CENTEGIX®

Life-Saving Stories

Responding Rapidly to Medical Emergencies with the CENTEGIX Safety Platform™

Medical emergencies almost always rely on the element of time for a good outcome. How quickly the situation can be identified and notification for help sent, paired with the accuracy of the location information, is a life-saving combination that only the CENTEGIX Safety Platform™ can offer.

Despite the preventative measures to protect staff and students, medical emergencies ***will*** happen. Response time is essential: the sooner you respond, the better the chances for a positive outcome. In fact, data has shown that medical emergencies account for more than 10% of safety incidents on many school campus. Not only that, medical phenomena such as Sudden Cardiac Arrest—the number one cause of death on school campuses, as well as the number one killer of student-athletes—further underscore the need for safety solutions that can rapidly and effectively get help to the scene.

The CENTEGIX Safety Platform is a simple yet innovative solution that empowers every employee to participate in your organization's safety. As the foundation of an organization's layered safety plan, the capabilities of the CENTEGIX CrisisAlert™ wearable badge put time on the side of the responders, leading to better outcomes and ***life-saving*** events.

In the 2022-2023 school year, schools across the U.S. used CrisisAlert more than 100,000 times to rapidly request help during medical emergencies. Here are some of the life-saving stories.

Giving Educators Power on the Playground

In Spring 2022, a student at Flomaton Elementary School (AL) was playing at recess on the playground when he experienced a medical emergency: a rock kicked by another child on a swing had lodged in the student's throat and he was choking.

A staff member, whose radio was out of reach, immediately activated her CENTEGIX CrisisAlert™ badge and began performing the Heimlich Maneuver on the student. "And when I've gone back and watched the video, in less than 30 seconds…we had three additional adults there. Of course, [the CENTEGIX CrisisAlert™ badge alerted] someone at the Central Office, they immediately within 60 seconds were calling my phone…[The adjoining campus'] Assistant Principal came, his nurse came, our resource officer…We had seven adults around this child in less than 60 seconds…We were able to call his mom, his dad…The rock did come up thankfully, but again...right there, we knew CENTEGIX earned its keep that day," shared Flomaton Principal Courtney McBride.

In April 2021, a Ruskin Elementary School (FL) teacher and paraprofessional used quick thinking to help save the life of one of their kindergarten students. They were out on the playground with their students when suddenly one of them went quiet and had a dazed look on his face. Shortly after, the kindergartener laid down and began to vomit. Then he began to turn blue in the face.

The paraprofessional began chest compressions once he became suddenly unresponsive. The teacher used her CrisisAlert badge to alert responders and administrators of the emergency and relay their exact location on the school campus. Because of their quick-thinking and use of the CrisisAlert badge to get medical help to the scene rapidly, the young student made a full recovery.

How CrisisAlert Made The Difference:

- CrisisAlert enables a ***rapid response*** in medical emergencies, improving outcomes.
- The CrisisAlert badge can request help ***anywhere on campus***, even outdoor locations like the playground
- CrisisAlert provides the ***precise location*** of the emergency so responders know exactly where to go
- The CrisisAlert badge ***immediately alerts responders*** with the push of a button; no fumbling with a mobile application or walkie-talkie to request help
- CrisisAlert is worn on your person, making it ***accessible and available at all times***

Sudden Seizures Require Rapid Responses

Dr. David Lewis, superintendent of Muscogee County Public Schools (GA), noted the importance of time and location as a top priority for safety measures. As a result of an experience during his tenure as a high school principal in which a staff member passed away, Dr. Lewis searched for safety measures with the ability to pinpoint exact locations for any kind of crisis or emergency. Dr. Lewis invested in CENTEGIX CrisisAlert™ because it provides exactly that.

In 2021, an emergency situation unfolded. While working in the cafeteria, a culinary technician experienced a grand mal seizure. Fortunately, a colleague was nearby and saw the event unfold and was able to respond by pressing their CrisisAlert™ badge to alert responders of the emergency while attending to their collapsed colleague. The immediate deployment of medical services to the ***right*** location was key.

CENTEGIX CrisisAlert™ provided support to the scene within a five-minute time period.

The culinary technician received the medical assistance they needed and made a full recovery. "I can only imagine [without it it] would've been a much worse outcome," Dr. Lewis said. "For me, that one incident saving [that life] and giving them ***the support they needed at the time they needed the most*** is probably the most gratifying thing I can say about this particular resource."

In August 2021, Dunbar High School (FL) student, Mia Santiago suffered a seizure. Mia started turning white and gray as she struggled to breathe. Shortly after, she completely coded—no vitals detected. Her teacher pushed the button on her CrisisAlert badge. Within seconds, the response team arrived on scene with an AED, called 911, and completed chest compressions on Mia for 15 minutes until EMS arrived.

When EMS arrived on campus, Mia was transported to the hospital. She was in a coma for a week but recovered. The doctors and teachers say if it weren't for the badge, she would not have survived.

How CrisisAlert Made The Difference:

- CrisisAlert enables a ***rapid response*** in medical emergencies, improving outcomes.
- The CrisisAlert badge ***immediately alerts responders*** with the push of a button; no fumbling with a mobile application or walkie-talkie that not every staff member has.
- CrisisAlert provides the ***precise location*** of the emergency so responders know exactly where to go, down to the exact floor and room.
- The CrisisAlert badge's ***one-button activation*** enables users to easily and rapidly request help.
- Every staff member gets a CrisisAlert badge, every staff member ***is protected***.

Cardiac Arrests on Campus

On the morning of May 4, 2023, a sophomore at Avon Park High School of Highlands County Schools (FL), Madisyn Miners, collapsed during class change. Witnesses assumed she had slipped and hit her head. First on the scene was Algebra teacher Melinda Pollitt. "Don't assume," she now warns. "We thought it was a head injury until we moved her hair and saw that her face was blue." Pollitt immediately reached out for additional help.

The assistant principal of APHS, Kimberly Velasquez, had just finished a classroom observation when a student banged on the door, shouting, "Somebody passed out." "That's all I knew," Velasquez said. "I didn't know anything, but as soon as I heard that, I immediately pressed my CENTEGIX button three times. I had not even assessed the situation. I just coordinated everyone getting there."

"Her pulse was barely there," Fuentes said. "We all knew we needed the AED." An emergency response often relies on critical safety assets. Having a safety solution that can tell you precisely where assets are located, that they've been properly maintained, and that they are fully functional is vital to managing through a crisis. When the alert was initiated, a teacher went straight to the gym where the school's AED (automated external defibrillator) was located and handed it off to a student who raced it up to the second floor and delivered it to the team with Madisyn. Within five minutes of Miner's collapse, Fuentes applied the AED. Just 13 minutes after Madisyn collapsed, the ambulance left the school and took her to a local hospital where she fully recovered.

A medical incident occurred on campus in Muscogee County Schools, GA. A custodian was working alone in the afternoon when he suddenly experienced a heart attack. He needed medical assistance as soon as possible.

Because he was wearing his CrisisAlert badge on his person, he could press the button and summon help directly to his ***precise location*** before becoming unresponsive. Help arrived on the scene within three minutes, where they were able to provide support and resources immediately.

Dr. Lewis believes the custodian's life was saved due to CrisisAlert. Immediately deploying medical services to the specific location on the digital campus map was key. This further underscores the importance of safety technology that delivers precise location information of emergencies and critical safety asset information. "We had medical personnel on site. They say, time is of the essence in those situations," Dr. Lewis commented. "The ability for coaches or school staff or administrators who might be on scene to deploy the resources that quickly to the right location, again, is just really important to me and provides a certain level of comfort, obviously, for our employees and to our parents and students as well, to know that we have that resource available to us, should the need arise."

On November 30, 2022, Yakima School District (WA) trained staff members at one of the middle schools on how to use CrisisAlert for the very first time. The next day, the wearable badge saved a staff member's life. A school counselor was suddenly not feeling well while alone in her office. Her vision had become blurry, and she couldn't see the numbers on the phone to make the call for help.

Thankfully, She was wearing the CrisisAlert badge and was able to use the panic alert button before losing consciousness. By using the badge, staff and security knew precisely where to go and were able to get into the locked office and call 911. The counselor was rushed to the hospital and doctors reported that she had a heart attack.

When the counselor lost consciousness, she slid out of her chair to the floor behind her desk where she was no longer visible to anyone passing by her office door. Since her office was also locked, it is likely that hours would have passed before someone noticed what had happened.

Had she not had the CENTEGIX badge, she wouldn't be with us today. She could have remained out of sight behind that closed, locked door on the floor behind her desk. She has gone on to make a full recovery.

On February 7, 2023, less than a month after the staff was trained, a Brantley County Schools (GA) teacher was working one-on-one with a student. Hearing what sounded like crying outside her room, she found a teacher falling to the floor. The investigating teacher yelled for help, and another teacher rushed in and pressed her CrisisAlert badge three times, alerting the school's principal and nurse to an emergency.

The principal and nurse knew right where the emergency was happening and ran to the classroom. In the meantime, the teacher triggered a second three-press alert on her CrisisAlert badge. A second group of school administrators ran to the classroom. Upon arriving, the principal and nurse found the teacher not breathing and without a pulse. They quickly began CPR. Less than one minute later, the second wave of help arrived with the automated external defibrillator (AED) and was able to get a pulse; EMS arrived shortly after and rushed the teacher to the hospital.

When first responders don't have exact location information of an emergency, response times can increase substantially. Adopting technology with mapping features, like CrisisAlert, is critical because every second matters in any type of emergency situation.

For Dr. Morgan, the precious seconds saved with the help of the CrisisAlert badge and notification system are proof-positive that this solution is exactly what her schools need to keep people safe. Because of this technology, help arrived in the right location at the right time. Notes Dr. Morgan, "The doctors told her without a doubt that if the AED had not been used within the first five-to-six minutes, that she wouldn't be here today. So we know without a doubt that badge helped speed up that response."

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- CrisisAlert is worn on your person, making it ***accessible and available at all times***
- CrisisAlert provides the ***precise location*** of the emergency so responders know exactly where to go, down to the exact floor and room
- The CrisisAlert badge can request help ***anywhere on campus***, even locations far from IT setups or temporary structures like mobile classrooms
- The CrisisAlert badge's ***one-button activation*** enables users to easily and rapidly request help
- Every staff member gets a CrisisAlert badge, every staff member ***is protected***

During medical emergencies, getting first responders to the correct location rapidly is critical. Often, the speed of response is the difference between life and death. That was the case in these stories, where CENTEGIX's CrisisAlert was used to take action and ***save lives***.

CENTEGIX offers the most effective and comprehensive school safety system on the market with the CENTEGIX Safety Platform. Emergencies will happen. When every second matters, CENTEGIX's CrisisAlert is a practical, accessible, and easy-to-use incident response system that is always available.

When asked about advice for other superintendents considering emergency response technology for their communities, Dr. Kim Morgan of Brantley County Schools said, "I don't know of another product out there that can help control the response time to emergencies. Whether it is a whole campus situation—the unthinkable—or these different medical emergencies or classroom events. I cannot think of anything that will speed up a response the way this does or enable as many employees to get help and initiate a response." In times of high stress and panic, every second matters. Empowering people to communicate effectively and take appropriate action in a crisis ensures that no time is wasted. Lives are saved with CrisisAlert.

CENTEGIX® Learn more today. Because every second matters.

For more information on school safety technology solutions, visit our CENTEGIX Safety Platform page at centegix.com/safety-platform.