

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELAEASE**

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Contact: Michele Hutchins  
(603) 238- 6468



### **Members of Speare Memorial Hospital Join Haitian Relief Efforts**

PLYMOUTH, N.H. --- Speare Memorial Hospital's, Dr. Bentwood, general surgeon, along with Luc Corriveau, a RN with experience as an emergency medical technician, departed from Logan International Airport in Boston this morning for the Dominican Republic. Following last week's earthquake in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, many Haitians have taken refuge in neighboring Dominican Republic in hopes of better conditions and medical treatment. The two will be working in conjunction with other medical professionals and Children of The Nations International during their one week stay to provide medical help for those in need.

Dr. Bentwood and Corriveau were presented with the opportunity from Shari Laurion, Nurse Director of SMH's Surgical Services. Laurion received an email from Janet Larsen, RN Team Leader at Frisbie Memorial Hospital in Rochester, asking if staff members would be interested in helping out with the crisis in Haiti. The initial idea was that team members would be stationed at the Children of The Nations headquarters in the Dominican Republic which has living quarters, 24 hour security and separate medical facilities. However, due to changing conditions in the area, team members were informed they may be staying in tents and performing their duties in the field. Members were also advised to bring food, due to the uncertainty of available meals.

Along with Dr. Bentwood and Corriveau many others from SMH have pitched in to help in other ways. Laurion generously paid for Corriveau's flight so that he was able to make the trip. Nursing colleagues have offered to cover Corriveau's shifts while he is away. Other staff members worked quickly to make the necessary arrangements for recommended immunizations. Additionally, Speare Memorial Hospital was able to provide Dr. Bentwood with a limited amount of supplies.

Speare Memorial Hospital is a 24-hour, acute care, non-profit community hospital and health care provider serving Plymouth and the communities of central New Hampshire for more than a century. Visit online at [www.spearehospital.com](http://www.spearehospital.com) and join us on Facebook.

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