MMC/MMP Employees Join Hurricane Irma Relief Effort

Five employees of Maine Medical Center and Maine Medical Partners recently came back from relief efforts in Florida, after Hurricane Irma ripped through the state on September 10. Safety officer Brian Dougher, logistics lead Eric Sawyer, nurses Steve Moody and Amy Strum, and respiratory therapist Dave Kissin were part of the 36-member New Hampshire-1 Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT).

The team, made up of clinical and support personnel from Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, was sent by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to support a team from Massachusetts in Marathon, Fla., a central region in the Florida Keys without a hospital or medical services.

The New England team treated more than 250 patients in the first five days after the storm, including those who were stabilized and transported by aircraft from the Marathon airport to hospitals that were open and functioning.

“The New England team that worked together down in the Keys is an elite group of highly qualified people. It was an honor for every one of us to not only serve the people of Florida, but also represent Maine in our response to this hurricane,” said MMC Emergency Management Project Manager Eric Sawyer.

International Honor Society Recognizes MMC Nurses

19 Maine Medical Center nurses who exemplify achievement in leadership, scholarship, practice and service have been inducted into the Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) Honor Society of Nursing. STTI is the second-largest professional nursing organization in the world with approximately 135,000 active members in more than 90 countries.

Recently, STTI expanded chapter rules to include clinical practice settings in collaboration with institutions of higher learning. MMC was recognized as the first practice site chartered by STTI and has joined USM, UNE and St. Joseph’s College of Maine in the Kappa Zeta at-large local chapter of the society.

The nurses who were inducted are:
- Emily Benevento, B.S., R.N., CCRN
- Jeanne M. Benger, B.S.N., R.N., CCRN
- Kelley Bowden, M.S., R.N.
- Shannon M. Cappen, B.S.N., R.N., CPON
- Patricia J. Crosby, B.S.N., R.N.C.
- Rhonda DiPhilippo, B.S.N., R.N.
- Marilyn R. Flanders, B.S.N., R.N.
- Margo E. Geyer-Tomuschat, B.S.N., R.N., CMSRN
- Deb Greiglye, M.S.N., R.N., CPAN, CCRN
- Lois M. Hayworth, B.S.N., R.N., CPAN, CAPA
- Jessica Howe, B.S.N., R.N., C.P.N.
- Leslie J. Knight, B.S.N., R.N., CMSRN
- Janet L. Russell-Duggan, B.S.N., R.N., CMSRN
- Margaret E. Schmitt, M.S., R.N., N.E.-B.C.
- Christine Schreiber, B.S.N., R.N., C.P.N.
- Sarah Sturges-Perry, B.S.N., R.N., C.E.N.
- Beth Thivierge, B.S.N., R.N., V.A.-B.C.
- Sarah F. Thompson, M.S.N., R.N., C.P.N.
Jillian Dur, D.O., has joined Maine Medical Partners as a geriatrician with Westbrook Primary Care. She received her medical degree from University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Dur completed her residency at Virginia Commonwealth University/Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine - Riverside Family Medicine Residency and her Geriatrics Fellowship at Virginia Commonwealth University. Her clinical interests include outpatient chronic disease management, preventative medicine, advance care planning and polypharmacy. In her spare time, Dr. Dur enjoys traveling, cooking and reading.

Nathan H. Brewer, M.D., of Dermatology Associates, was newly appointed to the Maine Medical Center Medical Staff. Dr. Brewer received his medical degree from Boston University School of Medicine and will provide dermatology care.

Leslie Bradford, M.D., has joined Maine Medical Partners – Women’s Health. Dr. Bradford is Board certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology with a subspecialty in Gynecologic Oncology. She comes to MMP from University of Massachusetts Medical School, where she was an assistant professor. After earning her medical degree from University of Vermont College of Medicine, Dr. Bradford completed her residency at University of Wisconsin Hospitals & Clinics. She completed her fellowship in Gynecologic Oncology at Harvard University/Massachusetts General Hospital. Dr. Bradford’s clinical interests include minimally invasive surgery, advanced laparoscopy, single-incision laparoscopy, ovarian cancer, cervical cancer and global health. She enjoys spending time with her family, exploring Maine, running and sailing.

Pankaj Thakker, M.D., D.M.D., of Portland Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery was newly appointed to the Maine Medical Center Medical Staff. Dr. Thakker received his medical degree from Drexel University School of Medicine and will provide dentistry/oral & maxillofacial surgery care.

Benjamin Felix, M.D., has joined Maine Medical Partners – Outpatient Clinics, where he will be providing internal medicine care. He is arriving from Memphis, Tenn., where he worked as a physician in cancer survivorship. Dr. Felix graduated from Indiana University School of Medicine in 2010, and completed his Internal Medicine and Pediatrics residency at Rhode Island Hospital and Hasbro Children's Hospital in 2014. He has traveled abroad, providing care to pediatric and general medicine patients in Kenya, India and Nicaragua. Dr. Felix enjoys traveling, cooking and gardening.