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Rural Health Education Gets Bussed to Lexington
30-foot Mobile Simulation Vehicle Takes Real-world Health Care to Whole New Level

When it comes to health care, technology continues to morph into new forms and shapes—even ones that look like a 30-foot bus. MobileSim, an interactive, educational health care vehicle, will make its way to Lexington, MO from June 27th through July 1st at Lex-La-Ray Vo-tech. The medical bus is equipped with computerized lifelike patient mannequins and virtual reality devices that simulate over 110 medical scenarios, including child birth. Health care providers from Lafayette Regional Health Center and vo-tech students from Lex-La-Ray will take advantage of this on-site educational experience sponsored by the MU Extension and Area Health Education Centers (AHEC).

“Providing on-going health care training for providers in rural areas is challenging,” said Toniann Richard, executive director of the Health Care Coalition (HCC) of Lafayette County. “MobileSim literally delivers on-site, real-world educational training that keeps medical practitioners well-equipped to handle a variety of situations. This is truly technology at its best.”

MobileSim training includes curriculum for everyone from first responders and law enforcement to lay persons who want to learn CPR, which will be offered on July 1 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at Lex-La-Ray. MobileSim allows hands-on interaction with a realistic “patient” that forces trainees into real-world decisions and responses that prepare them for the unexpected.

As for health care professionals, MobileSim delivers on-site practice for high-risk patient events in a controllable, safe environment. “The active training leaves health care providers better prepared, improves team dynamics found in real health care environments, and encourages students and professionals to become lifelong learners,” said Dena Higbee, MU’s clinical simulation center director.

MobileSim training is supported by a \$288,133 grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). For more information about MU’s clinical simulation training, visit <http://clinicalsimulation.missouri.edu>. For MobileSim tour opportunities in Lexington, or to schedule future on-site training, call the HCC at 660.259.9019.

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