



St. Joseph's Hospital

Breese, Illinois

St. Elizabeth's Hospital

Belleville, Illinois

St. Joseph's Hospital

Highland, Illinois

HSHS Medical Group

Affiliates of Hospital Sisters Health System

For more information contact

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HSHS SOUTHERN ILLINOIS DIVISION HOSPITALS RAISING FUNDS TO SUPPORT RESPONSE TO HAITI CRISIS BY HOSPITAL SISTERS MISSION OUTREACH

Belleville, IL – The HSHS Southern Illinois Division, consisting of St. Joseph's Hospital-Breese, St. Joseph's Hospital-Highland, St. Elizabeth's Hospital-Belleville and the HSHS Medical Group, is raising funds to help ship needed medical supplies to Haiti in wake of the recent earthquake. Secure online donations can be made directly to Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach (HSMO) at www.mission-outreach.org.

HSMO is collaborating with Food for the Poor and Catholic Medical Missions Board in Haiti as they assist the victims of Tuesday's earthquake. These volunteers have requested blankets, hygiene and first aid supplies, vitamins, food and water: the Mid-West Food Bank, Bloomington, Peoria and Indianapolis are providing the food and water that will be included on the first shipment while HSMO is contributing blankets and hygiene/first aid supplies. The 53 ft. container will head to The Food for the Poor's Miami warehouse in a few

days where it will be staged with other arriving shipments. Although the ports in Haiti are closed, shipments are being prepared and will be sent as soon as possible.

“Along with coordinating the immediate survival supplies that have been requested, we are continuing to sort and prepare medical supplies for shipment at our warehouses in Springfield and Chicago,” explained Bruce Compton, HSMO President and CEO. “At this time we are also working with disaster relief divisions of the US Navy supplying them with the aid items they have requested,” he added.

As the situation in Haiti continues to unfold, HSMO along with its staff, partners, volunteers, and supporters will strive to respond to the critical needs of the Haitian people while we continue to reach out to the rest of the developing world. If you have questions about Mission Outreach efforts or donations contact Pamela Perlmutter, Development and Public Relations Manager, at 217-525-8843 ext. 181 or at pperlmutter@hsosf-usa.org.

As always, when deciding to donate to organizations and help those in need, it is important to be aware of what percentage of each dollar donated gets to the affected people. At HSMO, every \$1 contribution results in more than \$6 of medical supplies/equipment begin shipped to institutions in need. The work of HSMO is made possible through partnerships established on a local, national and international basis.

Since 2002, HSMO has responded to the sick, poor and needy through medical equipment and supply recycling and distribution program, education and awareness opportunities and cross cultural mission experiences.

Additional Resources:

www.mission-outreach.org

www.haitianhelthfoundation.org

Hospital Sisters Health System is a Roman Catholic health care mission founded to continue the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. Sponsored by the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis, HSHS is dedicated to serving all people, including the poor and the needy, at each of its 13 Local Systems in Illinois and Wisconsin. Hospital Sisters Health System provides state-of-the-art health care framed in traditional values taught by St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi.

With over 14,000 staff, the HSHS hospitals in Wisconsin are located in Chippewa Falls, Eau Claire and Sheboygan, with two in Green Bay. In Illinois, the HSHS hospitals are located in Belleville, Breese, Decatur, Effingham, Highland, Litchfield, Springfield and Streator.

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