

EAST ORANGE GENERAL HOSPITAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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January 15, 2010

EAST ORANGE GENERAL HOSPITAL RALLIES STAFF AND SUPPORT SERVICES FOR EARTHQUAKE RELIEF AND LOCAL HAITIANS

East Orange, N.J., January 15, 2010 – With New Jersey having the third largest Haitian population in the country and a large number of Haitians calling Essex County home, East Orange General Hospital (EOGH) is providing its staff and area residents with a number of relief and outreach efforts in wake of this week's catastrophic earthquake.

"As a hospital that employs staff with ties back to the Caribbean, we're ramping up efforts today and through the weekend to link people with appropriate ways to donate relief funds back to Haiti," said EOGH President and CEO Kevin Slavin. "We're also providing on-site and community-based grief counseling for anyone seeking that kind of support during these difficult times."

With the city of Port-au-Prince and surrounding areas nearing total destruction and tens of thousands of people feared dead, the need for relief funds to provide shelter, water, food and medical supplies is crucial.

The hospital is urging its staff to access various reputable relief organizations such as the American Red Cross, FEMA and UNICEF in an effort to make monetary contributions. In addition, to meet the needs of hospital staff needing support, EOGH is offering grief and support counseling beginning next Tuesday, January 19th at its East Pavilion building located on 240 Central Avenue, 5th floor.

The hospital will also be providing grief and support counseling this weekend at the following churches with strong ties to the local Haitian communities in Essex County:

Saturday, January 16th: Morija Adventist Church
35 Cleveland Street
Orange, NJ 07050
Services begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 12:00 p.m.
Counseling will begin at 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 17th: Bethel Baptist Church
30 Canfield Street
Orange, NJ 07050
Services begin at 11:00 a.m.
With counseling to begin at 1:00 p.m.

Additionally, Slavin today echoed and supported the pleas made by Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver (D-East Orange), when she said in published reports that "this is an unspeakable tragedy that not only has hit one of the poorest countries in the world, but one with strong ties to families throughout New

Jersey, Emergency officials expect to see immediate needs for food, water, temporary shelter, medical service and emotional support.”

“As a community resource committed to healing and human well being, we need to all do what we are capable of to bring aid and comfort back to those affected by this tragedy, both far away in Haiti and here at home.” concluded Slavin.

For more information regarding counseling sessions, please call our Crisis Intervention Unit at (973) 266-4480.

About East Orange General Hospital

East Orange General Hospital is the largest private employer in East Orange, and remains as the only independent, fully accredited, acute-care hospital in Essex County. The hospital is the leader in Behavioral Health Services and provides a comprehensive array of primary care and specialty services including Same Day Surgery, Physical Rehabilitation Services, Family Health, Emergency Medicine, Outpatient Hemodialysis, Hyperbaric/Wound Management, Vascular and Medical/Surgical Services. Serving the community for over a century, the hospital recently expanded its services and is continually adding new equipment and programs to provide the highest level of quality and compassionate patient care. For more information on East Orange General Hospital, please visit: <http://www.evh.org>.

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