

Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago
Heliport Review Committee
Summary of January 26, 2021 Meeting

This report summarizes the issues discussed during the January 26, 2021 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 Antonette Rabor, External Affairs Manager, arabor@luriechildrens.org.

1. Welcome and Meeting Purpose: Susan Hayes Gordon, Chair of the Helicopter Review Committee, opened the meeting at 9:00 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 Services (H.A.A.) at 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 the winter months (January & April) will be held as a conference call due to the small number of flights that historically take place during that time frame.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing guidelines, the January meeting was held viz Zoom videoconferencing.

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 October, November and December 2020. Heliport Usage Reports are posted publicly and can be found online at: <https://www.luriechildrens.org/en-us/community/community-relations/Pages/lifesaving-heliport-operation.aspx>.

3. Antonette Rabor, Kimberley Bares, Holly Agra & Raishay Lin Introductions &

Remarks: Susan Hayes Gordon, Antonette Rabor, External Affairs Manager, Kimberly Bares, CEO of Mag Mile Association, Holly Agra, President, Chicago's First Lady Cruises and Raishay Lin, Assistant General Counsel, Lurie Children's Hospital

To begin the meeting, Susan introduced four new members of the Heliport Review Committee.

- a. Antonette Rabor, External Affairs Manager at Lurie Children's Hospital
Antonette will split her time between serving as Lurie Children's liaison to our local downtown community and supporting our Child Health Policy Collaborative.
Antonette has been at Lurie Children's for eight years in various roles including Nursing Assistant., Program Assistant with Strengthening Chicago's Youth (SCY), and Employee Volunteer Coordinator for the Child Health Policy Collaborative.
- b. Kimberley Bares, CEO of Mag Mile Association
Kimberly Bares is the President & CEO of the Magnificent Mile Association. Kimberly has 25 years of experience in economic and community development and has served as Executive Director of organizations in Chicago, Berwyn and Baltimore.
She founded PLACE Consulting, a planning consultancy, in 2007 and has been President of the firm for the past 12 years.
- c. Holly Agra, President of Chicago's First Lady Cruises
Holly has served as the President of Chicago's First Lady Cruises since 1991. Chicago's First Lady Cruises is the official cruise line of the Chicago Architecture Center.
In addition to her role with CFL, Holly serves on the Board of the Magnificent Mile Association, was Chairman of the Illinois Tourism Alliance and served as a Member of the Board for the US Travel Association.
- d. Raishay Lin, Assistant General Counsel, Lurie Children's Hospital
Raishay Lin has served as Assistant General Counsel at Lurie Children's Hospital since November 2020. Prior to her current position, she was Litigation & Enforcement Associate with a focus on antitrust issues for healthcare clients at Ropes & Gray LLC.

4. Update on National Critical Care Transport Safety Issues: Susan Hayes Gordon & Lisa Hawke, Esq., Counsel to ACCT for Patients

- a. Susan began by introducing Lisa Hawke, Counsel to the Association of Critical Care Transports and a partner at Holland & Knight's Washington D.C. office. ACCT is a non-profit patient advocacy organization. Its members are dedicated to promoting access to the safest and highest quality critical care transport system possible.
- b. Lisa Hawke has been Lurie Children's advisor for over a decade on federal issues pertaining to the critical care transport industry.
- c. The ACCT was established as an advocate for air and ground transport patients.
- d. The top priorities right now for the ACCT are:
 - i. Implementation of the Surprise Billing legislation
 - ii. Improve Medicare reimbursement
 - iii. Investments in low-ceiling infrastructure to improve aviation safety
- e. Congress expressed concerns about surprise medical billing from air ambulance transportation, especially because patients can't choose who flies them.
- f. The No Surprises Act Passed
 - i. Prohibits balanced billing. Patients can't receive a bill that is higher than the in-network cost sharing rate.
 - ii. Created an independent resolution arbitration process that allows providers and insurers to determine a fair cost.
 - iii. Created new criteria to determine costs of transport, data reporting requirements and established an advisory committee in Health and Human Services.
 - iv. The No Surprises Act was 12 years of work in the making.
- g. ACCT does not take a position on double versus single engine helicopters. They are more concerned about promoting the use of Instrument Flight Rules (IFR), or the operation of an aircraft by relying almost solely on instruments.
- h. Safety in the industry will be largely determined by investment in infrastructure legislation.

5. Update on Lurie Children's Helicopter Air Ambulance (H.A.A.) Operations: Laura Westley, Sr. Dir ED/Interfacility Transport, Transport Team

- a. A landing agreement was signed with OSF Life Flight in Peoria to now bring patients to Lurie's heliport.
- b. Lurie Children's is in the final stages of selectin and hiring a new Medical Transport Director.

6. Heliport Usage Year-to-Date: Antonette Rabor, External Affairs Manager

- a. Antonette reviewed the heliport year to date usage before turning it over to Dr. Newmyer.

7. Review of October through December 2020 Heliport Usage Reports: Dr. Bob Newmyer, Medical Director for Transport

- a. Copies of the October, November and December 2020 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-us/community/community-relations/Pages/lifesaving-heliport-operation.aspx>

8. Committee Feedback:

- a. A question was asked about the average age of an Air Ambulance. Air Ambulances can be 30 years old and do not age out if they can pass inspections.
- b. Committee members are interested in laws that restrict drones from areas around helipads. Lurie will determine the answer and report back to the HRC.

9. Close:

- a. Susan Hayes Gordon concluded the meeting at 10:00 a.m.
- b. The next meeting will be held April 27, 2021.

10. Meeting Participants:

- a. Susan Hayes Gordon
- b. Mary Kate Daly
- c. Antonette Rabor
- d. Laura Westley

- e. Lisa Hawke
- f. Michelle Stephenson
- g. Dr. Bob Newmyer
- h. Raishay Lin
- i. Zankhana Desai
- j. John Wilhelm
- k. Mike Riordan
- l. Robert Kearney
- m. Kimberley Bares
- n. John Geahan, on behalf of 2nd Ward
- o. Martha Donnelly, on behalf of 42nd Ward
- p. Mark Schulman
- q. Dave Kostelansky
- r. Maria Rosales, on behalf of Comm. Jamie Rhee
- s. Holly Agra
- t. Tom Coffey
- u. Nick Polutnik