



## **2020- 2021 Strategic Plan**

April 4, 2020

ISARC BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS

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## **VISION**

Illinois Search and Rescue Council's vision is to be the premiere collaborative preparedness and response resource for local search and rescue teams throughout Illinois

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Illinois Search and Rescue Council is a charitable, professional, and educational organization which supports, coordinates, develops, promotes, and implements search and rescue resources with the underlying principles of saving lives and preserving property through its support of the National Search and Rescue Plan, the National Response Framework, and Illinois Emergency Operations Plan.

## **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS**

- Coordinate and establish opportunities for liaison and networking between member organizations, and local, county, state, and federal public safety agencies
- Promote the use of nationally recognized and accepted search and rescue standards
- Establish and implement training, education, and professional development opportunities
- Conduct meetings, conferences, workshops, and seminars to promote search and rescue education and capabilities within the State of Illinois.
- Represent the interests of the Council membership and public opinion on search and rescue issues through liaison with appointed officials of local, county, state and federal public safety agencies
- Promote the development and coordination of local search and rescue resources by providing support in the form of guidance, reference materials, educational materials, training aids, and technical assistance.

**2019/20 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>
Ed Kemper, Chairman	Palatine Emergency Management
Jason Buckley, Vice Chairman	Peoria County Sheriff's Search & Rescue
Tom Foust, Secretary	LaSalle County Emergency Management
Carol Lussky, Treasurer	Illinois Wisconsin Search Dogs
Kimberly Gotte	Kendall County Emergency Management
Richard Bickel	Douglas County EMA
Gregg Nimmo	Montgomery County EMA

**2019 MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS**

Alton Volunteer Emergency Corps	Fulton County EMA	Montgomery County EMA
Antioch EMA	Gateway Search Dogs	Naperville EMA
Aurora EMA	Hanover Township Emergency Services	New Lenox SAR
Bensenville EMA	Hoffman Estates EMA	North Aurora CERT
Berwyn EMA	Illiana SAR Teams	Ogle County EMA
Boone County EMA	ILLWIS Search & Rescue Dogs	Palatine EMA
Brown County EMA	Kane County OEM Search and Rescue	Park Ridge CERT
Bureau County Mounted SAR	Kendall County EMA	Peoria County Sheriff SAR
Champaign County EMA	LaSalle County Ground Search and Rescue	Perry County EMA
Chicago CERT	Lee County EMA	Peru Rescue Station
Christian Aid Ministries SAR Team #19	Lemont EMA	Pike County Volunteer Emergency Corp
Coles County EMA Search and Rescue	Lockport EMA	Plainfield EMA
Crete Emergency Management Agency	Macon County EMA	Quad Cities Missing Persons Network
Des Plaines Homeland Security and EMA	Macoupin County EMA	Rettungs-Haus Shepherds, Inc.
DeWitt County EMA	Maine Township EMA	South Lake County Regional CERT
Disaster Dogs of Illinois	Massac County ESDA	St. Claire Special Emergency Services
Douglas County EMA	McDonough County MRC	Tazewell County Search & Rescue
Effingham County K9 Search and Rescue	McHenry County EMA Search & Rescue	Tinley Park EMA
Elk Grove Village CERT-SAR	McLean County EMA Search & Rescue	Washington County EMA
Fayette County EMA	Menard County Sheriff/EMA GSAR	Wauconda EMA
Flora-Clay County ESDA	Mercer County Sheriff's Search & Rescue	Will County EMA Search & Rescue
Franklin County EMA		Woodford County EMA

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## STRATEGIC GOALS

Strategic goals provide necessary guidance for any organization to be unified, organized, and effective. The following goals are set to provide ISARC's Board of Directors and member agencies with a path to the future of Search and Rescue in Illinois. These goals are not representative of all council functions but rather a vision of achievement for 2020. Certainly, situational occurrences effect actual execution and accomplishment of these goals; but based upon current geopolitical effects and conditions this will serve as the desired end state. The Board of Directors reserves the right to modify or change course should situations present as this is for planning purposes and is not binding. The Board of Directors accomplishes the majority of its work through committees. Committees are designed to brainstorm and vet diverse ideas to come to a common good in the best interest of the Illinois Search and Rescue community. These committees receive strategic guidance from the Board to conduct their missions and return recommendations for consideration and approval.

### **Goal 1**

Establish Memorandum of Agreement with all Member Agencies

### **Goal 2**

Increase membership by 10% statewide with a focus in IEMA regions 2, 8, 9, and 11.

### **Goal 3**

Develop and provide additional standardized essential core Search and Rescue training programs, delivery mechanisms, validated instructional staff (from all regions throughout organization), and training record management processes.

### **Goal 4**

Conduct an annual SAR conference increasing attendance by 10%.

### **Goal 5**

Deliver qualified, active, trained GSAR, BNAV, SARIO instructors and increase staff by 10%

### **Goal 6**

Educate and ensure Member Agencies collect and report Search and Rescue data to the Illinois Search and Rescue Council for submission to the International Search and Rescue Database (ISRID)

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## **ISARC COMMITTEES AND PRIORITIES**

### **Executive**

Committee is responsible to develop an annual operating budget, provide financial oversight, draft policy for board consideration, and other administrative functions of the council. Standing members are the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer. This committee shall be responsibility to develop, track, defend, support, or protest legislative or administrative rule-making in the state or federal governments in the best interest of our members as determined by the Board of Directors. This committee has no binding authority only drafting, reviewing, and coordination powers for efficiency of the Board of Directors and the entire council.

### **Priorities**

- Determine growth goals for Organization
- Develop a budget for Organization

### **Conference**

Committee will plan and manage the annual ISARC conference. The committee will be comprised of members in the host geographic area and the Board of Directors.

### **Priorities**

- The Board decides on a date and venue for the upcoming conference, pays the appropriate security deposits, etc. the committee will come up with a plan of keynote speakers that are appropriate for the current SAR membership and breakout sessions and their subsequent instructors that would be of interest for the membership that will be attending.
- Arrange a schedule of events for the conference
- Obtain vendors with merchandise or services that are appropriate for the audience that will be attending the conference.
- Determine proposed pricing for attendees (member and non-member) and pricing for vendors.
- Communicate/get approval from the board for speakers, sessions, schedule, printing, etc.
- Design and get pricing on printing of conference brochure/advertisement materials

### **Outreach**

This committee is responsible to develop, implement, and evaluate membership processes; and attain or retain member organizations. This committee will focus on multiple methods of communicating with our membership, un-affiliated search and rescue teams, and public safety organizations through social media, website, mailings, and other mechanisms.

### **Priorities**

- Provide outreach to the public safety sector to understand the role of SAR and ISARC at conferences and meetings of agencies that would/might benefit from a relationship with ISARC (IEMA, ILEAS, MABAS, and IESMA etc.)
- Assist local jurisdictions in establishing a SAR team and encourage ISARC membership focusing on regions 2, 8, 9, and 11. When Curriculum/Training informs of upcoming training course, notify nearby established teams of course (in case that they would want to introduce themselves to agency).
- Support lead instructors in seeing to it that they have ISARC brochures for upcoming training courses.

- Establish/Maintain ISARC merchandise inventory for sale to membership per rules governed by 501(c)3 status.
- Reach out to potential/new agencies at the 45-60 day post-training mark to see if any mentoring/assistance is needed in establishing their SAR team. Reach out at the 90-120 day post-training mark to area established agencies near the new/potential SAR team to ensure that contact has been made.
- Determine the need for a members-only section of the website to reference planning documents, news, and training materials
- Create and disseminate a quarterly e-newsletter to members with current activities and news on the SARfront
- Update social media sites with information that may be of interest/benefit to the SAR community and organization members.

### **Curriculum/Training**

Committee is to develop and revise as necessary a tiered training curriculum pertinent to search and rescue response and support functions including awareness, operations, and management level courses.

Committee is responsible to establish and implement processes for coordinating student registration, instructors, host jurisdictions, and student certification. Committee will ensure instructor qualifications, validate instructors, and coordinate instructor development training. Committee will coordinate with agencies requesting training with lead instructors/instructors/FTO personnel for scheduling/coordination of said training. Committee will receive and document training records as they are received from lead instructors

### **Priorities**

- Review and update current key ISARC training and practical training requirements to ensure compliance with ASTM standards, best practices, and common situations in Illinois, implementing pre-requisites as required
- Develop standardized workshops in supporting SAR skills to be delivered at the local level as part of a Local training program
- Develop, revise, or contract a comprehensive web based process for student registration and credentialing
- Validate and credential qualified instructors for all ISARC courses through instructor workshops, Train-the-Trainer courses, practical teaching opportunities, and annual re-validation
- Develop a communication medium for sharing and updating instructor materials with appropriate instructors

### **Mutual Aid Response**

Committee will develop and implement a coordination element for statewide mutual aid. This committee will manage a process for the deployment of all SAR specific resources (teams) statewide. The committee additionally manages the local Search and Rescue resource directory and coordination with the response hotline duty officers.

### **Priorities**

- Develop a Memorandum of Understanding with member agencies and ISARC
- Develop a Memorandum of Understanding with IEMA, ILEAS and MABAS (where possible)
- Update the local SAR resource directory
- Determine mutual aid communication
- Determine/Communicate the possibility of training with other public safety entities
- Communicate/determine opportunities for grants or other beneficial opportunities for the membership.

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**COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

Executive	Ed Kemper
Curriculum/Training	Kimberly Gotte
Outreach	Mike Burns
Mutual Aid Response	Ed Kemper
Conference	Tom Foust

**Board Meeting Schedule**

All Board meetings, unless there is a conflict, will be the first Saturday of each month at 0900. Please refer to the website, [www.illinoissar.org](http://www.illinoissar.org), for up to date details on meeting times and locations.