



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
FLIGHT & CRITICAL CARE PARAMEDICS

PRESS RELEASE

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IAFCCP Forms Partnership with Haiti Air Ambulance - Looks for Volunteers to Participate in Opportunity of a Lifetime

The IAFCCP Board of Directors is excited to announce a new opportunity for members in 2016. One of our goals for 2016 is to concentrate on the "I" in IAFCCP.

IAFCCP International Liaison, Hugh Gilmour, has been working to create partnerships with several air-medical and CCT programs around the globe and several of our board members have participated in different international programs over the past year. IAFCCP President, David Ellis, attended the graduation of nearly 100 critical care paramedics in central Mexico, and five IAFCCP Board Members volunteered with Haiti Air Ambulance. Also, in 2015, the Association created a Developing Nation Membership rate to better support paramedics in third- world countries.

Over recent months, the IAFCCP board has been discussing putting forward a donation for Haiti Air Ambulance's volunteer program to sponsor Flight Paramedics from within our membership to fly with, and educate, the staff in Haiti. At our December Board meeting, a \$12,000 donation was approved that will cover expenses for 12 volunteers in 2016. Volunteers must be active Flight Paramedics and have a minimum of two years of flight experience to qualify. The IAFCCP will work alongside Haiti Air Ambulance to give available time frames where volunteers are needed.

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Haiti Air Ambulance is a U.S. non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation based in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Air Methods Corporation is Haiti Air Ambulance's vendor and utilizes two Bell 407 helicopters with Air Methods Corporation pilots and mechanics flying and maintaining them. Haiti Air Ambulance is a daylight only VFR program and operates in accordance with FAR's and ICAO rules.

HAA uses two critical care providers (Nurses, Paramedics, and Physicians) and one Haitian EMT-Basic acting as a clinician and a translator for the American staff on board. Since operations began in June of 2014, air medical volunteers (nurses and paramedics) from the United States and Canada have been vital to the success of the program. Volunteers work alongside a full-time Haiti Air Ambulance crewmember as the secondary critical care clinician on board. During their stay, many volunteers also participate in training with Haiti Air Ambulance's Haitian crewmembers. Volunteers are housed in crew apartments along with American Haiti Air Ambulance and Air Methods staff, and are transported to and from the base in Haiti Air Ambulance vehicles.

Volunteers will be financially responsible for an evacuation insurance policy for their trip as well as all vaccinations and malaria prophylaxis their physician or travel clinic recommends. To qualify for the IAFCCP sponsorship, volunteers must have more than two years of flight experience and must currently work for a flight program. Additionally, all applicants must have a current IAFCCP membership. Finally, this will be a nine-day minimum commitment with travel days included.

Members interested in applying for this exciting opportunity are requested to complete an [online application](#).

The board will select candidates based on experience, certifications, and instructor credentials. Sponsorship recipients will be contacted to discuss schedule availability and further details.

The IAFCCP board of directors is currently working on creating a paramedic exchange program between multiple countries, and this is an important first step. Our door is always open for questions.

Contact IAFCCP Board President David Ellis at davidfpc32@gmail.com, or IAFCCP Board Member and HAA Representative Stacy Fiscus at fiscusstacy@gmail.com.

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