

PRESS RELEASE

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Heart to Heart International Responds to Hurricane Matthew in Haiti and the US

*Devastation in Haiti is extensive and the US is expected to sustain significant damage.
Evacuations underway in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina.*

What: *Press Conference outlining HHI's response to Hurricane Matthew including a mobile medical unit departure*
When: *10 a.m. Friday Oct, 7, 2016*
Where: *HHI Hub Warehouse
9650 Dice Ln., Lenexa, KS*
Who: *Dr. Gary Morsch, Chairman & Founder HHI
Jim Mitchum, CEO*

Lenexa, KS October 6, 2016 – In a broad humanitarian initiative, Heart to Heart International (HHI), a leading health delivery and crisis relief agency is responding to Hurricane Matthew in both Haiti and the United States.

Matthew is the strongest storm to hit the Caribbean in over ten years and is currently tracking toward the US coast. Initial reports indicate the damage in Haiti is extensive and large parts of the island, especially along the Tiburon Peninsula, have experienced devastating flood and wind damage. Immediate concerns in Haiti include: storm related injuries as well as loss of food, water and shelter. The impact of the storm in the US is also expected to be substantial, prompting millions of residents to begin evacuations along the southeast coast.

“Heart to Heart International has extensive experience responding to disasters both domestically and abroad. We are uniquely prepared to lead humanitarian efforts in Haiti with over 130 employees across the island, including Port Au Prince and the Tiburon peninsula”, said Jim Mitchum, CEO. Heart to Heart is also an experienced US humanitarian relief organization, having responded to Hurricane Sandy as well as numerous other domestic disasters.

In Haiti, Heart to Heart’s advance team has arrived and begun assessing Hurricane Matthew’s impact. Initial reports indicate the damage is substantial and has devastated an already fragile infrastructure. “The HHI Disaster Response Team, which includes specially trained physicians, nurses and EMT’s are currently traveling to Haiti to provide desperately needed medical care,” said Gary Morsch MD. Dr. Morsch is Heart to Heart’s founder and will be leading part of the HHI’s medical response in Haiti. Heart to Heart is also sending tens of thousands of Personal Hygiene Kits to Haiti.

In the US, state governments have declared states of emergency and encouraged evacuation of the coastal areas most likely to be impacted by the storm. With millions of people traveling to safety, inland communities

will need support. “Heart to Heart is deploying our Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) to the southeast in order to provide necessary medical care for people displaced by Hurricane Matthew.” said Mitchum.

About Heart to Heart International

Heart to Heart International (HHI) is a nonprofit international health organization. Since 1992, HHI has delivered medical aid and supplies worth \$1.4 billion to 129 countries, including the United States. HHI responds to crises and natural disasters both domestically and internationally by supplying medical relief and mobilizing volunteers. HHI broadens access to healthcare with medical education opportunities and lab standards training in the U.S. and in Haiti, and also works with U.S. safety-net clinics to increase their capacity by providing medical equipment, supplies and volunteers that are vital to operations. The organization is a Charity Navigator 4-Star charity eight years in a row, a BBB Accredited Charity, and is on the “Philanthropy 400.” HHI is also a founding member of the Partnership for Quality Medical Donations (PQMD), and is a member of National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD).

For more information on programs and ways to get involved, visit hearttoheart.org and find HHI on Facebook.

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