

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

### **Heliport Review Committee**

#### **Summary of January 25, 2022, Meeting**

This report summarizes the issues discussed during the January 25, 2022, 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](mailto: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. 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 2021. 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 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. Laura Westley reviewed that Lurie Children's was finalizing an updated evacuation plan. Details of the final plan will be shared at a future meeting.
  - c. The team is also working on a more collaborative approach with other care centers that will optimize care through the utilization of telehealth and other care models. This should lead to more efficiency and quicker decision making with transferring organizations.

4. **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.
5. **Review of October through December 2021 Heliport Usage Reports:** Dr. Bob Newmyer, Medical Director for Transport
  - a. Copies of the October, November and December 2021 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>
6. **Chicago Department of Aviation Drone Safety Update:** Raimon Ranne
  - a. The Chicago Department of Aviation provided the committee with an update on the City's progress to make drone operations safe.
  - b. More sensors are being installed near airports and the department is coordinating closely with the FAA.
  - c. The drone detection program has located three sensors at O'Hare and Midway. The department will be working to get more sensors up to five miles away from the airport.
7. **Lurie Children's Update:** Susan Hayes Gordon & Brian Stahulak
  - a. Lurie Children's staff has vaccinated over 7200 children, ages 5-12 since the November 3<sup>rd</sup> approval.
  - b. Approval for the use of the vaccine in children under five could be approved as early as Spring of 2022. These will be smaller doses.
  - c. Sixty percent of the staff as of January 2022 had received their booster shots.
  - d. Most of the in-patient hospitalizations from COVID have been unvaccinated.
  - e. COVID continues to cause staffing shortages throughout healthcare. Lurie Children's is using more telehealth to help with these shortages.
  - f. Mental health continues to be a big issue. Lurie Children's staff is working with federal and state legislators to get more funding and resources for this issue.
  - g. The hospital is also working to create more capacity for children with mental health issues. They are currently working on a strategic plan that looks at this issue long-term.

### **Committee Feedback:**

- a. The committee asked what the timeline is for children to receive a booster shot. There are no specific recommendations on booster shots for children yet, but it should be like adult boosters which are currently given six months after the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose.
- b. The committee wanted to know what the coldest conditions are the heliport can operate in. The heliport can operate in very cold conditions. Wind is the biggest factor when determining whether to operate the heliport.

### **8. Close:**

- a. Susan Hayes Gordon concluded the meeting at 10:00 a.m.
- b. The next meeting will be held April 26, 2022.

### **9. Meeting Participants:**

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|-----------------------|------------------------|
| a. Holly Agra         | k. Raimon Ranne        |
| b. Zankhana Desai     | l. Michael Riordan     |
| c. Susan Hayes Gordon | m. Maria Rosales       |
| d. Dave Kostelansky   | n. Mark Schulman       |
| e. Sharyl Mackey      | o. Brian Stahulak      |
| f. Dr. Bob Newmyer    | p. Michelle Stephenson |
| g. Willa Lang         | q. Laura Westley       |
| h. Raishay Lin        | r. John Wilhelm        |
| i. Audre Poucius      | s. Julie Derrig        |
| j. Antonette Rabor    |                        |