

Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation News

Injury Prevention: How To Think Outside The Box

*Victoria Hickerson, RN BSN CEDP,
MTCSF Education Coordinator*

Injury prevention is essential to the trauma program and should be a top priority. Reaching the community to provide injury prevention programs is proving to be more difficult than ever before. Social distancing, travel restrictions, and visitation policies have made reaching the public essentially impossible. How can we continue to provide education and awareness to the public?

A great place to begin is by examining data. Analyze data and gather information regarding the injuries in your community. Important factors may include age and population. Once the data is collected, it is time to think about a plan and how to reach the community. Reaching the community requires thinking outside the box and adapting to the challenges COVID has provided.

A Level II hospital in Fort Walton Beach, Florida, collected data from their registry that supported the need to provide injury prevention centered around diving accidents. The data reported that diving accident patients utilized expensive

resources such as intensive care, surgical interventions, and rehabilitation. The



Summer safety: when diving, be sure the water is deep!

The Mayfield Clinic and Spine Institute urges parents, camp counselors, coaches, and primary care physicians to remind young people that diving into shallow water can result in devastating and irreversible injuries to the spinal cord.

A life-changing injury can be sustained when the spinal cord, a bundle of nerves that runs down the back from the base of the brain to the waist, is damaged or severed by trauma. This can occur during a dive into shallow water if the diver's head strikes the bottom, causing the vertebrae that encircle the spinal cord to collapse. If the spinal cord is damaged and it is unable to transmit nerve impulses to and from the brain, paralysis occurs.

Safe means 10- to 12- foot deep.

Water that is safe for diving is deeper than most people realize. Please remember these safety guidelines:

- ✓ Dive only into water that is 10- to 12-feet deep.
- ✓ Always enter the water feet first to determine depth.
- ✓ Never dive into an above-ground swimming pool.
- ✓ Remember that water levels in lakes and rivers can change over time. Water levels also can be impacted by unseen debris along the bottom.

A basic knowledge of physics helps us realize that, because impact equals acceleration times mass, safe water levels will vary among individuals. What might appear safe for an 80-pound child might be completely unsafe for an 180-pound teenager. And what might be safe for a highly trained competitive swimmer might be completely unsafe for an average swimmer. So play it safe. When diving, safe means 10- to 12-foot deep.

"Most of these accidents occur in water that is less than 3 feet deep. The victims are predominantly male."
Robert Gohinski, MD, PhD



area of spinal cord injured by vertebral burst fracture

hospital initiated an injury prevention plan that included posters, brochures, magnets, and koozies to help spread the message. Their efforts proved beneficial when they pulled the next year's registry data and saw a one hundred percent decrease in cervical injuries and a surprisingly twenty-four percent decrease in all water-related traumatic injuries. The reduction of diving and water-related accidents was estimated to save 1.2 million dollars that year.

Some simple ideas that have proven to be beneficial and may be excellent methods

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to consider in using for your injury prevention program are as follows:

Posters can offer a cost-effective connection and are easily displayed in public places. Creating posters that ask questions and make the community think about preventing injuries. The signs can provide information and resources surrounding the injury prevention topic you have identified. Partnering with local businesses is another great way to reach the community with injury prevention material. Companies can display and share brochures and flyers you provide to the community.

Providing swag is another excellent option to gain awareness and attention to an injury prevention program. Providing the public with something tangible is a great way to continually remind them of your message to support injury prevention activities and thoughts. The fun products can depict important injury prevention slogans and lessons.

Another great way to reach the community and ensure social distancing is to hold virtual meetings to discuss injury prevention topics. The meetings can be live or pre-recorded sessions on hospital websites and other supporting locations.

Catchy posters, giveaways, and educational sessions are great options to

explore when thinking outside the box for injury prevention. As your trauma program tries to reach the public post-pandemic, consider these innovative ideas to promote injury prevention.

<https://thetraumapro.com/2019/01/03/east-2019-6-trauma-prevention-and-your-trauma-registry/>

News & Announcements

The Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation (MTCSF) Board of Directors met on June 14 to wrap up the second year of the MTCSF.

On behalf of all the MTCSF officers, John Gardner, President, extends a heartfelt thanks to Dr. Hans Tulip for serving as Chairman of the Board this past year. We welcome Mr. William C. Henning, Administrator, and Chief Executive Officer, Baptist Memorial Hospital-North Mississippi as the incoming Chairman of the Board.

Jonathan Wilson, Ph.D., RN, Chief Administrative Officer, The University of Mississippi Medical Center, was elected Chair-Elect. The Board also welcomes Jon D. Simmons, M.D., FACS, Professor, Departments of Surgery and Pharmacology Chief, Division of Trauma,

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Acute Care Surgery & Burns Trauma Medical Director University of South Alabama School of Medicine and Mr. Richard Williams, CEO of Field Health Systems, Centreville, MS, as new members of the MTCSF Board of Directors.

A special thanks to Mr. Alvin Hoover, King's Daughters Medical Center, and Reginald Coopwood, MD, CMO Regional One Health, for their service on the Board since 2020.

Are you interested in sharing news? You are invited to share recognition, announcements, and new employee and physician introductions to the Mississippi Trauma System in future Newsletters.

Send News and Announcements to
jgardner@mhanet.org

SAVE the DATE

District Meetings are Coming!

2022 Town Hall Meeting Schedule

North District – April 12, July 12, Oct. 11

Central District – May 10, Aug. 9, Nov. 8

South District – June 14, Sept. 13, Dec. 13

All District Meetings begin at 10:00 am

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Director's Direction



Mrs. Hickerson provided an excellent injury prevention article in this newsletter. MTCSF desires to partner with you to provide injury prevention education and opportunities to your facility or to the community. Let's get something scheduled.

You can check out the new injury prevention additions to the MTCSF Website.

<https://mtraumafoundation.org/trauma-education/fall-prevention/>

We have several links for information on heat strokes and ATV safety.

John Gardner

Director, MTCSF



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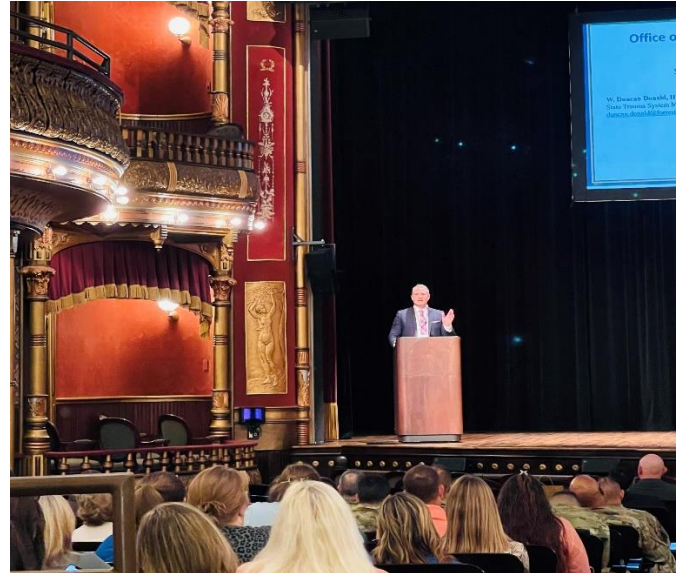
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Symposium 2022 Highlights



ShyAnn King RN, CEN from AirCare, assisted Representative Lester E. "Bubba" Carpenter in donning PPE before participating in Cadaver Lab training. Rep. Carpenter, a guest speaker at the 2022 Symposium, is a paramedic is the president of the MS legislature's First Responder Caucus.

The symposium was honored with guests from the PR CERFP Medical Readiness & training NCO DET-1 156th Medical Group. This Puerto Rican team supports the United States' preparedness for medical care during multiple disaster events.



Duncan Donald, MD, State Trauma Medical Director, leads a panel of experts during a case study in the Historic Theater of the MSU-Riley Center. Panelists include Dr. Stephanie Einhaus, Neurosurgeon Region One Memphis; Dr. Christopher Kinnard, Trauma surgeon USA Mobile; Stacey Graham, Paramedic, NMMC CareFlight; Clayton Cobler, Director Metro Ambulance; Dr. Joseph Radley, Orthopedic Trauma Surgeon Forrest General Hattiesburg.

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Awards & Recognition

An awards ceremony was held during the symposium banquet, and winners were announced. Winners were selected from nominations from their peers across the state.

Legacy Award for Lifetime Achievement in Trauma

Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation requested nominations for an individual (current or retired) who has proven dedication to the development and ongoing support of the Mississippi Trauma System of Care.

The recipient of the Legacy award began her career in rural Mississippi as a paramedic and grew her career as a flight medic. She dedicated her career to trauma patients, was a registrar and active registry committee member, and led many injury prevention projects. Her peers called her the data guru because she could write and run any report requested. She loved to share her knowledge and support others. Her passion for trauma patients was evident by her advocacy and commitment to providing excellent care. She delivered over twenty years of dedication to our trauma system.

Diane Furtick is the recipient of the 2022 Legacy Award.

Rising Star Award

A Rising Star is eager to learn in the ever-changing and challenging healthcare world—a trauma professional who exhibits a Rising Star's resilience, skill, and passion. The rising star recipient shines brightly as a driving force to advance trauma care for children in Mississippi and other states. She

has dedicated over 23 years to pediatric trauma. She serves her community and shares her passion with others by teaching TNCC, CPR, and Stop the Bleed. She has participated in local, state, and national committees to support pediatric care throughout the state. She recently presented education regarding the importance of temperature regulation in the pediatric burn population at TQIP and was recognized as the best presentation and the best presenter.

The 2022 Rising Star Award winner is **Anissa Revels** from LeBonheur Children's.

The Red Tulip Award for Exceptional Trauma Service

The broken *red tulip*, adopted by the American Trauma Society (ATS), symbolizes the pain, suffering, and lifestyle change caused by traumatic injury. This award recognizes a nursing professional.

The Red Tulip Award recipient exhibits her dedication to trauma patients every day. She advocates for exceptional care in Mississippi by consistently educating and supporting her staff. She dedicates time to serve on local and state committees. She always makes herself available for other trauma program managers throughout the state to ask questions and seek support. She has passion and energy, which is evident whenever you are around her. She has dedicated her career to trauma patients and healthcare teams.

The 2022 Red Tulip Award recipient is **Kelly Deakle**, North Mississippi Medical Center.

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Melanie Nunnally poses with Dwight Owens, keynote speaker, and trauma survivor.

Mr. Owens urges anyone in need of assistance after a traumatic event to contact the MS Department of Rehabilitation Services at

<https://www.mdrs.ms.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

Level I Circle of Excellence Award Regional One and Firefighter's Burn Center



The Circle of Excellence award aligns with the mission of the Mississippi Trauma Care System to build and support a statewide trauma system that provides superior care starting when the injury is detected and continuing through definitive treatment while striving to decrease injury and death from trauma. Mississippi continues to have amazing outcomes surrounding trauma patients.

The Circle of Excellence award recognizes a trauma team that promotes excellent patient care through effective communication, true collaboration, decision making, critical thinking, ability to address challenges related to patient care, and act as leaders to advocate for the trauma patient. This team is dedicated to the statewide trauma system model and is passionate about the steps they take to prevent and treat trauma patients. The team is seen as cohesive and serves



Aa'Keela and the Beat

Symposium Welcome Reception at the Mississippi Arts and Entertainment Experience provided tours, games, prizes, food, and entertainment



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as mentors for others. The team may include EMS, nurses, physicians, and other collaborative healthcare members that made a difference in a patient's life. Due to the incredible nominations, MTCSSG presented four Circle of excellence awards.

The Level I facility receiving the Circle of Excellence award knows how precious time is when a traumatic event occurs. They fight to make a difference, especially in the first 60 minutes of the traumatic injury. Dispatch called an officer working in north Mississippi to help motorists on a highway. The motorists had hit debris on the road and caused damage to their vehicles. As the officer was helping the stranded motorists, an intoxicated driver came through the area and pinned the officer between two vehicles. The other officers around him recognized his critical injuries and immediately called for help. The officer was airlifted to a Level I trauma center with extensive damage to bilateral lower extremities. The trauma team was ready when the patient arrived at the trauma center. The trauma team quickly assessed his injuries and moved him to surgery, where lifesaving interventions were performed. This level I trauma center also has a burn center. The trauma surgeons from the hospital and the burn center collaborated and advocated for the patient to ensure the best outcome possible. The team approach from the injury scene, flight crew, trauma team, surgeons, and rehabilitation staff made the patient's recovery possible. The patient is now enjoying time with his wife and son.

Level II Circle of Excellence Award North Mississippi Medical Center Tupelo

The level II facility receiving the Circle of Excellence award cared for a male patient with multiple gunshot wounds. The patient had advocates from local first responders, law enforcement, EMS, and CareFlight stabilizing him to transport to the Level II trauma center. The



team worked together to form a plan. When the helicopter landed at the Level II, a plan to immediately take the patient to surgery was carried out. The teamwork, collaboration, and critical thinking that the trauma team exhibited were outstanding. The flight crew had the patients'



NORTH MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER

blood samples ready for lab, an operating team was in place, and additional hospital staff members were called in to help facilitate immediate transport of the patient to surgery on arrival. The lab had lifesaving blood in surgery as the patient was wheeled in. The patient had surgical repairs to stop his critically bleeding wounds and is expected to recover fully. This case is an excellent example of the Circle of Excellence that makes a difference in the life of a trauma victim.

Level III & Level IV Circle of Excellence Award Baptist Memorial Hospital – Golden Triangle Monroe Regional Hospital

The Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation recently presented its first 'Circle of Excellence Award' to the trauma team at Baptist Memorial Hospital – Golden Triangle. The award recognizes a trauma team that promotes excellent patient care through effective communication, true collaboration, decision-making, critical thinking,

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the ability to address changes related to patient care and advocacy for the patient.

John Gardner, executive director of the Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation, and Victoria



Hickerson, education coordinator for the organization, presented the award to general surgeon Dr. Brian Boyd at the hospital on Monday, June 15. Also

recognized was ER physician Joel Butler, Jr. Both physicians and supporting clinical staff played a vital role in a complex trauma case that helped save a patient's life and earned them the award, said Administrator Paul Cade.

The patient, with multiple wounds, was transported to the closest hospital, a level IV, for stabilization. The patient was in critical condition and needed emergent care. Monroe Regional Hospital pulled every resource they had to stabilize

the patient and called for helicopter transport to a higher level of

care. Baptist Golden Triangle Trauma Program Manager Melissa Downey nominated the team for the award based on the response to a recent trauma case involving a critically ill patient brought to the hospital's emergency department

by helicopter. The patient was initially transported to a Level IV facility for stabilization. The staff there then called for the aircraft to transport the patient to a higher level of care, a level I trauma center. En route, the patient's condition worsened, and the flight crew decided to take the patient to a Level III trauma center and have a surgeon waiting.

"As the flight crew unloaded the patient (at Baptist Golden Triangle), the Emergency Department and surgical team coordinated to save this patient's life. After stabilizing efforts in the ER, the patient was immediately taken to surgery. The ICU/Recovery team worked diligently to keep the patient alive for a second transfer," Downey said in the nomination.

The patient needed a large amount of blood while at Baptist Golden Triangle, which required expert management by the hospital's blood bank. With this, the trauma team could stabilize the patient so they could be transported by helicopter to the highest level of care, a Level I trauma center, Downey said. The patient survived and was discharged from the Jackson hospital.

Downey pointed out that the situation was a prime example of how the state trauma system is designed to work. "Multiple hospitals and departments within those hospitals coordinated quickly and efficiently, just as we train to save this trauma patient's life. If the Level IV facility had not initiated giving the patient blood, they would not have survived to make it to the Baptist ER," she said. The patient required more than 12 units of blood while at Baptist, which required expert coordination with the hospital's blood bank. The trauma team was able to stabilize the patient, so they could then be transported to the highest level of care, a Level I facility, she explained.

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Pictured are Victoria Hickerson, MTCSF Education Coordinator; Paul Cade, Baptist Golden Triangle CEO; ED physician Dr. Joel Butler, Jr.; Melissa Downey, Trauma Program Manager; ED physician Dr. Butler, Sr.; Dr. Brian Boyd, surgeon, and John Gardner, Director of the MTCSF.



Firefighters Regional One Burn Center Awarded



*Ram Velamuri, MD, MRCS,
FACS Burn Center Medical Director
Firefighters Regional One Burn Center
Memphis, Tennessee*

On June 30, 2022, Dr. Velamuri received a letter from The American Burn Association acknowledging the Firefighters Regional One Burn Center has received verification as an Adult Burn Center through May 31, 2025.

In part, the letter states, the "Burn Center Verification Review Committee has carefully reviewed the verification report written by Alisa Savetamal, MD, FACS and Steven Wolf, MD, FACS after their site visit of May 10- 11, 2022. The committee's approval of this report enables the American Burn Association to extend our congratulations - we commend the Firefighters Regional One Burn Center for its commitment to excellence and its dedication to providing quality burn care to patients."



The Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation is pleased to announce this enhancement to the Mississippi Trauma System. Congratulations to Dr. Velamuri, Tina Boam, MS, Burn Program Coordinator,

and the entire Firefighters Regional One Burn Center team.

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EMS WEEK

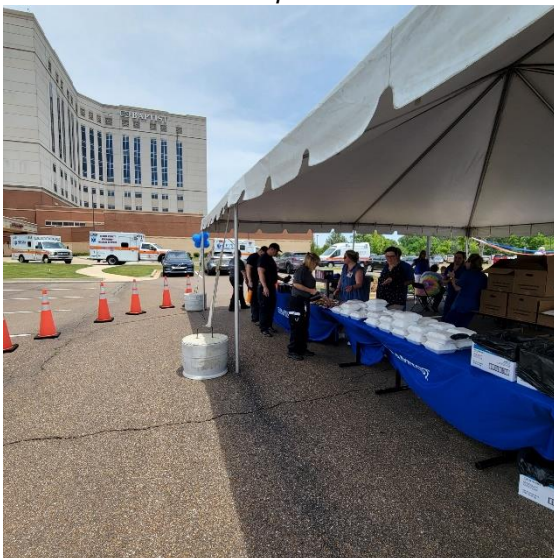
Rising to the Challenge

May 15-21, 2022

**Baptist Hospital -Desoto
Honors EMS Providers**



The Welcome Committee from Baptist Desoto Hospital



Southaven Fire & Desoto County EMS enjoy the hospitality and opportunity to visit

Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation was honored to be part of this celebration.



While at Baptist Desoto Hospital, Victoria Hickerson, Education Coordinator, and John Gardner, Director of the MTCFS, meet with the Emergency Department staff and hospital leaders to honor **Molly Davis, RN**, with a **Mississippi Trauma Nurse Pin**. Ms. Davis was nominated by

her peers, who write, "Molly acts a wonderful resource in our department as a trauma nurse. Her trauma documentation is very detailed and impressive. She does not miss a beat with her patients. She uses critical thinking consistently and notices the smallest changes in her patients. She then quickly and appropriately reports any findings to the provider. Molly is a major asset to our trauma team here at DeSoto! for her leadership, contributions to the hospital's trauma program, and exceptional dedication."

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EMS WEEK Rising to the Challenge May 15-21, 2022



MERIDIAN, Miss. (WTOK) - Emergency Medical Services or EMS workers have been honored all week for the important work they do in our nation's communities.

Local EMS workers were treated to a lunch of crawfish, shrimp, and all the fixings at Metro Ambulance in downtown Meridian Friday. EMS workers provide pre-hospital emergency medical care, and their duties create an inherent risk for on-the-job injuries and illnesses.

"I love it," said John Hollingsworth of Metro Ambulance. ". . . the people at Metro Ambulance put towards this to show their appreciation. They go above and beyond every year."



EMS in Meridian received local television coverage, honoring Metro Ambulance. Justin "Scrappy" Allen expresses appreciation

This is the 47th national EMS week after it was authorized in 1974 by President Gerald Ford.

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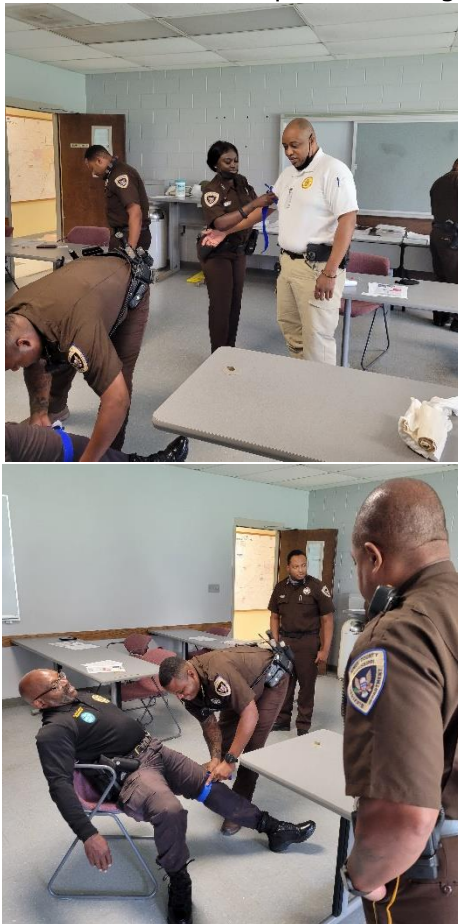
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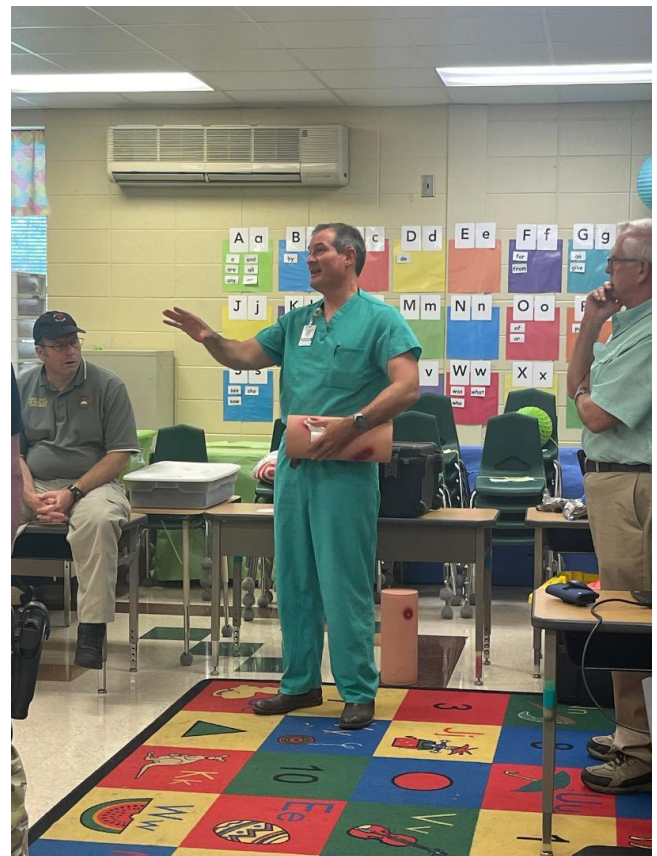
MTCSF provided training and Stop the Bleed kits to one hundred fifty-four Mississippi Law Enforcement and First Responders in June.

Hinds county leaders hosted a training event at the Raymond Detention Center with the goal of training one hundred students during this three-day event. Based on evaluations, the training was beneficial. In the top picture, Captain Jeffery Burnley allows an unidentified officer to apply a tourniquet to his arm. Below, Lieutenant Caesar Hamilton provides some animation as the officer attempts to secure a tourniquet to his leg.



Lamar county leaders asked MTCSF to participate in a joint activity held at Purvis Lower Elementary School. MTCSF provided Stop the Bleed education and Stop the Bleed kits to fifty-two students. Teams from Camp Shelby provide tactical training for active shooter situations and the subsequent medical response necessary.

Duncan Donald, MD, a Forrest General Hospital trauma surgeon, and Trauma Medical Director; Ricky Pitman, Registered Nurse/Paramedic; and John Gardner, Director of the MTCSF, trained officers in the elementary school setting on bleeding control techniques.



Duncan Donald MD, MS Trauma Medical Director, training Lamar County law enforcement officers in the elementary school classroom

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Officers gather for instructions for the day



Ambulance landing at Purvis Lower Elementary



The tactical training team from Camp Shelby provided situational medical training

Below the tactical team seeks and disables the active shooter.



Contact Melanie Nunnally at Forrest General Hospital to learn more about this project.

To request Stop the Bleed training for your area law enforcement officers, contact MTCSF: John Gardner jgardner@mhanet.org or Victoria Hickerson vhickerson@mhanet.org

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