciated and made everything that followed possible. Keeli Baker at MHA was marvelous in getting the project up and running by ordering and providing clear communication throughout the process. Chris Culter did a lot of work behind the scenes and has characterized his early Presidency as one of timely action.

So far there have been orders for over 300 signs which far exceeds the initial goal of 100 signs. The signs can be found as far north as Alpena, west to Grand Rapids, east to St. Clair, and south to Lambertville and Mendon! While fundraising was not a primary objective, nearly \$3,000 has been raised to support the mission of the MSRC. Thanks to all that have placed orders to support our often "hidden" profession.

It is not too late to get your own yard sign! The signs can be ordered from the MSRC website, via this link <https://mms.michiganrc.org/members/store.php?orgcode=MSRC>. The signs can be ordered in multiples of 10 and will be delivered to the address that you provide. The shipping costs are included with each order. Sign designs can be mixed and matched per order. You know the important work that you do, why not let your neighbors, friends, and community know as well!



FINANCIAL UPDATE

Kelly Fiorino

This past year was difficult for everyone, and many people are feeling the financial stress. The MSRC is not exempt from the financial consequences of the pandemic. The MSRC relies on organizing various events to raise money. As a not-for-profit organization, funds are put towards providing CEUs, educational events, and lobbying for our members.

The annual in-person MSRC Spring and Fall Conferences were cancelled for 2020, but members of the MSRC quickly figured out a way to still provide CEUs and events for our members. There was a 2020 virtual Fall Conference, a socially-distanced golf outing, and a virtual Spring Conference is coming up in April 2021!

At the end of 2020, the MSRC had fallen short of the budget goals set in 2019. The MSRC has funds in a checking account that will be used to cover these costs. Going forward, the MSRC is looking for financial opportunities to support the organization. If you would like to be involved in the MSRC, please let us know!

In other financial news, 2020 was the first year that the MSRC did not charge a fee for membership- if you are an AARC member, you are automatically an MSRC member too. Looking for ways to save money this year? The MSRC is offering discounted AARC memberships for a limited time. Get 10% off your AARC membership by purchasing it through the MSRC!

MEMBERSHIP

The MSRC currently has **1,057** members!

Thank you to all the new AARC/MSRC members:

- Robert Cain, Taylor
- Suzanne Convery, Clinton Township
- Zeinab Hamdan, Dearborn Hts
- Theresa Hughes, Detroit
- Lisa Philpot, Tawas
- Taylor Rice, Zeeland
- Justin Swanson, Saginaw
- Paula Wood, Flushing
- Carol Colasanti, New Baltimore
- Ashley Felcyn, Shelby Township
- Donna Henzarek, Novi
- Jennifer Noland, Monroe
- Jessica Piper, Leslie
- Katrina Santiago, Onsted
- Joseph Tremblay, Sault Ste. Marie
- Keven Tenhove, Muskegon

MSRC NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The MSRC would like to have an online store to offer MSRC apparel and accessories. We need someone who can screen-print or embroider to help us out! Please let us know if you are interested by emailing lanecj@med.umich.edu.

Thank you!

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

The MSRC is introducing a bill to the Michigan legislature this year.

The items included in the bill will help Michigan advance our profession and show the public how important respiratory therapists are to the interdisciplinary team. These items include:

- Incorporate CEUs to licensure
- Require the RRT credential as the minimum competency

standard for licensure

- Expand our current Scope of Practice
- Provide limited permits for student practitioners



AARC CURRENT TOPICS VIDEOS

This educational 8-Video annual series offers an in-depth exploration of recent scientific advancements in respiratory care and the evidence-based practices that improve the delivery of care and reduce readmissions. Presented by the leaders in respiratory care, the series is designed to cultivate high-performing respiratory therapists who are equipped to educate patients and implement best practices in care. Each topic is presented as a one-hour lecture and the videos offer flexibility for group or individual viewings. Purchase of the 2021 video series (a total of 8 videos), ensures that one video will be made available each month for your facility beginning in March 2021 through October 2021. Each program is approved for 1 hour of CRCE after successful completion of the test.

<https://www.aarc.org/education/group-courses/current-topics-in-respiratory-care-2021/>

AARC UPDATES

Erica Basile and Teena Culhane

- **AARC House of Delegates 2020 Winter Virtual Meeting Report**

Please copy and paste this link into your browser to view the PowerPoint:

drive.google.com/drive/folders/1DKccoRnUTYNrVTipnby94CChv5tgvPtX?usp=sharing

- **NEW! AARC Newsroom** (replacing the AARC Times); keeping you informed about the latest association news, industry trends, articles, and respiratory care best practice.

<https://www.aarc.org/news/>

- **AARC President Address**: Read President Sheri Tooley's views on building our profession

<https://www.aarc.org/an21-from-the-president-building-ourprofession/>



- **Meet the new AARC Interim Director, Paul Divis:**

<https://www.aarc.org/an21-welcome-from-your-aarc-interim-executive-director/>



- **AARC Connect**: A great way to connect with RT's within Michigan!

<https://connect.aarc.org/home>



- ***Membership Dues to increase on April 1st, 2021*** by \$7 for Active and Associate members

Reflections from an RT Director and Manager in Detroit

Alicia Wafer RRT, MBA
Director Respiratory Therapy
Henry Ford Hospital
Detroit Campus

Jonathan Vono, RRT
Manager Respiratory Therapy
Henry Ford Hospital
Detroit Campus

The RTs in southeast Michigan were catapulted into this COVID 19 epidemic, just like many other hospitals. Our ventilator load on any given day at Henry Ford Detroit is 75-85 ventilators running. Our site is an approximately 850 bed hospital with about 180 ICU beds. We also have an extremely busy, highly efficient, emergency department which runs a volume of over 300 patients. Within a week we went from 75-85 ventilated patients to over 100 ventilated patients, and we sustained this number for many weeks.

COVID-19 changed our hospital radically overnight. Non-emergent surgeries stopped, the ER was overflowing, and hospital beds were filling up. Many of the patients were coming in with suspected COVID or presenting with COVID symptoms. All this time, we still had patients coming in sick and injured.

The usual “high-level” management discussions became “all-level” inclusive discussions and system policies were hashed out, written, and completed at blazing speeds. Some policies were made within 24 hours based on COVID-19 specific issues. Our teams were dynamite! Medical directors and providers worked tirelessly with our RT and RN teams, as well as parties from every discipline. Attempts were made to get everyone at the “Skype” table for complete input and discussion. The primary focus was to address what made the most sense from a patient and staff safety perspective. Changes were communicated to teams in huddles, via electronic huddle boards, and via email. Additional issues are addressed collaboratively and immediately as they arose.

Patient volume spikes were abrupt and intense. We exceeded our previous record of patients on ventilators at HFH from 101 ventilators to 124 patients. We never exceeded our ability to ventilate patients in a safe manner due to the heroics, ingenuity, collaboration, hard work, fortitude and “all in” of our people.

Thank you to every Michigan RT during the COVID-19 pandemic!

Please copy and paste: drive.google.com/drive/folders/1DKccoRnUTYNrVTipnby94CChv5tgvPtX?usp=sharing for the complete article.

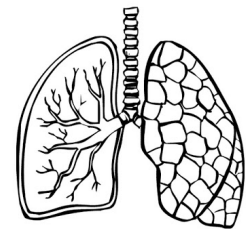
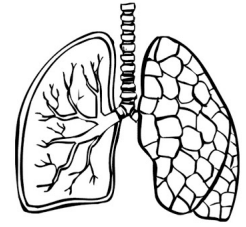
STUDENT RECOGNITION

BSRT GRADUATES UM FLINT



Congratulations to the following individuals for successfully graduating with their BSRT for the University of Michigan-Flint:

Adam Shaw, Christina Ketz, Kendra Consolino, Sharina McQueen, Heather Lopez, Carissa Novak, Sheri Sims, Ronald Reisbig, Amanda Davis, and Josh Wesley.



JACKSON COLLEGE CLASS OF DECEMBER 2020



Sabra Wells



Jeannie VanKampen



Samantha Regalado



Kelly Lawrence

CLASS OF



2020



Haleigh Vidalez



Sarah Cole



Jennifer Preston



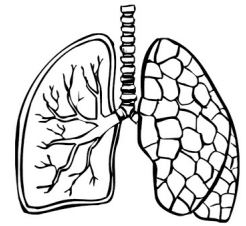
Brooke Reynolds



Audrey Gutierrez



Makayla Summers



ST. CLAIR COMMUNITY COLLEGE CLASS OF 2021



St. Clair Community College- Michigan's newest Respiratory Therapy Program.

ST. CLAIR COMMUNITY COLLEGE CLASS OF 2022



MOTT COMMUNITY COLLEGE CLASS OF 2021



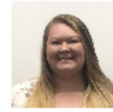
Ballard Charisse



Clark, Tanya



Fitzpatrick, Rachel



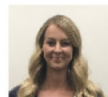
Fodchuk, Andrea



Green, Jasmine



Heit Katelynn



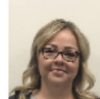
Herbert, Jessica



Hoskey, Christopher



Jaques, Jennifer



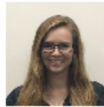
Martin, Aprille



Moberly, Megan



Ross, Nicholas



Sayles, Brandy

Respiratory Therapy Class of 2021



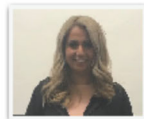
Stewart, Taleah



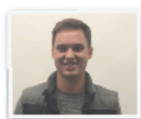
Waitman, Sara

MOTT COMMUNITY COLLEGE CLASS OF 2022

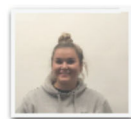
Respiratory Therapy Class of 2022



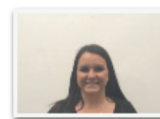
Eman Alnajjar



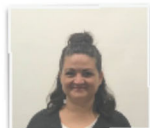
Thomas Blondin



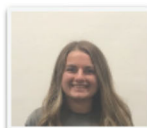
Taylor Cullen



Taylor Dawes



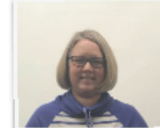
Jennifer Fogelsonger



Madison Hedrick



Isaac Hopkins



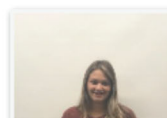
Shanna May



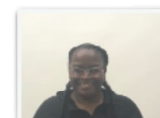
Megan Parkinson



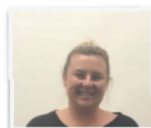
Natalie Robinson



Gabriella Santiago



Tina Tiggs



Bailey Whitman



Griffen Woycehoski

MSRC

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Prush**

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NEW 2020 AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION CPR UPDATES

Jessica Cusac

Adult and Pediatric Chains of Survival:

A new in-hospital cardiac arrest Chain of Survival for pediatrics was added. A sixth link, recovery, was added to both of the out-of-hospital Chains of Survival (adult and pediatric), and in-hospital adult Chain of Survival.

Compressions:

Quickly move bulky clothes out of the way. If a person's clothes are difficult to remove, you can still provide compressions over clothing.
If an automated external defibrillator (AED) becomes available, remove all clothing that covers the chest. AED pads must not be placed over any clothing.

Rescue Breathing: Adults:

Change to 1 breath every 6 seconds (10 breaths per minute).

Infant Compressions:

Single rescuer: use 2 fingers, 2 thumbs, or the heel of 1 hand for infants.

For infants, single rescuers (whether lay rescuers or healthcare providers) should compress the sternum with 2 fingers or 2 thumbs placed just below the nipple line.

For infants, if the rescuer is unable to achieve guideline-recommended depths (at least one third the diameter of the chest), it may be reasonable to use the heel of 1 hand.

Pediatric Ventilation Rates:

For infants and children with a pulse who are receiving rescue breathing or who are receiving CPR with an advanced airway in place, provide 1 breath every 2 to 3 seconds (20-30 breaths per minute).

Opioids:

For a patient with suspected opioid overdose who has a definite pulse but no normal breathing or only gasping (ie, a respiratory arrest), in addition to providing rescue breathing, *give naloxone*.

For a patient with suspected opioid overdose who has no pulse and no breathing, *consider* giving naloxone but do not delay CPR.

For a patient with suspected opioid overdose who has a definite pulse and normal breathing, consider giving naloxone, and transport to the hospital.

UPCOMING MSRC EVENTS

Please see the website www.michiganrc.org for more details on the following events:

- MSRC Virtual Spring Conference
- Next MSRC House Meeting: April 9th, 2021