



South Williamsport

{AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT}



January 31, 2019

UPMC Susquehanna Donates Life-Saving Tools to the School District

UPMC Susquehanna generously donated three large hemorrhage trauma kits to the South Williamsport Area School District. One of these large kits will be mounted inside the main entrance of each school later this month. The school district is incredibly thankful for the donation and the necessary training the hospital has provided at no cost.

Last year the hospital donated three smaller kits, as a part of the Stop the Bleed Initiative. Those smaller kits are mounted throughout the South Williamsport Area Jr/Sr High School.

Stop the Bleed's purpose is to educate the public on how to stop life-threatening bleeding following an emergency or natural disaster, according to the initiative's website. It encourages the distribution of trauma kits and to teach people how to use the life-saving tools.

Inside each kit are three tourniquets, three compression bandages, three rolls of hemostatic gauze, small scissors, gloves and a mask. The new kits are larger, containing multiple smaller kits plus a stretcher.

Chief Carl Finnerty, of the South Williamsport Police Department, said having trauma kits in the schools and training staff how to use them is part of being prepared for an emergency. It goes hand-in-hand with the ALICE active shooter training that every staff member must complete.

"Major bleeding injuries are life threatening," he said. "With these kits available, someone can use it on themselves or another person to stop the bleeding and potentially save their life."

School Resource Officer Mike Samar said having staff educated on how to use a tourniquet is a way to stay ahead of a potential massive tragedy.



UPMC Susquehanna donated three hemorrhage trauma kits to the South Williamsport Area School District. This allows every building to have these life-saving tools available in case of an emergency. Shown L-R: Superintendent Dr. Mark Stamm; Chief Carl Finnerty, of the South Williamsport Police Department; and School Resource Officer Mike Samar along side the trauma kits.

The goal is to have all school district employees go through the training UPMC Susquehanna provides, said Superintendent Dr. Mark Stamm. There have been three sessions so far which have all had a great turn out and positive feedback.

The next staff training session for Stop the Bleed, CPR and AEDs is February 18.

For more information about Stop the Bleed, please visit www.bleedingcontrol.org.