

**Contact Danis Russell, CEO – 810-257-3707**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Thursday, November 02, 2017

### **GENESEE HEALTH SYSTEM STAFF PROVIDE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT AT NATIONAL DISASTER SITES**

Flint, Michigan – Seven Genesee Health System (GHS) staff have been or are working with the Red Cross and community organizations to provide mental health support for several national disasters.

With the support of Danis Russell, CEO, and the GHS Board, six staff recently attended a full weekend training through the Red Cross, and a seventh is providing support in Florida on developing resiliency training.

Victoria Miller and Melissa Healey were deployed to Houston, Becky Gliniecki was deployed to Corpus Christi, Melanie Foley and Elizabeth Burtch were deployed to California, and Ebony Buckler went to Las Vegas. All are master's level and licensed professionals with prior trauma and crisis training and experience. They were deployed to assist the residents to process and recover from the emotional trauma of the tragedies. Kenyetta Dotson is in Florida, using her experience from the Flint Water Crisis to help the Miami-Dade county Early Learning Coalition develop a resiliency training summit for child care providers.

All seven will be honored by, and present their experiences to the GHS Board at their November Board Meeting, Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM in GHS' Board Room, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, 420 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Flint.

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“GHS never forgets that we are part of our local community, and our country at large, and these staff are the personification of commitment to those in need. We work closely with the Red Cross, especially with the ongoing Flint Water Crisis, and our staff wanted to offer their expertise as well as giving back. This is our way of helping our national community and repaying some of what we’ve received.”

GHS has a history of supporting employees as they deploy to offer mental health support in areas of national disasters. Workers in years past have gone to Ground Zero in New York and to other sites after Katrina and other hurricanes.

Genesee Health System provides services and support to Genesee County residents who are adults and children with developmental disabilities, adults with serious mental illness, children with serious emotional disturbances, and adults and children with substance use disorders, with a focus on the health of the whole person.

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