

THE COLUMBUS-ATHENS SCHWEITZER FELLOWS PROGRAM

Purpose: To facilitate service projects to benefit the Columbus and Athens communities, and simultaneously develop emerging professionals who have the skills to address unmet health-related needs throughout their careers.

THE ALBERT SCHWEITZER FELLOWSHIP
Addressing Health Disparities by Developing Leaders in Service

“Start early to instill in your students awareness that they are on this earth to help and serve others; that is as important to pass on to them as knowledge.”

—Albert Schweitzer, PhD, MD

Project Stop the Bleed

Addressing First Aid Knowledge and the School Shooting Epidemic in Northeastern Ohio High Schools

Background

- Gun violence is a massive problem in the United States, with school shootings appearing in the news all too frequently. Each day, 8 children will die from gun violence, with another 32 being shot or injured. Since 1970, the US has had 1,316 school shootings, 18 of which have taken place since Sandy Hook.²
- Of the 516 school shootings since 2010, 311 occurred in high schools, and 111 occurred in elementary schools.²⁻³
- Cleveland has consistently held a top 20 spot in the crime rate for US cities, and as of 2019, had 62.9 violent crimes per 100,000 residents, contributing significantly to the rate at which people in Ohio will see, know of, or be victim to gun violence.¹
- After the Sandy Hook shooting, US representatives from all Emergency Medicine, US Homeland Security, and American College of Surgeons convened the **Hartford Consensus**. From these meetings, 4 publications have demonstrated the need for layperson intervention
- **Stop the Bleed** was designed to educate these people on bleeding control.



Project

I implemented Stop the Bleed curriculum within local high schools and raised awareness of the curriculum within the greater community. Project aims were to:

- Teach students how to correctly pack a wound
- Teach students how to correctly apply a tourniquet
- Teach students how to setup medical ID on their cell phones and call 991/SOS
- Educate EMS, local police departments, and community volunteers on how to teach Stop the Bleed in the community
- Increase knowledge of Stop the Bleed in the community
- Break stigma in discussing school shootings



Impact

- Taught 1000+ high school students and 100+ clinicians and community service members Stop the Bleed.
- Developed partnership with University Hospitals (UH), who donates \$1M/year towards the Stop the Bleed mission in Ohio schools.
- Taught Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Dept., Cuyahoga County S.W.A.T., and Shaker Heights Police Dept., putting advanced first aid kits in their squad cars with UH's help.
- Recruited 30+ medical students, parent volunteers, and community Fire/Police departments to help teach high school students.
- Created a team of medical students to carry on our mission, continuing the relationships we established with community law enforcement, Fire/EMS, and school districts.

Feedback:

- “I came away much more knowledgeable about STB and other first response tactics following the training, largely due to the curiosity of the students we were teaching.”

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