

Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago
Heliport Review Committee

SUMMARY OF JANUARY 24, 2023 MEETING

This report summarizes the issues discussed during the January 24, 2023, 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.

2. **Roll Call & Introduction of Materials:** Susan Hayes Gordon facilitated introductions of participants and reviewed the Committee's meeting materials.
 - a. Roll Call of Committee Members by Susan Hayes Gordon. 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:
 - i. Meeting agenda and supplementary materials; and,
 - ii. Heliport Usage Reports for the months of October, November and December 2022. 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. **Update on National Critical Care Transport Advocacy Update:** Lisa Hawke, Esq., Counsel to ACCT for Patients provided to the group updates in the industry and the advocacy efforts.
 - a. AACT aviation safety is top priority. Major focus: working with aviation on drug shortages unique to critical care.

 - b. Working on improvements in payment around ground CCT schedule

- i. AACT emphasis is more about the care and not vehicle as it relates to payment
 - ii. Ensure transfer with the proper critical care
 - c. [No Surprise Act update](#)
 - i. Create an incentive to invest in aviation safety
 - d. Pushing for more aviation requirements
 - 1. IFR -Instrument Flight Rules- vs VFR- Visual Flight Rules. Pushing for more IFR regulations as it is safest. For example: Kobe's aircraft was IFR capable but did not utilize the IFR capabilities. Operating VFR was not reliable for that instance.
4. **Update on Lurie Children's Helicopter Air Ambulance (H.A.A.) Operations:** Laura Westley, Sr. Dir ED/Interfacility Transport, Transport Team
- a. Laura Westley provided an update on the H.A.A. Operations.
 - b. CAMTS Accreditation site visit March 1 and 2
5. **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.
 - b. Review of October through December 2022 Heliport Usage Reports: Dr. Bob Newmyer, Medical Director for Transport
 - c. Copies of the October, November and December 2022 Heliport Usage Reports are available on Lurie Children's HRC page
 - d. 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>
6. **Updates:**
- a. Clinical updates- Brian Stahulak
 - i. After thanksgiving, limited number of patients coming in, but those who did were the sickest of the sick (Respiratory issues, RSV and flu season)
 - ii. We were unable to admit 2,206 patients since September, 2022 due to staff shortages, and fewer beds staffed, but as of January 2023, only 6 patients could not be admitted
 - b. Advocacy updates - Susan Hayes Gordon
 - i. Lurie continues to advocate for improved access to care for children insured by Medicaid, including increased reimbursement rates. We are grateful that the General Assembly gave all hospitals and Lurie Children's relief during lame duck session for staggering unbudgeted nursing costs.
 - ii. Reproductive health and gender affirming care remains a major issue
 - iii. Mental Health Advocacy continues

- iv. Assault weapons ban passed, but litigation has stalled
- v. Current General Assembly will welcome 35 new members

- c. Neighborhood updates
 - i. Kimberly Bares shared Mag Mile updates
 - 1. Securities Briefing meeting
 - a. Commander Hein of 18th and Team are great
 - b. Talked about new Director of Safety, Dan O shea
 - 2. Ambassadors program back to help provide safety on Mag Mile.
 - 3. Mag Mile Assn is trying to pass Business Improvement District legislation in Springfield to strengthen the Mag Mile.
 - a. Work on legislation in Springfield
 - 4. Temporary Casino has prompted concern re safety and traffic
 - 5. Concerns re: 620 N Fairbanks proposed cannabis dispensary

7. Close:

- a. The meeting was adjourned
- b. The next meeting will be held April 25, 2023.

Meeting Participants:

- Antonette Rabor
- Audre Pocius
- Brian Pelrine
- Brian Stahulak
- Dave Kostelansky
- Desai Zankhana
- Dr. Bob Newmyer
- Holly Agra
- John Wilhelm
- Kimberly Bares
- Laura Westley
- Lisa Hawke
- Maria Rosales
- Peter Simoncelli
- Raishay Lin
- Sharyl Mackey
- Susan Hayes Gordon