

## Fast Facts Regarding the Haiti Situation and LMHS

January 21, 2010

First, our thoughts and prayers continue to go out to the people of Haiti and to those in our community whose loved ones may have been affected by the tragic events experienced over the last week.

Lee Memorial Health System has an important and essential role in the relief efforts for Haiti coordinated by state and federal government. The following facts will help to clarify the role of LMHS in this tragedy. This will provide a process to follow through the LMHS incident commander ensuring that all action taken is a part of the State Emergency Response Team. The State Response Team coordinates efforts with the Agency for Health Care Administration, Florida Hospital Association, Department of Health, the Department of Health and Human Services and other State and Federal organizations who are charged with the coordination of logistics in this very complex situation.

### What has LMHS done to participate in the relief efforts for Haiti?

- Our supply organization, LeeSar, under the direction of Bob Simpson has coordinated a shipment of food and water to Haiti and has worked with suppliers to facilitate the shipment of necessary medical supplies to Haiti.
- We have worked with vendors of orthopedic supplies to be sent to Haiti due to the high volume of broken bones and other related orthopedic injuries. We have supplied medical drugs and other supplies to two physician groups for missions to Haiti. We have worked with Lehigh Regional Medical Center, and their community partners, to gather supplies to be shipped to Haiti.
- LMHS supports the participation of employees who are members of FL 2 Disaster Medical Assistance Team, also known as DMAT. These medical professionals are trained and receive official preparation and clearance for deployment. We believe the team will be deployed to Haiti within the next month via the facilitation of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- LMHS is prepared to receive pediatric and/or trauma patients from Haiti. The transfer of patients is a formal structure led by the State of Florida.
- Connie Bowles, the LMHS Disaster Preparedness Coordinator and Administrator of FL 2 DMAT, is Chairman of the Florida Hospital Association Haiti Earthquake Response Team and prepares the minutes of each regularly scheduled conference call between multiple hospitals and state agency participants. The minutes of the calls are shared with leadership to ensure we are following official state and federal recommendations in our efforts to help.

### What does LMHS recommend others do to provide assistance?

Financial contributions will directly fund the relief efforts. Your contributions may be given to the United Way or to the American Red Cross.

- Checks to the United Way should be made payable to United Way with Haiti Relief Fund on the memo line. Checks may be mailed to 7275 Concourse Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33908. You may visit the United Way Web site.
- For additional information about donations to the American Red Cross, call 800-REDCROSS or go to [www.RedCross.org](http://www.RedCross.org)

### What process do we follow to ensure the efforts of LMHS are coordinated with state and national agencies so that our assistance will be utilized in the best possible manner?

Sally Jackson, who handles government and community relations for LMHS, Gaile Anthony, CAO for Lee Memorial Hospital, and Chip Carroll, System Director for hospital based physicians, will serve as a review team related to requests of LMHS for relief efforts for Haiti. This means that they will serve as the clearinghouse to accept all questions from physicians, employees, volunteers and other friends of LMHS regarding relief efforts for Haiti. If you have a question about how to assist that is not being addressed, please call Public Affairs at 454-8766. Include your name and contact information in the message, and your call will be returned and your questions addressed.

The tragedy in Haiti presents a very complex matter that will require assistance for months to come. In order for the assistance we are able to provide to be best utilized, it is imperative all requests and questions go through the clearinghouse facilitated by the office of Public Affairs – 454-8766.

Peace,



Jim Nathan  
President, Lee Memorial Health System