

# TOOELE Transcript Bulletin

## Mass casualty training exercise held at hospital

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Hospital staff bring a fake patient in on a stretcher during a drill held at the hospital last week.

Last week, a mass casualty training exercise was held at Mountain West Medical Center to coach staff and first responders about what to do in a real emergency.

The drill was held on Wednesday, Oct. 30 from 8-10 a.m. During the exercise, which involved a fake partial collapse at the construction site of the new Deseret Peak High School, 25 “patients” were taken to the hospital via ambulance and in personally-owned vehicles with varying degrees of “injury.”

The exercise was held in order to test the hospital’s new Emergency Department Surge Team, which was created last year after the Main Street truck disaster in Nov. 2023.

“Ongoing training and education such as this provide opportunities to learn new skills, update existing ones, and enhance knowledge about various aspects of emergency management,”



Hospital staff plan during the drill.

said Becky Trigg, Mountain West Medical Center’s public information officer. “This exercise was well thought out and organized, with great teaching moments along the way.”

Participants in the drill included hospital staff, Mountain West Ambulance Services personnel, and the Tooele County Sheriff’s Dispatch Center.

“Our hospital is committed to helping our community 24/7, especially during disasters,”

said Glenn Reinicke, ancillary services director and director of emergency management at Mountain West Medical Center. “As leaders, we want to make sure our staff receive training in emergency preparedness and are able to participate in practical exercises that will test their skills. We then receive feedback from our staff to improve our processes. This is a continuous cycle we have implemented to help us improve and make sure we are ready when disasters occur.”

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Staff meet in their command center during the event.