Quarantined! Managing Highway Safety Programs During a Public Health Emergency

Kimberly Chesser
Director
State of Emergency
Stay at Home Orders

• State of Emergency Declaration
  – Effective March 13\textsuperscript{th}
  – Twenty-second modification on June 19\textsuperscript{th}

• Stay at Home Orders
  – Effective March 24\textsuperscript{th} – June 1\textsuperscript{st}
  – Currently in Phase II of the Reopen Plan
Challenges

• Rapid and unpredictable change

• Continual monitoring, re-evaluating and adjusting
Impacts - Staffing

- Entire staff switched to telecommuting
- OHS Car Seat Fitting Stations closed
- Technology needs
  - Equipment for staff i.e. laptops, wifi
  - Virtual appointments, meetings, and monitoring
Impacts - Law Enforcement Subgrantees

- Law Enforcement had challenges working our grants
  - Suspended enforcement mobilizations in March
  - Conducted a survey of law enforcement at the end of May
    - Resumed enforcement mobilizations in mid-June for those agencies that can participate
    - No checkpoints until further notice
• Messaging did not align with Stay at Home Orders and current public health crisis.
  – Shift our messaging
  – Cancel public relations events
  – Cancel educational activities in schools
  – Move to on-line education where possible
CAPTION:
We love our heroes on the road! The long-distance truckers. The emergency personnel. The grocery store workers. All striving to keep us safe and well. Let’s follow the speed limits and drive with care as we keep these courageous neighbors in our thoughts!

#LoveYourNeighbor
#SlowDown #ArriveAliveDE
#StayHomeDE
#allinthistogether
@JohnCarneyDE @DelDOT
Digital Marketing
Paid Media Messaging

**Friendly Safety Reminders**

**Walk Safe:**
Stay Visible

**Be Safe:**
Stay Home When Advised
## Decrease in Crashes

### Trends in Fatal Data for COVID19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019 (March 24- June 1)</th>
<th>2020 (March 24- June 1)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Fatalities</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motorcycle Fatalities</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedestrian Fatalities</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unrestrained Fatalities</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drivers 20 &amp; Under Fatalities</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Speed Related Fatalities</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### COVID19 Crash Fatality Trend

![COVID19 Crash Fatality Trend Graph](image-url)
Take Aways

• Continuity of Operations Plan

• Electronic Grants Management System

• Communication with staff and subgrantees

• Meeting Federal Requirements
  – CARES Act
THANK YOU!!!

DELWARE OFFICE OF
HIGHWAY SAFETY