

Volunteers

GOOD SAMARITAN MEDICAL CENTER

Good Samaritan Medical Center Staff Physician Honored by American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons for Volunteer Work in Haiti

Dr. Harvey Montijo, orthopaedic surgeon on staff at Good Samaritan Medical Center, was recently recognized among over 480 other Academy members for volunteering to dedicate their skills and service in Haiti during the immediate earthquake crisis response last year. With the collective volunteer Haiti relief efforts of its members, the Academy- along with only five other associations- was presented with the prestigious Spirit of Excellence Award from the American Society of Association Executives in September 2010.

As a native of Puerto Rico, Dr. Montijo was motivated to rush to the aid of the Caribbean community and work with The Dorsainvil Foundation, a non-profit organization that sponsors free medical missions to Haiti. Within a week of the initial earthquake disaster, Dr. Montijo was on a plane to Port-au-Prince to provide triage and trauma care to hundreds of victims. With rudimentary medical supplies and facilities, Dr.

Montijo performed many surgical procedures on whatever the medical team could find in the rubble, which even included dining room tables at times. On some days, Dr. Montijo's team treated up to 250 people in merely a few hours.

Between the initial disaster and June 2010, Dr. Montijo completed five medical mission trips to Haiti. Dr. Montijo continues to support relief efforts in Haiti by regularly sending donations of medical supplies and equipment such as crutches and wheelchairs. For many years, he has also supported a Haitian orphanage of whom he calls his "family."

Dr. Montijo is a Board-Certified Orthopaedic Surgeon and Total Hip and Knee Joint Replacement Specialist on Staff at Good Samaritan Medical Center.



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