**NEWS RELEASE**

**[Simple Triage and Rapid Treatment (STaRT) Application – Beta Release]**

[MOT LLC]                                                                                                              [12/08/2022]

**[STaRT coming to an Android Store/iOS web store near you]**

*[Kennesaw State University, Master’s in Healthcare Informatics]*

**[Kennesaw, GA], [12/07/2022] –**News release content.

The Simple Triage and Rapid Treatment (STaRT) application will be used by community-based organizations who are prepared to serve as a crucial resource capable of performing many of the emergency functions needed in the immediate post-disaster period or in emergency cases.

It’s difficult to predict exactly when a natural disaster will occur and the impact it will have. Natural disasters - such as earthquakes, hurricanes, tornados, avalanches, floods, wildfires, and severe winter storms – can cause large-scale damage and threaten human health safety, property, and infrastructure. Damage from these events can be catastrophic and can lead to the loss of property, suffering from injuries, and even death.  The intended users of the application are crisis personnel such as emergency responders, certified professionals, and volunteers.

Why is the STaRT application crucial?  According to an article by Harvard Business Review dated December 1, 2017: “In the case of hurricanes and major weather events, physical and technical roadblocks often prevent response teams from obtaining critical data to track damages, prioritize response needs, and keep the public informed so that people know how to stay safe.” In addition, a lot of emergency management functions are still largely paper- driven leading to numerous challenges in the current reporting structure from 1) too many handwritten reports, 2) inadequate integration, coordination, and classification of data and 3) overall data interoperability.  This is where STaRT will leverage some technological efficiencies and allow emergency responders, certified professionals and even volunteers to streamline the triage process and accurately capture reporting requirements, as well as enable local, state, and national teams to geotarget messaging to neighborhoods at most risk — e.g., a neighborhood with high concentrations of elderly populations who might not have access to transportation.

 This application is developed using Python due to the large number of libraries that will be useful resources. Python will allow the application to be compatible in all operating environments. Due to Python's open-source nature, there is much community support that will assist in the development process. In addition, Python can deal with big data which will serve this application well in the long term. Using Python will ensure that this application will be scalable throughout its continuous development process.

**[MOT] -**MOT stands for ‘Marching on Together.’  This group of students, friends and amateur coders decided to make the world a better place and help bring a triage tool to the masses so that it can be operated on a mobile system and support the lifesaving work that is so critical after a disaster.

**Media Contacts:**

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*A $5 Starbucks card will be given on 12/9/2022 to all participants on this presentation.\**

\* Need to join the presentation from the beginning.