



## 2017 NASFM Year In Review



### Our Mission

*The primary mission of the National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM) is to protect human life, property and the environment from fire and related hazards. A secondary mission of NASFM is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of State Fire Marshals' operations.*

From the Executive Director



**It's all about the members and the mission!** NASFM is celebrating their 28<sup>th</sup> year, one in which we made great strides and reached milestones we've been working towards for many years. While we as an organization are young compared to many others, and small in numbers, we have a powerful and respected voice for fire prevention. I firmly believe our focus on the NASFM mission is what drives everything we do as we follow our passion for fire and life safety.

**Being a member of any organization isn't just about individual needs, but about working together to achieve the organization's** mission in a way that brings value to the members collectively. We work diligently to bring parties together to achieve success by engaging the stakeholders and building partnerships while wisely using our resources in a directed manner. Thank you for being a supporter of NASFM, we hope you are equally pleased with the accomplishments and what this small organization does year after year in enhancing fire prevention efforts.

As the organization's Executive Director, and on behalf of the Board of Directors, we have undertaken an aggressive, member driven approach to fire prevention. We made a significant statement in the federal legislative arena by advocating for more funding for Fire Prevention & Safety; we have finally met our reserve funding to ensure solid financial footing for the organization; we finalized a ground-breaking two year study evaluating sprinkler "trade-offs" and their effect on the built environment; we discussed and refined our strategic planning to ensure we are working smart and with focus; and finally we had another successful NASFM Annual Conference, which is such a great opportunity to bring members and partners together each year. While this list **isn't all inclusive, it serves as a highlight of some of our efforts and** accomplishments.

In the following report we will highlight a number of efforts in 2017. Not everything we have accomplished is listed, but we wanted to share the story of NASFM for 2017 and the work the organization engaged in on your

behalf. We look forward to a great 2018 and commit to build upon our successes this past year.

Wishing you a great 2018,

Jim

## Financial Outlook

For the first time in our existence we have a fully funded reserve to cover operating expenses for 18- 24 months at a minimum. We have worked very hard over the past 8 years to achieve this financial goal of which we are very proud. This provides NASFM stability so we can have longer term thinking, planning and action.



Our diversity of programs, growing membership and annual conference have all contributed to a solid financial bottom line. Financial stability will allow us to provide more

## Paying It Forward

NASFM received funding many years ago to be used to establish a scholarship fund for the survivors of fallen firefighters. In partnership with the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) who administers **NASFM's scholarship program**, NASFM once again provided \$10,000 to be used for scholarship awards to deserving individuals. We anticipate this will continue in to perpetuity since we do not spend the principal but only the annual earnings.

## Membership

NASFM continues to enjoy strong support from our partners in life safety. In keeping with the strategic goal of developing Public/Private relationship, our industry partners are now the second largest membership group.

services and better communication to our members in the coming years.



## Highlights From 2017

### Strategic Planning for the Future

The Board and staff met for two days in March to develop and define an action plan for the growth of NASFM and member support. We have three main tenants that came from this and they all revolve around the members. Without active, engaged and informed members, as well as partnerships with others, we cannot realize our potential as a member driven organization.

Goal 1: To improve communication with the NASFM and with its stakeholders.

Goal 2: To expand Public /Private Partnerships.

Goal 3: To expand Membership of NASFM.

### Life Safety Achievement Award

Since 1994, the Life Safety Achievement Awards has recognized both professional and volunteer fire departments for outstanding fire safety statistics and effective fire prevention programs during the preceding calendar year. This year we awarded 123 fire departments for their fire prevention efforts in 2016 and recognized them for zero fire deaths or at least a 10% reduction from the previous year.

### Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing (CSST)

**After 5 years NASFM is closing down it's Yellow CSST Safety Awareness Program** we conducted with the support of CSST manufacturers. This partnership allowed us to reach an estimated 34 million people through a variety of methods including flyers, mail inserts, insurance industry support and

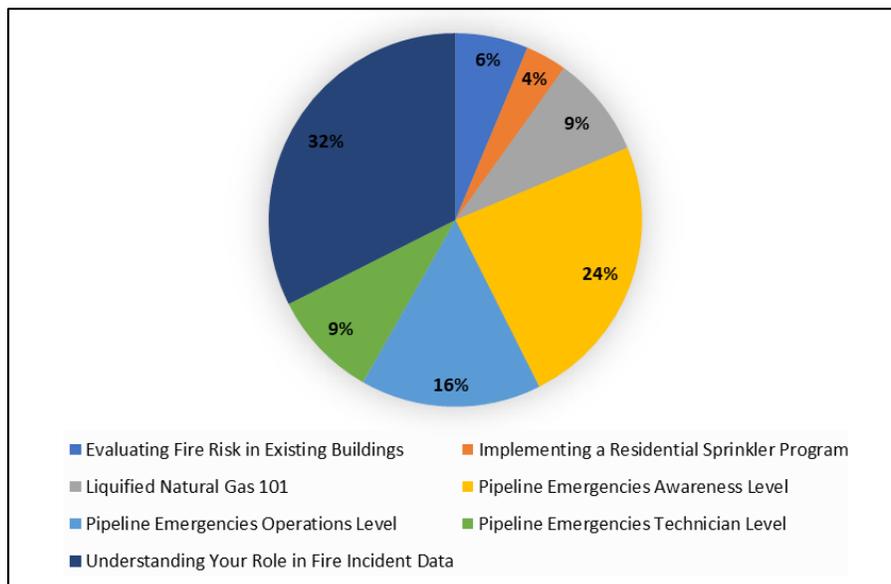
many presentations. This program is a great example of partnerships making a difference and raising awareness of safety. Our effort to raise the existing standard will continue as we are not satisfied that all that can be done with this flexible gas piping is being done and it endangers the public in their homes.

### **Pipeline Emergencies Training**

In 2017, NASFM staff accomplished updating the *Pipeline Emergencies* Training Curriculum to its 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Through a collaborative effort of responders, regulators, industry, and others, this best in class training was given a series of updates to ensure it stayed up with new and emerging issues and technologies, while continuing to provide a high-level quality education for everyone.

### **NASFM Training Portal**

The NASFM on-line training site continues to grow, both in the courses being offered and in the number of individuals taking advantage of the best in class, free training being offered. Currently there are seven different free training programs on the <http://nasfm-training.org> site. 23,136 individual course enrollments have resulted in over 11,000 course completions. This invaluable tool has become the go to location on-line for information on Liquefied Natural Gas, the Importance of Fire Incident Reporting, Implementing a Residential Sprinkler Program, and of course *Pipeline Emergencies*.



### **Project FAIL-SAFE**

Through the efforts of our research partners we have culminated two years of rigorous scientific exploration. Our goal has been to foster dialogue and increase knowledge about the importance of including redundant layers of fire

protection features. Ultimately, the research has pointed toward clear evidence on something many of us have suspected for many years; new construction techniques have increased the risk to building occupants and firefighters alike. Equally, the evidence points toward a reduction in building and community resilience from the effects of fire.

We encourage you to join the discussion on this important effort by reviewing the Project FAIL-SAFE findings and reports, found on our website under the PROGRAMS tab.

### **Construction Site Fire Safety Grant - FP&S Program**

The NASFM Foundation was awarded a Fire Prevention & Safety grant through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant program to create a concise, comprehensive, and best-in-class training program on Construction Site Fire Safety. This program will include modules designed for first responders, fire and building inspectors, construction personnel, construction site safety managers. Work has begun on authoring a textbook and training program to be completed in early to mid 2018. In-person classes and on-line training will begin being delivered mid to late 2018.

### **Government Relations**

We have worked diligently to ensure the Fire Act Grant was reauthorized, including the removal of the sunset, an increase program funding, and inclusion of funds designated for dissemination to State Fire Marshal offices on a competitive basis.

While we are extremely proud of our efforts in helping to ensure the continuation of the grants, which have now been reauthorized by Congress, **we haven't yet been successful** in achieving all of our remaining goals. With the help of our partners in Congress, we will continue to push for more funding for Fire Prevention and Safety grants where we believe a critical difference can **be made for America's fire problem.**

### **National CO Awareness Week**

We are honored to have worked this year to establish the First Annual Carbon Monoxide Awareness Week, November 5th-12th. NASFM is leading the charge to bring increased awareness to this "Invisible Killer."

For more information about National CO Awareness Week, including tips and best practices on how to protect you and your family from the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning, visit [www.carbonmonoxidefacts.com](http://www.carbonmonoxidefacts.com).

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