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Save a Life

University of Dayton

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Monday September 18, 2017

Save a Life

The University of Dayton is the first college campus in the nation to host an interactive kiosk that teaches hands-only CPR in just a few minutes.

It's a skill that saved a life on campus two years ago.

Sean Ferguson '15 was hit by lightning just outside the RecPlex. Unconscious and not breathing, he might have died — had it not been for fellow student Matt Lickenbrock '16, who started CPR chest compressions.

Lickenbrock had just learned hands-only CPR two days earlier on a training kiosk inside the Dallas-Fort Worth airport during a layover.

Now, through a generous gift from Dayton Freight Lines Inc., the Miami Valley Division of the American Heart Association is placing the same type of training kiosk in the lobby of the RecPlex.

“Who would have thought it would be just a hundred yards from the spot where Matt saved my life?” Ferguson said at a dedication on Sept. 15.

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"It's so easy to learn that vital skill that in that moment was so important and so simple at the same time," Lickenbrock said. "So I encourage and challenge every one of you, if not today at this kiosk, to learn CPR. You never know when you'll need it."

The kiosk features Ferguson and Lickenbrock's story in a video. It allows visitors to practice on a rubber torso and then take a 30-second CPR test.

Currently there are 11 hands-only CPR kiosks installed around the nation and nearly 25,000 people have used them to learn the life-saving skill.

"Cardiac arrest remains a leading cause of death in the United States, and survival depends on immediately receiving CPR from someone nearby," said Steve Hess, past chair of the board of the Miami Valley Division of the American Heart Association. "Increasing the number of bystander responders we have who can step in to perform CPR if necessary strengthens the chain of survival here in Dayton. Although in-person training is still the best way to learn the skills necessary for high-quality CPR, the kiosk will provide additional training that could make a difference and save the life of someone you love."

About 90 percent of cardiac arrest victims die, often because bystanders don't know how to start CPR or are afraid they'll do something wrong. Bystander CPR, especially if administered immediately, can double or triple a cardiac victim's chance of survival, which is why the hands-only CPR education available at the kiosks is so valuable. In just a few minutes, visitors will learn a skill that can potentially make a difference in the lives of those they love as well as others.

The CPR kiosk at the University of Dayton is located at the Evanston Avenue entrance to the University of Dayton RecPlex. It's open to the public Monday through Thursday 6 a.m. to midnight; Friday 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.; and Sunday 9 a.m. to midnight. Special facility hours and closings occur during holidays and University breaks; visit go.udayton.edu/campusrec for a schedule.

For more information, contact Meagan Pant, assistant director of news and communications, at 937-229-3256 or mpant1@udayton.edu.

educational opportunities. Also, Caroline Waldron Merithew was the subject of a American Historical Association member spotlight and Law.com blog Ahead of the Curve and an op-ed in Inside Higher Ed discussed the School of Law's entry into online education.

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