

## **Oct. 30, 2019- Medical and Rescue**

### Current Situation:

- Nurse Imelda Glori, Elbow Cays registered nurse for the department of public health is on island and on call 24/7
- Americares staff is on island to assist Nurse Glori where needed
- The Government Clinic building is severely damaged and inoperable. Nurse Glori and Americares are currently working out of a private home, "Yellow Bird," across from the HRVFR fire house in town.
  - This solution has been sufficient to this point, however may become unsustainable in the long run
  - Americares is capable of supplying a "Clinic in a Box" solution which could be quickly deployed and act as our temporary clinic until the Government clinic is restored.
    - Possible Locations:
      1. Ball Field/Basketball court (Limitations: helicopter traffic)
      2. Sunshine Park (Limitations: Shipping and boat traffic)
- Marsh Harbour government clinic is open 24/7 with doctors readily available. Critical patients outside of the scope of care in Hope Town can be transported by HTVFR to Marsh Harbour.
- If the situation is outside of the scope of care in Marsh Harbour, the patient will be transported via air ambulance to Nassau or US.
  - Logistical issues with MedEvac by air existed pre-storm and is further complicated by the current condition of the Marsh Harbour airport and emergency response in Marsh Harbour.
  - Potential long term need for an Air Ambulance service dedicated to Hope Town/Surrounding Cays.
- HTVFR is stretched thin with many members off island and present members being over-tasked.
  - Need for emergency response training for additional community members
  - Potential need for outside help/personnel. (3-4 persons in rotation on a weekly/biweekly basis to help with emergency response, risk assessment and transportation)

### Personal Health Records:

- Many were lost in Marsh Harbour
- Nurse Glori was able to salvage most of her patients files on Elbow Cay

### Vaccinations:

- Tetanus shots are readily available in the temporary clinic
- Flu shots are needed on island as we enter flu season
- For people returning/visiting the island it is critical that you are up to date with immunizations before travel

### Public Health Concerns:

- Mold remediation and education
  - Different types of mold, remediation methods
- Bugs
  - Remove standing water where possible and wear bug spray
- Water Quality in household cisterns
  - Cistern water must be tested before use, otherwise utilize the free community water stations if you are unsure
- Hazardous Construction Debris
  - Asbestos, fiberglass insulation, pressure treated wood
- Air Quality
  - Burning of debris is not occurring on Elbow Cay. However, other cays are doing so which may affect Elbow Cay depending on wind direction. Potential need for air quality monitoring

### Mental Health:

- A Mental Health provider is on island with Americares offering services in the temporary clinic as well as in house visits.
- The importance of talking about experiences, feelings and concerns must be communicated and encouraged
- Community engagement and gathering activities are being put in place to help facilitate this dialogue (i.e. Ice cream social, BBQ cookouts, game nights, etc.)

### Rebuild of Government Clinic:

- Flagler hospital/Hopetown rising has offered to assist in funding the rebuild of the clinic and support operations long term.
  - Must coordinate with Ministry of Health, Nurse Glori, Dr. Boyce, HTVFR, and other local workers to identify practical needs and intervention areas
  - Must plan for current and future needs