



Kelli Smith, Johnathan Durrett, Steve Billinger, Barton County Sheriff's office Lieutenant, and Jeff Green, Founder of SafeDefend, analyze the alert process of both Clara Barton staff and local law enforcement during the first test of the SafeDefend system.

CLARA BARTON

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throughout all CBH facilities. When discussion began, Clara Barton did not currently have an alarm system that could be activated in the event of an armed intruder. After extensive discussion, the decision was made to install the SafeDefend Active Shooter Response System in the hospital as well as each of their clinics in Hoisington, Great Bend, and Russell. This system will allow Clara Barton Hospital staff to have access to a system that will immediately alert staff organization-wide and law enforcement that an active shooter or dangerous individual has entered the building.

The SafeDefend Active Shooter Response System was developed by a former elementary principal. As a father of three and with 475 students under his watch, Jeff Green realized that schools were not addressing the four critical areas needed to protect students and staff. Those four priorities were:

- 1) reducing law enforcement response time
- 2) ensuring law enforcement and staff had real time crisis information
- 3) providing the ability for staff to effectively manage the crisis until help arrives
- 4) realizing the biggest threat to our schools is already inside the building

Green's vision to better protect staff and students resulted in a system that would essentially provide the tools needed to alert all personnel organization-wide and instantaneously alert 911 dispatch and local law enforcement.

"We continually see the current approaches to active shooter response fail us," said Jeff Green, Founder of SafeDefend. "The ability to ensure staff are aware of the crisis, law enforcement is on the way and staff can effectively manage the crisis until help arrives is critical in saving lives."

The SafeDefend Response System has been installed in all Clara Barton locations and all Clara Barton staff has been trained on how to effectively use the system in the case of an emergency.

"The safety of our patients and our staff is our top priority," said Jim Blackwell, Clara Barton Hospital and Clinics President/CEO. "Installing the Safe Defend System not only ensures the security

of our facilities, but it also provides piece of mind for both our staff and our patients, knowing there is a system in place that will immediately alert all personnel and law enforcement if an intruder has posed a threat inside our facility."

The same system was also recently installed in all USD 431 schools.

"When seconds count in an active shooter situation, this system Clara Barton Hospital installed is phenomenal," said Steve Billinger, Barton County Sheriff's Department Lieutenant. "I am impressed with Clara Barton's proactive planning to address this horrific threat we all face today, and hopefully we will never need it."

RCDH offers Lymphedema Clinic

Lymphedema is a painful condition that effects millions of people worldwide. It is caused when the lymph vessels are unable to transport fluid back into circulation, resulting in a buildup of protein rich fluid, which causes swelling and thickening of the skin.

Rice County District Hospital provides quality treatment for patients experiencing lymphedema. Certified Lymphedema Therapist, Vicki Johnston, is specifically trained in Complete Decongestive Therapy through the Norton School of Lymphatics.

"There are two types of lymphedema that may affect our patients: Primary and Secondary," Johnston explained.

Primary Lymphedema is rare and is caused by malformations of the lymphatic system. Primary Lymphedema is most common in women and is hereditary. It may be present at birth or can develop later, often during puberty or pregnancy. This type most commonly affects the legs, but patients may also have symptoms in their arms or torso.

Secondary Lymphedema is far more common and is the result of damage to the lymphatic system. The most common causes of Secondary Lymphedema are surgeries, post-mastectomies, or lumpectomies with radiation and removal of lymph nodes. It occurs

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