



## **Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago**

### **Heliport Review Committee**

### **Summary of October 25, 2018 Meeting**

This report summarizes the issues discussed during the October 25, 2018 regular business meeting of the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago Heliport Review Committee. A full list of meeting participants appears at the conclusion of this report. Any questions or comments about the Lurie Children's Heliport and its operations should be directed to LaDarius Curtis, Healthy Communities Manager, [LCurtis@luriechildrens.org](mailto:LCurtis@luriechildrens.org).

1. **Welcome and Meeting Purpose:** Susan Hayes Gordon, Chair of the Helicopter Review Committee, opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. by welcoming meeting participants and restating the purpose of the Committee.
  - a. The purpose of the Heliport Review Committee is to provide community review of the Helicopter Air Ambulance transports (H.A.A.) to and from Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago.
  - b. The Committee will meet quarterly to review H.A.A. operations at Lurie Children's in accordance with the guidelines set forth in Institutional Planned Development Number 3.
  - c. It has been decided that the Committee meetings held in January and April will be conducted as a conference call while meetings held in July and October will be in person at Lurie Children's Hospital. The meetings to discuss heliport usage during the winter months (January & April) will be held as a conference call due to the small number of landings that historically take place during that time frame.
2. **Introductions:** Susan Hayes Gordon facilitated introductions of participants and reviewed the Committee's meeting materials.
  - a. Roll Call of Committee Members: Susan Hayes Gordon asked all participants to identify themselves. A full list of meeting participants appears at the conclusion of this report.
  - b. Introduction to Materials: Each Committee member was emailed the following prior to the meeting and provided with hard copies at the meeting:
    - i. Meeting agenda and supplementary materials; and,
    - ii. Heliport Usage Reports for the months of July, August and September 2018. Heliport Usage Reports are posted publicly and can be found online at: <https://www.luriechildrens.org/en/serving-the-community/community-relations/heliport/>



**3. Introduction of New Director of Interfacility Transport:** Laura Westley, Senior Director, Interfacility Transport, Emergency Services and Patient Access & Karen Arndt, Director of Interfacility Transport

- a. Karen Arndt is the new Director of Interfacility Transport. Ms. Arndt has over 20 years of experience in both air and ground critical care transport and is a passionate advocate for patient and medical crew safety in the critical care transport environment.
- b. Ms. Arndt is a nationally known figure in the air medical and critical care transport specialty and was the editor for the Standards for Critical Care and Specialty Rotor-Wing Transport publication.
- c. For more than a decade, Arndt served as the Chief Flight Nurse and Administrative Director for the University of Chicago Aeromedical Network (UCAN), one of the nation's leading air ambulance flight programs.
- d. Ms. Arndt exemplifies the high standard of safety and patient care that is the hallmark of Lurie Children's Transport Program and she is an ideal leader to help guide the team

**4. Update on Lurie Children's H.AA. Operations:** Laura Westley

- a. Karen Arndt recently attended the Air Medical Transport Conference on behalf of Lurie Children's Hospital. It was valuable to have the Lurie team present a pediatric perspective on air medical transport to teams from around the country.
- b. In December, Lurie Children's will also attend the Pediatric Transport Conference.

**5. Review of July through September 2018 Heliport Usage Reports:** Laura Westley & Karen Arndt reviewed Heliport Usage Reports for the reporting period from July to September with the Committee:

- a. Copies of the July, August and September 2018 Heliport Usage Reports are included as an attachment to this report.
- b. All Lurie Children's Heliport Usage Reports are posted publicly and can be found at: <https://www.luriechildrens.org/en/serving-the-community/community-relations/heliport/>

**6. Committee Feedback:**

- a. A question was asked if Ms. Arndt's role oversees both Air and Ground Transport. The answer is yes. As Director of Interfacility Transport, Ms. Arndt will oversee both air and ground transport.



- b. A committee member asked if Lurie Children's utilizes staff from the referring hospital during an air ambulance transport. The answer is no. Lurie Children's does not use referring hospital's staff. The hospital carefully vets and trains every member of its Transport Team and only uses individuals already approved to take part in a transport.
  - c. A Committee member asked why Lurie Children's does not pick up patients from accident sites. Lurie Children's does not own a helicopter air ambulance; therefore, they do not respond to 911 calls.
  - d. Various questions were asked about Lurie Children's fixed wing transport usage.
    - i. Where do the fixed wings land? They land at Midway or Aurora Municipal Airport in Sugar Grove, IL.
    - ii. Does the Lurie Transport Team fly on the fixed wing aircraft? Yes.
    - iii. How long does it take to get a fixed wing aircraft ready? About 1 to 2 hours.
- 7. Committee Meeting Schedule:** The Committee's next meeting will be January 24, 2019 and will be a conference call from 8:30-9:30 a.m.
- 8. Close:** Susan Hayes Gordon concluded the meeting at 9:15 a.m.
- 9. Tours of the Heliport Communications Center and Lurie Children's Pediatric Intensive Care Unit:**
- a. A tour of the hospital's heliport communications center was led by Steve Barstatis, Director of Facility Operations.
  - b. A tour of the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit was led by Dr. Leah Harris, Medical Director for Transport & Division Head, Pediatric Critical Care
- 10. Meeting Participants:**
- a. Susan Hayes Gordon
  - b. LaDarius Curtis
  - c. Laura Westley
  - d. Dr. Leah Harris
  - e. Karen Arndt
  - f. Dave Kostelansky



- g. John Wilhelm
- h. Mike Riordan
- i. Marc Schulman
- j. Gil Salinas
- k. Nick Polutnik