



at&t *Walgreens*



Wisconsin Medical Society
Foundation

News Release

For more information, contact:

Jessica Erickson, AT&T
608-282-7870 (work)
608-692-5340 (cell)
jessica.erickson@att.com

Over 300 Johnson Creek Elementary Students Learn How to Be Prepared for Disasters and Emergencies

STEP Program Teaches Students How to Assemble Emergency Kit, Develop an Emergency Plan with Their Families

JOHNSON CREEK, Tuesday, April 29, 2014 — Over 300 students at Johnson Creek Elementary School learned how to be prepared to respond in the event of a disaster or emergency during an event at the school today.

The students participated in the STEP, or Student Tools for Emergency Planning, program. The statewide program teaches 5th graders how to be prepared for various disasters and emergencies, how to assemble an emergency kit, and how to develop an emergency plan with their families.

“Emergencies and disasters can happen at any time to anyone, and that’s why we think it is so important to prepare our students,” said Kris Blakeley, principal of Johnson Creek Elementary. “We’re excited to teach the STEP curriculum once again this year and give our students the tools and knowledge they need in order to have confidence in an emergency situation.”

This is the fourth year that STEP is being offered to schools in Wisconsin and the second year that Johnson Creek Elementary is participating in the program. This year, the STEP program is supported by a \$15,000 AT&T Innovation & Investment Award, as well as grants from Walgreens and the Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation.

Students heard from Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) officials, AT&T representatives, Johnson Creek Fire Chief Jim Wolf and State Rep. Joel Kleefisch (R-Oconomowoc) about actions they can take to be prepared in an emergency situation.

“It is so important for our young people to know how to respond and act quickly when an emergency happens,” said Representative Kleefisch. “Not only does STEP teach students how to prepare for emergencies, but it also encourages them to share that information with their parents and communities.”

Nearly 150 schools from across Wisconsin are participating in the STEP program this spring. To view the list of participating schools by county, please visit: <http://ready.wi.gov/news/2014/STEP2013-14SchoolRundown.pdf>

AT&T has a long-standing commitment to disaster preparedness and business continuity, and is the first company in the nation to earn U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) certification for disaster preparedness.

“We know how critical it is to be ready and prepared to respond in the event of a disaster or emergency,” said Scott T. VanderSanden, president of AT&T Wisconsin. “Not only are we proud that our network operations are state-of-the-art when it comes to performing both during and after a disaster, but we are also proud to help prepare Wisconsin families to respond to emergencies through our support of the STEP program.”

The STEP program provides teachers with all materials to teach the curriculum at no cost to the schools, including instructor guides, DVDs and copies of student handouts. All students participating in the program also receive an emergency kit to take home, which includes a flashlight, first aid kit and emergency blanket. The basic lesson is only one hour of instruction, but teachers can expand the lessons to cover eight hours of materials.

For more information on STEP, please visit <http://readywisconsin.wi.gov/step/>.

This is the second year that the STEP program has been supported by a \$15,000 AT&T donation. The AT&T Wisconsin Innovation & Investment Award program provides funding to local organizations that enhance and give back to their communities. The program is focused on awarding grants to organizations and programs that improve the community by advancing education, enhancing the environment, promoting economic development, or delivering other community services.

**AT&T products and services are provided or offered by subsidiaries and affiliates of AT&T Inc. under the AT&T brand and not by AT&T Inc.*

About AT&T

AT&T Inc. (NYSE:T) is a premier communications holding company and [one of the most honored companies in the world](#). Its subsidiaries and affiliates – AT&T operating companies – are the providers of AT&T services in the United States and internationally. With a powerful array of network resources that includes the nation’s most reliable 4G LTE network, AT&T is a leading provider of wireless, Wi-Fi, high speed Internet, voice and cloud-based services. A leader in mobile Internet, AT&T also offers the best wireless coverage worldwide of any U.S. carrier, offering the most wireless phones that work in the most countries. It also offers advanced TV service with the AT&T U-verse® brand. The company’s suite of IP-based business communications services is one of the most advanced in the world.

Additional information about AT&T Inc. and the products and services provided by AT&T subsidiaries and affiliates is available at <http://www.att.com/aboutus> or follow our news on Twitter at @ATT, on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/att> and YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/att>.

About Philanthropy at AT&T

AT&T Inc. (NYSE:T) is committed to advancing education, strengthening communities and improving lives. Through its philanthropic initiatives, AT&T has a long history of supporting projects that create learning opportunities; promote academic and economic achievement; and address community needs. In 2010, more than \$148.2 million was contributed through corporate-, employee- and AT&T Foundation-giving programs.

© 2014 AT&T Intellectual Property. All rights reserved. AT&T, the AT&T logo and all other marks contained herein are trademarks of AT&T Intellectual Property and/or AT&T affiliated companies. All other marks contained herein are the property of their respective owners.