



NEWS



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Stop the Bleeds nears Tri-state training goal

Saul A. Flores, News West/Mohave Valley Daily News

Posted: January 14, 2020



A couple of the attendees of the Stop The Bleed training program, practice how to apply pressure on a wound on Wednesday. Saul A. Flores, News West

NEEDLES — Stop the Bleed, a registered trademark of the United States Department of Defense, trains people to be better prepared to save lives if people nearby are severely bleeding.

In the Tri-state area, Stop The Bleed has been taught on 25 campuses and last week, the training was held at the Needles School campus cafeteria.

“We have three more training sessions over the next couple of Fridays and we have hit every school in the area,” said Lynn Lozada of CareFlight/Air Methods, an air ambulance program. “We wanted to bring bleeding control kits to every single school because, in the event of a mass casualty situation or shooting, we go on lockdown. So if somebody is shot they’re going sit in that classroom until the police have told us that EMS can enter and render aid. So those first 10 to 45 minutes, the chances of that person surviving rely on the people in the classroom that are trained. That’s why we are here training you because you are the immediate responders.”

Raymond Proa, of the Fort Mojave Mesa Fire Department, said that three of the big things they teach are how to apply a tourniquet, how to apply direct pressure and wound packing, and to be aware of where you are and how many people require medical assistance.

The Stop the Bleed campaign is supported by many agencies from around the Tri-state: Fort Mojave Mesa Fire Department, Mohave Valley Fire District, **San Bernardino County Fire** Department, San Bernardino County Sheriff Department, Golden Shores Fire, Bullhead City Fire Department, Baker Ambulance, Western Arizona Regional Medical Center, Tri-State CareFlight, Colorado River Medical Center, UMC Trauma, American Medical Response Las Vegas, River Medical AMR, Bullhead City Police Department, Mohave County Sheriff’s Office, Valley View Medical Center, ICSAVE (Integrated Community Solutions to Active Violence Events), Class Air Medical and Clark County Fire Department.

Lozada said the San Bernardino Fire Department, SBC Firefighters Association and Southwest Gas bought and paid for every single classroom in Needles to have a bleeding control kit.

In the kit, there is a pediatric tourniquet, combat application tourniquet, packing materials, gloves, scissors, saws and other items.

“If something like an active shooter would happen, there is no one entity that can handle it,” said Proa. “Putting everybody on the same page makes us run more efficient, otherwise we are being reactionary instead of being proactive.”

There are a lot of benefits from taking the Stop The Bleed training but Proa said that the biggest benefit is people being able to save a person’s life.

“When we look at a lot of these shooting events, they last about 10 minutes but we are getting there about 45 minutes after the event ended,” said Proa. “So the people who have been taught how to put on a proper tourniquet on others, they buy time until we can get there,”

Proa said that officials looked at the shooting that happened in Parkland, Florida, and of the 17 people who died, many had extremity wounds and not many had core wounds.

“A simple tourniquet or wound packing could have saved a quarter of those students,” said Proa.

Lozada said that during the Las Vegas shooting at the Route 91 Festival, a lot of people were saved because other people there had taken Stop The Bleed training.

“Over 400 people were shot and about 50 were lost,” he said, suggesting the fatality count was lower “because people took the courses.”

“People took off their belts to use as tourniquets and took off their shirts and used everything and anything they could,” he said “In Route 91, we had the most survivors because of the application and the skills.”

After Stop The Bleed has gone to the remaining school campuses, Proa said, area officials are looking at doing a training once a week in different locations across the Tri-state.

“There is also good data that this program can be used for everyday life because if people are out having fun on their side-by-side or going hunting, they can use the training to help their friends until first responders get to the scene.”

http://www.mohavedailynews.com/news/stop-the-bleeds-nears-tri-state-training-goal/article_221c7ada-3695-11ea-8b5d-4bf33edfdf34.html

Unprepared hikers rescued from Mt. Baldy area

Jaelyn Cosgrove, Los Angeles Times

Posted: January 13, 2020, 9:25 pm



Several hikers needed rescuing in the Mt. Baldy area last week. Rescuers say hikers should not attempt to climb Mt. Baldy in the winter without proper equipment. (Luis Sinco / Los Angeles Times)

Aviation crews with the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department made two rescues last week in the Mt. Baldy area for hikers unprepared for the elements.

At 2:30 p.m. Friday, two L.A. residents in their late 20s were hiking the Devil’s Backbone trail, east of the Mt. Baldy summit, in extremely icy conditions, according to the Sheriff’s Department. Neither was wearing crampons — metal spikes that hikers can attach to their footwear for added traction.

One of the men slipped and slid about 200 feet down an ice chute before hitting a tree. His hiking partner called for help, and Air Rescue 306 soon arrived.

Crew Chief Deputy David Negron hoisted **Fire Capt. Jay Hausman** about 65 feet down to the injured hiker, and he placed the man in a rescue harness. They took the man to a hospital for non-life-threatening injuries.

The second hiker then realized he was in the same danger of slipping on the ice. He called again for help. The crew returned and conducted another hoist rescue, taking the second man to a nearby sheriff's station.

“The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department would like to remind the public about the dangers of hiking in hazardous conditions such as steep, rugged, mountainous terrain covered with snow and ice,” Sgt. Daniel Futscher said in a news release. “Without crampons (a specific type of traction device for ice climbing) and an ice ax, along with the proper training to use this equipment, this type of activity can lead to serious injury or death.”

A few hours later, a crew headed to the Ice House Canyon area of Mt. Baldy to search for a lost 26-year-old Santa Ana man.

Using night vision goggles, the crew found the man a few miles from the trailhead at 8,000 feet elevation in steep, mountainous terrain covered in snow and ice.

As the sun set, the temperature had plummeted to near freezing, and the man had traveled two hours in the snow at night before stopping because of pain in his feet. He was taken to a hospital for hypothermia.

Deputy Doug Brimmer, a pilot on the rescue crew, said the man told rescuers that he had hiked the trail before but, like others that they've rescued, didn't seem to have considered how winter weather would intensify the difficulty of the trek.

“When we get the snow, they love to come up and get the beautiful views, but they don't come prepared,” Brimmer said. “This guy was hiking by himself in light clothing and tennis shoes with no food, no water and 50% battery life on his cellphone.”

The rescues come about a month after Sreenivas “Sree” Mokkaapati, a 52-year-old Irvine resident, went missing after he got separated from his group that was attempting to hike to the Mt. Baldy summit.

A few days into the search, authorities closed the Mt. Baldy trails because rescue crews kept getting diverted to help other hikers in distress.

The search for Mokkaapati was shut down after Timothy Staples, a 32-year-old search and rescue volunteer, was found dead in the ice and snow after he got separated from his search partner. Mokkaapati remains missing.

County authorities have continued to stress that no one should attempt to climb Mt. Baldy in the winter months without proper equipment, including crampons, snowshoes, trekking poles and ice axes.

<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2020-01-13/unprepared-hikers-rescued-from-mt-baldy-area>