



# Providence Medical Center Saint John Hospital

*Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System*

## MEMORANDUM

Date: Jan. 27, 2010

To: Employees, Medical Staff and Volunteers

CC: Senior Leadership Team

From: Mike Dorsey, President and CEO  
Dan Sheehan, Chief Administrative Officer  
George Noonan, Vice President of Mission Integration

Subject: Haiti Relief Efforts

As we continue to hold the people of Haiti in our thoughts and prayers, we are mobilizing a coordinated plan with our health system and care sites to support relief efforts in what will be a long and difficult recovery for this devastated country. As we did in response to Hurricane Katrina relief efforts, our system will match the first \$100,000 donated by care site employees, volunteers and medical staff in the form of direct monetary contributions and PTO donations.

Because of the magnitude of the disaster and the challenges of access and transport to Haiti, we will collaborate with organizations that have pre-existing relationships with Haiti and experience working with disaster situations. This will allow us to channel our resources to meet the most pressing needs of the Haitian people.

### **Financial Contributions**

Those wishing to donate a financial contribution through either an outright gift or payroll donation are invited to complete the attached Haiti Relief Effort Gift/Pledge form and forward it to the Foundation at Providence by Sunday, Feb. 28. Questions related to financial donations may be directed to Karla Kimerer, executive director of the Providence and Saint John Foundation, at 913-596-4151. Outright gifts that are made by Feb. 28 can be tax deductible for 2009. Every donated dollar will go directly to the Haitian people, and there will be no administrative costs added.

The collective contributions from across the care sites will be divided equally and sent to three agencies:

- The American Red Cross [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)
- Catholic Relief Services [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org)
- Partners in Progress in Haiti (an organization that the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth have supported for several years.) [www.piphaiti.org](http://www.piphaiti.org)

Employees and others can also make direct donations to the above organizations or to the organization of their choice.

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#### PTO Donations

Providence and Saint John employees also have the opportunity to monetize unused PTO as a charitable donation. Unlike Hurricane Katrina relief efforts, the government has not waived taxes on PTO donations. If you are interested in this option, please complete the attached PTO Donation form and return it to the hospitals' Human Resources department by Monday, Feb. 22 at 4:30 p.m. Questions regarding this option should be directed to Lori Palmgren, manager of Benefits and Compensation, at 913-596-4048.

#### Donation of Supplies

At this time, our efforts will be totally focused on seeking financial donations, which are most in need. However, if you wish to donate supplies please contact local community organizations who are better equipped to handle supply distribution.

#### Service by Medical and Nursing Personnel

We recognize that a number of staff have expressed interest in traveling to Haiti to work directly with the injured and suffering. Our system is developing the opportunity to facilitate involving our staff in direct service. As soon as this mechanism is established, we will communicate these opportunities.

We recommend staff who are interested in volunteering to visit the following reputable registries:

■ Catholic Medical Mission Board (Scroll to "Apply to become a short-term volunteer")

<http://www.cmmb.org/>

■ Partners in Health (Scroll to "Volunteer and donate supplies")

<http://www.standwithhaiti.org/haiti>

#### Sharing Stories

We want to invite employees, medical staff and others to share stories of how they are responding to disaster relief efforts. In the next **Vision**, you will read about Lucy Silk, RN, Providence Emergency Services, who was concluding her Haiti mission trip when the earthquake hit. Please forward your stories to Catherine Rice, Senior Associate of Communications, at [catherine.rice@providence-health.org](mailto:catherine.rice@providence-health.org) or call 913-596-5006.

As people of faith and goodwill, we feel compelled to want to do something as quickly as we can to try to help, heal, and bring relief to the people of Haiti who have lived with poverty for many years. The scope of the destruction, the difficulty with access, and the immensity of need have led us to collaborate with organizations best equipped to respond quickly. Providing financial contributions and continuing prayers of support are the first recommended actions. Watch for continuing updates as we identify additional opportunities to respond. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact George Noonan, vice president of Mission Integration, at 913-596-4603.

Thank you for your generous spirit.