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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## BMCC to host 4<sup>th</sup> annual Eastern Oregon EMS Conference Feb. 16-19

PENDLETON, Ore. – More than 120 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) providers and volunteers from around the Northwest will descend upon Blue Mountain Community College Feb. 16-19 for the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Eastern Oregon EMS Conference. Sponsored by Life Flight in cooperation with BMCC, the BMCC Foundation and the Oregon Trail Fire Training Association, the conference provides an affordable training opportunity for current EMS providers from small rural agencies that fulfills required continuing education credits.

The event, which draws participants from Oregon, Washington and Idaho, features numerous classes and demonstrations, as well as opportunities to meet with vendors offering services and products related to the EMS field. Workshops include learning the latest about treating burns, sepsis, and pediatric respiratory emergencies.

This year's keynote speaker is Mike Helbock, a clinical educator in prehospital medicine at the University of Washington School of Medicine, Division of Emergency Medicine, in Seattle. Helbock holds a senior faculty position with the Seattle/King County Resuscitation Academy, specializing in the development and training of the High Performance CPR (HP-CPR) program. He will talk with conference participants about the use of HP-CPR and the impact it has made on saving living lives. Helbock will also discuss the "art of professionalism" during Saturday evening's conference banquet at Wildhorse Resort.

In addition to workshops on HP-CPR, conference participants will have the opportunity to learn about human trafficking and how EMS providers can recognize the signs of human trafficking from Amanda Monaco, the Statewide Trafficking Intervention Coordinator for the Oregon Department of Justice, and Erin Ludwig, a victim's specialist for the FBI's Portland Division.

All instructors for the courses are donating their time to train participants at the conference.

Pre-conference workshops run Thursday and Friday (Feb. 16-17), with the main conference beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday and concluding Sunday afternoon. Registration and additional conference information can be found at <http://easternoregonems.com/>.

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