PRESS RELEASE

October 10, 2016 - AMHE Central Executive Committee (CEC)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMHE STRATEGY FOR RESPONDING TO THE POST-HURRICANE NEEDS IN HAITI

AMHE – Relief Mission – The Association of Haitian Physicians Abroad (AMHE) has been following with sustained interest the reports of the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew. We attend the daily briefings of the Haitian Embassy in Washington DC where guidance is provided to organizations interested in relief efforts. At this time, the Government of Haiti (GOH) is asking for relief efforts to be coordinated in such a way that the best benefit can be achieved for the Haitian people. Assistance providers are asked to wait for the results of a full assessment and determination of needs before setting sail to Haiti.

While keeping with AMHE’s tradition of delivering relief to Haiti in the form of well-calibrated missions coordinated among AMHE physicians and other members of the Association in partnership with other organizations working on the ground, the following AMHE Press Release states our position and future actions.

As a full assessment is still underway, AMHE is in communications with its in-country partners and the responsible parties in the GOH, Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population (MSPP) and the "Protection Civile" ready to step in at the appropriate time.

On this basis, AMHE has determined that its best course of action is to:

**Continue to raise funds for the affected communities. Raising funds is the most important activity at this time to help provide food, sanitation, and rebuild the lost live stocks.** Donations to the AMHE Hurricane Matthew Relief Mission may be directed to:

- AMHE website at 2016 Hurricane Matthew Relief Fund
- Or by Check mailed to:
  - AMHE Foundation
  - Memo: 2016 Hurricane Matthew Relief Fund
  - 1166 Eastern Parkway 2nd Floor
  - Brooklyn, NY 11213
  - Phone: 718-245-1015
  - Contact: mdelva@amhecec.org
Engage the support of AMHE national chapters for fundraising activities. We are urging the members of AMHE to make significant financial contributions to this relief effort.

Rally AMHE volunteer physicians and other health professionals in its network with their diverse medical expertise to schedule standby relief missions ready to intervene as soon as they are needed.

Provide relief when the emergency phase of the disaster fades away, and the long-term needs become more evident. AMHE will continue to provide relief to Haiti through its traditional medical missions and will assess on-the-ground partners best suited to receive funds and medical expertise to support communities and hospitals with critical needs.

At this time, and as it has for the past forty-three years, AMHE has all its attention focused on Haiti. The health of our fellow Haitians is front and center on our AMHE Agenda in times of crisis as it is in normal times. With these words, AMHE renews its unwavering commitment to the Haitian communities everywhere, in Haiti especially, as we solicit the assistance of all who wish to help us raise the health standards of the Haitian people.

For questions, please contact:

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