

Memo

To: Accreditation Council

From: National Family Medicine Training Center

Re.: Family Medicine Symposium accreditation

Background:

Since 1993, Physicians With Heart has traveled to 10 countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, providing humanitarian assistance through the procurement and distribution of pharmaceuticals, medical training and education initiatives, as well as support of projects that improve the lives of children. At the request of the U.S. Department of State, Physicians With Heart has returned to the **Republic of Georgia, October 28 – November 8, 2009**, following similar projects in Georgia in 1997 and 2004. As with past PWH projects, this year's will include a **medical education symposia**.

Since Georgia's independence from the Soviet Union in 1991 and the country's subsequent political elections, the country has launched a series of reforms aimed at strengthening the military, economic and healthcare infrastructures. Currently, the country is undergoing a major reform in healthcare privatization and private health insurance. The Georgian Ministry of Health, Georgian Family Medicine Association and other local healthcare stakeholders indicate a need for training local family physicians **in the advantages and benefits of primary health care, family practice management and healthcare administration**, which are being greatly impacted by the current healthcare situation.

Time and location:

The Family Medicine Symposium will be held November 4-5, 2009 at the Tbilisi State Medical University.

Goals and objectives:

The Family Medicine Symposium is aimed at strengthening primary health care in Georgia. It will focus on further promoting family medicine in the country and will help participants develop skills required for family practice management and healthcare administration under new privatization conditions. See the list of Symposium presentations enclosed.

Participants:

100 health practicing physicians have been selected from different regions to participate in the Symposium. The Tbilisi State Medical University, Georgia Family Medicine Association and ACTS-International/Georgia - members of the Symposium Planning Committee - were in charge of the participant's selection. In addition, the Symposium will be also attended by the representatives of the

Ministry of Labor, Health, and Social Affairs, Parliamentary Health Committee and international agencies.

Symposium faculty:

Presenters for the Symposium include US and Georgian practicing physicians, residency program faculty and medical school academia. See the list of presenters enclosed.

Symposium partners:

The Symposium program has been developed by Physicians With Heart partnership with the assistance from the American Academy of Family Physicians, Tbilisi State Medical University, Georgia Family Medicine Association, National Family Medicine Training Center and ACTS-International/Georgia.

Symposium financial and logistical support:

Financial and logistical support for the Symposium was provided by the USAID via its Georgia's grantee World Learning.

Enclosed:

Family Medicine program
List of PWH participants
List of Georgian participants

Signed:

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